

GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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A STROLL BACK INTO TIME OF THE RESTORATION

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It is interesting to look back into time and read of such faithful men in the Restoration as **Jacob Creath Jr.** He was one of the most colorful characters of the entire Restoration Movement.” Jacob Creath Jr. was known as “**The Iron Duke of the Restoration.**” West says, “*He was fearlessly independent in his thinking and an oddity in almost all the deportments of his life.*” Men like Jacob Creath was what made the Restoration Movement a joyful subject. Men in the Restoration stood for the truth in the Gospel, bringing it back to the ancient order of the Bible. As we reflect on our faith in the Gospel, could someone call you “the iron duke of the Gospel”? Should our faith and attitude reflect the same way as those of the Restoration? Let’s look at some quotes that were made regarding Jacob Creath and see if our faith is as strong.

John Rowe says regarding Creath: **‘I never saw the day when I did not desire to be good and please God, my Maker. I often withdrew to retired places, and prayed desiring that my sins were pardoned, being overwhelmed with the dreadful consideration that I was forever**

lost’. Creath was a Baptist, and their doctrine taught “experimental religion.” Later through Alexander Campbell’s Christian Baptist he learned that through the word of God a man was converted. Jesus says, “*He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned*” (Mark 16:16). It is God’s word that converts the soul in obeying the Gospel. We need God every hour of our lives. We sing the hymn “*I Need Thee Every Hour.*” It is God’s desire for all men to be saved. Paul says, “*For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth*” (1Tim. 2:3-4). Through God’s love in Christ Jesus, we can have that hope of salvation in Heaven.

David Lipscomb says, “**He would rebuke and scold an audience on slight provocation, with severity, but present to them the Gospel of the Son of God with the simplicity, and tenderness of child-like faith in the Saviour.**”

What is our attitude towards Gospel preaching today? Do we get offended when the preacher seems to always preach on negative things? Or, do we bristle when the

preacher calls names in the pulpit? What was Paul’s attitude in preaching the Gospel? Paul writes, “*Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching*” (2Tim. 4:2). Why is it that our own brethren, who say that they are strong and stand for the truth, will not preach on issues that are facing the church today such as Romans 14. Are they really strong? Or, are they really taking a stand in preaching the Gospel? Paul writes, “*Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the Gospel according to the power of God*” (2Tim. 1:8). We should never be ashamed of the Lord testimony or He will be ashamed of us in Judgment.

Brethren, let’s always stand for the truth in the Gospel as Paul writes, “*Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong*” (1Cor. 16:13). And remember through the grace of God in Christ Jesus we have the hope of salvation, “**If We Remain Faithful Unto Death.**”