

Signs of the Times

WAR, PEACE, AND PROPHECY NUMBER

THE LAST STAND OF THE TURK

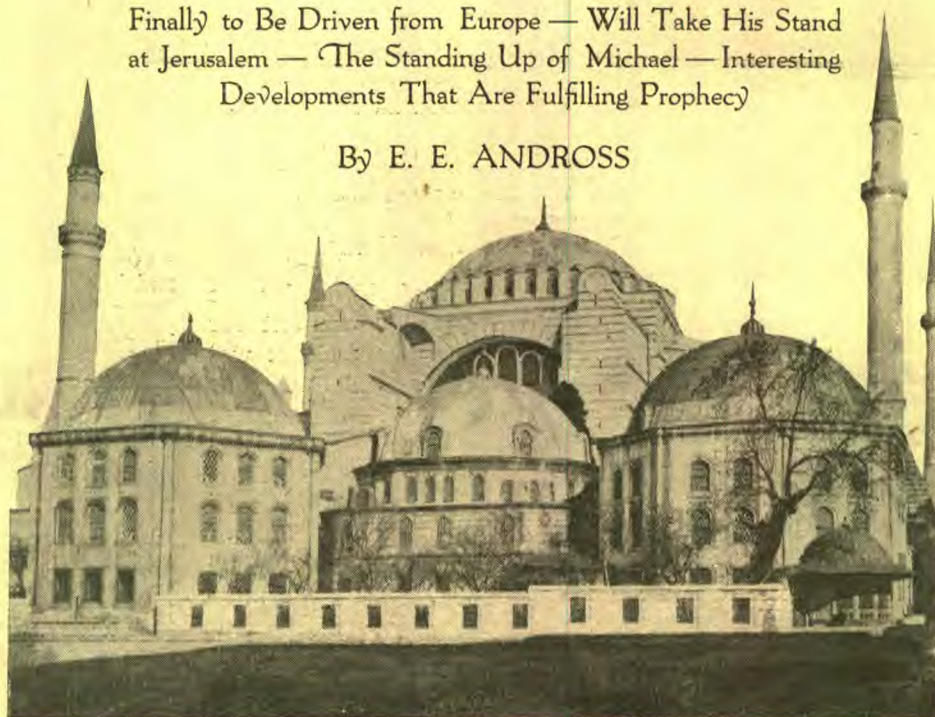
Finally to Be Driven from Europe — Will Take His Stand
at Jerusalem — The Standing Up of Michael — Interesting
Developments That Are Fulfilling Prophecy

By E. E. ANDROSS

WELL, the great conflagration has come at last, and to-day all Europe is wrapped in flames. With what frightful swiftness the little spark upon the middle Danube has flashed the huge tinder-box of an entire continent and set alight a dozen by-fires in Africa, Asia, and the far eastern seas! Think of it! Only a short month ago the world was settling down to its mid-summer siesta, wholly unconscious of impending ill. Kings and presidents were off yachting or paying party calls, diplomats were 'taking the waters' after the winter's gastronomic campaign, the people at large were making ready for their summer outings on seashore and mountain, while the annual stream of American tourists was fully under way.

THE GREATEST WORLD TRAGEDY

"Suddenly a cloud appeared on the southern horizon, a cloud at first no bigger than a man's hand, but swiftly covering the entire heavens and wrapping the earth in darkness, shot only by lurid lightnings. Then what a change came over the face of Europe! Its several peoples, steeled from their cradles to this very eventuality, sprang to arms, each man in the place marked out for him in his young manhood, made ready for the grim work by years of training beneath his



THE CHURCH OF ST. SOPHIA (HOLY WISDOM), IN CONSTANTINOPLE

Built by Justinian, between 532 and 538 A. D., it is one of the oldest houses of worship in use, though now as a Mohammedan Mosque. The initials of Justinian and his queen still adorn its pillars.

country's flag. Smoothly and silently the well-oiled machinery of mobilization has set the stage, and the myriad players are already acting their respective parts in 'Europe-in-Arms' — the greatest tragedy of all recorded history."

Thus writes George Harvey, editor of the *North American Review*, in its issue of September, 1914, page 323.

SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS

Many suggestions have been made regarding a possible solution of the present trouble, but there

seems to be a universal conviction that "when the general peace comes, it must include a settlement of the Balkan question." So says Albert Bushnell Hart, professor of history, Harvard University, *World's Work*, September, 1914, page 13.

The settlement of the Balkan question must include the settlement of the Turkish or Eastern question. "The Balkan or near Eastern question has been one of the most complicated political problems of the world's history for half a century. . . . For four centuries and a half, ever since the conquering Turk crossed the Bosphorus and took Constantinople, the grim contest has been to dislodge him by war and diplomacy." — *American Review of Reviews*, November, 1912, pages 539, 540.



FRENCH INFANTRY ADVANCING ON THE DOUBLE QUICK

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SEEKING COMMERCIAL CONQUEST OF ASIA

Constantinople, being the ancient seat of the later Cæsars, and possessing peculiar strategic importance, has been looked upon with jealous eyes by all the European powers.

"The great financial interests of Europe, the Jewish bankers and the immense industrial establishments, have been seeking the commercial conquest of Asia for a quarter of a century. This has been behind the Eastern question with the elimination of the Turk as a factor. Whatever great power possesses Constantinople attains enormous advantages for the domination of Asia, and holds the highways of trade to the near and middle East."—Louis E. van Norman, in *American Review of Reviews*, September, 1914, page 308.

SEEKING CONSTANTINOPLE

For centuries Russia has pursued a steady and determined policy to secure possession of Constantinople.

"Ivan III married Sofia Paleologa, a niece of the last of the Byzantine emperors. Sofia never gave up her title of Byzantine empress, and she left to her descendants an unquenchable longing to establish themselves again at Constantinople. In so far as it was possible, Sofia transferred her prestige to Moscow and shared it with her husband. From this time the Byzantine coat of arms, the double eagle, appears on the Russian imperial seal. At the same time the outward ceremonial and pomp was increased. His son, Ivan IV, known as the Terrible, took the full Cæsarean title—Czar is a corruption of Cæsar."—Nevin O. Winter, in *North American Review*, September, 1914, page 380.

EASTERN QUESTION AND THE TURK

But what has the Eastern question or the future of the Turk to do with Scripture, and why so much concern about whether Turkey or some other power shall occupy Constantinople? More than twenty-four centuries ago, the Lord revealed to the prophet Daniel events that would take place among earthly powers in connection with the closing scenes of earth's history, as follows:

"And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt." Dan. 11:45; 12:1, 2.

This is the conclusion of a long prophecy that begins with the Medo-Persian kingdom



Photo by Paul Thompson

KRUPP ARMORED AUTOMOBILE AND AN AEROPLANE GUN

and closes with the establishment of the eternal kingdom and the resurrection.

THE KING OF THE NORTH

Soon after the death of Alexander the Great, his generals formed a compact for the government of his empire; but it was soon broken, and out of his conquests four kingdoms arose "toward the four winds of heaven." It was not long after this division had been effected till Cassander had succeeded in conquering all that portion of Alexander's kingdom lying to the north of Jerusalem, leaving but two of the original four divisions remaining. These are men-



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SIR EDWARD GREY, BRITAIN'S FOREIGN SECRETARY

tioned in the prophecy as "the king of the north" and "the king of the south." Since 1453 A. D., when Constantinople fell into the hands of the Turk, this power has ruled over the territory of "the king of the north."

The prophet declares, "He [the king of the north] shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him." Dan. 11:45. This verse speaks of two events that all the world has looked forward to with great apprehension, and has expected to see accomplished at an early date—the driving of the Turk from Europe, and his coming to his end.

"IN THE GLORIOUS HOLY MOUNTAIN"

The "glorious holy mountain" is where Jerusalem is located. Zech.

8:3. It is situated between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea. According to the prophecy, the seat of government of the Turk is to be removed from Constantinople and located at Jerusalem.

During the progress of the Balkan war in 1912, many writers in the daily papers and the magazines freely expressed their conviction that the time had come for the Turk to leave Europe. While he was driven by the Balkan allies to the verge of Europe, their hands were stayed by the conference of the European powers in London, and the Turk still holds Constantinople.

Scarcely had the present war begun when it was freely predicted that this would end the stay of the Turk in Europe.

THE REAL BONE OF CONTENTION

The Los Angeles *Times Magazine* of August 8, 1914, says: "The real bone of contention in the present struggle is Constantinople. The day of the Turk in Europe is practically at an end, and some one will get that point of strategic importance in war and commerce. It must fall to either the Slav or the Teuton, and to which will probably be decided in the present struggle."

The same paper, under date of August 15, 1914, says: "The day of Turkey in Europe is nearly ended, and that long act in the drama of history is about to have the curtain rung down upon it, and the pronouncement made, 'Actum est.' [It is done.] There is the real impulse of the present war. Constantinople, a position of wonderful advantage, must fall into new hands, and all are wide open to catch the prize."

RUSSIA WILL DEMAND IT

Albert Bushnell Hart, professor of history, Harvard University, in *World's Work* for September, 1914, says: "In case of victory, the Russians will certainly demand Constantinople, which means that the Turk would be finally shoved out of Europe. England and France would probably favor that solution of the near Eastern question."

Whether or not the Turk will actually be driven from Europe as a result of the present conflict no one can tell. That it will be done soon we know, for God has spoken in the Word.

When driven from Europe he will "plant

(Continued on page 8)

The Powers That Gather for Armageddon

Russian Successes in This War Forecast What? — The Threefold Confederacy of Evil — Why Turkey Is Attacked in the Final War — Forces Now Working Toward the Great Climax

By LUCAS ALBERT REED



Boston Photo News Co.

MONUMENT OF VICTORY,
BERLIN, GERMANY

HISTORY repeats itself." One marked exemplification of this aphorism can be found in the repeated efforts made in various ages to found a world empire.

It was attempted in the days immediately after the Deluge. God had decreed that men were to go forth abroad and replenish the earth, but they rebelled against the law of Jehovah, and said, We will gather in one place, we will found a great city, we will build a tower that will place us above any danger of devastation by flood. And the tower of Babel became their impious affront against the purpose of Jehovah. Easily God found a means of dispersing that people. He confounded their

language; and as a result of this, they were scattered abroad over the earth.

WORLD EMPIRES

In the days of Nebuchadnezzar, another great attempt was made to found a world empire. It was partly successful; but when rebellion against God entered into the plans of the rulers of that empire, it went down in a crushing defeat. Other nations attempted a like work, meeting a like defeat.

And then came Rome, which set itself in opposition to Christ and His work, and it too was destroyed by its own lawlessness.

