



Spirit of Grace

The Ministry of Dennis & Benedicta Pollock

Herald

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Hide & Seek

Those of us who love the Lord often find God far more reserved than we would prefer Him to be. If only He would do more dramatic miracles until the world had no choice but to believe on Him! Perhaps an angel appearing on nationwide television telling us to repent, or a famous celebrity being raised from dead! What an impact it would make if Jesus would dramatically save, Saul of Tarsus fashion, a dozen of the most liberal Hollywood stars on a single night!

Our God does do miraculous works, of course. But He seems quite a bit more selective about them that we would like. While there is definitely evidence for His miraculous hand available for those who seek it, it is not in such preponderance that it smacks the skeptics in the face and forces them to believe. There is enough hiddenness about God to allow agnosticism to flourish if men are so bent in that direction.

The birth of the Savior followed this principle of hiddenness. The night Jesus was born, all the movers and shakers of Israel were utterly clueless. The greatest event since creation was happening right under their noses, and the only ones God saw fit to

make aware of it were a few poor shepherds. Life in Israel went on as it always had; there were no newspaper headlines: "*Creator of heaven and earth visits our planet – Messiah of Israel arrives on schedule!*"

After Jesus sent out His disciples to go all over Israel proclaiming the kingdom of God, they returned with great joy with testimonies of miracles they had done and demons that had been cast out. Jesus was apparently very much gratified to see God's grace working in His disciples like this, for the Scriptures tells us that He prayed, "**I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.**" Jesus was thankful for two things: First that God had hidden His kingdom power and secrets from the intellectuals and philosophers of this world, and secondly that He had revealed

them to the simple, poor disciples He had chosen. It is unlikely any of us have ever thanked God for hiding Himself from men, but Jesus did. He seemed to feel this was a very good thing.

The good news is that **God may be found.** The same God who hides Himself is the very One who stirs our hearts to come looking for Him and reveals

Himself to those who do. The only condition is wholeheartedness. In Jeremiah we read, "**And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart**" (Jeremiah 29:13).

God will always be found in the Person of His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus told His disciples, "When you have seen Me, you have seen the Father." God has revealed Himself to the world through His Son, and when we embrace Christ we discover God. The God who has hidden Himself has in Jesus Christ freely and gladly revealed Himself. In one sense a man or a woman's life quest is accomplished when they are born again; they have found the great prize above all prizes. They have found God.



Hide & Seek

In another sense the quest is just beginning. Unbelievers are not the only ones who need to seek the Lord. The Christian's life is to be a continual seeking for more of God. We seek Him for His presence in our lives and churches, we seek Him for a greater knowledge of Him and His ways, we seek Him for wisdom and specific blessings and fruitfulness.

The Day is coming when the Hidden God shall be revealed even to those who refuse to seek Him. Our world will not continue in its present condition forever. Jesus shall return and claim this earth as His own. It is written, "Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him." As the lightning flashes from the east to the west so our Lord's return will be seen by all. Christ shall return publicly and gloriously, and it will require no newspaper to learn of it. **The great unseen God who has hidden Himself for so long will finally come out of hiding**, to the joy of some and to the chagrin of many. The days of hide and seek will have passed.

This Month: Teaching Eschatology in Cuba

In March: Dennis will be teaching Cuban pastors the fundamentals of the doctrine of the Return of Jesus Christ.

Billy Graham once said about the Return of Jesus: "Here is a teaching about which everyone wants to hear, and yet the pulpits are strangely silent." Dennis will be attempting to do his part to correct that by teaching pastors the value of teaching and preaching about the return of Jesus. This is one of the most fundamental and foundational doctrines of the New Testament, and yet we often hear so little about it in our churches.

Ministering in Cuba will be a first for Dennis. He has never been to this nation before, and we praise God for open doors for him to share with believers there the value and the basic truths that surround the doctrine of the Rapture and Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Your contributions toward this mission are appreciated!



Partner with Us: Become a "Friend of Grace!"



Our "Friends of Grace" program is a way for you to pledge regular support to this ministry. Even when we are not doing African missions (or Cuban) we need regular financial support, as well as prayer support. When you become a Friend of Grace, you pledge to support SOGM with a \$25 per month gift or more, or a \$300 or more annual contribution. Our Friends of Grace help us to plan missions, pay for mailing costs, maintain and purchase equipment, mail out bulk pamphlets to prisoners in several different prisons, and more. In appreciation we send our friends a monthly CD with five audio devos plus DVD mission reports.

Please pray about becoming a friend!