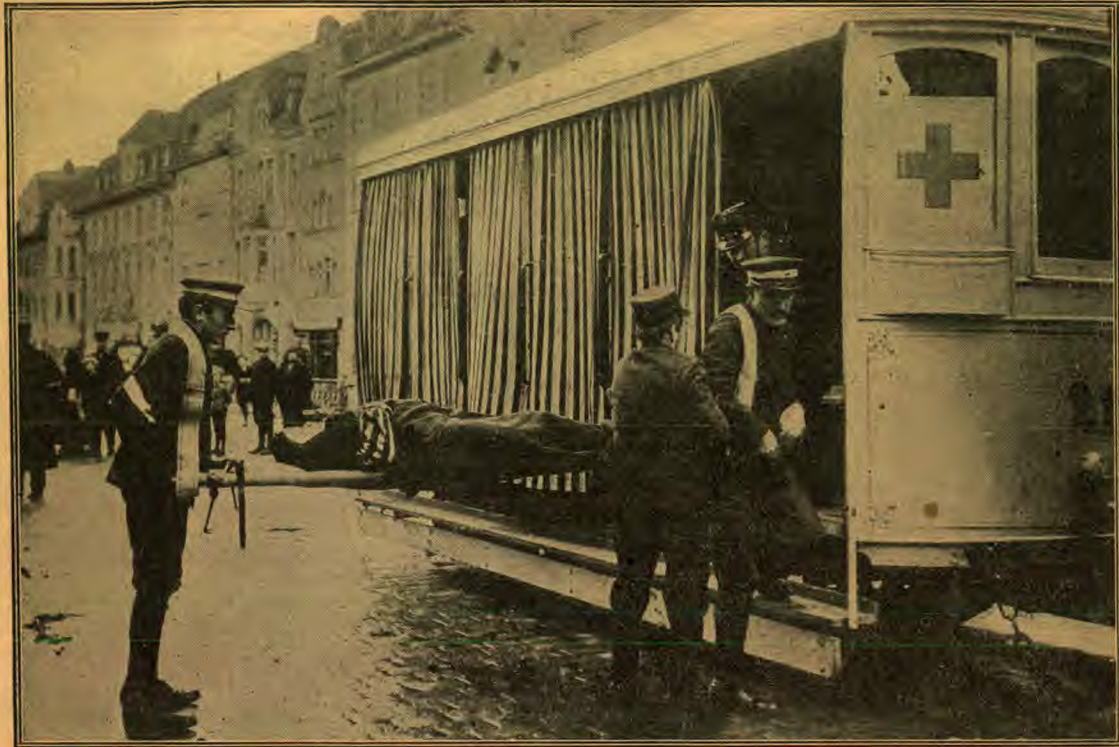


Signs of the Times

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© Underwood
Russia is a land torn and mangled, politically, socially, physically. This picture shows a Swiss refugee returning to her native land after a year's harrowing experience in Russia. The Red Cross workers are found helping in every land. Wherever distress exists, the Cross of brotherly love hastens.

If We Have It, Why Search for It?

It is a paradox. Many men say they already by nature possess it, yet the Christian life is but a search for it.

BY L. LAMBERT MOFFITT

IMMORTALITY is one of the most glorious doctrines of the Scriptures. Its promises pervade the Book—a perpetual perfume from the Paradise of God. And this eternal, incorruptible life is vouchsafed alone by the word of God. Its assurance is fundamentally and exclusively a principle of the religion of Jesus Christ. It is one of the profound mysteries of God "brought . . . to light through the gospel." 2 Timothy 1:10. In man's behalf, it is the ultimate objective of the plan of salvation; and outside of this plan there is no permanent possession of life for any man, for among its provisions is that eternal life will be awarded only "to them who by patient continuance in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality." Romans 2:7.

It is evident that man would not be thus enjoined by the Scriptures to seek for that which he already holds in inherent and permanent possession. We are ever admonished to seek for those felicities which we have not. "Seek righteousness, seek meekness." "Here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come." Neither have we

immortality; but we "by patient continuance in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality."

