

GREAT FAITHFULNESS

Thomas Obediah Chisholm was born in a log cabin in Franklin, Kentucky in 1866. He received his education in a little country schoolhouse, and at age 16 began teaching there. He became a follower of Jesus at age 27. With no college nor seminary training, he became a minister at the age of 36. He served as a minister only for one year. Poor health made it impossible for him to continue. He moved to Vineland, New Jersey, where he opened an insurance office.

Always interested in poetry, Chisholm wrote hundreds of poems during his lifetime. Some of those poems have been set to music and included in many church hymnals. One of his poems was "Great is Thy Faithfulness." Chisholm wrote this poem after reading and reflecting on Lamentations 3:22-23:

*"Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed,
Because His compassions fail not.
They are new every morning;
Great is Your faithfulness.
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,
'Therefore I hope in Him!'"*

Based on the text in Lamentations, Chisholm wrote these words in the 3rd verse followed by the refrain:

*"Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand besides!"*
*"Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided:
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me."*

Although Chisholm suffered ill health most of his adult life and never made much money, he acknowledged the goodness and faithfulness of God in his life. He said, "God has given me many wonderful displays of His providing care which have filled me with astonishing gratefulness." *

From Chisholm's beautiful words we see that God will provide pardon for sin and a peace that endures, His own presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, and ten thousand other blessings to those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse from sin and prepare for an eternal home those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7-9).

No matter how difficult life may become, may we always see the goodness and faithfulness of God, especially in the incomparable gift of His Son, who died on the cross for our sins so that we can enjoy all the wonderful spiritual blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).

-- David A. Sargent

* Information gleaned from "Great is Thy Faithfulness" in www.ministry127.com.

- via *Living Water*,

David A. Sargent, Minister, Church of Christ at Creekwood, Mobile, Alabama -

Faith is spiritual life in action.

News Notes

VBS: June 22-25, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Weirton Heights Church of Christ. Topic: "Be Fruitful, Living a Spirit-filled Life." Additional details on the Bulletin Board.

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP: July 6-11 at Tomlinson Run State Park.

PANTRY: Frozen waffles.

MAILING ADDRESS: Brett Thompson #A830908, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Mail Processing Center (OMPC), 884 Coitsville-Hubbard Road, Youngstown OH 44505.

PRAYERS NEEDED:

Laura Talbott (Marilyn Hadley's daughter), 3092 Harding Ave. East Liverpool, OH 43920.

Kevin Sayers (Twila Adamson's son).

Rob Wilson (Connie Stillwell Wilson's husband), 2944 Regina Drive, Macon, GA 31216. Rob sustained serious multiple injuries from a motorcycle accident.

OTHERS: Anita Hopwood, Donna Stevens, Peggy Linger, Scharlotte Jones, Harry Huff, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong.

FOX, Chester: Marlene Evans, Mary Johnson.

SERRA MANOR, Weirton: Jean Haught (Skip's mother).

ELSEWHERE: Brenda Harris (Gerald & Paula Clutter's sister), 102 Cardinal Drive, Rockwell, NC 28138 (Phone: 304-479-3950).

Nancy Hadley, 2995 Clay Pond Drive, Oakland, TN 38060.

Carolyn Carbone (Janet & Becky's sister), 98 Orange Blossom Dr., Ranson, WV 25438.

Sue Baumgardner (the McKittrick's daughter), 245 Mark Drive, Paducah, KY 42001.

Christy Claypool, 204 Rio Pinar Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31088.

Jackie Brown (Rico's mother), 4227 Prince Hall Blvd., Orlando, FL 32811.

Herman McHan, 29 Jenny Lane, Columbiana, OH 44408.

BIBLE MEDITATIONS: Monday-Friday 12:30-12:35 p.m.

on WOHI 1490 AM and 103.9 FM.

"Be anxious for nothing,

*but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be known to God.*

*And the peace of God which surpasses all comprehension,
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*

- Philippians 4:6-7. (NASB)