## New Life

**Amazing Grace** (My Chains are Gone) Amazing grace How sweet the sound! That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now I'm found! Was blind, but now I see!

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear! And grace my fears relieved! How precious did that grace appear! The hour I first believed! My chains are gone! I've been set free! My God, my Savior has ransomed me! And like a flood His mercy reigns! Unending love, amazing grace! The Lord has promised good to me! His word my hope secures! He will my shield and portion be! As long as life endures! My chains are gone! I've been set free! My God, my Savior has ransomed me! And like a flood His mercy reigns! Unending love, amazing grace! The earth shall soon dissolve like snow! The sun forbear to shine! But God, Who called me here below, Will be forever mine! Will be forever mine! You are forever mine!

**Amazing Grace** (Your Chains are Gone) Amazing grace How sweet the sound? That saved a wretch like you? You once was lost, but now you're found? You were blind, but now you see?

'Twas grace that taught your heart to fear? And grace your fears relieved? How precious did that grace appear? The hour you first believed? Your chains are gone? You've been set free? Your God, Your Savior has ransomed you? And like a flood His mercy reigns? Unending love, amazing grace? The Lord has promised good to you? His word your hope secures? He will your shield and portion be? As long as life endures? Your chains are gone? You've been set free? Your God, Your Savior has ransomed you? And like a flood His mercy reigns? Unending love, amazing grace? The earth shall soon dissolve like snow? The sun forbear to shine? But God, Who called you here below,? Will be forever yours? Will be forever yours? He is forever yours?

## Amazing Grace! (My Chains are Gone)

Amazing Grace? (Your Chains are Gone)

#### Nehemiah 8

## The truth that had been realized by those of yesterday, was not being realized by those in today?

# The Yesterdayers sang with exclamation point

The Todayers were singing with a question mark

Vs 7:73b-8:1 When the seventh month came and the Israelites had settled in their towns, all the people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

#### Vs 2

So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.

#### Vs 3

He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

#### $V_{S} 4$

Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam.

### Vs 5

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up.

#### Vs 6

Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.



#### So it is

#### So be it

#### Yes! That's the truth!

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

### Yes! That's the truth!

#### Genesis 2:7

The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

#### Yes! That's the truth!

Psalm 95:2-5 Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song. For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. In His Hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to Him. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land. Yes! That's the truth!

#### Vs 7

The Levites-- Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah-- instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there.

#### Vs 8

They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read.

(Vs 18a Day after day, from the first day to the last, Ezra read from the Book of the Law of God)

Exodus 13:20-22 ...By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

Exodus 14:13-14 Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

Exodus 14:21-22 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

#### Vs 9

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is sacred to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

## Yes! That's the truth!

## Yes? That's the truth?

## God did! But will He do?

"Our God is an awesome God! He reigns from heaven above! With wisdom, power, and love! - Our God is an awesome God!"

#### was being sung

"Your God was an awesome God? He reigned from heaven above? With wisdom power and love? Your God was an awesome God?"

#### Vs 10

Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

#### Vs 17a

From the days of Joshua son of Nun until that day, the Israelites had not celebrated it like this. And their joy was very great.

## Matthew 6:33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

#### My Prayer From Ephesians 3:14-19

God I have to be honest I am the reason I come before you at this moment. I pray that, out of your endless storehouse of supply, you would strengthen me with power through your Spirit in my inner being, so that Christ may dwell in my heart through faith. And I pray that my roots would go down deep into you, and I ask that I may have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and I want to experience this love that surpasses knowledge—I want to be filled with the fullness of God. Yes! That's the Truth!