

Signs of the Times

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Our Earth Yet to Be as Eden

To Be Eternally the Home of the Redeemed — When Do They Get It? — First Depopulated and Desolated for a Millennium — Triumphant on Thrones of Judgment

By ARTHUR G. DANIELLS

THIS is the second of three articles by Elder Daniells on the general subject of what the future of our earth is to be. Last week he presented some of the Bible promises that tell of this earth's being redeemed from the curse of sin and made the eternal abode of the saved in Christ.

This week his article leaves us with the earth in ruins and desolation at the second coming of Christ. Next week he will present the scriptures that tell of the thousand years this earth will lie desolate, what the redeemed will do in that time, and what will take place after the thousand years are past.

EDITOR.



I was shown last week that our earth is to be restored to its Eden beauty and become the home of the saints. The promises of God on this point were very dear to Abraham. Paul says he "embraced them." According to these promises, Abraham knew that the time would come when Satan, sin, and sinners would be banished from the earth. He knew that the earth would be molded over, that its face would be renewed, and that it would then appear in all the beauty and loveliness that it possessed at the close of creation. And more, he knew it would then be his home, and not only his, but the home of all the saved, from righteous Abel to those who shall be living when Jesus comes.

HEIRS OF THE EARTH MADE NEW

It is not at all strange that Abraham, with all this before him, "embraced" the promises. The only wonder is that we, to whom these promises apply as well as to Abraham, can be so indifferent to them. That the promises to Abraham respecting the earth are equally applicable to all the followers of Christ, is clearly stated in Gal. 3: 29: "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Whoever is a true follower of Christ is a child of Abraham, and an heir of the earth in its renewed state.

We now turn our attention to the time and manner of the fulfilment of these promises. When and how will they be carried into effect? It is certain that they will not be fulfilled until after the close of probation. We showed, in a previous article, that all who will be saved are to receive their reward at the same



"OUR EARTH IS TO BE RESTORED TO ITS EDEN BEAUTY."

time. To confirm this we quote the following: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still." Rev. 22: 11. This certainly marks the close of Christ's mediatorial work. It marks the point where the destiny of the human race is sealed.

The next event to take place is stated thus: "And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Thus we see that the reward of the saints is not bestowed until the coming of Christ, which immediately succeeds the close of the gospel work. As the inheritance of this earth by the saints is a part of the reward to be bestowed by the Saviour, the fulfilment of these promises can not take place until after the close of probation and the second advent.

All this will appear still more evident as we notice the events that occur in connection with the return of Christ to this earth.

RESURRECTED AND IMMORTALIZED

At His coming, the righteous dead are called from their graves and made immortal. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." 1 Thess. 4: 16. At the same time, the people of God who are alive are changed to immortality. "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." 1 Cor. 15: 51, 52.

Then will be fulfilled the promises of Christ to His disciples, that they should at some future time go with Him to heaven, the dwelling-place of the Father. In John 13: 36 we read: "Simon Peter said unto Him, Lord, whither goest Thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow Me now; but thou shalt follow Me

(Continued on page 10)

BOUND FOR A THOUSAND YEARS

The Millennium Defined — Time When Satan Is to Be Bound — What Is the "Bottomless Pit"? — The City Descends — Satan's Last Work of Deception

By ASA T. ROBINSON

THIS article of Elder Robinson's presents the subject of the binding of Satan and the millennial period in a little different manner from the usual, and will be found a very interesting supplemental study to the article by Elder Daniells beginning on the first page.

EDITOR.

THE word "millennium" comes from two Latin terms, *mille*, a thousand, and *annus*, year, and means a period of one thousand years. Any period of one thousand years is therefore a millennium.

There is one and only one period of one thousand years mentioned in the Bible, in which certain events are to occur. This period is brought to view in the twentieth chapter of Revelation. A correct understanding of the subject of the millennium, as a Bible doctrine, therefore depends upon the right interpretation of this remarkable chapter, the first nine verses of which deal with this subject.

Verses 1 and 2 read as follows: "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years."

A TIME WHEN SATAN IS BOUND

This one thousand years is a time during which Satan will be bound. We are not to suppose that he will be literally bound, with a literal chain. We must therefore look for a set of circumstances through which the efforts of Satan will be so completely circumscribed that he can be said to be bound, and such circumstances must prevail during a period of one thousand years.

How does the Bible speak of the work of Satan?—"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." 1 Peter 5:8.

WHAT CONSTITUTES HIS BINDING

If we find that there ever will be a time, a thousand-year period, when Satan will be left in this world, with no people whom he can seek to destroy, that will certainly constitute his binding.

What will happen to all the wicked who shall be living on the earth at the second coming of Christ?—"To you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power; when He shall come to be glorified in His saints." 2 Thess. 1:7-10.

RIGHTEOUS TAKEN AWAY

What will become of the righteous people who shall be living on the earth at the second coming of Christ?—"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the

Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." 1 Thess. 4:17.

What part of the resurrection will take place at the second coming of Christ?—"The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." Verse 16.

LIVED NOT TILL END OF THOUSAND YEARS

How long will it be before the rest of the dead—the wicked—will be raised?—"The rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished." Rev. 20:5.

How long will the righteous be in heaven?—"They lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Verse 4. "They shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." Verse 6.

With the wicked all slain at the second coming of Christ, not to live again for a thousand years; and with the righteous reigning with Christ in heaven during that same time; with all, both righteous and wicked, beyond the reach of Satan's tempting and destroying power,—surely he will be bound.

WHERE IS SATAN BOUND?

Where is Satan to be cast at the time of his binding?—"Cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled." Verse 3.

WHAT CONSTITUTES THE BOTTOMLESS PIT?

Let us, by a few simple questions and Bible answers, see if we can learn what will constitute this "bottomless pit," which is to be the prison abode of Satan during the one thousand years of his captivity.

What will happen to all the cities in the world at the second coming of Christ?—"I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by His fierce anger." Jer. 4:26.

How many men will then be living on the earth?—"I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled." Verse 25.

What will be said of Satan at that time?—"They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; that made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?" Isa. 14:16, 17.

"LOOSED FOR A LITTLE SEASON"

After being bound a thousand years, is Satan again to be loosed?—"And after that he must be loosed a little season." Rev. 20:3.

If the wicked's remaining dead during the one thousand years, and the saints' reigning with Christ in heaven during that period, constitutes the binding of Satan, would not the bringing of both the righteous and the

wicked back upon the earth, be the loosing of Satan?

In Rev. 20:5, already quoted, it is clearly stated that the wicked will all be raised at the close of the one thousand years.

THE CITY DESCENDS

What else did John behold taking place at that time?—"I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Rev. 21:2. "And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." Verse 10.

What place will be prepared for the holy city when it comes down upon the earth?—"His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south." Zech. 14:4.

Who will be the occupants of the city?—"The nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it." Rev. 21:24.

WITHOUT FORM AND VOID

In what condition was the earth in the beginning, before it was fitted up as the abode of man?—"The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep." Gen. 1:2.

Into what condition will the earth again be brought, when it becomes the prison abode of Satan for one thousand years?—"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light." The Hebrew term rendered "face of the deep" in Gen. 1:2, and the Greek term rendered "bottomless pit" in Rev. 20:3, have exactly the same meaning. This shows that the prison home of Satan during the one thousand years will be this earth reduced to its chaotic state, as it was in the beginning, when "darkness was upon the face of the deep."

SATAN'S LAST WORK OF DECEPTION

With the saints of God dwelling in the holy city here on the earth, and the unnumbered millions of the wicked all raised from the dead, what will be Satan's last great work of deception?—"When the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." Rev. 20:7-9.

How does the prophet Ezekiel describe the coming of this innumerable army against the city of God?—"Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee." Eze. 38:9.

SHALL THINK AN EVIL THOUGHT

What will come into the mind of the great rebel leader?—"Thus saith the Lord God; It shall also come to pass, that at the same

time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought." Verse 10.

Who is this one who shall "think an evil thought"?—"There is one come out of thee, that imagineth evil against the Lord, a wicked counselor." Nahum 1:11. What action will follow this wicked counsel?—"Thou shalt think an evil thought: and thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of un-walled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates." Eze. 38:10, 11.

Why will the wicked hosts be deceived into the idea that the city of God has neither walls nor gates?—"The building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. . . . And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." Rev. 21:18, 21.

WEeping AND GNASHING OF TEETH

What awful reality will dawn upon the deceived hosts of the wicked, as they look through those transparent walls and gates?—"There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out." Luke 13:28.

Who only will have a right to an entrance into that city?—"Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14.

"Thou Shalt Call His Name Jesus"

"THOU shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins." Matt. 1:21.

The disposition to forgive an offender is the most beautiful trait that can be exhibited in human life. He who possesses this crowning grace in the greatest degree, is the nearest like Jesus. When He comes, we shall be "like Him." 1 John 3:2. So let us learn this beautiful lesson as it was taught and exemplified by the One who, before His birth, was called Jesus.

"He will abundantly pardon." Isa. 55:7. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. 1:18.

"He delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." Micah 7:18, 19.

"Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God." Rom. 3:25.

O that we may know Him who loved us and gave Himself for us, and who "washed us from our sins in His own blood"! Gal. 2:20; Rev. 1:5.

FRANCIS M. BURG.

I THANK my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.—Paul.

HOW THE SABBATH WAS INSTITUTED

It Was Made for All Mankind — Christ Was the Active Agent — The Creator's Rest on That Day Fixed It for All Time

By GEORGE I. BUTLER

"THE Sabbath was made for man." Mark 2:27. These were Christ's words. He Himself was the agent of the Father in making all worlds. "All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:3. Certainly He was competent authority to give information concerning the origin of the Sabbath, and the object in view in the making of it. When He says it was made "for man," He means it was made for the race of men. We say, "Man is mortal." The term "man" is often used in the broadest sense, meaning mankind. That must be

THE ACTIVE AGENT IN MAKING THE SABBATH

Christ Himself was the active agent in making the Sabbath. And so, indeed, He was the Lord, or Maker, of the Sabbath, God the Father and Christ the Son being one in all things made.

Let it be noted that the last act of creative power was the making of man, and the appointing of his sustenance and work. The first part of the sixth day was allotted to the creation of the beasts of the field and creeping things. But the creation of man was evidently considered, by the Deity, as the most important act of all. "God said, Let Us [that is, God the Father and God the Son] make man in Our image, after Our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them." Gen. 1:26, 27. The last work in the creation, on the latter part of the sixth day, was the creation of man.

The next step, at the beginning of the seventh day, was the first act in making the Sabbatic institution. There can be no denial that the first event in the making of the Sabbath was God's resting upon the whole of the seventh day of the creation week.