In the days of Charlemagne, and in the days of Napoleon, attempts were made to found a world empire; but the Word tells us that in the last days there will be no firm adhesion of the nations, as iron is not mixed with miry clay; and it also says that the final world kingdom shall be a divided kingdom. Dan. 2:41. In the seventh of Daniel we find that the last condition of world kingdoms will be a division into ten nations.

THE DREAM DOES NOT FADE

Yet the dream of a universal empire, of a great world kingdom, does not fade from the minds of men. And in our days there will be established a great world empire that will be headed by one man. There are units of this great aggregation now in existence, and they are marshaling into position. And not far hence we shall see the great combination consummated. Let us read a few prophecies with reference to it, note the marks of identification, and then ascertain the tendencies in the world pointing toward the fulfilment of the divine predictions:

"Therefore wait ye for Me, saith Jehovah, until the day that I rise up to the prey; for My determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them Mine indignation, even all My fierce anger; for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of My jealousy." Zeph. 3:8.

"And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits, as it were frogs: for they are spirits

of demons, working signs; which go forth unto the kings of the whole world, to gather them together unto the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. . . . And they gathered them together into the place which is called in Hebrew Har-Magedon." Rev. 16:13, 14, 16.

In the first scripture cited above, we read that it is God's determination to gather the nations, that He may pour upon them His indignation, all His fierce anger, for all the earth is to be devoured with His jealousy.

IDOLATRY THE CAUSE

The word "jealousy" points us directly to the Ten Commandments, where God forbids the worship of any other god but Himself, declaring that He is a jealous God. Hence idolatry is the sin that calls for the divine indignation which destroys the earth. And this gathering of the nations is but the last step in the idolatry that will be dominant in the establishment of the great world empire. It was idolatry that caused the building of the tower of Babel. It was idolatry that wrecked Babylon, and that caused God to send the supernatural writings upon the walls of the palace, declaring that the Babylonian kings were weighed in the balance and found wanting. It was idolatry that set the Roman nation against Christianity; and it was nothing more nor less than idolatry that attempted the establishment of the Holy Roman Empire, so called, in the days of Charlemagne; and it was also idolatry in the heart of Napoleon that caused him to follow his "star." It proved to be only the will-o'-the-wisp of a mad ambition. So under the impulse of idolatry, the nations

will be gathered in a final rebellion against God, and will suffer the fullness of His wrath.

THE WILFUL NATIONS ALLOWED TO TRY

We recognize that the prophecy says it is God's determination to gather the nations, but in this is meant that God is determined to let man show what is in his heart. He will permit the wilful nations to do what they are determined to do; because if He does not permit it they can not do it, and if they do not do it the universe will not see the full results of sin. But God has permitted a

sinful world for a long time, that sin and all its evil results may be fully developed and completely revealed. And so the final rebellion of the world must be manifested.

THE MIRACLE-WORKING DEMONS

In harmony with this, we find it is "the spirits of devils, working miracles," that gathers the nations at Armageddon. Rev. 16:14, 16. But devils do not work in harmony intentionally with the will of God. Nevertheless God is so wise, His ways are so inscrutable, that even the devil, in his final opposition to Jehovah, will but play into the divine hands.

When Satan brought about the crucifixion of Christ, stirring up the mob with a hellish frenzy, he supposed that he was working defeat for the Son of God; but instead, he wrought only defeat for himself, for it was through death that God planned to destroy "him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." Heb. 2:14. And by this means, instead of Satan's binding



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BELGIAN REFUGEES LANDING IN LONDON

These homeless wanderers are experiencing some of the bitter results of war.

humanity, Christ will forever deliver those who trust in Him. Verse 15.

Similarly, in the great marshaling of the nations to oppose the purposes of God, it will be found that evil men and devils alike have done nothing against the truth, but for it, and will render only the more dramatic and complete the great victory of righteousness over all.

But notice: It is the spirit of devils working miracles that is to gather the nations together. And this gathering is to be in the place called in the Hebrew language Har - Magedon, or Armageddon.

WHERE IS ARMAGEDDON?

Some have supposed that the present war is the great gathering for Armageddon, but such is not the case. Armageddon is a place about fifty miles north of Jerusalem, in the valley of Jezreel, a valley at the head waters of the river Kishon. The valley of the Kishon makes this place directly accessible for the Mediterranean. It commands a pass leading into the plains north. It is on the old highway between Turkey, specially the Euphrates Valley, and Egypt to the south. It is to-day occupied by the kingdom of Turkey. According, then, to this prophecy, all the nations of the world, stirred up by the spirits of demons, will be gathered upon Turkish soil. When we consider the religious fanaticism of the Turk, it must be they are there against his will.

TURKEY AND THE RIVER EUPHRATES

In fact, in the twelfth verse of this prophecy of the sixteenth chapter of Revelation, we find that part of Turkey represented by the waters of the great river Euphrates has dried up, that the way might be made ready for the kings that come from the east. The place called Armageddon could quite readily be reached from the Mediterranean by the western nations, through the valley of Kishon. It could also be quite readily reached from the north by an advancing army, but Constantinople must previously have been captured.

According to the divine picture, the river Euphrates is to be dried up. That is, the Turk, the Mohammedan power occupying the Euphrates Valley, is to be removed; and having transferred his capital to Jerusalem, he makes his last stand there against the united armies of all the nations.

WHAT NATIONS ARE INVOLVED?

Who are the nations thus gathered against the Turk at Jerusalem? We find a partial solution of this problem in the statement that the spirits of demons that gathered these nations came from the mouth of the dragon, the mouth of the beast, and the mouth of the false prophet. To say that these spirits of demons come from the mouth of these characters, is but to say that the demons accomplish their work through what is said. That is, what issues from the mouths of these powers is inspired or dictated by the devils. It is an awful thing to contemplate; but as it is in

God's word, and is His infallible prediction, we must accept it as absolute truth.

Then what are these powers whose mouths are used by demons? He tells us that the spirits of demons come from the mouth of the dragon, from the mouth of the beast, and from the mouth of the false prophet.

What is the dragon? We are told in Rev. 12:9 that the dragon is the devil. In Rev. 20:2 he is called again the devil and Satan.



THE FAMOUS LEAGUE OF DEATH, SOLDIER WOMEN OF SERVIA

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They did valiant service in the Balkan war against Turkey, and are fighting in the ranks against the Austrians. Pictures of this kind show the war spirit that is in the world.

Primarily, then, the dragon is the devil. But the work he did as presented in the twelfth chapter of Revelation, was accomplished through paganism, and paganism is but incarnate devilry. It is idolatry in which are manifested spiritualistic, supernatural workings, the workings of the devil himself, for idol worship is devil worship. Deut. 32:16, 17. Then spirits of demons working through paganistic teachings will be an influence in this final gathering of the nations at Armageddon.

This phase is pictured by a dragon because it was through the mouth of a serpent that Satan himself first began his work in tempting Eve in the garden of Eden. And he taught the fundamental pagan doctrine of inherent immortality. So again through a serpent, the dragon, paganistic teachings, he will speak to the world, to deceive it and to bring it to a complete and final ruin.

WHAT IS THE BEAST?

What is the beast? We find in the seventh chapter of Daniel that it is a beast of prey; and a beast of prey is one that is cruel, destroying life for its own personal advantage, without thought or care. The use of force is here pictured, and a force manifested against the truth and the people of God. This power represented by the beast is described in the thirteenth chapter of Revelation, verses 1 to 10. This scripture tells us that the beast gets its throne and its great authority from paganism (verse 2); that the whole world will worship it; that it speaks great things, blasphemies; and that it continues 1,260 years (verse 5), forty-two months making 1,260 years, according to the Biblical interpretation of a day for a year; and finally, at the end of that time, it will have a wound (verse 3), but the wound will be healed. It will go into captivity only to come forth again.

All these specifications are answered by the papacy, which was fully established in 538, and which continued 1,260 years, until 1798, when the pope was taken prisoner by the armies of France under General Berthier. It is the power particularly that has

used force, persecuting God's people, destroying the Bible and the printed and written teachings of the Bible, and the teachers as well.

WHAT IS THE FALSE PROPHET?

But the spirits of demons were also to come from the mouth of the false prophet.

The false prophet is described in Rev. 13: 11-18. It is a power that is to be seen arising in 1798, when the papacy goes into captivity. It is a power that works miracles in the presence of the beast. Rev. 13: 14; 19: 20. It is a power that makes the earth and them that dwell therein worship the beast, whose death stroke thus becomes healed. The signs, the miracles that the spirits of demons work, will be greater in this power than in the others, because the prophecy

declares: "And he doeth great signs, that he should even make fire to come down out of heaven upon the earth in the sight of men. And he deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by reason of the signs which it was given him to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast," that is, do just as the beast has done. Thus he gives breath to the image of the beast, and causes it to speak, and as many as do not worship the image of the beast, he declares shall be killed. And he gives a mark to all — namely, the mark of the beast; that no one should buy nor sell save he that has it.

These specifications are all met by apostate Protestantism. It is the only institution in the world that can place the papacy once more in power; for its Protestantism was its protest against the papacy, and when that protest ceases, and it establishes an institution like the papacy — an image to it — all free institutions must die.

IT ESTABLISHES A MARK

But in doing this, it establishes a mark, a mark of the beast, or the mark of the papacy. And the one sign or mark of papal authority is the Sunday institution. They themselves say so; and they say that Protestants, in accepting Sunday, accept the authority of the papacy, for there is no authority for Sunday save the authority of the papacy.

But where will paganism stand with reference to Sunday? — It will stand in perfect harmony with them, because Sunday is "the wild solar holiday of all pagan times."

At first thought, it seems preposterous to suppose that paganism, — the teachings of Buddhism and theosophy and Confucianism, and all the other doctrines of the East, could ever be made to blend with the papal teachings, or with the teachings of Protestantism. But in the doctrines now preached from the pulpits of the land, we see that the great work of destroying the Christian religion is making sure and rapid progress. In a modern form of Unitarianism, we have a perfect culture ground for the doctrines of theosophy and "new

thought"; and Christian Science itself is but a modification of Hinduism. But their real unity will not be in speaking precisely alike; for God calls this assemblage of the last days Babylon, and Babylon is confusion. Revelation 17. However, in the Sunday institution, all will find perfect agreement. Sunday is the old day of paganism dedicated to sun worship. Sunday is the day chosen by the papal church from paganism, and clothed with its own authority as a mark of ecclesiastical power. And Sunday is the great religious institution accepted by Protestants from Catholicism, and now about to be enforced by law. In fact, it is already enforced by law in many parts of this world.

