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GOSPEL STANDARD BAPTISTS

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Prayer meeting address by Mr. J. Delves at "Ebenezer" Clapham
on Monday evening 25.7.77

Hymns 988, 61

Reading: Psalm 119.89-104

This divinely inspired 119th. Psalm has much teaching in it and can be a guide to the Lord's people in their soul's experience and their life and walk and conversation. This word has been on my mind, verse 89, "For ever, O LORD, Thy word is settled in heaven". It is settled - the Word of God we may take as the divine decrees and purposes of God, to be fulfilled in the fulness of time; and even more than that, in a personal way, the word that He may have spoken unto His dear people. It is a wonderful thing that there are communications between God and His people. They are secret communications, but they are the life and exercise of the Lord's dear people. His divine Word is settled, not only in His decrees and purposes, but in His holy Word. This is His Word, divinely inspired and it is settled in heaven. Nothing will ever be altered in it. It is God's Word and it is settled in heaven; every solemn warning, every gracious promise, every divine direction, every living communication the Lord has with His dear people, is settled in heaven. It is a profound thought that if you really get a word from the Lord - not if you feel something rather nice to read - but if you really get in your soul a word from the Lord it is settled, settled in heaven. It is a profound thought and a very blessed word to any poor, waiting soul who may feel troubled about their case - it is settled in heaven, where the Lord dwells, where His glory is, it is all settled there.

There is another place where it is settled and that is in the Holy Scriptures. When we read the Holy Scriptures we read the Word of God, as often it is mentioned by the Lord's servants when they say, Let us read in the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures. Everything here, creation, the historical parts, and all that follows as long as time shall last, (which may not be much longer now, as

you know is my impression) is settled in heaven.

We can come a little closer than this. If the Lord brings a sweet promise into your heart it settles you, and it is settled in heaven. If you receive a living communication from the Lord, a gracious promise that comes into your heart with sweet power, it is settled in heaven. A critic may say, To what purpose should I trouble about anything if all is settled? All the more reason why a poor trembling sinner may wait upon the Lord to know and feel that he is incorporated in this, that His Word is settled in heaven on his behalf, so that when the time shall come to leave earth for heaven it will be well with him. The prospect is blessed, dear friends. The best is before us if we can but rightly realise it. We partake of many of His mercies here day by day and I hope I feel a thankful heart for them, but here is something you can cast your whole weight upon; it will never change, it will never alter; part will never be taken away and leave the other part; it is all SETTLED IN HEAVEN. Amen.