There are just three facts connected with the Sabbath institution: First, God rested upon the seventh day of creation week. No other day did or could become God's rest-day. Second, He blessed it. Third, He sanctified it, "because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made." Gen. 2:2, 3. The blessing and sanctifying of the day is declared to be because He had first rested upon it. "Sabbath" is a Hebrew term meaning simply "rest."

Evidently the blessing and sanctifying of the seventh day must have taken place after the seventh day had passed. The language used, "because that in it He *had rested*"—past tense—makes this conclusion absolutely certain.

FOUNDATION TO STAND FOREVER

The cessation of the Creator's work for a period of twenty-four hours was a wonderful thing, a marvelous thing. On a certain occasion, when Christ had performed a miracle on the Sabbath, the Jews sought to kill Him for breaking their traditions concerning the Sabbath. Christ said to them, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." John 5:17. God's works are seen throughout the universe. They are constant. But He rested on the seventh day of creation week, for so His word declares. He did thus because He was laying the foundation of the Sabbatic institution, which was to last during the existence of this world—yea, through eternal ages, or while mankind exists. Isa. 66:23.

This rest of the Creator was a monumental (Concluded on page 8)

Hail to the Sacred Day

With joy we hail the sacred day
Which God has called His own.
With joy the summons we obey,
To worship at His throne.

Thy chosen temple, Lord, how fair,
Where willing votaries throng
To breathe the humble, fervent prayer,
And pour the choral song!

Spirit of grace, O, deign to dwell
Within Thy church below!
Make her in holiness excel,
With pure devotion glow.

Let peace within her walls be found.
Let all her sons unite
To spread with grateful zeal around,
Her clear and shining light.

Then hail, thou sacred, blessed day,
The best of all the seven,
When hearts unite their vows to pay
Of gratitude to heaven!

—HENRY F. LYTE.

Christ's meaning when He says, "The Sabbath was made for man." It was made for his benefit, for his best interests, for his spiritual and eternal good.

HOW BROUGHT INTO EXISTENCE

In order to learn the facts relating to the making of the Sabbath for man, we shall need to go back to the time when the Sabbath and man were brought into existence. We shall find them intimately associated from their very creation, Genesis 1. This grandest account of the creation of our world, and of the race of man, to be found anywhere, is worthy of most careful study.

That God had a distinct purpose in view in dividing the period of His labor in creating our world, into six portions, constituting the six days of creation week, preparatory to His cessation from labor on the seventh day of that week, can not be questioned. He was laying the foundation of the Sabbatic institution. He was, indeed, making the Sabbath for mankind, as Christ declared.

Charms of the Harp of That Shepherd Boy

By CLARA EDNA ROSENCRANS

Such wondrous music fell from tuneful strings
When the young shepherd played before the king—
Such holy, thrilling music, that anear
The shining angels drew, on hovering wing;
The evil angels, full of deadly blight,
Fell backward to their dread abodes of night.

Such holy spell came o'er the royal heart—
Such gentle impulse, and such kindly mood—
His spirit grew like to a little child's,
The evil spirits could no more intrude.
Within the court was life and love and joy,
Wrought by the music of a shepherd boy.

And as to-day we hear the wondrous strains
Wrought in the strings of that same tuneful lyre,
We seem again to feel their presence near,
To hear the music of that heavenly choir.
O'er our warm hearts there throbs the selfsame joy
Saul felt while listening to the shepherd boy.

The rich, deep chords have never lost their spell;
And wondrous love has kept the lyre, still,
That, while the shepherd watched his father's sheep,
Rang out its music over plain and hill.
To saddened hearts it still can gladness bring,
And still we hear the gentle shepherd sing.

Still has it power to quell the mighty tides
Of sin and evil in our human hearts.
Still at its music loud, or soft and low,
All kindly impulse into being starts.
A harp of widest range, thou tuneful lyre,
What thoughts, what hopes, what joys, thy notes inspire!

And listening to thy voice, thou shepherd-king,
Our hearts leap forward with a wondrous joy.
We think upon the time when thou shalt sing,
Thy skilful fingers on the strings employ,
And we shall hear that harp forevermore,
Join in the music of the eternal shore.

The Restored Demoniacs and Their Work

Freed from the Power of the Demons — Their Reason Restored — Destruction of the Swine — Some Who Regarded Swine above Men — The Rescued Men Make a Successful Missionary Journey

By MRS. E. G. WHITE

IT is morning on the sea of Galilee. Jesus and His disciples have come to shore after a tempestuous night on the water, and the light of the rising sun touches sea and land as with the benediction of peace.

But as they step upon the beach, they are greeted with a sight more terrible than the storm-tossed sea. From some hiding-place among the tombs, two madmen rush upon them, as if to tear them in pieces. Hanging about these men are parts of chains which they have broken in escaping from confinement. Their flesh is torn and bleeding, their eyes glare out from their long and matted hair, the very likeness of humanity seems to have been blotted out. They look more like wild beasts than like men.

RAGING BUT HELPLESS

The disciples and their companions flee in terror; but presently they notice that Jesus is not with them, and they turn to look for Him. He is standing where they left Him. He who stilled the tempest, who has before met Satan and conquered him, does not flee before these demons. When the men, gnashing their teeth, and foaming at the mouth, approach Him, Jesus raises that hand which has beckoned the waves to rest, and the men can come no nearer. They stand before Him, raging but helpless.

THE DEMONS SPEAK THROUGH THEM

With authority He bids the unclean spirits come out of them. The unfortunate men realize that One is near who can save them from tormenting demons. They fall at the Saviour's feet to entreat His mercy; but when their lips are opened, the demons speak through them, crying: "What have we to do with Thee, Jesus, Thou Son of God? art Thou come hither to torment us?"

The evil spirits are forced to release their victims, and a wonderful change comes over the demoniacs. Light shines into their minds. Their eyes beam with intelligence. The countenances

so long deformed into the image of Satan become suddenly mild, the blood-stained hands are quiet, and the men lift their voices in praise to God.

Meanwhile the demons, cast out from their human habitation, have entered into the swine, and driven them to destruction. The keepers of the swine hurry away to publish the news, and the whole population flock to meet Jesus.

HAD BEEN THE TERROR OF THE COUNTRY

The two demoniacs have been the terror of the country. Now these men are clothed and in their right mind, sitting at the feet of Jesus, listening to His words, and glorifying the name of Him who has made them whole.

But those who behold this wonderful scene do not rejoice. The loss of the swine seems to them of greater moment than the deliverance of these captives of Satan. In terror they throng about Jesus, beseeching Him to depart from them, and He complies, taking ship at once for the opposite shore.

Far different is the feeling of the restored demoniacs. They desire the companionship of their Deliverer. In His presence they feel secure from the demons that have tormented their lives and wasted their manhood. As Jesus is about to enter the boat, they keep close to His side, kneel at His feet, and beg to remain near Him, where they may listen to His words. But Jesus bids them go home, and tell what great things the Lord has done for them.

Here is a work for them to do,—to go to a heathen home, and tell of the blessings they have received from Jesus. It is hard for them to be separated from the Saviour. Great difficulties will beset them in association with their heathen countrymen. And their long isolation from society seems to have disqualified them for this work.

But as soon as He points out their duty, they are ready to obey. Not only did they tell their own households and neighbors about Jesus, but they went throughout Decapolis, everywhere de-



"Meanwhile the demons, cast out from their human habitation, have entered into the swine, and driven them to destruction."

claring His power to save, and describing how He had freed them from the demons.

Though the people of Gergesa had not received Jesus, He did not leave them to the darkness they had chosen. When they bade Him depart from them, they had not heard His words. They were ignorant of that which they were rejecting. Therefore He sent the light to them, and by those to whom they would not refuse to listen.

DESTRUCTION OF SWINE AROUSED THE COUNTRY

In causing the destruction of the swine, it was Satan's purpose to turn the people away from the Saviour, and prevent the preaching of the gospel in that region. But this very occurrence roused the country as nothing else could have done, and directed attention to Christ. Though the Saviour Himself departed, the men whom He had healed remained as witnesses to His power. Those who had been mediums of the prince of darkness became channels of light, messengers of the Son of God. When Jesus returned to Decapolis, the people flocked about Him, and for three days thousands from all the surrounding country heard the message of salvation.

RESTORED DEMONIACS AS MISSIONARIES

The two restored demoniacs were the first missionaries whom Christ sent to teach the gospel in the region of Decapolis. For a short time only, these men had listened to His words. Not one sermon from His lips had ever fallen upon their ears. They could not instruct the people as the disciples who had been daily with Christ were able to do. But they could tell what they knew; what they themselves had seen, and heard, and felt of the Saviour's power. This is what every one can do whose heart has been touched by the grace of God. This is the witness for which our Lord calls, and for want of which the world is perishing.

A LIVING FORCE TO CHANGE THE LIFE

The gospel is to be presented, not as a lifeless theory, but as a living force to change the life. God would have His servants bear testimony to the fact that through His grace men may possess Christlikeness of character, and may rejoice in the assurance of His great love. He would have us bear testimony to the fact that He can not be satisfied until all who will accept salvation are reclaimed, and reinstated in their holy privileges as His sons and daughters.

Even those whose course has been most offensive to Him He freely accepts. When they repent, He imparts to them His divine Spirit, and sends them forth into the camp of the disloyal to proclaim His mercy. Souls that have been degraded into instruments of Satan are still, through the power of Christ, transformed into messengers of righteousness, and are sent forth to tell how great things the Lord hath done for them, and hath had compassion on them.

"THE unstudied, unconscious influence of a holy life is the most convincing sermon that can be given in favor of Christianity. Argument, even when unanswerable, may provoke only opposition; but a godly example has a power that it is impossible wholly to resist."

Just for a Photograph

By B. M. GRANDY

Merely to Get a Picture — Expensive Buildings Erected for the Purpose — "Wildcat" Speculations and "Wildcat" Religions

TWO mining men were sitting on the veranda of a hotel in a decaying mining camp situated on the banks of the sinuous Snake River. Pointing to a large, dilapidated mill a short distance up the mountainside, one questioned the other thus: "Why was that built? Was it for a photograph?"

The men passed out of hearing, and the remainder of the conversation was lost. But what a strange question! Why should any one build such an expensive mill just to photograph?

JUST TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED

In order to induce people to invest money in mining stock, promoters sometimes go to great expense in constructing buildings and

much as formerly, it is still, in some places, carried on successfully.

These dishonest methods practised by mining promoters have caused many investors to shun mines and mining, and look with suspicion upon all mining operations.