PAGANISM, THE PAPACY, AND CORRUPTED PROTESTANTISM

Then we see what nations will be involved in this great final gathering for the last and awful war. They will be the nations influenced by this later form of Protestantism, primarily the United States. They will be the nations influenced by the papacy, primarily the ten kingdoms of Europe. And they will be the nations influenced by paganism, primarily the nations of the East. And strange as it may seem, the pagan nations will be the last ones to join the great world-wide confederacy of rebellion; for we read in Rev. 16: 12 that the kings that come from the East are the ones last to break through the kingdom of the Turk and arrive at Armageddon. And even more strange to say, the false prophet, the one that has stood as a prophet of God, and has proved false to His name and His trust, will be the first to enter into this great confederacy of evil; for "he maketh the earth and them that dwell therein to worship the first beast." Rev. 13: 12. Thus we see exemplified again the fact that he who rejects the most light is the most abandoned in his wrong.

A GREAT SUNDAY MOVEMENT EXPECTED

Then before Armageddon, before the gathering for the world-wide war, we may expect that apostate Protestantism will make some great movements with reference to the Sunday institution; that she will thereby legislate the papacy into power; and that afterward paganism will unite with the other two, and we shall have the great final movement in the closing drama of time.

But there are two more powers that we must consider besides the three just mentioned.

As already intimated, these three powers will gather at Armageddon, within the domain of the Turk, fifty miles or so north of Jerusalem; and at Jerusalem, or in the Valley of Jehoshaphat — that is, in territory adjacent to the city of Jerusalem — the final battle, the battle of God's judgment, will be fought. Joel 3: 1-17. The nations will even lay siege to the city in their war against the Turk, but it will be to them of no avail. Zech. 12: 2-4. We read in Dan. 11: 45 that the Turk will come to his end and none shall help him; and in the hour of apparent victory for the nations, God will smite them. So their triumph will be brief indeed.

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TURK

But we see to-day, in the movements of this present war, omens that the nations are moving into position for the great final campaign against the Turk. Slowly his power has been waning and his territory wasting, and some day he will move his capital to Jerusalem (Dan. 11: 45), and later his power in all the outlying territory will be gone, he himself shut up in that city. When he establishes his capital in Jerusalem, the great trouble, unheard of before in all the history of the world, will break over the nations, striking fear, apprehension, and dread into

the hearts of all who are not fully resigned into the hands of God. Dan. 12: 1, 2.

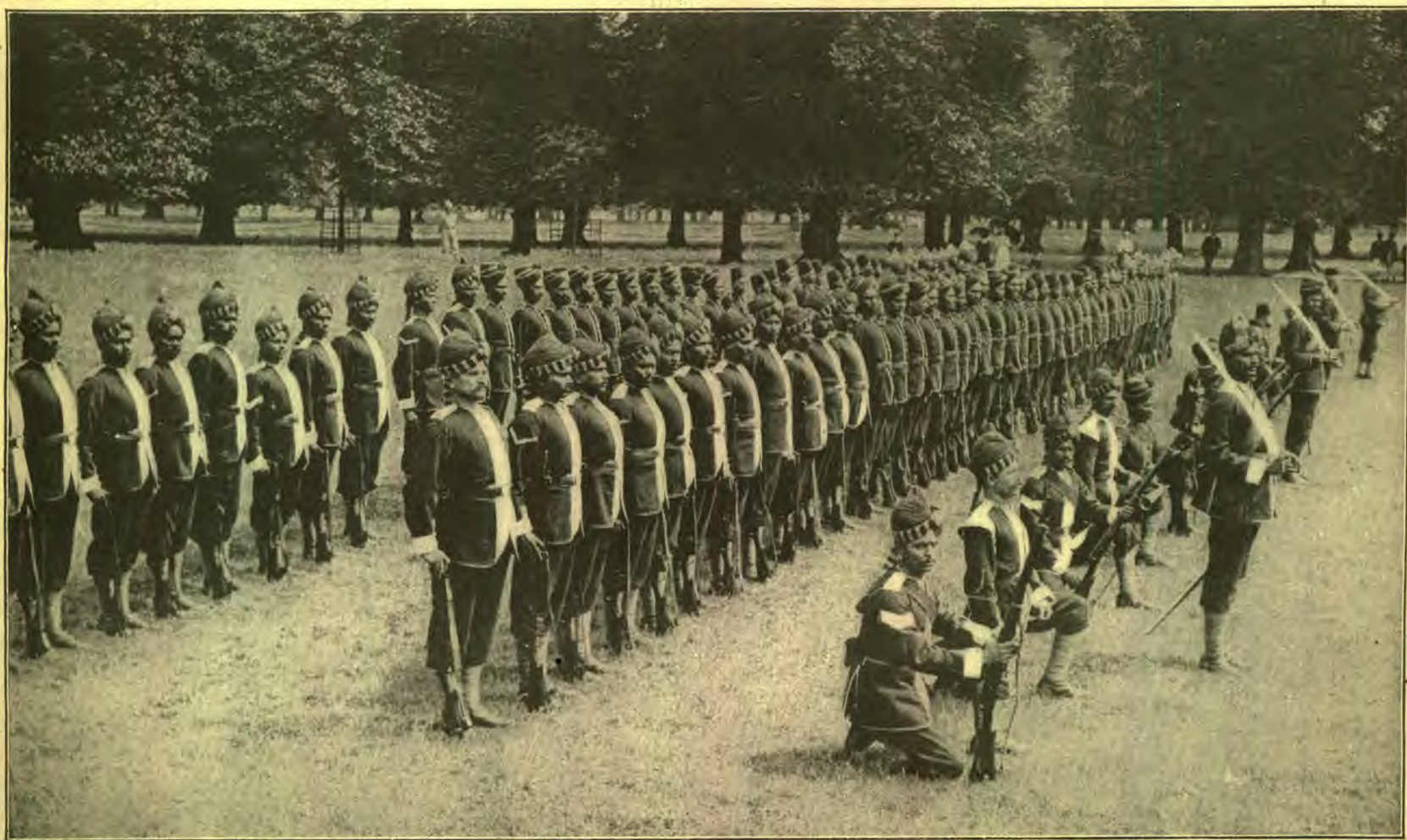
Then every step that you see bringing Russia into prominence, bringing Turkey into collision with Russia and England and Italy, is an omen of that day when not only these nations, but every nation in power, will be united in some great plan that they will suppose augurs peace and prosperity and world power. For according to Ezekiel 38, Russia (Rosh), Moscow (Meshech), and Tobolsk (Tubal) are to be the dominant factors in the great inroad into the territory of the Turk. With them will be Persia, Cush (Egypt), and Put (Libya or Tripoli), along with Gomer (the Crimea) and Togarmah (the Armenians).

STEADILY MOVING TO THE GREAT OBJECT

Watch this war. You will see it steadily moving forward toward the one great object. How fast it will move, I can not say. Whether, after this war is fought, Russia will at once organize a campaign against the Turk, I do not know. But some time in the very near future she will set out, strengthened by other nations, in her final work of taking that territory; and as it is a rich territory, and occupies an important position in the very center of Europe, Asia, and Africa, other nations will demand a part in it, and thus they will be assembled to take a spoil, and to take the prey. Eze. 38: 13. But at that time God will interfere with their plans, and speak against the remnant of the nations that appoint His land to themselves for a possession. Eze. 36: 5.

We have mentioned now three great world-aspiring powers. In addition, we have mentioned Mohammedanism. There is still a fifth influence in the world that must be considered. First, let us say a word by way of introduction.

(Continued on page 7)



EAST INDIA RIFLEMEN BROUGHT BY ENGLAND TO EUROPE TO ASSIST THE ALLIES

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The Power of the Home

The Example of Christ in the Home Life—Proper Influences in the Home Would Save Many a Wreck—The Home as a Social Power

By MRS. E. G. WHITE

THE restoration and uplifting of humanity begins in the home. The work of parents underlies every other. Society is composed of families, and is what the heads of families make it. Out of the heart are "the issues of life"; and the heart of the community, of the church, and of the nation, is the household. The well-being of society, the success of the church, the prosperity of the nation, depend upon home influences.

HOME LIFE OF JESUS

The importance and the opportunities of the home life are illustrated in the life of Jesus. He who came from heaven to be our example and teacher spent thirty years as a member of the household at Nazareth. Concerning these years the Bible record is very brief. No mighty miracles attracted the attention of the multitude. No eager throngs followed His steps or listened to His words. Yet during all these years, He was fulfilling His divine mission. He lived as one of us, sharing the home life, submitting to its discipline, performing its duties, bearing its burdens. In the sheltering care of a humble home, participating in the experiences of our common lot, He "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:52.

During all these secluded years, His life flowed out in currents of sympathy and helpfulness. His unselfishness and patient endurance, His courage and faithfulness, His resistance of temptation, His unfailing peace and quiet joyfulness, were a constant inspiration. He brought a pure, sweet atmosphere into the home, and His life was as leaven working amidst the elements of society. None said that He had wrought a miracle; yet virtue—the healing, life-giving power of love—went out from Him to the tempted, the sick, and the disheartened. In an unobtrusive way, from His very childhood, He ministered to others; and because of this, when He began His public ministry, many heard Him gladly.

A LESSON AND ENCOURAGEMENT

The Saviour's early years are more than an example to the youth. They are a lesson, and should be an encouragement, to every parent. The circle of family and neighborhood duties is the very first field of effort for those who would work for the uplifting of their fellow men. There is no more important field of effort than that committed to the founders and guardians of the home. No work entrusted to human beings involves greater or more far-reaching results than does the work of fathers and mothers.

DETERMINING THE FUTURE OF SOCIETY

It is by the youth and children of to-day that the future of society is to be determined, and what these youth and children shall be depends upon the home. To the

lack of right home training may be traced the larger share of the disease and misery and crime that curse humanity. If the home life were pure and true, if the children who go forth from its care were prepared to meet life's responsibilities and dangers, what a change would be seen in the world!

Great efforts are put forth, time and money and labor almost without limit are expended, in enterprises and institutions for reforming the victims of evil habits. And even these efforts are inadequate to meet the great necessity. Yet how small is the result! How few are permanently reclaimed!

Multitudes long for a better life, but they lack courage and resolution to break away from the power of habit. They shrink from the effort and struggle and sacrifice demanded, and their lives are wrecked and ruined. Thus even men of the brightest

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SHATTERED CONSTITUTIONS AND WAVERING WILLS

For those who do reform, how bitter the struggle to regain their manhood! And all their life long, in a shattered constitution, a wavering will, impaired intellect, and weakened soul power, many reap the harvest of their evil sowing. How much more might be accomplished if the evil were dealt with at the beginning!

This work rests, in a great degree, with parents. In the efforts put forth to stay the progress of intemperance and of other evils that are eating like a cancer in the social body, if more attention were given to teach-

ing parents how to form the habits and character of their children, a hundredfold more good would result. Habit, which is so terrible a force for evil, it is in their power to make a force for good. They have to do with the stream at its source, and it rests with them to direct it rightly.

