## God cares - Pt 2 God places His care for another on our hearts

This is our second study on – God cares. In our previous study we established from the OT that – (1) the Lord cares for the land of Israel, (2) the Lord cares for the nation of Israel, (3) the Lord cares for every detail of His children. In this study we establish (1) the Lord cares for the world so much that He gave His only Begotten Son (2) the Lord puts care for His children in the hearts of His children, and 3) care for one another leaves less room for Satan to divide.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. The Lord cares for this world – He gave His Only Begotten Son. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn.3: 16)

And when a person gets saved, God cares for them - 1 Pet.5: 7.

2. The Lord puts care for His children in the hearts of His children "But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you" (2 Cor.8: 16).

Our care for God's ministers is His care for them – 1Cor 9:9
Pastors care for their flock is God's care for them – In.10: 13 – c.f. – 1 Tim 3:5. S.

3. Care for one another leaves less room for Satan to divide the body. "That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another" (1 Cor.12: 25).

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

When Karen and I were at Bible College a church gave us \$500 and one of the brethren from that church brought a bed out to our house that was miles away from his place of work. Their care for us in our time of need "flourished" (Phil.4: 10).

Question to think about.

When the Lord puts the earnest care of a brother or sister into our heart, whether they be their pastor, teacher, minister or brethren – (i) what are three possible scenarios, (ii) and what is the likely outcome for each scenario?

Our answer from the scriptures.

Scenario 1 – they acknowledge the need to show care and obey the Spirit of God. Outcome – the giver and receiver rejoice in God's goodness. The giver is blessed for their obedience for passing on God's care and the receiver is blessed from it! Scenario 2 – they acknowledge the need to show care but then disobey what the Spirit of God has placed in their heart to do, either directly or by being delayed. Outcome – to know to do good and do it not – is sin (Jam.4: 17), therefore the giver is chastised for their disobedience and the intended receiver does not receive God's care unless the Lord uses another.

Scenario 3 - they are deaf to the Spirit's prompting.

Outcome - God does not use those who are deaf unless they seek His help to hear.

If you have been used of God to show His care to your brethren then rejoice and expect to be used more often, and know that God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor.9: 7). If you have not been used of late – ask God why! That we may all be addicted to the "ministry of the saints" (1 Cor.16: 15) showing each other God's care.