Still there are legitimate mining investments; and every year, the rock-seamed earth yields a harvest of precious metals. The wealth of commerce witnesses to the fact that stored in the depths of the earth, the virgin gold lies, waiting for the pick of the miner to bring it to the light of day, to take its place in the marts of the world.

By those who delve beneath the rugged surface of the earth, who seek earnestly and intelligently, the precious treasure is brought forth, and the world's wealth increased.

WILDCAT RELIGIONS

In describing last-day conditions, Jesus said, "For there shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matt. 24: 24.

And so to-day we find ourselves living in the days of "wildcat" religions. Promoters are springing up almost daily in all parts of the earth, and the cry goes out, "Lo, here is Christ, or there." Books and circulars flood the mails, and enthusiastic agents are peddling stock in every city, village, and country. One after another of these "wildcat" ventures is exploded, but still they come forth. Many persons are led to invest their time, means, and talents in these movements. Disappointed in one, they turn to another; and while each promises great returns, the dividends consist only in blasted hopes. They "shall show great signs and wonders." And for what? — To deceive many — just to photograph.

THE COUNTERFEIT IMPLIES THE GENUINE

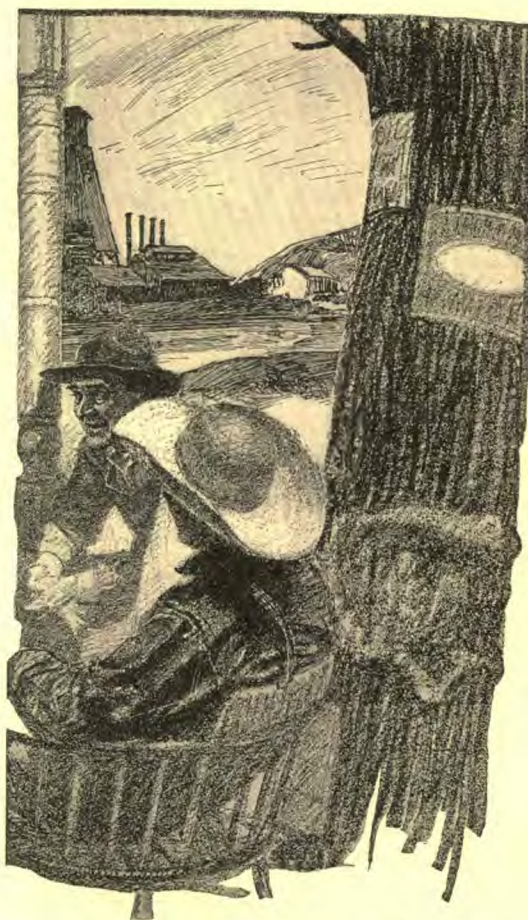
Again, many who have talents, means, and a life to save, are led to look upon all religion with distrust, and stifling their craving for the spiritual, they let other fields engage their attention.

But as we behold the wonderful work that true Christianity has done and is doing, we have abundant evidence that, apart from the many delusions, there are still legitimate investments that bring forth rich returns from the mine of truth.

The "wildcat" mining schemes would be impossible but for the well-paying mines. The counterfeit religions are themselves evidence of the existence of the true. And to those who seek earnestly, with a whole heart, "if thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasure," there remains the sure reward. Again, "the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." Matt. 13: 44.

"I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and

(Continued on page 13)



"Why was that built? Was it for a photograph?"

installing machinery, that these may be photographed, and the pictures used to embellish attractive and alluring circulars that are sent to prospective investors.

Sometimes promising ore is in sight, but more than likely only a worthless ledge; but be that as it may, the real purpose of the promoter is to extract money from the public. No investors are barred; and the hoarded pennies of the widow, the hard-earned savings of the artisan, as well as the surplus wealth of the more well-to-do, all go to swell the bank-account of the successful (?) promoter.

"WILDCAT" MINES

In mining parlance, this is known as "wildcatting"; and while not practised so

The Personal Friendship of Jesus

Influence of Contact with His Life — A Mere Idea Not Sufficient — We Need to Sense His Personal Power — The Effect of Individual on Individual

By F. A. ALLUM
Superintendent West China Mission

"HENCEFORTH I call you not servants, . . . but I have called you friends." John 15: 15.

In these words, Christ uses human friendship to represent to us the close relation that exists between the believer and his Lord, and He expresses this relationship as the *supreme friendship* that is possible to mankind.

MORE THAN A FRIENDSHIP

Of course the religion of Jesus is more than a friendship, and His relation to us can never be fully stated in the terms of any friendship, however exalted, or, indeed, in the terms of any human relationship. It far transcends them all, and yet human friendship may serve to illustrate the sacred tie that binds us to our Lord.

It is stated that "ideas rule the world"; but in reality those things that have been most powerful in influencing our lives have not been abstract ideas, general principles, but rather *somebody*. That is, the great master forces of our lives are personal rather than impersonal. Speaking of the gospel, Bishop Lightfoot says, "It is neither a dogmatic system nor an ethic code, *but a person and a life*."

THEY HAVE BEEN WITH JESUS

This is well illustrated in the way Christ dealt with His first disciples. When they first came to Him, He did not say: "These are My doctrines; believe them. These are My precepts; obey them." But He said: "Follow Me," "Come and see." Thus He bound them to Himself. He "ordained twelve," we read, "that they should be with Him." Mark 3: 14. That was all, and then the wondrous power of divine love did the rest. They, "beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord," were changed "from glory to glory," even "into the same image." And this was so noticeable that after the ascension of their Master, the people of Jerusalem whispered to one another, as they saw these fishermen, "They have been with Jesus." There was that in them which only thus could be explained.

The thought, in the words of another, is this: "If there is any good, if there be any spiritual enrichment, that can come into your life through human friendships, then that multiplied a hundredfold may come to you through the friendship of Jesus."

OUR HUMAN FRIENDSHIPS

Let us inquire: What is it that our human friendships do for us? What are the fruits they yield to us? Let Bacon answer: "A principal fruit of friendship is the ease and discharge of the fulness and swellings of the heart, which passions of all kinds do cause and induce; . . . but no receipt openeth the heart but a true friend to whom you may impart griefs, joys, fears, hopes, suspicions, counsels, and whatsoever lieth upon the heart to oppress it in a kind of civil shrift or confession."

And this communicating of man's thought to his friend, he says, works two utterly dif-

ferent effects, "for it redoubles joys, and cutteth griefs in half; for there is no man that imparteth his joys to his friend but he joyeth the more, and no man that imparteth his griefs to his friend but he grieveth the less."

POSSIBILITIES OF THIS SUPREME FRIENDSHIP

That the above is true, human experience has again and again attested. And the important question is: *Can the friendship of Jesus do all that for us? Can Christ prove Himself to be a friend after this fashion?* This is not a question for argument. Let us appeal to the *facts* of Christian experience.

In that wonderful story of John G. Paton, missionary to the New Hebrides, is a chapter that reveals the possibilities of this supreme friendship. He tells of the death of his young wife and his infant child, and how with his own hands, when his heart was well-nigh breaking, he dug their grave just at the end of the house, and then he walled it up with blocks of coral, and covered the top of it with beautiful white coral, broken small. That place became to him, he says, as a sacred shrine, where during the months and years that followed, with ceaseless prayers and tears he claimed the land for God where he had buried his dead in faith and in hope.

He finishes the story thus — and I want you to listen, and then tell me whether the friendship of Christ may not be a real thing: "*But for Jesus and the fellowship He vouchsafed me there, I must have gone mad and died by that lonely grave; and all that is possible of sympathy through human friendship can come to a man through the friendship of Christ.*"

SYMPATHY AND COUNSEL

Bacon further tells us: "The first fruit of friendship is *sympathy*, and the second is *counsel*. The best preservative to keep the mind in health is the *faithful admonitions of a friend*." "The best receipt — best, I say, to work, and best to take — is the admonition of a friend. It is a strange thing to behold what gross errors and extreme absurdities many, especially of the greater sort, do commit for want of a friend to tell them of them, to the great damage of both their fame and fortune."

Again I ask, Can Christ be a friend after this sort? Let us appeal to the facts of human experience.

Below is an extract from one whom Henry Drummond has called one of the highest intellects that this age has known. He says:

"I say frankly that more than any recognized influence of my father or of my mother upon me; more than the social influence of all the members of my father's household; more, so far as I can trace it, than all social influences of every kind, *Christ has had the formation of my mind and my disposition*. My hidden ideals of what was beautiful I have drawn from Christ. My thoughts of what is manly and noble and pure have almost all of them arisen from the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Many men have educated themselves by reading Plutarch's lives of the ancient worthies, and setting before themselves one and another of these that in different ages have achieved celebrity, and they have recognized the great power of these men upon themselves. Now I do not perceive that any poet or philosopher or reformer or general or any other great man ever has dwelt in my imagination and my thought as the simple Jesus has. For more than twenty-five years I have gone instinctively to Christ to draw a measure and rule for everything wherever there has been a necessity for it. I have sought, and at last almost spontaneously, to throw myself on the companionship of Christ; and early, in my imagination, I could see Him standing and looking quietly and lovingly upon me.

"There seemed almost to drop from His face an influence upon me that suggested what was the right thing in the controlling of passion, in the subduing of pride, in the overcoming of selfishness; and it is from Christ manifested to my inward eye that I have consciously derived more ideals, more models, more influence, than from any human character whatsoever."

CAN NOT GO ALONE

After enumerating the above-mentioned fruit of friendship, Bacon finally gives the following remarks that are well worthy of our attention. "I mean," he says, "*aid and bearing a part* on all actions and occasions. Here the best way to represent to life the manifold use of friendship is to cast and see how many things there are which a man can not do for himself, and then it will appear that it was a sparing speech of the ancients, to say that a friend is *another himself*, for that a friend is far more than himself."

That thought applied to the friendship of Christ suggests the power to become like Christ; for we become, in disposition at least, like our friends.

This is clearly shown in a touching incident related in the biography of the famous Brighton preacher, Frederick William Robertson. The biographer was collecting material for his biography; and he went into one of the shops of Brighton where Robertson used to do his business, and asked the man about Robertson's whole personal influence over him. The shopkeeper said, "Come"; and he took him into a small room behind the shop, and there upon the wall he pointed him to a portrait of the great preacher, and said, "If ever there in the shop I am tempted to meanness or baseness or trickery, I come back here and look in that man's face, and, sir, *I can not do it*." With those pure, searching eyes upon him, he could not "do this great wickedness, and sin against God."

