

Beloved of the Lord:

"HIS HANDS ARE AS GOLD RINGS SET WITH THE BERYL" - S.ofS. 5:14.

Literally, "His hands are full of gold rings and precious stones". They are distinguished from others by the gold rings and precious stones:

1 - THE GOLD RING IS THE EMBLEM OF FREEDOM AND SONSHIP

- (a) - Slaves in ancient times were permitted to wear a ring of iron, not gold.
- (b) - The Beloved is entitled to the gold ring of freedom and sonship more than all others, even though He took the "form of a servant" and was sold for the price of a slave - Phil.2:7; Ex.21:32; Zech. 11:12; Matt. 26:15.
- (c) - We are redeemed and made sons with HIM. He takes away the iron ring of sin's slavery and gives us the gold ring of a son and freedom - John 8:36; Luke 15:22.

2 - THE GOLD RING IS THE EMBLEM OF AUTHORITY AND POWER.

- (a) - In ancient days monarchs had rings enclosing a precious stone and signet.
- (b) - Joseph was given a ring with Pharaoh's name upon it - Gen. 41:42. It placed all Egyptians, except Pharaoh, in subjection to Joseph.
- (c) - King Ahasuerus gave Mordecai and Esther the king's ring, to seal the message of deliverance for the Jews - Esther 8:1-10.
- (d) - Darius, the King, sealed the den of lions with his signet ring - Dan. 6:17.
- (e) - The gold ring is an emblem of power and for the Church - Matt.28:18. Do we appropriate this? It reaches UPWARD to heaven in prayer - John 14:12-14. It reaches DOWNWARD to annul Satan's power - Eph.6:12-18. It reaches INWARD to the conscience - Psalm 139:23,24; Heb.4:12,13. It reaches OUTWARD to all mankind with salvation's message - Acts 4:12; Rom.10:13,etc. May the Lord search our hearts - John 16:23,24.
- (f) - The gold ring is the emblem of the Beloved's universal dominion of glory, both in the Millennial Kingdom and in His eternal Kingdom -Rev.11:15;Matt.25:31;Phil.2:9-11.

3 - THE BELIEVER'S SECURITY IS SEEN IN THE GOLD RINGS.

- (a) - An ancient version declares - "His hands are full of gold rings". There is nothing more firmly grasped in the hand than a ring and the jewel in the palm of the hand imbedded in the ring, where it is always before the eyes of its owner. Is it not written - "Behold, I have graven thee on the palms of MY hand" - Isa. 49:16. The hand must be shattered before such treasure can be plucked away by force! - Read John 10:28-30. How blessed to know that saints are safe in HIS ETERNAL HAND!
- (b) - Earth and hell combined against my Beloved, driving nails through His hands, taking away His life when He laid it down for me! BUT - the enemy was unable to pluck me from HIS blessed hands. He died bearing me as a signet on His hand; He was buried and I was buried with Him, graven upon the palms of His hand; and He arose from the grave holding me in His hand - Rom. 6:4,5 - saying, "I ascend unto MY Father and YOUR Father: and to MY God and YOUR God" - John 20:17.
- (c) - When all was finished, His death, burial and resurrection, then His sacred prayer on the Cross was answered - "Deliver MY soul from the sword; MY darling from the power of the dog" - Psalm 22:20. For His precious BRIDE is forever safe in the eternal hands of her eternal LOVER!

"The Bride eyes not her garment,
 But her dear Bridegroom's face -
 I will not gaze at glory,
 But on my King of grace.
 Not at the crown He giveth,
 But on His pierced hand:
 The Lamb is all the glory
 OF IMMANUEL'S LAND" Anne R. Cousin

Faithfully yours in Christ,

W. Cramhall