It is equally evident that the first requisite in seeking immortality is an awakening to the fact that man does not intrinsically possess it; because people do not seek for that which they think they already possess. With what unconcerned and blissful ignorance do people oftentimes pursue their way under a misplaced confidence in their assumed possessions! Joseph and Mary, "supposing Him [the child Jesus] to have been in the company, went a day's journey" before they missed Him; then "they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found Him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking Him." The Scriptures address a class of people thus: "Thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." It is the same with immortality. Perhaps upon no other subject have mankind been more generally and hopelessly deceived, in thinking that they have what they have not. Since that deplorable day in Eden (Continued on page 4)

SAID IN FEW WORDS

The Author of Life

EVERY one who has tried it has proved to his own satisfaction, if he thinks at all, that "it is not in man to . . . direct his steps." God admonishes us, "Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help." Some advise us in our troubles and perplexities to "seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter;" but the advice of the Omniscient One is, "Should not a people seek unto their God?" Isaiah 8: 19.

There is One whose wisdom comprehends all. We can trust Him. With His own blood, He has bought the right to counsel and to lead us, and He will not lead us wrong. Whatever our difficulty, our sorrow, our affliction, we can go to Him with it, and find a comforter and counselor, a guide and mighty friend.

The world is full of suffering; but He who learned obedience through the things which He suffered, can put His comfort in the place of your misery. The world is full of perplexity and turmoil; but He who is the author of eternal certainty and everlasting peace, can give you assurance and peace in place of every perplexity and all turmoil. The world is full of death; but He is the author of life, and will be the dispenser of life to all who accept His gift of love. So we need not fear, though the heavens be removed, and though the mountains sink into the depths of the sea; for "from everlasting to everlasting" He is God, and "underneath are the everlasting arms." C. M. SNOW.

The Broader Vision

WHEN the prophet of old prayed that the eyes of his servant might be opened, he gave expression to the universal desire of those who, themselves having obtained a glimpse of the beyond, earnestly desire that those about them should be delighted with the same heavenly vision. Since that sad time when our first parents were so sadly deceived with the specious promise of eyes opened, men have lacked ability to see. With mind dulled and sight dimmed, they have in gloomy procession fastened their eyes on the perishing things of earth, and have not seen beyond, not valued the true riches.

How very desirable that the voice of the true Witness be heeded! There is relief from an otherwise incurable malady. There is a balm in Gilead. There is a Physician there. No case of spiritual blindness is too hard for Him, or of too long standing. His skill is equal to every need.

In these days there is a special promise. The seeing of "visions" is not con-

finied to the few. All may gain the broader view that comes from the clearing of the spiritual sight.

And soon that day so long foretold is to be upon us. Soon with undimmed eyes we shall look into the face of Him whom we love. "It doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is."

The challenge of the angel to Amos is still the cry to God's children: "Amos, what seest thou?" T. H. JEYS.

Mountain Peaks of Love

SINAI, Calvary, and Pentecost stand out against the background of the history of the church of God as great mountain peaks of wonderful manifestations of the love of God. At Sinai, God proclaimed, in terrible majesty and glory, the law of heaven and earth. Sinai is the mountain of Jehovah's law, the sublime throne from which the King of kings proclaimed His Ten Commandments, which in brief are the axioms of morals, the summary of ethics, the itinerary of mankind, the framework of society, the vertebral column of humanity.

On Calvary's cruel cross, the blessed Son of God bore the curse of the law, suffering its penalty, carrying to completion the plan whereby man was to be placed where he could keep God's holy law and be accepted through the merits of the Redeemer; and by His sacrifice, glory was shed upon the law. The death of Christ is a convincing, everlasting argument that the law of God is as unchanging as His eternal throne.

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was sent in its fullness to the disciples of Christ, to endue them with power to go to the world and preach the gospel of the kingdom to all nations. When this work has been accomplished, all who have accepted God's message of love will be gathered home to the heavenly mansions Christ is preparing for His people. ANDREW NELSON.

He Shall Appear

It is evident, from the reading of the Scriptures, that special effort will be made to deceive the human race regarding the manner of Christ's second coming. Speaking of this event, the Lord said, "Take heed that no man deceive you." Doubtless multitudes will be swept off their feet by Satan's deceptions, which culminate in his efforts to personate Christ. But those who study and believe the word of God will be forewarned; for Christ said, "Behold, I have told you before."