HIS INSPIRING PRESENCE BROUGHT SUCCESS

All this is but the faintest image and the poorest parable of what Jesus Christ can be to them that put their trust in Him and make Him their real friend. Here are the words of another living man who speaks of the truthfulness of the above statement. He says: "I can only speak my own experience. I am not talking theology or philosophy. I know what I am saying; and I can point to the places where I should have fallen if I had not been able to rely for guidance upon something better than a commandment or de-

duction, but the pure, calm, heroic image of Jesus confronted me, and I succeeded. I have no doubt as to what He would have done. Through Him I did not doubt what I ought to do."

The friendship of Christ will never fail us. As for human friends, the following lines tell us how unstable they sometimes are:

"Go search for friends.
You're sure to find some
Who charm by being new;
But years must pass,
And troubles come,
Ere you can prove them true."

We remember the wail of the psalmist, "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me." And again: "It was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: . . . but it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company." Ps. 41:9; 55:12-14.

Such broken friendships strew many lives. But the friendship of Jesus will never fail us. "Love Him," says Thomas a Kempis, "love Him, and keep Him for thy friend who, when all go away, will not reproach thee, nor suffer thee to perish at the last."

HOW MAKE IT OUR OWN?

How can we make the friendship of Christ our own? How can it be truly realized?

The answer to this question is found in the text at the beginning of this article. "Henceforth," says Christ, "I call you not servants." You see we take Him first as our Master, and then He takes us as His friends; and so, as some one has said, "through the door of discipleship, we enter into friendship."

Thus we can not realize the full, real friendship of Christ until we are willing to yield all to Him. "Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:14. It was thus that Abraham became the "friend of God." See James 2:20-23.

And Jesus, this Friend of all friends, has given His life for His friends. Then let us yield all to Him. O that from our hearts the cry might go up:

"Nay, but I yield, I yield.
I can hold out no more.
I sink, by dying loved compelled,
And own Thee conqueror."

Sonship Evidence

THE testimony of Jesus' enemies was, "This man doeth many miracles." Jesus looked like other men. He was a man. He was also more. He was the Son of God.

He gave unimpeachable evidence that He had power such as had never before been seen among men. He spoke with authority. Every act and word was an expression of truth. Demoniacs heard His authoritative command to evil spirits possessing them, and were healed. Lepers were cleansed. Whole cities were left without one sick person as the Son of God passed through. The blind saw, the deaf heard, and those silent in death answered His call by coming back to life. Even the elements obeyed. The officers who were sent to arrest Him returned saying, "Never man spake like this man."

It was the Father speaking through His Son. It was the Son revealing the Father.

Evidence of the genuineness of His mission among men was piled high. Every word, every act, was surcharged with the wonder-working miracle power of the Infinite One whose Son He was and is.

And best of all, He still lives. He still belongs to us, though now in heaven. He is still "this same Jesus," full of love for every tempted, struggling soul looking to Him for deliverance. Only believe, and you shall know also that this miracle-working One can change your vile heart, making it His home, and transforming it into the image of His own—the most wonderful of all miracles.

T. E. BOWEN.

Satan Powerless to Create

Shut Up in a World All His Own—Has Every Opportunity to Make His Boast Good—Despairingly Ends in Destruction

By A. S. BOOTH

"AND I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled." Rev. 20:1-3.

Satan is to be confined to this world in its desolate condition. The voice that he has despised and caused cruel men to hush, out on Golgotha, is then proved to be the voice of the Life-giver, who descends "from heaven with a shout," and in "a moment, in the twinkling of an eye," the righteous are changed, and "caught up to meet the Lord in the air," and live and reign with Him a thousand years.

NO WICKED IN THAT TIME

During the period of time in which the righteous reign with Christ and Satan is bound, the wicked will be in death. The hand that the adversary has moved men to nail to the cross, will be made bare, and strike despair and death to the wicked, and they live not again until the thousand years are finished. Verse 5.

The condition of the earth during the time of Satan's binding is expressed in the following texts:

REDUCED TO CHAOS

"The day of the Lord cometh, . . . a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness." Joel 2:1, 2.

"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by His fierce anger. For thus hath the Lord said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it." Jer. 4:23-28.

BOASTS A BETTER KINGDOM THAN GOD'S

It has been the boast of Satan that he could conduct a kingdom better than God. So once, in the end of time, God will reduce the earth to the same condition it was in immediately after He created it, and grant Lucifer opportunity to demonstrate his power.

When the Lord began the work of creation, He said: "Let there be light: and there was light." "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind." "Let Us make man." And so it was; and "God saw that it was good." Genesis 1.

CAN HE CREATE?

Can Satan create light?—He may say, "Let there be light," a thousand years, but the heavens will remain black. Can he say, "Let the heavens bring forth birds, and the fields beasts"?—He may say it, and repeat it a thousand years, but the birds and the beasts are perished. Will it be worth while for him to say, "Let us make man"?—He can not give life to a blade of grass.

He is utterly bound, and wanders up and down the earth, beholding what the working out of his plans has wrought, and trembles for the final end when he himself will be utterly destroyed. Eze. 28:12-19.

"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you." James 4:7, 8.

The Risk and the Gain

Freedom Eternally the Object Sought

By ADELAIDE D. WELLMAN

"NOTHING ventured, nothing gained," says an old saw. And it contains more truth than do most saws. The principle it expresses was involved in the purpose of the Creator when He gave to angels and to mankind the power of choice.

MERE MACHINES NOT DESIRED

Had the Infinite thought best not to "venture" so much, He must needs have made His creatures mere machines. Certainly He would thus have guarded effectually against the danger of sin, with all its consequent misery. There would then never have been a Satan or a demon to wield superhuman power for malignant purposes, nor would there have been on earth a depraved human being to cast discredit, by his very existence, on the God who formed him.

But while there would have been this security against loss, what of the gain? Alack, all possibility of gain would have been foregone. Instead of responsible intelligences, there would have been only puppets.

ONE ADVANCED AND THE OTHER FELL

Though the possession of the power of choice on the part of Lucifer and those who became his followers, made possible their transformation from angels of glory to fiends, yet that same power was so exercised by twice as many other inhabitants of heaven, that they advanced to infinite attainment, past all liability to fall.

Likewise, while the inhabitants of earth, by misuse of the free will granted them, seem almost to have stamped as a failure the work of their Maker, yet in untold worlds

are innumerable hosts who, having chosen good instead of evil, have reached heights of happiness that would have been utterly impossible without the exercise of free personal volition.

EVENTUALLY

And eventually, all the disastrous effects of the "venture" will be erased. The experiment of sin will have demonstrated, to the conviction of the entire universe, the rightness of right and the folly of sin; and in the eternity of the future, an unmarred creation will be grateful that God "ventured" more than mortals can ever know, in order that they might be in the fullest sense free.

The Sabbath and the Law

Pertinent Questions with Answers
in Scripture Texts

1. Does Christ give assurance of the perpetuity of all the law?

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Matt. 22: 37-40.

2. Is there Sabbath law in the New Testament?

"Wherefore it is lawful [in harmony with law] to do well on the Sabbath days." Matt. 12: 12.

3. Did Christ observe the law, and thus magnify it?

"I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love." John 15: 10.

"He will magnify the law, and make it honorable." Isa. 42: 21.

"Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 5: 19.

4. In whose name and through whose counsel must men obtain eternal life?

Jesus Christ's.

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4: 12.

"And a certain ruler asked Him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, . . . Thou knowest the commandments." Luke 18: 18-20.

"And He said unto him, . . . If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Matt. 19: 17.

5. Should the life be in harmony with the whole law?

"If ye fulfil the royal law according to the Scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well. . . . For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For He that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." James 2: 8, 10-12.

Blasting at the Rock of Ages

Open Infidelity Has Sought to Break Down the Word—
A Disguised Infidelity Is Trying It To-Day

By LE ROY E. FROOM

BIBLE study and Bible preaching are fast dying out of the world. Art, literature, oratory, ethics, politics, "social service," "civic reform,"—anything, everything,—has taken the place of the old-fashioned Bible. Such is the condition in the home, and congregations demand that kind of sermons.

Against all this the apostle Paul utters his warning to the ministry, "Preach the Word." And the Master urges all men everywhere to "search the Scriptures." There is life and power in that Word. It is the eternal Rock of Ages.

Down through the centuries, men have been blasting away at it, but it seems to have thrived under the hard treatment. That is a wonderful story of how the Bible has come to us through those years. Like a great anvil, it stands unworn and unmoved, while the hammers of hatred are battered and worn. Destroy the Bible! One might as well talk of blotting the sun out of the sky. Yet men will try it.

The infidel Voltaire said, "In one hundred years there will not be a copy of the Bible on earth." Voltaire is dead—but the Book lives on. A hundred years have passed, and the Bible is going to the world at the rate of over six million copies a year, printed in more than five hundred and fifty distinct forms of human speech. And the very printing-press that scattered Voltaire's false prophecy was later used by the Geneva Bible Society to print God's holy word.

In those years that are past, rank and open infidelity sought to bring God's book into contempt. To-day infidelity has taken on a more insidious and refined form. In the church it is called higher criticism, and in the university it is called science. With the air of advanced learning, a campaign of doubt is fast encircling the globe.

The leaders in this movement are entrenched in the pulpit, the press, the university, and even the theological seminary. They demand a revision of belief regarding the Sacred Writings, rejecting this, cutting off that, ridiculing another passage, until among them all there is nothing left of it.

Are we to accept the Bible as you would a fish, picking out the bones before swallowing it? Is it the word of God, or is it not? The prevailing movements of the day are subtle infidelity. Truly the time has come, predicted by Paul, "when they will not endure sound doctrine," but will "heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears." 2 Tim. 4: 3, 4. Do we not know the baneful results of forsaking the Bible during the Dark Ages? Do we not see the forward strides made during the Reformation? They were made because men turned again to the word of God.

I plead with you to study God's living word. Study it as His message to you; not to prove a pre-adopted creed; not for ammunition to argue with; not with father's spectacles, to see it just as father saw; but as the message of the living God.

Its precepts are binding. Its histories are true. Each time the pick and shovel of the explorer unearth a new record, the evidence increases. From the dust of the dead and

buried past march forth mute witnesses to the truth of the Word. May it accomplish its divine mission in each one of us!

Becometh Thine House

"HOLINESS becometh Thine house, O Lord." This beautiful scripture is usually taken as referring chiefly to conduct in the house of God—a reverent attitude of mind, carefulness in refraining from all that would be unseemly or contrary to the spirit of a place where God is worshiped. But it surely includes the further thought that the people who come together thus to worship should themselves be holy. To be a Christian means to live a holy life—a life separate from the world, wholly devoted to the Lord Jesus.