FOUNDATION FOR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

Parents may lay for their children the foundation for a healthy, happy life. They may send them forth from their homes with moral stamina to resist temptation, and courage and strength to wrestle successfully with life's problems. They may inspire in them the purpose and develop the power to make their lives an honor to God and a blessing to the world. They may make straight paths for their feet, through sunshine and shadow, to the glorious heights above.

There are many others to whom we might make our homes a blessing. Our social entertainments should not be governed by the dictates of worldly custom, but by the spirit of Christ and the teaching of His word. The Israelites, in all their festivities, included the poor, the stranger, and the Levite, who was both the assistant of the priest in the sanctuary, and a religious teacher and missionary. These were regarded as the guests of the people, to share their hospitality on all occasions of social and religious rejoicing, and to be tenderly cared for in sickness or in need. It is such as these whom we should make welcome to our homes.

LIKE A GLIMPSE OF HEAVEN

These are guests whom it will lay on you no great burden to receive. You will not need to provide for them elaborate or expensive entertainment. You will need to make no effort at display. The warmth of a genial welcome, a place at your fireside, a seat at your home table, the privilege of sharing the blessing of the hour of prayer, would to many of these be like a glimpse of heaven.

Our sympathies are to overflow the boundaries of self and the enclosure of family walls. There are precious opportunities for those who will make their homes a blessing to others. Social influence is a wonderful power. We can use it if we will as a means of helping those about us.

Our homes should be a place of refuge for the tempted youth. Many there are who stand at the parting of the ways. Every influence, every impression, is determining the choice that shapes their destiny both here and hereafter. Evil invites them. Its resorts are made bright and attractive. They have a welcome for every comer. All about us are youth who have no home, and many whose homes have no helpful, uplifting power, and the youth drift into evil. They are going down to ruin within the very shadow of our own doors.

NEED A HAND OF SYMPATHY

These youth need a hand stretched out to them in sympathy. Kind words simply spoken, little attentions simply bestowed, will sweep away the clouds of temptation which gather over the soul. The true expression of heaven-born sympathy has power to open the door of hearts that need the fragrance of Christlike words, and the simple, delicate touch of the spirit of Christ's love. If we would show an interest in the youth, invite

them to our homes, and surround them with cheering, helpful influences, there are many who would gladly turn their steps into the upward path.

Our sphere of influence may seem narrow, our ability small, our opportunities few, our acquirements limited; yet wonderful possibilities are ours through a faithful use of the opportunities of our own homes. If we will open our hearts and homes to the divine principles of life, we shall become channels for currents of lifegiving power. From our homes will flow streams of healing, bringing life, and beauty, and fruitfulness where now are barrenness and dearth.

2

Powers That Gather for Armageddon

(Continued from page 5)

MOHAMMEDANISM AND SUNDAY

Mohammedanism is one of the religions of the world that disregards the Sunday institution. It is itself a protest against idolatry, and therefore against sun worship, and therefore against the Sunday. It was also, when it entered both Asia and Europe, a menace to the papacy. In fact, God permitted its work in the Middle Ages as a check upon the power of the papacy. Rev. 9:20, 21. History tells us that the Turk made war upon the image worship of Catholicism, even as they made war upon the image worship of paganism. We can readily see, then, how both paganism and the papacy could be rallied against Mohammedanism. It not only will not mix in the wine of Babylon, but it is a poison that can not be tolerated by the world-wide powers. For this reason, every step in the downfall of Turkey is a movement toward the establishment of the triune religious confederacy that is to head in the papacy itself through the pope himself. Rev. 17:12-14, 17.

It is therefore no wonder that God should tell us that when Turkey establishes its capital in Jerusalem, pressed away from its former capital, the same is a mark or sign of the ending of probation, when Christ stands up, lays aside His priestly robes in the heavenly sanctuary, and assumes His royal garments as King. Dan. 12:1. Then as the sovereignty of Christ begins to be felt in the earth, there is a time of trouble for the nations, such as they have never known before. Dan. 12:1, 2.

PALESTINE TO HAVE BEEN NEUTRAL

In Deut. 32:8 we find that when God gave the nations their inheritance, and set the bounds of their territories, He did it with respect to the children of Israel occupying Palestine. That is to say, as we understand it, God designed that Palestine should be neutral territory, occupied by a people entirely neutral, a people who in thought or plans or work would not unite with any of the nations of the world. They were to be a separate people. We know that through the rebellion of Israel, this purpose failed. Israel had to be driven from the Holy Land. But the purpose of God, that should have been carried out in one way, must still be carried out in another. It would not do for some mighty nation, some dominant nation, to occupy Palestine; because this territory is strategic, lying between Europe, Asia, and Africa—the one connecting link between

the three—and the strong nation that would hold it would become a dominant factor in the world, and establish a new tower of Babel of opposition against God.

Therefore we find in Palestine a nation that will not mix with the other nations. Its thought, its policy, its work, its religion, are such that it can not mix or be mixed with the others. Consequently when the great world confederacy is to be formed, the people occupying this territory must be conquered. Had God's people remained true to Him,



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FRENCH DIRIGIBLE PATROLLING THE FORTIFICATIONS OF PARIS

Air-ships of all the various kinds are coming more and more into prominence in the European war. They have dropped bombs in many of the cities of Europe, and rumors persist that they are preparing to bombard London from the sky.

they would be occupying this territory, as is intimated in Ezekiel 38 and 39, and the great confederacy of evil would have been both a design against God's people and an invasion of their territory. As it is now, God's people are scattered throughout the world; but the plan of the evil one will still work out both to secure the territory once occupied by Israel and also to destroy God's people, even though they be scattered everywhere.

GOD'S PEOPLE WILL NOT BLEND

What about God's people? If it is an impossibility to get the Turk to blend with the great triune confederacy, far more will it be impossible to get God's people to unite in what is nothing more nor less than black re-

bellion against the government of God. Hence we find foretold in the thirty-eighth of Ezekiel that when the great nations shall enter into the land of the Turk, at the very time when they are pressing their campaign within the Mohammedan domains, God says, "It shall come to pass in that day, that things shall come into thy mind, and thou shalt devise an evil device." What is this evil thing that comes into mind, this bad thought invented for the occasion? We read on: "Thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unvalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell securely." Who are these? Read a little farther: "In that day when My people Israel dwelleth securely, . . . thou shalt come up against My people Israel, . . . it shall come to pass in the latter days."

THEIR PROPERTY CONFISCATED

From Rev. 13:15-17 we know precisely what this evil device is. It is a law first providing that those who do not accept the authoritative sign of the great world confederacy, the Sunday institution, shall have all their property confiscated, shall neither be able to buy nor sell, and thus shall be left to starve to death. And when, by the providence of God, this decree of confiscation does not accomplish its purposes—for the Lord cares for His own, their bread and water is sure (Isa. 33:16)—then a second decree will go forth that all who do not worship the image of the beast shall be killed.

When this decree is issued, giving permission after a stated time to slay God's people who refuse the sign of worldly authority, and who accept the Sabbath—a sign of God's creative power—the nations will be invading Palestine. They will be gathered at Armageddon. They will be laying siege to Jerusalem in the last stand of the Turk. And as they end the power of the Turk at Jerusalem, and are about to accomplish their will upon God's people scattered throughout the earth, God Himself speaks from heaven the great final word, "It is done."

SATAN'S REIGN ENDS

The end of sin has then come, the end of suffering for God's people, the end of the reign of Satan, the end of the sufferance of the Most High. It is done. And under the thunder of the voice of God, the earth shakes as it never has shaken since men were on it. Rev. 16:17, 18. The triune confederacy is broken in sunder, and divided again into the three parts of which it was composed—the dragon, the beast, the false prophet. And the cities of the nations fall in ruin, the islands flee away, the mountains are not found, and a hail—every stone weighing about fifty pounds—completes the work of devastation. Verses 19-21.

GOD IS OUR REFUGE

In the midst of this final world cataclysm, the people of God will stand unmoved, sustained by the grace of heaven. Of them the prophecy has spoken. This is the prophetic prediction concerning the words which in that hour they will utter: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear, though the earth do change, and though the mountains be shaken into the heart of the seas; though the waters thereof roar and

(Concluded on page 11)

What Would Jesus Do?

His Definite Example in a Certain Thing—Are We Following Him in That Particular?

By CHARLES THOMPSON

TO hear Christ and follow His steps is the sum of Christian duty. Matt. 17: 5; 1 Peter 2: 21. Nothing more is required of man, nothing less will answer the standard of the Judgment.

There is no Christian duty more applicable to this rule than the observance of the Sabbath. There is no divine requirement that brings one more conspicuously before the eyes of man than does the keeping of the divine rest day. God has ordained it to be so; for He says, "Moreover also I gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them." Eze. 20: 12. Therefore we ask, If Jesus were upon earth to-day, which day of the week would He observe as the Sabbath? We have no source of information other than the inspired Word, the Holy Scriptures. "They are they which testify of Me," says Christ. John 5: 39.

OFFENDED IN NO POINT

In John 15: 10 we read of Jesus when upon earth that He kept His Father's commandments. Through the inspired apostle, we have a definition of commandment keeping. He says, "Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." James 2: 10. If to "offend in one point" is to be guilty of commandment breaking, to be a commandment keeper one must be observant of every "point."

It will be noticed by the reader that James recognized a "whole" or complete law, composed of different "points." The existence of the "whole" depends upon the perpetuity of every "point"; for if to violate one is to be guilty of all, to be excused from one would be to be excused from all, or to abrogate one would abrogate all. The law James is thus defining is that law which said, "Do not commit adultery," and "Do not kill." Verse 11. This shows conclusively that he is talking of the Ten Commandments, and this "whole" law is composed of ten distinct "points." Ex. 20: 1-17.

"IT IS LAWFUL TO DO WELL"

Sin is defined to be "the transgression of the law." 1 John 3: 4. The Scriptures affirm positively that Jesus was without sin. Heb. 4: 15. Therefore He kept every "point" of the Ten Commandment law, and was a Sabbath keeper. On one occasion, He healed a man with a withered hand, on the Sabbath day, and the Pharisees accused Him of breaking the Sabbath. He answered, "It is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days." Matt. 12: 12. Thus His own words prove that He kept the Sabbath according to the law. The only law for Sabbath keeping is the fourth precept of the Ten Commandments. Therefore it is clear that when Jesus was upon earth, He kept the seventh-day Sabbath, and taught others to keep it by "following His steps."

YESTERDAY, TO-DAY, AND FOREVER

The same inspired Word that teaches the above, teaches also that Jesus is "the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever." Heb. 13: 8. By "yesterday" is meant the past,

"to-day" the present, and "forever" all the future. In the words of the prophet Malachi, He changes not. Mal. 3: 6. Therefore it is clear as sunlight that if Jesus were upon earth to-day, He would observe the seventh-day Sabbath, according to the commandments; and if we would "follow His steps," our duty is clear.

