

Malcolm's Monday Musings : 23 August 2021

Greetings.

This is my 'Monday Musings' email.

I had intended to attach a document this morning which comprised my comments on the letter to the church in Ephesus in the Book of Revelation chapter 2.

But, following much 'weariness of the flesh' (an expression which I owe to someone much wiser than me; see Eccles. 12. 12), I concluded that the document was too long for many of you to absorb in one week.

So, I (metaphorically speaking) took a leaf out of the book of the one 'much wiser than I, and said, 'Bring me a sword', and divided it (the document, not the sword, of course!) 'in two'.

(Yes, you Bible students are right; I am alluding to the display of Solomon's wisdom in the second half of 1 Kings 3.)

The upshot of all this is that, this week, I have attached 'Part 1' of my comments. God willing, 'Part 2' will follow next Monday.

If you are interested in finding the connection between (i) cod liver oil and (ii) the following three extracts, [you will need to read through \(and, hopefully, enjoy\) the attached 'Part 1'](#).

(1) In one sense, the church was thrice blessed, in being the recipient of no less than three inspired letters.

(2) Elsewhere John speaks of our Lord:

(i) 'walking' before men when He was 'in the world' ('Jesus as He walked', John 1. 36) and

(ii) 'walking' one day with His glorified saints in heaven ('they shall walk with me in white', Rev. 3. 4).

But here John speaks of Him:

(iii) 'walking' in the midst of His churches in the here and now (Rev. 2. 1).

When I read of our Lord walking 'in the midst' of His churches, I am reminded of what Moses said to Israel concerning the Lord their God; namely, that He 'walks in the midst of your camp ... therefore your camp must be holy'. And here, our Lord is viewed on what we might describe as 'a walking inspection tour' of His churches, requiring that they too must be holy.

(3) C. H. Spurgeon observed: 'There are ... Christians who do not approach to labouring. A lifetime of such work as theirs would not exhaust a butterfly'. To which Mr Spurgeon characteristically added, 'If you need to be feather-bed soldiers, go and enlist somewhere else'.

Happy reading.

Yours in our Lord Jesus,

Malcolm

Scripture.

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1. 1-6 (English Standard Version)