M. E. OLSEN.

How the Sabbath Was Instituted

(Continued from page 3)

event, and He blessed and sanctified that day as soon as His rest was completed. He blessed it. That which Jehovah blesses is blessed. The seventh day was made a better day than the other six days of the week. A higher honor was placed upon it. The blessing was not placed upon that particular twenty-four hours on which He had rested, for that day was in the past, and would never exist again. But the blessing and exaltation was for all the future seventh days, which should recur in all the weeks of future time. When men trample on and show despite to the sacred day of Jehovah's rest, they dishonor the day that the Creator honored.

AN EXALTED MEMORIAL

He sanctified the day of His rest. To sanctify is to set apart to a sacred or holy use. The Sabbath was made for mankind. To set apart that day for man, is, in short, to inform man of its sacred character, and teach him to use it differently from the other working-days. It is God's sacred day. It is emphatically a religious day, the one specific day devoted to religious duties and privileges. Man's nature requires such a day. It is an exalted memorial, set up for all time, to keep in memory God's work in creation. He ceased from His labors on that seventh day of creation week. He directs that we do the same on the return of each seventh day.

In the creation of the Sabbatic institution, God made the weekly divisions of time. The twenty-four hour day marks a revolution of the earth on its axis. The month is derived from the moon's phases. The year is the period occupied by the earth in making its revolution around the sun. But the week has its origin in the Sabbatic institution. No other origin can reasonably be assigned to it.

Christ declares, "The Sabbath was made for man." We thus comprehend, step by step, how it was made.

IN crises, decisions are made quickly. Many fail at such times, because they do not have independent Christian characters. They are in the habit of following the leadings of those in whom they have confidence, and they have no strength in themselves. He who would always prove true in the crises of life, must have a clear connection with the God of heaven, and must fear God more than man.

S. N. H.

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THE MARRIAGE SUPPER AS ETERNITY BEGINS

The Great Climax at Last Is Reached—Every Hope Is Realized as the King of Kings Begins to Reign—Touching Scene as the Two Adams Meet—The Bridal Party Enters the Bliss That Knows No End



AFTER His coronation, Christ's first thought is for a waiting church for whom He went to prepare mansions. John 14: 1-3. For centuries He has heard them pray: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

As the Bridegroom has seemed to tarry, they have clung to the loving message left for their encouragement: "Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like

unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching; verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them." Luke 12: 35-37.

THE CHURCH LOOKS FORWARD TO SUCH THINGS

Creation groans, awaiting redemption. The bride, the heavenly Jerusalem, longs for the presence of the Bridegroom. Rev. 21: 9, 10.

"The flock longs to see that great Shepherd of the sheep. The exile sighs to be at home, and the pilgrim pants to gain his rest. The soldier prays for the hour of final victory, when the Captain of his salvation shall appear, wearing His many crowns. The sick and the dying long for the presence of the great Physician, who healeth all our diseases; and those who sleep in the dust of the earth still are resting in hope, and waiting all the days of their appointed time until their change shall come. And wearied, and burdened, and tearful, and heart-sick humanity throughout the world, pants, and longs, and sighs, and prays for that rest which God alone can give.

"Such are the things to which the church are looking forward,—the coming of the Lord, the reign of peace upon the earth, the beginning of eternal and universal blessing throughout the world, the glad and holy day when God shall be all in all, the time of rest, of quietude, of joyful, endless peacefulness, when the Prince of peace shall reign."

THE GLORIFIED KING DESCENDS

When the glorified Lord descends, all the angelic throng will attend their triumphant King. "Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people. Gather My saints together unto Me; those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice. And the heavens shall declare His righteousness: for God is judge Himself." Ps. 50: 3-6.

The men who had confederated to establish His kingdom by force, will learn in dismay that their confederacy was false, and their king a fraud. In terror they will fly from the presence of Him whom they had professed to adore.

"And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every

bondman, and every freeman, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Rev. 6: 14-17.

AND HE SHALL REIGN FOREVER

"Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth." Dan. 2: 35.

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign forever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshiped God, saying, We give Thee thanks, O Lord God almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because Thou hast taken to Thee Thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and Thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that Thou shouldest give reward unto Thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear Thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail." Rev. 11: 15-19.

INVITED TO THE MARRIAGE SUPPER

The Judgment which decides who are to be robed in the righteousness of Christ, is according to the law of the kingdom as proclaimed from Sinai and placed in the sacred ark of the covenant. When the Judgment is past, those not robed in righteousness according to the law in the ark of the covenant, are cast into outer darkness.

"The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, and sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: and the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: and he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen." Matt. 22: 2-14.

When the Judgment is past, the waiting church, keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, robed in wedding garments for the marriage supper, raises the exultant cry: "He

will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of His people shall He take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." "Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in." Isa. 25:8, 9; 26:2.

The Lord responds: "Thy dead men shall live, together with My dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead." Verse 19. "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert." "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Isa. 35:5, 6, 10.

WHO SHALL STAND THERE

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation." "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory." Ps. 24:3-5, 7-10.

THE OMNIPOTENT ONE REIGNETH

As the bridal party enters the holy city, the heavenly Jerusalem, "a voice" comes "out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye His servants, and ye that fear Him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." Rev. 19:5-9.

WHEN THE TWO ADAMS MEET

It will be a touching scene when Christ, the second Adam, to whom the first dominion is restored, shall meet the first Adam, by whom the dominion was lost, and conduct him back to Paradise restored. There he shall look upon the same garden in which he first walked in sinless purity, and pluck the fruit from the same vines that his hands had trained, and eat the fruit of the tree of life, from which he was shut away by a flaming sword in cherubim hands.

He may then eat and live forever. He casts his crown at the feet of his Redeemer, and leads in redemption's song; and as of old, the morning stars sing together, and all the sons of God shout for joy. "And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever." Rev. 5:13.

Thus the one lost sheep is found and returned to the fold amid great rejoicing. The kingdom as originally established, invaded for a time, is restored from invasion. The festive board is spread, the marriage supper of the Lamb takes place. The reign of sin ended, the kingdom, restored from invasion, is established forever.

THE FESTIVITIES OF ETERNITY BEGIN

At the marriage feast, Christ gathers the redeemed of earth around the festal board, while as their servant He presides. He drinks anew with them the cup of promise in His Father's kingdom. A thousand years of marriage festivities roll by as a passing earthly day, while heaven lavishes upon earth's weary

pilgrims its best in royal welcome into the joys of their Lord and King.

"From desert waste, from cities full,
From dungeons dark, they've come;
And now to claim the mansions fair,
They've found their long-sought home."

Touring from world to world, the bridal party will join all worlds in heralding the praises of their newly crowned King. Out of seeming defeat there has come eternal victory. Out of loss there has come gain. The love of Christ has been manifested in redemption as it could not be revealed in creation. Dying that the lost might live, He has bound the universe in one common bond of brotherhood of love, as inseparable as the Godhead itself.

MORE GLORIOUS THAN EVER

The long, dark, dreary night of earth's gloom, during its invasion by sin, has caused it to become more glorious, through the tears and agonies of Gethsemane, and the incomparable sacrifice of Calvary, which have consecrated it as the central dominion of honor and glory in the universal kingdom of God throughout eternity. Christ, having been faithful in restoring that dominion which was lost, will reign King of kings and Lord of lords, with His name exalted above every name in the universe of God.

Bedecked in jewels of surpassing splendor, in the fulness of glory of the Ancient of days, the heavenly Jerusalem, descending, becomes the metropolis of the earthly dominion. Rev. 21:2, 10, 11. Then the bodies of redeemed saints, fashioned like Christ's glorious body, adorn the palaces of the New Jerusalem, as ornaments adorn a bride appareled for her husband. This mortal has put on immortality. This corruptible has put on incorruption. Death has been swallowed up in victory. 1 Cor. 15:53, 54. The kingship lost in Adam has been restored in Christ.

R. C. P.

OUR EARTH YET TO BE AS EDEN

(Continued from page 1)

afterwards." Jesus here plainly promises that at some time His followers shall accompany Him to the place where He was then to go.

In Heb. 8:1 Paul tells us Jesus went to the Father. In John 14:1-3 the Saviour not only confirms this, but declares that He will come again and receive His people to Himself and take them to those mansions above.

TRIUMPHANT ON THE SEA OF GLASS

For further proof that the saints are to go to heaven, we refer to the statements of the apostle John in Rev. 15:2: "And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God." This company, after they are redeemed, are to "stand on the sea of glass." When it is remembered that the sea of glass is immediately before the throne of God in heaven (Rev. 4:1-6), none can deny that at the second coming of Christ all who have overcome, and washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb, will be taken to heaven.

WOULD LEAVE THE DEVIL IN POSSESSION

This would leave the devil and his followers in possession of this earth, if no other event took place in connection with the return of Christ. But by reference to other portions of Scripture, we find that Christ's coming has a terrible effect on the wicked. In Rev. 6:15-17 they are said to be filled with terror at the presence of Christ, and they call for the rocks and the mountains to fall on them, and hide them "from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

Speaking of this event and this class, Paul says: "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thess. 1:7, 8. Thus we see that at the second advent the wicked are destroyed.

THE EARTH MADE EMPTY AND WASTE

Of the extent and severity of God's judgments on the earth at this time, we have ample testimony. The prophet Isaiah says: "Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof." "The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the Lord hath spoken this word." "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left." Isa. 24: 1, 3, 5, 6. This testimony shows that at the presence of the Lord the earth will be "utterly emptied." How?—The wicked will be destroyed and the righteous translated.

Jeremiah also speaks very plainly on this point: "I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by His fierce anger. For thus hath the Lord said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end." Jer. 4: 23-27.

According to this, the coming of Christ depopulates the earth. He says: "I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled." "The whole land shall be desolate." "I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and

the heavens, and they had no light." It seems the destruction will be so thorough that the earth will appear very much as it did at the first day of creation, before God gave it form and light and beauty.

BOUND IN THE BOTTOMLESS PIT

It is thus that Satan is cast into the "bottomless pit" and bound for one thousand years. If the reader will turn to the nineteenth chapter of Revelation, and read from the sixteenth verse, he will see that the coming of Christ as "King of kings and Lord of lords" is brought to view. We have already seen that at this time He takes all His saints to heaven and destroys all the wicked nations. The destruction of the wicked is graphically portrayed in the closing verses of this chapter. The subject is continued in the next chapter, the first verses of which speak of the binding of Satan. In the fourth verse the saints are brought to view in heaven, sitting with Christ on thrones of judgment. This is in fulfilment of His promise recorded in Matt. 19: 28. The binding of Satan, then, appears to be accomplished by removing from his presence and power every human being. The purpose for which he is bound is that he should "deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled."