A PROMISED BLESSING

Dear reader, let us heed the instruction and enjoy the blessing of which the prophet says: "If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." "Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil." Isa. 58: 13, 14; 56: 2.

The Last Stand of the Turk

(Continued from page 2)

the tabernacles of his palace [locate his capital] at Jerusalem, and will come to his end, without one to help him." (Leeser translation.) The powers that drive the Turk from Europe, not willing to see the holy city made the capital of the followers of Islam, evidently decide to dispossess him of that sacred spot; but they find that the fires of Islamic fanaticism, though banked, are not dead, and its two hundred millions of adherents, extending "from Morocco to China, from Siberia to the Kongo and the Celebes," are aroused, but without avail; for, the help of former years having been withdrawn, he comes to his end in the "war of the great day of God."

MICHAEL STANDS UP

"And at that time shall Michael stand up." Dan. 12: 1. The word "Michael" occurs three times in the book of Daniel. In chapter 10, verse 13, He is called "the first Prince" (margin), and in the scripture under consideration He is said to be "the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people." Speaking of Jesus, Peter says, "Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour." Acts 5: 31. And again he calls Him "the Prince of life." Acts 3: 15. Michael is Jesus.

In Jude, verse 9, Michael is called "the Archangel." But when Jesus comes to raise the dead, He speaks "with the voice of the Archangel" (1 Thess. 4: 16); and the Saviour says, "The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." John 5: 25. Since Michael is the Archangel, and the voice of the Archangel is the voice of the Son of God, we conclude that Michael is Jesus Christ.

The phrase "stand up," occurring four times in this prophecy of Daniel 12, three times in verses 2-4, means the beginning of the reign of a certain king, and in this instance the beginning of the reign of Christ.

BEGINS HIS ETERNAL REIGN

Paraphrasing the scripture in the light of these simple deductions, we have the following: The Turk shall locate his seat of government at Jerusalem, and shall come to his end, and at that time Christ shall begin His eternal reign. The time of trouble to the nations, such as never was, will follow, and at that time all God's people, whose names are found written in the book of life, will be delivered.

The thought that Christ takes His kingdom and begins His reign at the beginning of this time of unparalleled trouble to the nations may seem strange to some, but it will be seen to be in perfect accord with the scripture.

Jesus spoke a parable concerning the kingdom of God, saying: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. . . . And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading." Luke 19: 12-15. Jesus receives the kingdom from His Father while yet in the far country. Dan. 7: 13, 14. With a golden crown upon His head, with the name "King of kings, and Lord of lords," written on His vesture and on His thigh, and seated upon the throne of His glory, the Son of God descends from heaven to deliver His waiting children. Rev. 14: 14; 19: 16; Matt. 25: 31.

WHEN THE CLIMAX IS REACHED

With the beginning of Christ's work as King upon His own throne, His work as our great High Priest and Advocate before the throne of grace ends, probation closes, and the irrevocable decree which fixes our eternal destiny goes forth: "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. And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Rev. 22: 11, 12.

The awful scourge that like a mighty avalanche is now devastating the fairest parts of Europe is not the time of trouble of Daniel's prophecy, but it is undoubtedly the prelude to it. Soon the Turk will make his last stand at Jerusalem, the day of salvation will end, the great day of the Lord will begin, the time of trouble such as never was will suddenly break upon the world, the King of glory will appear, and the great conflict so long waged with sin will forever end.

WHERE DO WE STAND?

Dear reader, where will you be found in that great day? Your attitude toward the Saviour and His cause to-day may determine where you will stand then. Like the muffled tread of the thief in the night, the day of the Lord is stealing upon us. More suddenly than the present war broke over Europe, and with much more dire results, will the war of the great day of God break over all the world. The only safety in that hour will be found in Jesus.

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." Ps. 91: 1.

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PROPHECY AND ITS BLESSINGS

A Large Part of the Bible Prophetic — The Prophecies Light Up the Future — They May Be Understood — Giving Heed to Them Saves Blunders and Final Destruction

PROPHECY is defined to be "a declaration of something to come; a foretelling; a prediction; especially, an inspired foretelling."

Those who have given the Bible anything more than a passing notice are well aware that it abounds with prophecy; that prophetic declarations are to be found in almost every book from Genesis to Revelation. Indeed, some books contain but little else than prophecy. The books of Daniel and the Revelation are of this class. In these are to be found long chains of prophecy, which foretell many of the principal events of the world's history from six hundred years before Christ to the end of the world. Such lines of prophecy, showing, as they do, the position of the human family in the stream of time, must be of the greatest importance to all.

We may not see the meaning and value of the inspired prophecies, but that does not affect the question. The fact that the blind do not see the sun, in no way affects that great body, which is of so much value. Those who are blind sustain the loss. So it is with those who pay no attention to the prophecies of the Bible.

BOTH PROPHETS AND ANGELS STUDIED THEM

The apostle Peter tells us not only that the prophets "inquired and searched diligently" for an understanding of the prophecies, but that even "the angels desire to look into" them. 1 Peter 1: 10-12. When the Saviour was on earth, He called the attention of His disciples to events then transpiring in fulfilment of prophecy, and declared that "many prophets and kings" had "desired to see" them. Luke 10: 24.

It is certain, from these statements, that angels, prophets, and kings were deeply interested in prophecy — in the Lord's declarations of things to come.

But we are told by many, even ministers of the gospel, that we can not understand the prophecies, and that therefore it is of but little use to notice them. This is not the opinion of a few only; it is wide-spread. To say that the prophecies can not be understood is to charge God with trifling with men. It represents Him as having given the human family a book, the most of which would be of no possible use to them, simply because He put it in a form impossible to be understood. Why were all of the prophecies written? What are they for? Have they any meaning? If it be true that we can not understand them, then they only occupy space, have no meaning, and are of no value. This we can not believe to be the case.

CAN A REVELATION BE A HIDDEN MYSTERY?

It is admitted, by all believers at least, that the Bible is a revelation from God to man. But what shall we say of a pretended revelation that is so dark and hidden that its meaning can not be understood? Webster says of revelation: "Specifically, to communicate that which could not be known or discovered without divine or supernatural instruction." "To reveal is literally to lift the veil, and thus make known what was previously concealed." The Bible, being a revelation of many things of both the past and the future, must "lift the veil," and make known to man that which could not be discovered without divine instruction.

And this is just the object for which the prophecies were given. The Lord assigns the following reason why an outline of the

world's history was given to Nebuchadnezzar in his dream of the great image: "As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and He that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass." "But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days." Dan. 2: 29, 28.

This scripture states most emphatically that the object of this line of prophecy was to "lift the veil" and disclose the future. How wrong, then, must be the teaching that prophecy can not be understood, and therefore is of no value!

Moses says, "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." Deut. 29: 29. If revelations and prophecies "belong" to us, we certainly are not on forbidden ground when we are seeking and teaching their meaning. On the contrary, we are but doing our duty, and using them as the Lord designs we should.

"HE REVEALETH HIS SECRET"

In Amos 3: 7 the Lord says, "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets." When inviting the sinner to come to Him and live, the Lord "lifts the veil," and makes known to him what the future will be to the righteous. Before He brings His judgments on the wicked, He reveals His purpose through His servants the prophets. The dealing of God with past generations illustrates this important truth. The Flood was stayed until the people had been warned one hundred and twenty years. Then the impenitent perished in their sins. The Bible declares that Noah was a preacher of righteousness. 2 Peter 2: 5. What did he preach? — The prophecy of a coming flood. But the people would not believe him. They no doubt charged him with foolishness in saying so much about that prophecy. And "as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

THE LIGHT THAT SHINES INTO THE FUTURE

The apostle Peter highly commends the prophecies, and admonishes all to take heed to them. He says, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts." 2 Peter 1: 19. In the preceding verses, he has endeavored to give unmistakable evidence that Jesus was the Son of God. He points to the scene on the mount of transfiguration, and says that he was an eye-witness of Christ's glory, and that he heard the voice of God which came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Then he says, "We have also [in addition to the above evidence] a more sure word of prophecy." He points to the prophecies of the Old Testament that reveal the time, place, manner, etc., of the first advent of Christ, and says these, as fulfilled by Him, are "more sure," bear stronger testimony, than any other evidence. He then adds, "Whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts." Every one knows the object of a light in a dark place. It is to show us where we are and what to do. So the prophecies are to show us where we are in the world's history, and the work we should do to meet the mind of God.

Many people have the impression that the book of Revelation is so mysterious and dark that no one can understand it. This is a strange position to take with reference to this book. It is called "the Revelation" — literally, "the veil lifted," and that

made known which previously was concealed. The introduction of this wonderful book runs thus: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John: who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Rev. 1: 1-3.

The Father "lifted the veil," and made known to His Son the contents of this book. Christ gave the same to His angel, who gave it to John, and he wrote it out for the world. Then a gracious blessing is promised to those who read and hear the words of the prophecy, and keep the things written therein. From these plain statements, who can say that the book is only a mystery, and that the study of it is useless?

SUFFERING A GREAT LOSS

From these considerations, it is evident that those who set the prophecies of the Bible aside suffer great loss. The Lord has been pleased to communicate His purposes to the human family, that they might understand His ways. Referring to Daniel's prophecies, the Saviour says, "Whoso readeth, let him understand." Matt. 24: 15. After all that God has done to "lift the veil" of futurity, after He has told us we can understand, and after He has pronounced a blessing on all who read and keep the prophecies, it is surely a great wrong to claim that they can not be understood, and that those who endeavor to explain them are on forbidden ground.

Concerning the book of Revelation, the Lord said to John, "Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand." Rev. 22: 10.

A. G. D.

SHALL WE CONTINUE IN SIN?

The Relation of the Christian to the Law of God

WHEN the apostle Paul wrote to the church at Rome, "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid," he suggested the true condition in which God would have His people ever live. It has not been the purpose of God that His chosen people should continue to sin.

He has prepared full and complete deliverance for them. This salvation deals not with the past alone, but includes the present as well; for were we to have only forgiveness of sins already committed, and no help to keep from sinning in the present, how could the scripture be true which reads, "For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace"? Rom. 6: 14.

IS THERE LIBERTY TO DISOBEY?

The gospel provides for the forgiveness of sins that are past. The comprehension of the love of God in receiving a poor, lost soul, and washing away his sins, is the first step in the Christian life. But from the day of real conversion, through all the coming days and years, what is the relation of the new-born soul to the law of God? Some tell us that when pardon is found, when the new birth takes place, there is liberty to disobey the law of God; that being under grace, we can violate the law of Jehovah without sinning. Let us look at this for a moment, and see whether it is true or false.

WHAT IS SIN?