Concerning the manner of Christ's coming, we read: "Unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second

time." Hebrews 9: 28. "We know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3: 2. "Who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom." 2 Timothy 4: 1. "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear." Colossians 3: 4. "When the chief Shepherd shall appear." 1 Peter 5: 4.

Special attention is directed to the word "appear." When Christ comes the second time, He will appear. There will be nothing secret about His coming; it will be an open, public appearance. It will not be at death, as many now preach, nor an invisible, spiritual, unrecognized coming, as some believe. No, it will be "the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2: 13.

Surely these Scriptural citations are sufficient to settle forever that the coming of our blessed Lord will be a literal, personal, visible, public coming. He will not only be seen by the righteous, but every living soul on earth will see Him at that day. "And then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Matthew 24: 30.

We are not following cunningly devised fables when we make known the power and the literal, personal, visible second coming of Jesus Christ; and, thank God, we have abundant evidence that this glorious event is near at hand.

G. W. WELLS.

Conquer or Be Conquered

TEMPTATION is one thing that man cannot escape. He cannot get away from it by emigrating to another country. The only way to get away from it is to conquer it.

Temptations cannot hurt a man any more than water hurts a duck when poured on its back. Temptation has never yet hurt a man till it obtained the coöperation of the traitor inside of him. Temptation is not sin. The sin lies in yielding to the temptation. John Bunyan wrote "Pilgrim's Progress" in the Bedford jail, because the devil was there tempting him, and he wanted to get rid of him. He wrote it to crowd out the baser thoughts.

We know that temptation is not sin. James tells us, "Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations." Let us take courage when we are tempted, and overcome the temptation.

G. S. BELLEAU.

"TRUE submission to God is not passive do-nothingism. It is placing ourselves under the banner of Christ, to wait, to watch, to fight, to suffer, if need be to die, for Christ's sake. This only is true submission, the submission of faith."

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES WEEKLY

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Is Christ Present, or Yet to Come?

It is a current opinion that the presence of the Comforter, or the Holy Spirit, promised by Jesus prior to His ascension, is a fulfillment of all Bible predictions that Christ is to come to earth a second time.

BY ELMER L. CARDEY

IT was for the good of the church that Christ withdrew His personal, visible presence from the world. This was the reason He gave His disciples when they were filled with sorrow because He had told them He was going away. He said: "Because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you." John 16: 6, 7. He had spent over three years in labor among a few of the Judean cities. Personally He had ministered to the sick and suffering, and had brought joy to the sad, comfort to the sorrowing.

Now the time had come for His gospel to take on a greater power and cover a greater scope, even to reach the ends of the earth. After His resurrection, His visible presence was to be withdrawn from the earth; still He would be present with His people, "even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28: 20. The disciples were greatly perplexed at His saying that He would go away, and still be present with them; but after the experience of Pentecost, they never again wondered at His promise, for they knew that Jesus was truly to be present with His people by His Spirit. This, then, was the meaning of His promise to send another Comforter. "I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth." John 14: 16, 17.

SPIRIT PRESENCE NOT COMPLETE FULFILLMENT

Thus also was to be fulfilled His promise to be with them always, "even unto the end of the world." Although His personal, visible presence would be removed, yet the church and the world would know the fullness of His omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent power through all the ages and in all places. The gift of the Holy Ghost, so graciously and plentifully given at Pentecost, is to remain with the church of God until the visible return of the One who by His Spirit dwells with and in us.

Down through two millenniums, multitudes of God's children have borne witness to the fact that Jesus has kept the promise to meet and be with His people.

But is the church forever to be deprived of the blessedness and glory of His personal, visible presence? Has He gone away never to return, other than by His representative, the Holy Ghost?

Are all the promises of His literal, personal, visible coming the second time to receive thus an absolutely inadequate fulfillment, and our Jesus and Saviour to be shut forever away from this world? Many indeed would have it so; and some

even who teach in His name would vainly make it appear that the church need expect none other coming than the coming of His Holy Spirit.

TWO SEPARATE PROMISES

On the same occasion when He promised the gift of the Comforter, He promised to return to earth again. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: 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. This promise stands yet unfulfilled; but He will do as He has said.