NO man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand," are the assuring words of Christ in reference to His trusting people. It is comforting to know that we are in His hand, that He has hold upon us. We are not saved by the feeble hold we have on God, but by the mighty grip of His eternal hand upon us. G. B. T.

Question Corner

Conducted by MILTON C. WILCOX
Professor of Biblical Exegesis of the Faculty of the College of Medical Evangelists
Loma Linda, California

NOTE.—In resuming the Question Department of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES, let me say: (1) The department is for the purpose of helping Bible students. (2) Answers must of necessity be brief, often only suggestive, never exhaustive, never infallible only as they agree with the infallible Word. (3) Such questions only will be answered as seem to the editors to minister to the mission of the paper. (4) Questions of the same import can not be answered repeatedly in the same volume. (5) Name and address must be given, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith and to insure reply by letter if thought best. (6) It is well always to enclose stamp. (7) With this we begin a new numbering.

I—"THIS GENERATION," MATT. 24: 34

What marks the beginning and close of the generation referred to by our Lord? How can the generation that saw the falling of the stars see the coming of our Lord?
S. A. P. and others.

1. The discourse of Jesus in Matthew 24 can be better understood by including in its study the thirteenth chapter of Mark and twenty-first of Luke. All are reports of the same address.

2. There is a threefold aspect to this discourse; namely, the answer to these three questions: (a) When shall these things be? or, When shall Jerusalem be destroyed? (b) When shall be the end of the age? (c) What shall be the sign of Christ's coming?

The first and the second of these questions are answered in the first parts of these three chapters. One question is regarding the signs of Christ's coming.

3. The disciples asked for the sign, but Jesus gave them "signs." Read what He says in response in Luke 21: 25-27: "There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; . . . men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. . . . Then shall they see the Son of man coming."

We naturally get the idea from this that there will be many signs. The same thing is suggested by both Mark and Matthew,—that nation shall rise against nation; there shall be earthquakes, famines, and pestilences, etc. But Matthew and Mark single out three special signs,—the darkening of the sun, the darkening of the moon, and the falling of the stars; and yet we must, if we stop to think about it, know that our Lord had not only these in mind, but He had in mind all the other signs that should precede His second coming. He it was that gave all the other signs through all the apostles and the prophets. It is His Spirit in them (see 1 Peter 1: 11) that predicted the score or more of signs which should usher in the kingdom of God. Consequently in those words, "When ye shall see all these things,"

He must have had in mind more than the three special signs connected with the sun, the moon, and the stars. He "in whom dwelt the fulness of wisdom and knowledge" must have included all the others.

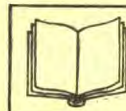
4. "Seeing" these signs may be understood in a twofold sense. Seeing with the natural eyes is what many did when the signs occurred; but to them these things were not signs at all of Christ's coming. Some wondered, some were alarmed, a few thought them evidences of the Judgment-day, but very few indeed saw them in their true light. And even this was of God's providence, because no one could see them in their true light until the last message for the last generation was developed.

The other way of seeing things is evidently the sense of the prophecy,—that is, perceiving them in the light of prophecy. Jesus said, "Abraham rejoiced to see My day: and he saw it, and was glad." John 8: 56. But he did not see it with the natural eye. The Jews did, and still would not believe. Abraham saw it by faith in the light of God's prophecies, and believed. The disciples saw it in the light of fulfilled prophecies, and they believed. And so the present generation of men upon the earth, beginning with the last threefold message in its fulness in 1844, will "see all these things" in the light of prophecy. The preaching of "all these things" is an essential part of that last message. It is given to the church to prophesy again (Rev. 10: 11); and in this will be included an explanation of all the mistakes and errors that have been made regarding prophecy in the past, and there will be brought out of the message the many signs which the Lord has given of His second coming. As before stated, that movement began in 1844.

5. When God has had any special work to give to the world, the generation which began that work finished it,—not all of that generation, but enough to bear witness to God's truth. Those who finish it, demonstrate in themselves that what the Lord promised is true. Take for instance the warning message which preceded the Deluge. That was given to Noah, and working with Noah in that message were Methuselah and Lamech. Both of these men died, but Noah preached

through the entire generation to the other side, demonstrating in his own person the truth of God.

So also with the generation that Moses led out of Egypt to the promised land. That generation gave that message, and led that movement to victory, and Joshua and Caleb were demonstrations of the truth of God. And so with the great 1844 message, there will be some that will live through it and will see the end,—the day of which or the hour of which we know not. But we know, in the words of the Master, that He is coming soon—in this generation.

SYSTEMATIC
BIBLE STUDY

WE wish to impress it again, that valuable help can be secured in connection with the reading of the books of Samuel, from that splendid work "Patriarchs and Prophets." The story of Samuel as presented in that volume is more fascinating than any romance that was ever written. That its striking, vivid narrative is true, is what makes it so fascinating.

And we again recommend the book "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation" as a helpful verse-by-verse study of the two important prophetic books Daniel and the Revelation. To be sure, you can not read such books through in the brief time allotted to the reading of these chapters in the Bible, but their study may be profitably extended.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 8

1 Samuel 9-16
Isaiah 64 to Jeremiah 4
Revelation 7-14

Read a chapter in 1 Samuel each week-day, and two on the Sabbath; a chapter a day in the portions assigned from Isaiah and Jeremiah; a chapter each week-day from the Revelation, and two on the Sabbath.

In the Wilds of Africa

EXPERIENCES AMONG THE NATIVES—PIONEER WORK IN WINNING HEATHEN HEARTS

By Joel C. Rogers

AFTER planning the opening of a station up on the Tanganyika Plateau, the unsolicited turning of the hearts of all our people, young and old, to this new field, through the Sabbath-schools, fills our hearts with hope and courage. I know that thousands of children, as well as older brethren, will be praying about the Tanganyika Mission. I know that God will regard these prayers, and will specially prepare the way before us. And as I walk among these rolling highlands, the scenes of Livingstone's last labors, I can not doubt that God, who sent His angel before Israel, also sends angels to direct my steps to the place He Himself has chosen.

MAKING TEMPORARY QUARTERS

While we are locating, and building first a temporary house of poles, plastered with clay, your interest will not cease, I feel sure. You will not expect a report of many souls baptized right away. The seed must be sown and tended before the harvest. But we know the harvest surely comes, for, "My word shall not return unto Me void," says the Lord.

We have with us two young men from our old Malamulo station,—Isaac, a trained carpenter-teacher, who worked with us four years; the other a trained cook and teacher, who worked the same years under my wife's instruction. Isaac's wife is Ruth, the seamstress.

The wife of Silas, our cook, is a young African princess, whom my wife is now teaching, with much encouragement.

MAY NOT SEE A WHITE FACE FOR YEARS

Two young boys of a superior tribe, who have been with us since ten years of age, also go with us, as helpers. So we are not alone, though we may not see a white face for a



Elder Rogers's two helpers standing beside him—the cook and his young wife to the left. His watch-dog Njobon (Elephant), resting in the foreground, barely escaped the jaws of a leopard in one of his encounters.

year or two. More than all, we know God is with us. We often sleep under a spreading tree, without the tent, if the camping place is reached late in the evening.

Folding beds, some blankets, and mosquito-nets to hang from a handy branch and cover the beds, make us very comfortable in the dry season.

Our little tropical tent is fine for cool or rainy times. We shall have traveled with it over a thousand miles when we reach our destination. My wife seemed very happy when she first saw "old glory" floating at the top. The accompanying flag is the "union jack."

The boy at my left, my cook and general helper, has been with me four years. So it will be seen he was a little boy, perhaps nine years old, when he first came. His name is Amon, but he will have a new name soon, for they always change names at his age. It is a fixed African custom to change names at various stages in life.

At my right is Jack. When I asked his other name, he said, "Tom—Tom Jack." He came to us four months ago, being a trained house boy. In fact, he is a really skilled laborer in his line, caring for my bed, washing clothes, cleaning the house—when I am in one—setting the table, and doing various other duties. His wage is ten shillings, besides food—three dollars a month all together. Amon, being a learner, receives half as much. Of course we pay these personal helpers ourselves. They are Christian boys, able to teach others also.

NATIVES AS EXPERT COOKS

Silas, our long-time cook, is seen busily stirring something delectable in an American frying-pan. His businesslike camp-fire roaring in the midst of his pots is quite symbolical of his own sturdy, hustling self. It is quite marvelous what these boys can compound out of a scarcity that would strike a home cook helpless.

At the left of Silas is his "high-born" wife, a winsome bit of a woman just beginning to like work—a little bit, though the process does not really gallop, one must truthfully admit. African women are almost never engaged as helpers to Europeans, as it is the habit of their men-folk to reserve their wives' labors to occupations that relieve the men themselves of domestic drudgery—the planting of the corn, the making of the flour, the homely but unceasing hewing of wood and carrying of water. The name of this particular girl is Manes (Ma-nes), and a more musical name you will hardly find.

Aaron is a little lad the same age as Amon, and his own cousin. This boy is marvelously skilful and quick at needlework, and from his quick fingers comes many a piece of work, delivered in beautifully finished form with great promptness. The men do all the needlework in this land.

MUST USE NATIVE CARRIERS

We travel with native carriers only, as we must pass through sleeping-sickness districts, where the risk is too great for donkeys, which otherwise we would be glad to take. And besides, we were warned by a government officer that part of our road is infested with lions, which show some partiality for fresh donkey meat.

Now we want to thank you for the big offering to open the Tanganyika Mission, and for your prayers and interest.



Elder Rogers's temporary house will be built like this, only larger and with windows. He says such houses are quite comfortable.



Fresh lion skin for sale. This old lion killed two persons before it was captured by the crude methods of these natives.

Lepers Baptized in British Guiana

By MRS. E. C. BOGER

"Sown in the darkness or sown in the light,
Sown in our weakness or sown in our might,
Gathered in time or eternity,
Sure, ah, sure will the harvest be!"

WHEN Jose Ignaseo was a young man seventeen years of age, an Adventist sister told him of this truth, and taught him the way to Jesus. He did not then accept the message, although he knew it to be true.

Finally the dread disease leprosy was found in him, and two years ago he was sent to the public leper asylum at Mahaica, British Guiana. There in his affliction he turned to God. He began to tell his fellow sufferers of the truth, and soon one after another joined him, until last March we were happy to baptize thirteen beneath the salt waters of Mahaica Creek, where it passes the grounds of the asylum on its way to the sea.