This is a question that is vital to every professed Christian. If man were to answer it, there would be such a variety of definitions as would confuse the mind. We must therefore get our definition from the word of God. There we shall find statements dealing directly with the question.

"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3: 4. What law is here meant? — None other than the Ten Commandments.

In Rom. 2: 13 we read, "For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified." And again, in Rom. 5: 13, "Sin is not imputed when there is no law."

It is very plain, from these texts, that sin is disobedience to the

law of God. Now, does the professed Christian, the converted man, sin when he disobeys?

"WHAT THEN? SHALL WE SIN?"

One of the commandments reads, "Thou shalt not kill." Does a Christian sin when he kills? After a man has been born into the kingdom of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, does he sin when he steals, blasphemes, or commits adultery? — He does not if being under grace frees one from obedience, and grants him the license to sin.

If the Christian as well as the sinner is amenable to the law of God, all is clear. But if only the sinner must obey, and the professed Christian may disobey, what does the Bible mean when it says, "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid"? Surely it can not mean that the Christian may murder, kill, steal, lie, blaspheme, and break the Sabbath. He has less right to do this than the sinner. If any must obey, it is God's adopted family.

WHY "NOT UNDER THE LAW"?

Then why are we told that the Christian "is not under the law"? — Because he keeps the law of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He refuses to disobey. Having been cleansed from sin through the blood of the covenant, he henceforth refuses to serve sin, but brings his life into harmony with God through the Holy Spirit. Should he disobey, he at once comes to the Saviour, confessing his sin, and is cleansed through faith in the blood of Christ.

Now if any one of the commands of God is binding on Christians, the whole ten are binding. What Christian can break or disobey any of the ten precepts with impunity? Because Christ has forgiven a man for disobeying His law, and has imputed to him righteousness that he has never earned, should the cleansed sinner have the privilege of doing, as a Christian, what caused him to be reckoned a sinner before his conversion? — Surely not. The Christian must and will obey the law of God.

HE DELIGHTS IN THE LAW

The Christian delights in the law. It shows him the right way, and continually keeps before his mind the need of Christ. It really drives him to Christ for mercy. Every Christian, therefore, is obedient to the law of God, and nothing grieves him more than to know that he has disobeyed his Father's will.

In speaking of this law, Paul says: "Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. . . . For I delight in the law of God after the inward man." Rom. 7: 12, 22.

It is through the ministry of the Holy Spirit that man may live the life of Christ, and by faith receive the imputation of Christ's righteousness. Thus he lives without condemnation; being obedient to his heavenly Father's will.

I. H. E.

HAS PROMISED TO COME AGAIN

The Blessed Hope of All the Ages — To Be Heralded to the Ends of the Earth

THE assurances that Christ will come again are among the "exceeding great and precious promises." "Unto you . . . which believe," says the apostle, "He is precious." That makes the promise that He soon is coming precious indeed to every heart that loves Him.

A STUPENDOUS FACT

It is a glorious doctrine of Scripture — this doctrine of the soon coming of Christ. But it is more than a doctrine; it is a stupendous fact. The Lord Jesus is coming, and His word shows that He is "even at the door." The fact of it comes with a challenge to every soul to be ready and to watch.

What things the prophets have written by the Spirit concerning the first and the second coming of Christ — of "the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow" — they themselves studied earnestly, and even the angels have desired "to look into" these things and watch the fulfilling Word. 1 Peter 1: 12. Therefore the apostle Peter appeals to us to give heed also: "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." Verse 13.

Now, more than ever before in the history of man, should

earnest heed be given to the promises of the coming of the Saviour in glory. The promises never grow old. The nearer the event, the more precious they are, the more comfortingly come the words of assurance as we read them over and over.

Each one is a message sent anew to us by One who loves us and desires us to be ready when He comes.

RUNS THROUGH ALL THE SCRIPTURES

How this theme of Christ's second coming runs through all Holy Scriptures was testified by the apostle Peter in his sermon and exhortation following the day of Pentecost. "By the mouth of all His prophets" the Lord had foretold "that Christ should suffer"; and the apostle pointed out that every word concerning the first advent had been "so fulfilled." Just so, he declared, the promises regarding the second coming would be fulfilled: "and He shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began." Acts 3: 20, 21.

As iniquity first began to abound in the world, God sent the message and the promise that Christ's second coming would end the reign of sin:

"And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment upon all." Jude 14, 15.

The promise of Christ's coming was the "blessed hope" in the patriarchal age. In Job's dark hour of trial, his heart clung to the promise, and he was kept from despair. "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: . . . whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another." Job 19: 25, 27.



KRUPP SIEGE MORTAR

One of the guns built by Germany in secret, and that was so effective in bombarding the fortifications of Liege and other Belgian cities, and which contributed to the speedy overthrow of Antwerp.

Photo by Boston Photo News Co.

The psalmist sang of it: "Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him." Ps. 50: 3.

And the prophets of later times were unceasingly moved upon to talk of the glory of that coming, of events preceding it, and of the preparation for it. "I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence. . . . Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him." Isa. 62: 6, 11.

TO GO TO ALL THE WORLD

The promise of His coming is to be heralded to the ends of the earth; for it is good tidings of great joy to every one who will receive it.

On that last night with His disciples, before the crucifixion, when His heart was sorrowful, even unto death, as the burden of all our iniquities was about to be laid upon Him, Christ's love for His dear ones made precious to Him the thought of His second coming to gather them home at last, safe beyond all sin and trouble, and He said: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many man-

sions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14: 1-3.

There the heart finds rest. O the preciousness of the promise, "I will come again"! And "for you," for me, He is coming. "I am coming for you," He says. "Yes, Lord," we reply; "we will wait, and watch, and be ready, by Thy grace."

W. A. S.

Powers That Gather for Armageddon

(Continued from page 7)

be troubled, though the mountains tremble with the swelling thereof." Ps. 46: 1-3.

What we have said in this article we know will strike many with surprise and some perhaps even with indignation; but it is the truth, for the word of God is true. It foretells these things, and they will certainly come; and if any soul is disturbed over what we have said here, we ask you to study the situation in the light of these predictions.

EVIDENCE ALL ABOUT YOU

You will find all about you evidences that this very confederacy is now working toward its determined end. The Sunday institution is pushed forward and established by law as a day of rest. Yet it has not one word from God to sanction it, and it is now enforced and will be more fully enforced, in spite of the fact that any compulsion in the realm of religion is absolutely antagonistic to the spirit of Christ. Force belongs to the beast. It should never be used by the true disciple of Jesus. He said, "Resist not evil." His invitation is to "whosoever will." With Christ, hence with the Christian, it is not force, but the persuasion of love.

If you will look about you, you will see the great final drama that is to destroy the

Turk, establish the papacy, and threaten with destruction those who truly follow the word of God, now rapidly acted. All the factors are here. All the movements are in the one direction. The word of God tells us the outcome, the full consequences of it all.

God help us to be true to Him in "the hour of temptation" that is to "come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Rev. 3: 10.

THE fact that one has committed sin will never exclude him from the kingdom of God. All have sinned. It is *unconfessed* sin that debars any one from receiving eternal life.

S. N. H.



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SYSTEMATIC BIBLE STUDY

OUR reading for the rest of the year is in the Old Testament. There are many people who have the mistaken notion that the Old Testament Scriptures are not so important as the New. But we have Christ's own statement that man is to live by "every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4: 4), and the Master quoted this passage from the Old Testament Scripture. God, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, did not give the world meaningless phrases in the old dispensation that would be worthless in the new. Everything He has caused to be written is "for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."

SCHEDULE FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 7

1 Chronicles 11-18
Ezekiel 32-38
Ecclesiastes 6-12
Song of Solomon 1

Read three chapters each week-day, and five on the Sabbath.

It is estimated that the wheat crop of Kansas would load a freight train 1,460 miles long. This is almost double the best previous crop in the history of the state. How good it is, when warring men are destroying crops and property in the Old World, that we will have not only a bountiful supply for ourselves in this favored land, but also a surplus with which to help keep men and women from starving in the lands over the sea!

Experiences with African Savages

Their Fierce and Barbarous Nature—Courage of Early Missionaries in Visiting Them—Miraculous Transformation of Barbarian Hearts

By ROSS C. PORTER

ELDER PORTER, who is now general superintendent of our work in eastern Asia, with headquarters at Shanghai, was for a number of years in charge of the work in Africa. This is the first of three articles, each complete in itself, in which he tells of some of his most interesting observations and experiences in the "Dark Continent."

EDITOR.

IN opening mission work in Africa, we had a much easier time than Livingstone, Moffat, and other pioneers. They found nearly every tribe hostile to their coming with the gospel message. But assured that they were laboring under a divine commission, they penetrated the very heart of the interior.

Not only did they meet difficulties from hostile natives and dangers from wild beasts, but there was little response to their gospel instruction. To break through the darkness and superstition in which heathenism had for centuries enshrouded these ignorant people, was a slow work.

Pushing into the very darkest recesses of heathenism, Livingstone bore the torch of truth where for centuries its light had been extinguished. He planted the gospel banner in lands uncivilized, and its standard became at length the connecting link between the native and civilization, as well as his measuring rod of faith and practise in preparation for the Judgment.

AFRICANER, A FIERCE SAVAGE

One hundred years ago, Africaner, a Hottentot chief, was the scourge of South Africa. He being an outlaw, the colony had offered \$500 for his head. Under his father, the old chief Africaner, his people had roamed peacefully over hill and dale within one hundred miles of Cape Town; but the Dutch settlers had repeatedly forced them to move farther inland, to make room for new settlers.

These forced moves created resentment toward the Dutch, which finally ended in an open rupture between the young chief Africaner and his friends, and their Dutch



AFRICANER

neighbors; and one of the leading men of the Dutch community was shot and killed. After this, Africaner, with his people, fled across the Orange River to Great Namaqualand. The Dutch, with a tribe of bastard Hottentots whom they bribed to accompany them, pursued, and under the leadership of the chief, Berend Berend, they had a series of bitter conflicts. As these encounters ended disastrously for the Dutch, they soon turned back, leaving Africaner in possession of that territory.

HE RAIDED THE COUNTRY

Embittered by his experiences with the Dutch, who had, when they were on friendly terms with him, taught him to steal herds of the Bushmen's cattle, which they appropriated as their own, he now began raiding the country in the same manner for himself. He became the terror of the entire region.

A Namaqua chief long afterward said to Robert Moffat, "I have fled with my people, our wives, and our babes, to a mountain glen or the wilderness, and spent nights among beasts of prey rather than fall into his hands." His character at this time is well illustrated by his treatment of some natives whom he had robbed. They sent to him asking if he would not restore a few of their cows, as their children were starving. To this he agreed on condition that they would come and get them. When they came for the cows, he ordered some of the men shot, and tying others to trees, he had their tongues cut out and their limbs hacked and mutilated.