At another time, the disciples asked Jesus what would be a sign of His second coming and the end of the world. Among other things, He said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24: 14. It is rather a blind interpretation of Scripture to say that this



World-wide mission work is the greatest sign of Christ's soon return. He Himself specified this in Matthew 24: 14. The fact that this generation is witnessing the fulfillment of this prediction is proof positive that this age is to see the consummation of the Christian's hope.

text met its fulfillment at Pentecost, or has ever yet been fulfilled. Only our generation has even begun to see the accomplishment of that mighty task of carrying the gospel of Christ to earth's remotest bounds.

Again He said to His disciples: "If any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold,

He is in the desert; go not forth: behold, He is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24: 23-27.

He anticipated here that insidious teaching which would make void all the promises relating to the second visible coming, and make it appear that He would come only spiritually or at death. The false Christs will come in the latter manner, and the false prophets will teach such a coming, and Christ plainly warns against such teaching.

Then He explains how He will come, —as the lightning shining from the east to the west. Needless to say, that promise remains unfulfilled, and will so remain until He is seen personally in the clouds coming "with power and great glory."

"This same Jesus," said the angels at His ascension, "shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." We ask, Where or when has that prophecy been fulfilled? And can any event other than the literal coming in the manner here described, at all adequately fit this promise and prophecy? The answer is emphatically, No!

IS PAUL'S TESTIMONY RELIABLE?

But still another testimony! None of the disciples or apostles felt more fully the invisible presence of Christ than did Paul. But did Paul believe and teach that the promise concerning the second coming had thus been fulfilled? Instead, we find his writings filled with promises which can only be accomplished in the second, literal coming of Jesus. To Titus he said, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2: 13. And to the church of the Thessalonians He wrote, "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." 1 Thessalonians 4: 16, 17.

In the face of the scriptures above cited, where the second coming of Christ is pictured as the glory event of all events, what a beggarly fulfillment it is to say that these promises are all met at death!

No, not thus will the mighty plan of salvation be consummated. The most glorious, resplendent day since "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy," yet awaits the church of God on earth—that day when Jesus, in His own glory, the glory of the Father, and the glory of all the holy angels, will descend the vaulted skies, singing a mighty song of triumph, until earth and sea respond to the call, and give up the sleeping saints, who, with the living righteous, will ascend to meet Him in the air.

It is the privilege of every Christian to look for and pray for that day. No other hope of the church brings one so near the Saviour, where one may enjoy sweet communion with Him to-day, as does this hope of the return of our blessed Lord in power and great glory.



UNCLE SAM'S DEPARTMENT

Not Too Late

AS this issue of the paper is going into the hands of its readers, the campaign for the fourth Liberty Loan is closing. The campaign was started off with such enthusiasm that in some localities the entire amount was raised on or before the opening day, September 28. One of the great desires of our government has been not only that the amount should be over-subscribed, but that there should be the largest possible number of individual subscribers. If you have not already performed the patriotic duty of subscribing to this loan, the opportunity is still open; and if a loyal citizen, you cannot afford to be left out from the number who have come to the assistance of their country in this worthy enterprise. If you have not already subscribed, subscribe now. Your banker or any other regularly designated agency will attend to this for you.

Yarn Wanted

THE American Red Cross desires to get in touch with the smaller merchants who have stocks of hand-knitting yarn, since there is a scarcity of this class of material. Manufacturers, wholesalers, and large retailers, in response to a request, have reported their stock; but it is thought that much may also be found among the smaller dealers. Lots down to fifty pounds will be considered. Both woolen and worsted in Oxford, khaki, natural, and natural gray colors should be reported, stating the count, the make, the quality, and cost price. Please report at once to the Woolen Section of the War Industries Board, Washington, D. C.

Penitentiary for Slanderers

LOUIS B. NAGLER, former assistant secretary of state for the state of Wisconsin, has been sentenced for thirty months to the penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth for making slanderous remarks concerning the Red Cross and the Y. M. C. A. In imposing the sentence on Mr. Nagler at Madison, Wisconsin, Judge Evans said:

"Your sentence has given me a great deal of trouble. There are many things that pull at the heartstrings. You are educated. You have held an office of high trust. It would be improper for me not to impose a prison sentence on you when I have imposed a prison sentence on many ignorant men for making disloyal remarks. The jury has found you guilty, and the evidence justified the verdict. If men high in places of trust make remarks of this character and are not punished, it would not be fair. I

therefore pass a sentence of thirty months in the federal penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth."