HAD EAGERLY LOOKED FOR
THE TIME

For some time, they had eagerly looked forward to this day, seeking to put away sin and all difference, that they might rise to "walk in newness of life." A number of the Georgetown church went down to enjoy the day with us, and a hearty welcome was given us by the little band of believing brethren and the steward of the institution and his family.

The steward showed us about the grounds. There are 384 inmates at present, more men than women always, and more East Indians than natives of the colony. Two large dormitories and thirty-five one-room cottages provide them with a comfortable home. A resident physician gives what medical attention is required. A hospital affords rest for the worst cases, with nurses in attendance. Those less afflicted among the women take turns in private housekeeping for limited times. They have little charcoal pots on which to cook their food, but most of them get their food from the large dining-room. Over thirty acres of land furnishes plots of ground for tillage. Each able man has his plot of land on which to raise produce to sell to the storehouse. Men of various trades are among them. These carry on their craft in shops on the grounds. They make their own clothing, etc.

AT THE BAPTISMAL SERVICE

As soon as the regular Sunday service was closed, we opened our meeting in the chapel. By invitation from one of the officials, my husband spoke. His theme was the new birth, bringing before them the privileges found in being born into the family of God. The best of attention was given, and when announcement was made that the meeting would be concluded at the water side, the congregation hastened thither.

It was a solemn scene. I am sure angels drew near, as beneath that lurid sun we gathered on the rocks and timbers of the breakwater, while the candidates with maimed limbs, some walking, some crawling, made their way to Mr. Boger's side out a little way in the stream.

In a letter received from Brother Ignaseo since our return home he says, "I feel to myself that I am a new man in Jesus." May God keep them all pure and clean in the blood of the Lamb.

Cooperation Corner

THE opportunity is offered to help some one not so fortunate as ourselves. Many calls—in fact, a continual stream—are received at the office, for copies of the SIGNS for those who can not afford



An African reclining machila,—a tiresome, expensive means of travel, but the only one where no road exists.

to pay for them. They, as well as we, desire to study these important subjects, but are not able to supply themselves with papers.

We call your attention to this from time to time, and many of our readers gladly contribute to our Cooperation Corner Fund. Here is a letter just received:

"Enclosed find \$2.00 for Cooperation Corner. Please use anywhere most needed, from a SIGNS OF THE TIMES reader and one who believes and is interested in the message."

This good offering is much appreciated, and in behalf of the beneficiary, we acknowledge the gift.

Remittances should be sent to the SIGNS OF THE TIMES, Cooperation Corner.

To Bible Students

THE Fireside Correspondence School desires to call the attention of those who may have become interested in the study of the Bible through reading the SIGNS OF THE TIMES, to their courses in Bible study entitled "Bible Doctrines and Life of Christ." About thirty other subjects also are offered, in history, English, mathematics, language, and business. For further information address, stating the subjects in which you are especially interested, Fireside Correspondence School, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

Just for a Photograph

(Continued from page 5)

white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye-salve, that thou mayest see." Rev. 3: 18.

Our eyes enlightened by the Spirit and the word of God, the wonderful array of man-promoted doctrines that confront us will have no attraction for us, but unerringly will we be led to the mine of truth. It has never failed to pay rich returns in joy, happiness, and peace. Besides, in the bank of heaven our investments are growing, and when the final dividends are declared, our share will be life eternal.

"If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine." John 7: 17.

Willing to Suffer to Gain His Ends

THE following paragraphs are a literal translation of part of a letter from a student in the China Union Mission Training-School at Shanghai. This young man is the only member of his family who is a Christian. When he first became acquainted with our missionaries, he was a typical heathen boy about fourteen years old. His words show his desire to fit himself to tell others of the gospel, and show at once the need of such a training-school as has been built at Shanghai, and the good work it is doing.

"I am determined to study hard in school and learn all about the truth, and I hope that the Lord can use me to do some small work when I come out. I am willing to 'eat bitter' [suffer], and serve

God in whatever station He calls me to. This is my ideal.

"Please remember me in your prayers, that I may become a faithful and trustworthy disciple of Christ, waiting for His glorious appearing, and may together with you receive everlasting happiness. This is my heart's desire. Amen."

MRS. LOUISE ROBERTS.

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The Contagion of Health

Nature Has Strong Barriers Against Disease—They Must Be Deliberately Broken Down for Sickness to Enter—Timely Hints and Suggestions

By DAVID PAULSON, M. D.

Medical Superintendent Hinsdale Sanitarium, Hinsdale, Illinois

AMONG the many foolish statements attributed to Ingersoll is this one,—that if he had made the world, he would have made health to be catching instead of disease.

But in reality health is more catching than disease. Men may indulge in indigestible midnight suppers, drink death-dealing liquor, smoke poisonous tobacco, violate almost every known health law they conveniently can, year after year; and when finally they succeed in catching rheumatism, nervous prostration, indigestion, or gastric ulcer, a few weeks of conscientious reform and proper care will generally enable them to catch a fairly good crop of health.

In order to catch smallpox, one must get within twelve feet of the patient. In order to catch health, there are likewise some things to be done, and one of the most important of these is the breathing of pure air.

FRESH AIR CURED THE MONKEYS

We are learning in this generation, as never before, the healing possibilities of pure air. In Lincoln Park, Chicago, in former years the monkeys used to die regularly of tuberculosis. Five or six years ago there were several monkeys that were at the point of death from this disease.

Instead of killing them outright, one of the keepers threw them out on a snow-bank. The boys fed them bananas; and having an opportunity to breathe fresh air, the creatures speedily recovered. This led to ventilation of the monkey house, and now the indications are that the monkeys will die of old age.

"Too Much House"

There are many persons who refuse to drink sewage, who are willing to breathe filthy air. An old Indian chief, when asked what was killing off his people, said, "Too much house." That is what is killing thousands of people who are not Indians.

The spread of the outdoor sleeping idea is a most gratifying sign of the times. If you can not move outdoors, do try to move more of outdoors indoors.

A BLESSING INSTEAD OF A CURSE

When the Lord told Adam and Eve to earn their bread by the sweat of their faces instead of merely by the sweat of their brains, He pronounced a blessing instead of a curse. To-day steam and electricity, directed by human brains, are doing the world's work, and as a consequence humanity is falling into decay. Sedentary habits are creating a thousand ills from which our fathers were exempt.

Those who have no other opportunity to exercise should resolutely determine to take each day a brisk walk, with head erect, chest up, at the same time practising deep breathing.

NATURE'S BEST TONIC

When tired and worn out, the brain can be temporarily relieved from its sense of fatigue by merely bathing the face in cold

water. Doing the same to the skin over the liver similarly arouses that organ. Putting a cold application of water over the heart wonderfully improves the pulse beat. The fact is, a brief application of cold water, especially if it has been preceded by a short hot application, is a natural stimulant to every cell in the body.

I had a blood count made of one of the nurses. Then a general hot and cold spray was administered, and the blood test repeated; and the color of the blood, and the number of both red and white blood cells, had increased in amounts varying from five to twenty per cent. This improvement persisted for several hours.

THE RESERVES BROUGHT OUT

No doubt this is the real reason for such an amazing change: Under ordinary circumstances some of the best blood of the body is collected in the spleen and other internal organs. It is off duty, accomplishing nothing. The vigorous reaction following such a short cold treatment brings out these reserves and puts them into active circulation doing good. This is the principal reason why hydrotherapy has completely revolutionized the treatment of pneumonia, typhoid fever, and other diseases, both acute and chronic.

RIGHTEOUS EATING

There is divine philosophy in the admonition to eat and drink "to the glory of God." 1 Cor. 10:31. It is extremely difficult to have in the head a peace that passes all understanding and at the same time have in the stomach a war that is beyond all description.

From a moral and health standpoint, the climate we have on the inside is much more important than the kind we are living in on the outside. On this point the editor of the *Ladies' Home Journal* has well said:

"When the mind is supposed to be tired it is generally the stomach that is fatigued. In nine cases out of ten it is an overfed stomach, struggling with a lot of refuse and poison that it can not get rid of, thus depleting or overloading some vital organ of the body."

And another writer has said: "People who have heartburn, bad breath, colds, throbbing at the stomach, pain in the side, headache, are all our meat-breakfast friends; there are no exceptions. All these pleasant symptoms just named are the result of food poisoning."

Modern scientific researches have furnished convincing evidence that the body is

constantly manufacturing toxins, that we are always in danger of autointoxication.

I have seen a small quantity of kidney secretion from a patient suffering with spasms, injected into the blood-vessels of a healthy rabbit, and produce spasms in the animal in a few minutes. On the other hand, the kidney secretion from a patient lying in a dangerous stupor produces in a few moments a similar stupor in the rabbit.

These symptoms in the patient were produced by certain poisons accumulating in the blood. The kidneys were doing their best to remove these toxins from the body, so as to save the patient's life. That is why, when the secretions were injected into the rabbit, the same symptoms were produced. Similar experiments have shown that kidney secretion frequently contains several times as much poison when the patient is living on a rich meat diet as when he is living on a plain, non-flesh diet.

CAUSE OF PREMATURE OLD AGE

Metchnikoff, of the Pasteur Institute, has practically demonstrated that premature old age is due to the absorption, from the alimentary canal, of poisons resulting from an unsuitable dietary.

Cancer, like many other chronic diseases, is enormously on the increase. In some parts of the country, it is now destroying more lives than any other disease except consumption and pneumonia. There is a growing conviction, among thoughtful physicians, that there is a close relationship between meat eating, a rich dietary, autointoxication, and cancer. It is important, and especially in the summer, to eliminate flesh food from our daily dietary, and use a larger amount of rice in its several forms, the various cereals, vegetables, especially green garden truck, and fruits.

We have become a nation of sugar fiends. The mania for artificial sweets is an unfavorable sign of the times in which we are living. Literally saturating the system with cane-sugar, candies, and confectionary is a menace to health.

UNNATURAL FLAVORS

Mustard, pepper, and fiery condiments are unnatural to human bodies, and hence are unphysiological. They create gastric catarrh, promote hyperacidity of the stomach, and in many instances lay the

foundation for gastric ulcer.

We should religiously refrain from eating those things which taste hot when they are cold. God has put a natural flavor into every food, just as He has put a fragrance into every flower; and it is folly to add these wretched and artificial flavors to our food.

NO RIGHT TO THROW BRICKS

Dr. Evans, formerly health commissioner of Chicago, commenting on the milder table stimulants, says: "Tea and coffee are both stimulants, the same as alcoholic drinks are



"An overfed stomach, struggling with a lot of refuse and poison"

stimulants. I have no sympathy for the tea soak or the coffee soak. They have very little right to throw a brick at the whisky soak."