SHOT THE COW INSTEAD OF EACH OTHER

Berend Berend, the chief who was brought against Africaner by the Dutch, remained his bitterest enemy, and they continued the old hostilities as they met from time to time. Once each sought for hours to capture a herd of cattle. Being on opposite sides of the drove, and protected by the bushes, they kept out of sight of each other, while the cattle were captured and recaptured. At length, by a sudden break in the herd, the enemies were brought face to face across the herd. Each instantly raised his rifle, and taking deadly aim, pulled the trigger. At that in-

stant a cow, running between them, received both balls in her body, and fell dead.

This providential happening deeply impressed both young men. They could never avoid the feeling that they had been spared death that they might make their peace with God, and prepare for a home where a just God reigns, and character rather than color is the basis of respect.

In 1806, a little band of missionaries under the leadership of Christian and Albrecht halted, in their wearisome journey, near Africaner's place. Learning that they had been sent out by the London Missionary Society, he met them with the assurance that they had nothing to fear from him. He said: "As you are sent by the English, I welcome you to the country. Though I hate the Dutch, who oppressed me, I love the English. I have always heard that they are friends of the poor black man."

MOFFAT WARNED OF THE DANGER

On January 26, 1818, Moffat reached Africaner's district. Although the chief was reported to have been converted under the labors of a Mr. Ebner, the report of his conversion was discredited; and when Moffat was invited by Africaner to preach in his kraal, he was warned not to go. One said that Africaner would "set him up for a mark for his boys to shoot at"; another, "that he would strip off his skin and make a drum of it to dance to"; while still another warned him that "Africaner would make a drinking cup of his skull." One kind, motherly woman said: "Had you been an old man, it would have been nothing, for you would have soon died, whether or no; but you are young, and going to become a prey to that monster."

CONVERSION OF TWO BANDIT CHIEFS

Moffat had come to preach a saving gospel to sinners; and on receiving an invita-



ROBERT MOFFAT



MARY MOFFAT

tion to visit Africaner's kraal, he accepted the invitation. A half hour after his arrival, Titus Africaner, who still hated missionaries, had an altercation with Mr. Ebner, under whose labors the chief had professed conversion. This resulted in Mr. Ebner's leaving the place. It was under these circumstances that the youthful Moffat began his labors with this partially converted chief. Much patient labor was required before he fully yielded his heart to God and became a child of the kingdom. His conversion proved to be genuine. He would sit for days poring over the word of God. He was a transformed man, and instead of spreading strife and discord as an outlaw, was now a peacemaker.

At a religious gathering he again met his old enemy, the Hottentot chief, Berend Ber-

end, who also had experienced conversion since they had shot at each other and were providentially saved. In place of seeking each other's lives, they reverently bowed together at the same altar of prayer, and as Christian brothers, poured forth their heartfelt praises for the transforming power of the gospel. The native people were profoundly impressed. They said that a gospel that could change such deadly enemies into friends, and such bandits into law-abiding citizens, was a good and powerful gospel.

The conversion of Africaner and his enemy Berend Berend was the signal for the first great religious awakening in Namaqualand. Having been notorious outlaws, their conversion became as famous as their brigandage had been notorious.

When Africaner afterward accompanied

Moffat to Cape Town, the Cape government, on seeing the change Christianity had made in his character, turned over to him the \$500 previously offered for his capture, to be used by him in providing better equipment for making an honest livelihood as a transformed man. This incident illustrates the infinite sources at God's command in support of His work.

The days of miracles have not passed. A greater miracle than changing desperadoes into children of faith is not recorded in apostolic times. It is the climax of all miracles. We devoutly thank God for such forerunners as were the faithful pioneers who blazed the trail in Africa. Now their successors, in comparative safety, reap the harvest, the seed for which was sown in sacrifice during the pioneer days of mission work.

People Are Asking Questions

A STUPEFIED WORLD

"Writers who can tell a stupefied world what this fearful portent means, who can throw light on the great fundamental problems of the race, and can give some hint as to its destiny, will have an attentive and even anxious hearing."—Springfield Republican.

Men Said the world was growing better, the arming of the nations insured peace; and now some say perpetual peace will follow the present European war.

The Bible Says the world will grow worse and worse; there shall be "wars and rumors of wars"; Armageddon will be fought before the Lord's second coming.

The masses are losing confidence in their former leaders of thought. They have found their opinions to be unreliable, valueless. Such persons will now gladly give "an attentive and even anxious hearing" to writers who can throw light on present-day conditions. They want the truth; they wish to *know*.

Signs of the Times WILL ANSWER THEM

During the next six months the SIGNS OF THE TIMES will be all that its name implies — a "Signs of the Times Series." From the great prophecies of Ezekiel, Daniel, Joel, Amos, the Gospels, and the Revelation, it will answer conclusively, and to the satisfaction of all open-minded readers, those physical, moral, social, and political questions of the day which uninspired man has proved himself unequal to.

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SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Mountain View, California

THE BIBLE IN THE HOME

It Should Be Daily Studied by the
Family — Its Stories Never Grow
Old to the Children — Bible Char-
acters Have Molding and Uplifting
Influence

By MARY ALICE HARE LOPER, M. S.



"From a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures."

IN closing His memorable Sermon on the Mount, Christ gives the impressive story of the house built upon the rock and the house built upon the sand. The former withstood the severe storm in which the latter became a heap of ruins.

The story fittingly illustrates the home founded upon the word of God and the home founded upon the sliding sands of unbelief. The former has for its foundation stones "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." These stones withstand all the storms of life, and the lapse of ages never causes them to crack or crumble to decay. They are as lasting as eternity, and are found only in the quarry of truth. But they are easily available, and the supply is ample to meet every demand. They may be had without money and without price. Therefore the poor as well as the rich may avail themselves of this sure foundation.

GLEAMS OF LIGHT SHINE OUT

From the home where God's word is revered, gleams of light penetrate the darkness of the world around, revealing smooth-running domestic machinery, and cheerfulness in the performance of the menial duties of life. There is the family altar, where, morning and evening, are offered prayers of faith, which reach the throne of the Infinite. The atmosphere of such a home is laden with the perfume of loving service to needy humanity; and when the evening shadows gather, after the toils and cares of the day are done, He sweetly "giveth His beloved sleep."

The old custom of having a "family Bible" as an object familiar to childhood, was uplifting in its tendency; and the children who were reared under its hallowed influence, received impressions for good which time can never obliterate. But the Bible is so easily obtained in these days, that every child should possess a copy of his own as soon as he is old enough to appreciate its worth, and should be taught to form the habit of reading it daily. No companionship can take its place for the growing child in the home, or for the youth who is about to bid adieu to familiar scenes and pass out into the great needy world.

A POWERFUL INFLUENCE GOES WITH IT

In some way a silent but powerful influence always goes with the Bible, so that one can not help feeling that it is not like any other book. Its stories are different from all other stories. They never become stale. Its history antedates every other authentic history. Its prophecies are not visionary. They always come true. Its biographies are true to life — are not colored to suit the occasion. Its poetry touches the very soul of the reader, and appeals to him with a fervor unknown to the most classic lore of men. The culmination of divine love for lost humanity is seen in its great tragedy; and to comprehend its length, its breadth, its depth, its height, is beyond the capabilities of men.

The Bible is the only book that retains its place in the hearts of men from age to age — the only book that can not be destroyed. Al-

though many copies have been committed to the flames in an effort to annihilate it, the blessed ashes have proved but living seeds of a greater harvest. The earth is thickly strewn with dead books — books that lived a brief life, and passed away. Mere books, like their authors, are transient, and soon forgotten; but the word of God is living, is eternal, and abides forever.

The Bible is the only source of real consolation in times of war and trouble, in times of sorrow and bereavement, when earthly ties are rudely severed, and the weight of grief seems almost too great to bear.

"One of the sweet old chapters
After a day like this!
The day brought tears and trouble,
The evening brings no kiss,
No rest in the arms I long for —
Rest and refuge and home;
But, weary and heavy-laden,
Unto Thy Book I come.

"One of the sweet old chapters
The loving thought blossoms through —
The care of birds and lilies
Out in the meadow dew.
This evening lies softly round them,
Their faith is simply to be.
O, hushed be the tender lesson!
My God, let me trust in Thee."

FOR EVERY DOMESTIC DIFFERENCE

The Bible is an unfailing remedy for every domestic difference, for every family grievance, for every wrong feeling of the human heart. The family that will persistently devote a reasonable length of time every day to the unprejudiced study of the Bible and to prayer, will find real joy in walking in the light that comes to them. They will be saved from making mistakes, will have wisdom to act aright.

That soul who refuses to study the Bible, for fear he may find something therein with which his daily life does not harmonize, is in a sad condition spiritually, and is rejecting the only means of his salvation. The Bible is

a personal letter from heaven to every individual, and each one should study it prayerfully for himself, and not merely depend upon others to tell him what it contains. God is just as ready to help the poor peasant to understand His word, as He is to help the king upon the throne. But conscientious study and earnest prayer are required on the part of the learner.

ITS INSPIRING ASTRONOMY

Fathers and mothers may be learned in the wisdom of this world — may be acquainted with Copernicus, with Kepler, with Galileo, with Newton, with the whole list of astronomers given in the popular text-books; but unless they study Job — unless they are acquainted with the great divine Text-book — they are not prepared to instruct properly the little child who queries:

"Twinkle, twinkle, little star!
How I wonder what you are!"

Parents may have studied the theories of creation — may have wearied themselves with a laborious investigation of ages and eons of time; but unless they study the beginning of things as recorded by Moses, they will never be able to answer intelligently many of the inquiries of little children.

KINDERGARTEN TEXT-BOOK

The Bible is the only text-book needed in the home kindergarten. No other book can possibly take its place. Little children listen eagerly to the simple stories of the Bible. They are glad to take as their favorite heroes such characters as Joseph, Moses, Samuel, Daniel, and the child Jesus. It requires little time for children to learn Bible stories, which are of highest worth in character building; and the child whose mind is thus stored, has a mine of truth in which he may delve through time and eternity, and never exhaust his resources.

In teaching Bible stories to children, one should be careful to know that the child learns the facts exactly as they are. A small boy had just been telling the thrilling story of how Elijah was taken to heaven in a chariot of fire, when an interested listener inquired, "Where is he now?" "O," said the little fellow confidently, "he died long ago!" Children should be requested to tell the stories over and over, until they learn them correctly.

The Water of Life

I HAVE somewhere seen a picture of the crucified Christ stretched in His mother's arms. From a rock beneath their feet abundant waters flowed into a great cistern, from which men and women of all classes in life were filling vessels with the water and passing them all to each other. A stream flowed from the cistern to a lower place, where little children could reach it, and they were drinking with smiling lips.