Some Red Cross and Y. M. C. A. workers, as well as other mortals, may make mistakes; but far more frequently stories are started that have no foundation whatever in fact. No individual who has the good of humanity at heart will allow himself, through any such things, to be drawn into making derogatory remarks against these most worthy organizations. The good work they are doing cannot be too highly commended, and we should support it heartily with our influence, our means, and our prayers, along with our energetic, earnest work.

A Deepening Experience

A Y. M. C. A. worker among our soldier boys in a foreign port writes: "Over here they appreciate one another as they never did before. There is little romance here, but a wonderful opportunity for service. I have always been a great believer in the power of prayer, but now I realize I had only touched the surface, and oh, how I have depended

SUGAR MUST BE SAVED!

A teaspoonful means nothing. You say. Yet a heaping teaspoonful saved each meal for 120 days for each of the 100,000,000 persons in the United States makes a pile as big as the Woolworth buildings enough to supply the entire armed forces of the nation.



on God to help meet the daily conditions and do the daily tasks! How He helps in times of need!"

It is because men representing the Y. M. C. A. are working with such a good spirit among our boys, that we feel constrained to donate liberally to the good work that is being done by that noble organization. The one hundred million asked for by the Y. M. C. A., and the fifteen million asked for by the Y. W. C. A., is none too much for the good work, and each one should do his part cheerily and heartily in seeing that the necessary fund is raised.

If We Have It, Why Search for It?

(Continued from page 1)

when the serpent said to the woman, "Thou shalt not surely die," the doctrine of man's inherent immortality has been gaining in scope and influence, like a snowball starting down a mountain side, gathering size and velocity and momentum till it sweeps before it the pleasant landscape in a mighty avalanche. But that man does not now possess immortality, the Scriptures make very clear.

God created man "a little lower than the angels," and placed him in the Garden of Eden, a free moral agent, to develop a character in harmony with the divine will. His life was to be perpetuated by his partaking of the tree of life, so long as he conformed to the benevolent requirements of God. But man sinned, and was driven out of the garden, away from the tree of life. "And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of Us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever: therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the Garden of Eden. . . . So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the Garden of Eden cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." Genesis 3: 22-24.

With the wages of his sin, which is death (Romans 6: 23), resting upon him, and thus being effectually excluded from the garden and the tree of life, man had no means of perpetuating his existence. The process of disintegration and death began. Man began to reap the wages of his sin. "Dying thou shalt die." Moreover, "as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin," "so death passed upon all men." Romans 5: 12. "In Adam all die." 1 Corinthians 15: 22. Death became the common lot of man. The dismal dirge of death has ever sounded down the centuries.

IMMORTAL GOD, MORTAL MAN

The Scriptures repeatedly declare that man is mortal. Thus Eliphaz the Temanite addressed Job: "Shall mortal man be more just than God?" Job 4: 17. And Paul says, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body" (Romans 6: 12); also, "He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies" (Romans 8: 11). That this mortality includes man's soul is evident from Ezekiel 18: 4: "Behold, all souls are Mine; . . . the soul that sinneth, it shall die." Nowhere in the Bible is man credited with immortality.

This truth is strongly reinforced by statements in the Bible that God is the sole possessor of immortality. "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever." 1 Timothy 1: 17. "Which in His times He shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see; to whom be honor and power everlasting." 1 Timothy 6: 15, 16. Since only God has immortality, evidently man does not have it. No; we are broken cisterns, from

which is rapidly leaking what little of the water of life we still desperately try to retain. But with God, as the psalmist says, "is the fountain of life." Psalm 36:9. Only from the ceaseless flow of that eternal fountain may man ever hope to quaff again the waters of everlasting life.

IMMORTALITY DIVINITY'S SUPREME GIFT

This indeed is our joyful hope. God has designed that man should yet possess immortality, eternal life. But this supreme gift to man He had reposed in His Son. "Eternal life" is "the gift of God" "through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23. "Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give Me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water." "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up unto eternal life." John 4:10, 14, A. R. V. "The witness is this, that God gave unto us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath the life [the life mentioned in the previous verse—eternal life]; he that hath not the Son of God hath not the life." 1 John 5:11, 12, A. R. V.