I have seen many patients just as miserable and wretched when deprived of their accustomed cup of tea or coffee as the poor inebriate is when deprived of his usual glass of brandy. Tea and coffee are *drugs* and not foods, and hence should really come from the drug store instead of the grocery.

WHOLESOME RECREATION

In our generation so much is said about the virtues of the strenuous life, that we have almost come to believe it is a sin to go apart and rest ourselves a while. Mark 6:31.

The streets of our large cities are filled with people whose nerves are worn to a frazzle, who are enabled, by the stimulants they are taking, to drain their last atom of nerve energy in keeping up with the frantic procession. Such people should be convinced that they would save time by taking wholesome and harmless recreation.

The very best and most profitable diversion is found in turning aside from the wearing grind of daily drudgery, to extend some helpful ministry to needy humanity. Its reflex influence imparts an inspiring thrill to the entire system.

Instead of chasing to theaters to over-excite the already feverish mind, go out and hunt up the poor, the suffering, the outcast, the downcast, and the downtrodden. By some kindly act, by some loving ministry, let a little sunshine into their lives. Strange as it may seem, you will come away from such an experience not only refreshed but rested. You will find such service both a stimulant and a tonic.

Pray Hiking

SOME time ago, I read a little incident which deeply impressed me, and has remained with me. As some of the SIGNS readers may not have noticed it, I give it with brief comments.

Two little girls, both Christians, were one morning hurrying to school, conscious of the fact that they were late in starting. One of the girls, between breaths, said: "Mary, I fear we will be late. Let's kneel down and ask God to keep us from being late." "No, Jane," said Mary; "let's hike right along, and pray while we are hiking."

Jane consented, and they hurried on, and we believe they reached the school in time.

What great teachers the children are! The Master said, "Except ye . . . become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 18:3.

It is a good thing to take time to pray kneeling. In fact, I can not understand how any one who *can* kneel, can be a Christian and not *often* kneel in prayer. But if a child has neglected it till there is danger of being late at school; if the man has neglected it till he has but fifteen minutes to catch his train, and there is a mile and a half to walk,—then it would seem far more appropriate for them to pray "hiking," or perhaps *running*, than kneeling. And an appropriate prayer might be, "Lord, help me to do the best I can; and if Thou seest I can not make it, please hold the train, and by Thy grace I will try to start earlier next time."

He who kneels down and prays God to

walk or run for him, need not expect to get either to school or to the train on time.

He who kneels down and prays God to pay the church debt, the school debt, or his own debt, and does no "hiking" himself, might as well ask God to pay the national debt.

God helps men and children to help themselves, and that is the only true help that can be given to any one who is still able to "hike." A dime to a beggar often means another drink of whisky, and stimulation to beg some more, and let "the other fellow" work.

If we wait and pray for "something to turn up," when we might, in God's name, and in our God-given manhood, turn something up, we will be classed with that company who say, "Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say." Such will be late here, and late at the gate of heaven.

Would it not be better to take Mary's advice, "Let's hike right along, and pray while we are hiking"?

A. E. PLACE.

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Signs of the Times

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 4, 1914

Multimillion Fraudulency

ONE of the most sensational things that has ever been sprung upon the commercial world is the report filed with Congress by the Interstate Commerce Commission, which has been investigating the conditions of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford railroad company. It indicates that in the neighborhood of one hundred million dollars was illegally and fraudulently taken from the stockholders of that corporation.

This report incidentally shows the large figures in which business crookedness may be conducted in these times, as well as the large figures in which fortunes are amassed. Following the filing of the report, the minority stockholders of the unfortunate railroad have filed a suit for \$306,000,000 against the officers of the company.

It is just such fraudulent management among the great kings of finance, that furnishes the texts for the socialist and the labor agitator and the rest of that class of people who are said to be stirring up discontentment throughout the world. But who will dare say that their texts are not founded in fact, and that if it were not for these counter-agitations, the men of wealth would soon be so oppressive that the great mass of mankind would be brought into abject servitude to these money barons?

That all or any of the doctrines of the socialists and the labor leaders are correct, it is not within our province either to affirm or to deny. But it is our duty to point out the great fact that these conditions of fraud and oppression are in existence, and that the capitalists are furnishing the occasion, in myriads of instances everywhere, for the discontentment that is arising.

This discontentment will grow worse and worse, and become stronger and stronger, until the whole world will stand in the shadows of anarchy. God's mighty power is holding these things in check, but God's prophetic word, as we have pointed out again and again, tells us that the last days will be perilous. And one of the plain reasons for these perils is the great selfishness of men.

But it would not be right to say that this greed and selfishness is all confined, by any manner of means, to the wealthy class. It is inherent in human nature. It will never do to try to laugh these statements out of court. Watch the trend of events, and see how conditions will become more and more riotous, anarchistic, and violent; and as you see these things coming, understand of a surety what they mean. It is unpleasant to write such matters, in the face of the jeers that so many people have to offer. But a definite conviction, based upon what God's prophetic word plainly says, requires the doing of it.

Sensible Advice

IT seems that California barbers feel somewhat ill used on account of Sunday patronage. But why should they? The shops in which nearly all of them work are unionized. That is, their proprietors are bound by association contract not to do anything disapproved by the state-wide union. But it is said that union members are agreed, one and all, that they should have relief from their semi-bondage, and to this end ask the state to give them what they so greatly desire. To secure the support needed, they have appealed to the churches to circulate, in their behalf, an initiative petition asking that a general Sunday law, prohibiting all labor on that day, be submitted to the vote of the people next November.

Does not this strike one as a strange proceeding, — that because they, as barbers, do not want to work on Sunday, they should seek to compel, by law, every other class of workers to refrain from Sunday labor, whether they want to do so or not? Why should the barbers assume the initiative for others besides themselves, without reference to their wishes in the matter? But further, why go to all the trouble and expense of printing petition blanks to circulate over the state, in the hope of securing a maximum 32,000 signatures, and if

successful in this, assess the state in uncalculated outlay for printing the proposed law and sending it to every voter in the state, when there is a shorter and better way of closing their business?

This shorter and better way is summed up in the following terse paragraph clipped from a late Los Angeles Tribune. Under the heading, "The Poor Barber," it states the case this way:

"Barbers frequently complain that they have to work Sundays, and ask for legislative relief. It is a little difficult to understand why, if they all feel this way, they do not refrain from working Sundays. Such would seem the easy and natural course."

This must be counted as sound, sensible advice. Would that the barbers' union had wisdom enough to follow it!

J. O. C.

A Mighty Campaign Document

IS the Temperance Number of the "Signs of the Times" just off the press.

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Peace Organizations and Their Work

SEVERAL years ago, Mr. Andrew Carnegie gave ten million dollars to the establishment of the "World Peace Foundation." This vast sum of money was invested so as to bring in a proportionately large income each year, all of which was to be used in promoting sentiments of peace throughout the world. More recently he has given twenty million dollars for the purpose of establishing an organization known as the "Church Peace Union." These are two of the leading peace organizations of this time, and the objects toward which these large sums are dedicated, are certainly worthy ones.

The Church Peace Union will convene in conference at Constance, Switzerland, Sunday morning, August 2. The Insel Hotel will be headquarters during the meeting. This conference will be composed of about one hundred leading clergymen from various parts of Europe, and about fifty from this country.

Among the interesting topics that will be discussed, are "The Advancing Organization of the World," "The Roman Catholic Church and the Peace Movement," "The Peace Movement in the Churches," "The World Congress of the Churches as the Outgrowth of the Conference."

The modern peace organizations and the work they are proposing to do, form one of the most

significant movements of our times. To labor truly for peace is commendable. One of the titles of the Lord Jesus Christ is "Prince of peace." Angels, in announcing His birth, made the great proclamation, "On earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2: 14.

On the other hand, we also have the word, "There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked." Isa. 48: 22. The Book also warns against men who cry "Peace, peace; when there is no peace." Jer. 8: 11. And then, as the climax to these statements, we find the prediction, "When they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them." 1 Thess. 5: 3.

The true principles of peace are supported only by the power of the gospel itself; but there will be many who will be carried away with the enthusiasm of great organizations, and be led to believe that they have built up a structure that can insure the peace of the world. And then, when they are in the midst of their mistaken utterances of peace and safety, sudden destruction comes.

The great majority will be attracted to these movements. Yet confidence in their success is misplaced, because their work is along lines that can never produce peace. It is literally true that there can be no peace where wickedness reigns; and those who hope for it, will be deceived.

God's own word is authority for the statement that it will be when the great majority of mankind are saying "peace and safety," that "sudden destruction" will come. This is not human theory. This is not personal speculation. It is what the divine Book says. And the Scriptures locate in "the last days" this peace and safety song that "they" are singing.

If there was ever a time when men needed to think carefully about what they are doing, and to be sure that they are following the leading of God, it is now; for the world is full of voices that are calling us from every direction to participate in numerous reforms. The good old Bible is the only infallible guide, and it should be studied if we desire to know the meaning of all that we see about us.

The Young Man's First Drink

COL. W. H. OSBORN, U. S. commissioner internal revenue, says: "The greatest benefit of removing the saloon is to the young man who never drank. Some may argue that they will send off and get the whisky. In all my years of observation and experience, I have never known a young man who had never taken a drink to send off and get a jug of whisky and drink it. The young man usually learns to drink in saloons, where he can get a cool glass of beer, a sherry cobbler, or a cocktail."

ELDER M. C. WILCOX, who for about a quarter of a century has been connected with this institution, most of the time as managing editor of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES, has responded to an urgent call from the General Conference brethren and the management of our college at Loma Linda, California, to connect with that institution as Bible instructor. Our Board has released him for one year for that purpose. In connection with his work at Loma Linda, he will have charge of the Question Corner department of this journal, also act as a regular contributor to its columns, and contribute to the *Signs of the Times Magazine*.

SEVERAL hundred thousand acres of government land are about to be thrown open to settlers in California. Where these lands are located, with the terms and plans upon which they can be secured from the government, and all other necessary information, may be had by addressing the United States land offices at San Francisco, Los Angeles, Susanville, Visalia, Eureka, Sacramento, and Independence, California, or by writing to the general land office in Washington, D. C.

NORTH DAKOTA, a prohibition state, stands second in the list of states for bank deposits per capita, Maine, the oldest prohibition state, being first. North Dakota stands first in having the smallest proportion of her people in the penitentiary. It has the lowest death-rate of any state in the Union, and the largest per capita school funds in the world.