This is a beautiful illustration of the salvation of Christ. It is for all, rich and poor, high and low, bond and free, young and old.

Jesus said, "He that believeth on Me shall never thirst."

ELIZA H. MORTON.

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If You Believe the Message

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Signs of the Times Magazine

we want to hear from you

This magazine is read by thinking men and women, because, unlike most others, it does not leave the reader in doubt about the meaning of world conditions. This one fact, probably more than any other, accounts for the unusual number of subscriptions received of late, and for the three editions, aggregating 50,000 copies, of the October-number which were sold.

A friend recently wrote as follows: "For your encouragement I will also state that one of the leading ministers here, to whom I had sent a copy, preached nearly twenty minutes from its contents—had several paragraphs committed to memory, and referred to the writer of the article as a 'great writer.'"

The November number is a good one to begin with. 5 to 40 copies, 5c each; 50 or more, 4c each. Send orders to your tract society. See depositories.

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MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA

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New York Tract Society, 317 W. Bloomfield St., Rome, N. Y.
New York Tract Society, Western, 8 E. Jefferson St., Salamanca, N. Y.
North Carolina Tract Society, 711 W. Lee St., Greensboro, N. C.
North Dakota Tract Society, Drawer N, Jamestown, N. Dak.
Ohio Tract Society, Box 187, Mount Vernon, Ohio.
Oklahoma Tract Society, P. O. Box 644, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Oregon Missionary Society, Western, 508 E. Everett St., Portland, Ore.
Oregon Tract Society, Southern, 1164 Military St., Roseburg, Ore.
Pennsylvania Tract Society, Eastern, 4910 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Pennsylvania Tract Society, Western, 7155 Mt. Vernon St., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Saskatchewan Tract Society, Box 244, Regina, Sask., Canada.
South Carolina Tract Society, 821 Fourth St., Columbia, S. C.
South Dakota Tract Society, Drawer R, Redfield, S. Dak.
Tennessee River Tract Society (Western Tennessee), 509 Cole Bldg., Nashville, Tenn.
Texas Tract Society, North, Box 15, Keene, Texas.
Texas Tract Society, South, Box 392, Austin, Texas.
Texas Tract Society, West, Box 16, Abilene, Texas.
Upper Columbia Tract Society, College Place, Wash.
Utah Tract and Bible Society, 776 E. Sixth So., Salt Lake City, Utah.
Vermont (See Northern New England).
Virginia Tract Society, 2705 W. Main St., Richmond, Va.
Washington Missionary Society, Western, Box Q, Auburn, Wash.
West Virginia Tract Society, 124 Marion St., Fairmont, W. Va.
Wisconsin Tract Society, Box 57, Grand Rapids, Wis.
Wyoming Tract Society, Crawford, Neb.

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Signs of the Times

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA, NOVEMBER 3, 1914

Peace Movements and the Disappointment Awaiting Them

IF there is one thing that is as prominent in this generation as the war spirit and war preparations, it is the peace movements that have been and are being organized. We have international peace societies in New York and Boston, in London, and in various other leading centers of the Old World and the New. One of the strongest of these peace societies is a secular movement organized with a gift of ten million dollars from Mr. Andrew Carnegie in its treasury. More recently Mr. Carnegie gave another two million to found a church peace society, which will be controlled and operated by churchmen.

The Federal Council of Churches, one of the greatest religious organizations that has been perfected in the world's history, has a peace organization as one of its departments.

We have had two international peace conferences at the Hague, and plans are under way for a third one. Numerous other international conferences have been held by these various peace societies.

These organizations have been telling us that the war spirit was doomed, that our civilization would not brook any more wars. Yet some of the strongest writers among these men have recognized the absurdities of some of the positions that were held; for marching in strong array and far in advance of our peace organizations, have been the cohorts of war, with the mightiest armies and navies and the most dreadful equipment that the world has ever seen. While making these preparations for war, diplomats, rulers, and clergymen have mingled in love-feasts of peace. The big guns and the big war-ships have been named "peacemakers," but the building of these "peacemakers" has been impoverishing the nations.

As expressed by Charles E. Jefferson, D. D.:

"A volume setting forth the cost of armies and navies reminds one of a book on astronomy. The only figures used are millions and billions. . . . The imagination is first dazed, and then paralyzed. When one scrutinizes for an hour the tables compiled by the statisticians, showing the cost of armed peace, the mind is stupefied and the heart benumbed. . . . Governments are to-day not only impoverishing the living, but hanging millstones of debt around the necks of generations yet unborn. Guns are bought with borrowed money. The house is being mortgaged that the foolery may go on. All schemes of internal improvement are curtailed and embarrassed, and every program of social betterment is handicapped or postponed. Militarism blights like a pestilential wind the higher life of nations, and eats like a gangrene into the vitals of civilization. The very sinew and bloom of humanity are going into this expanding establishment of gold braid and steel, and the end is not yet. One thing is certain, the world can not go on indefinitely in the direction in which it is now moving. Something is going to break. . . . Well may any man who believes that nations, as well as individuals, are in the grip of inexorable moral law, tremble when he beholds the satanic heartlessness with which the peoples of Christendom are being plundered and oppressed by the ever accumulative expenditures for the enginery of slaughter.

"One is dumbfounded by the impotency of every force which has thus far been called into play for the checking of this militaristic movement. Every sane-minded man confesses that the present policy of the great powers is folly, wickedness, madness."

Dr. Jefferson wrote the foregoing just before the outbreak of this awful European war; and although he is prominently connected with the peace movement, yet he recognized that the unparalleled military preparation could not go on without a crash, and the crash has come.

While depending upon human theories, we are likely to make great mistakes. The theorists in these peace movements have been saying that our civilization and enlightenment ought to keep us from war, and therefore they have reasoned that we would have no more wars. But those who depend upon a stronger source of information than human reason, have known, from the infallible Book of

God, that the war spirit in this very generation in which we live would be awful beyond description. This paper for forty years has been pointing to the prophetic Word that foretells it, and we find that the facts in the field of war harmonize with the prediction of the divine prophets. Hence we know, from this same infallible Word, that the men who are even now proclaiming that the awful barbarities of this war are such that they will forever discourage future wars, are doomed to another very sad disappointment.

This European war, with its slaughter of hundreds of thousands, and with the hundreds of thousands of others who are rendered homeless and penniless, has broken the spell of the notion that this world would have no further wars. But the majority of men are preparing to have themselves deluded again. They are depending upon humanity, believing that it will rise above the spirit of war; but the divine Book says:

"Know this, that in the last days grievous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, haughty, railers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-con-



Boston Photo News Co.

A TYPICAL BRITISH INFANTRYMAN WITH HIS KIT

trol, fierce, no lovers of good, traitors, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; holding a form of godliness, but having denied the power thereof: from these also turn away." 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

And again in the same chapter we read, "Evil men and impostors shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." And to these statements may be added the words of the Master:

"And there shall be signs in sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, in perplexity for the roaring of the sea and the billows; men fainting for fear, and for expectation of the things which are coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these things begin to come to pass, look up, and lift up your heads; because your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:25-28.

The Master's coming, according to this scripture, is immediately preceded by a distress among the nations, with perplexity. Men will be fainting for fear, and for expectation of the things that they see coming on the world; but in the face of all of these predictions, even the professed church of Christ will allow itself to depart so far from God's word that many of its teachers will be teaching fables instead of the living truth.

To quote from the Twentieth Century Version of Paul's second letter to Timothy: "I solemnly charge you, in the sight of God and of Christ Jesus, who will one day judge the living and the dead—I charge you by His appearing and by His kingdom:—Proclaim the message, be ready in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, encourage, never failing to instruct with forbearance,

For a time will come when people will not tolerate sound teaching. They will follow their own wishes, and, in their itching for novelty, procure themselves a crowd of teachers. They will turn a deaf ear to the truth, and give their attention to legends instead." 2 Tim. 4:1-4.

It is a sad commentary on these times, that many men who bear the title of doctors of divinity have, through their so-called higher criticism, introduced wide-spread infidelity right in the church itself. Very recently in our columns we called attention to utterances of doctors of divinity who stand high in the church and in its councils, which are identical with the infidel utterances of Thomas Paine, Voltaire, and other men of that class. Men who have thus rejected God's word will not see that their propaganda for peace is upon a wrong basis. They will go on proclaiming "Peace, peace; when there is no peace," until finally, in the language of the apostle Paul, while they are saying, "Peace and safety," "sudden destruction cometh upon them."

We should labor for peace, and we should pray for peace, because we are under the banner of the Prince of peace; but we must keep alive to the fact that the Prince of peace, who knows the end from the beginning, has told us that the closing years of this world's history, while they would be marked with great peace movements, would nevertheless be characterized by the spirits of demons that were marshaling the whole world to the great war of Armageddon.

33,000 Driven from Home

THE city of Alost, in Belgium, was ordered on September 28, by the military authorities, to be completely depopulated. The contending armies were advancing toward the place, and it was thought that if there was not a single inhabitant to be found, there would be less danger of destruction of property. Both the young and the old, the sick and the well, the new-born babies and their mothers, one and all had to desert the place.

A person can imagine something of the horrors of war when he contemplates what this would mean. The condition of health in many cases would be such that individuals who would have to be moved would be going to certain death. But the people who went out from Alost had the hope of returning and finding the greater part of their homes so that they can live in them. But still worse is the suffering of the thousands upon thousands of people whose homes have been completely destroyed.

There are many of the brethren and sisters of our faith in war-stricken Europe. Numbers of them will have to undergo the sufferings and the privations incident to this war, and they have many friends and neighbors who are suffering with them. This situation must certainly appeal to the stoutest hearts; and to help to relieve this misery and suffering, our General Conference is calling for large donations of funds. Persons desiring to help in this relief work may send their donations to the treasurer of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, Mountain View, California, with the assurance that every cent will be expended judiciously and in harmony with the donors' wishes.

A Diplomats' War

IN discussing the present European war, a Labor member of the British Parliament is reported to have said: "It is a diplomats' war, made by about half a dozen men. Up to the moment that ambassadors were withdrawn, the peoples were at peace. They had no quarrel with each other. They bore each other no ill will. A dozen men brought Europe to the brink of the precipice, and Europe fell over it."

Diplomats and rulers always have to be the aggressors in making war; but if Europe were not filled with the war spirit, these national leaders could not lead their men so readily on to the battlefield. The clear prophetic word of God informs us that when the Judgment-day is pending, the nations are angry; and while men are dreaming that this will be the last great war, we will nevertheless see that it is only the beginning of the furious war scenes that are to curse these closing days of time. Happy is the man or the woman who learns to know God's word, and to depend upon that, disregarding the conflicting and visionary themes of men.