What a merciful provision! God does not give eternal life promiscuously, thus perpetuating the lives of sinners, and immortalizing sin; but He hides it in His Son, for those only who "come unto God by Him." "No murderer [and the same is true of every other sinner] hath eternal life abiding in him." 1 John 3:15. However, God desires to purge sin from every sinner, and give him life in place of death. "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

"Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His. 'With His stripes we are healed.'"

Making the evidence of man's mortality the strongest possible, the Bible states that even the immortality of saints depended upon Christ's breaking the bars of the tomb, and rising with the keys of death and the grave. "If Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also that are fallen asleep in Christ have perished." 1 Corinthians 15:17, 18, A. R. V. But thanks be to our God, Christ has been raised, and says, "Fear not; I am the first and the last, and the living one; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of hades." Revelation 1:17, 18, A. R. V.

WHEN THE GIFT IS GIVEN

Yet one more count: Those who do receive immortality—eternal life, "the gift of God . . . through Jesus Christ our Lord"—will not receive it till the resurrection, except in promise. "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is

our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory." Colossians 3:3, 4. "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing." 2 Timothy 4:8. "For this is the will of My Father, that every one that beholdeth the Son, and believeth on Him, should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:40, A. R. V.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we

shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:2. "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead [in Christ] shall be raised incorruptible, and we [the righteous living] shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and *this mortal must put on immortality*. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory." 1 Corinthians 15:51-54.

Water Baptism Only Half a Step

Steps in Redemption—VI

BY RUFUS A. UNDERWOOD

"AFTER these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory." Revelation 18:1. The closing work of God for the salvation of man, just prior to the second advent of Christ to set up His heavenly kingdom, is represented in both the Old and the New Testament as a marvelous display of divine power working with mankind to turn their hearts to God, and enabling His servants to proclaim effectively the sweet message of mercy to a perishing world. This is to precede the closing work of Christ in heaven as man's high priest.

While this divine power is attending the gospel message, all the world will make their final decision, and receive either the seal of God or the mark of the wicked one; and then will go forth the decree found in Revelation 22:11, 12: "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."

Before this decree is uttered, a great refreshing, an outpouring of the Spirit of God, will visit the earth, to aid man in making his last decision. Such a view is set forth in the text at the head of this article, and in many other scriptures. In Christ's commission to His disciples, He pledged His presence, with all power that is in heaven and in earth, to be with His servants even to the end of the world. Matthew 28:18-20.

PENTECOST SHOULD CONSTANTLY REOCCUR

Just before Pentecost, Christ commanded the disciples to wait for the promise of the Father, which was to endue them with great power in proclaiming the gospel. "For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. . . . It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye

shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:5-8.

This promise was fulfilled only in part at Pentecost and in the subsequent labors of the apostles; for the promise was not simply to the disciples, but to as many as the Lord should call, even to the end of the world. He said, "Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49. Again the apostles said: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Acts 2:38, 39.

The record shows that signs and wonders were wrought in the name of Jesus, "and with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection," while multitudes of believers were added to the Lord. That such an experience under the baptism of the Holy Spirit will be known by the remnant church on earth is made clear in the Scriptures. Yes, it will be more extensive, as the Scriptures foretell. The prophets have connected with this work a turning to God by putting away sin, as the disciples did of old. Only such as do thus can God safely trust with His Spirit and power.

SCHEDULED FOR OUR DAY

The prophet Joel, speaking of the last days, says: "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth out of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare Thy people, O Lord, and give not Thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?" "Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God:

for He hath given you the former rain moderately, and He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month." "And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and My people shall never be ashamed. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit." Joel 2: 15-17, 23, 27-29.

The prophet Micah has described the work of the remnant church as follows: "The remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrith not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men." Micah 5: 7.

APOSTOLIC SCENES RESTAGED

Another has written of the effect of the baptism of the Spirit, in these words: "Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers. Satan also works with lying wonders, even bringing down fire from heaven in the sight of men. Thus the inhabitants of earth will be brought to take their stand."

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Isaiah 60: 1-3.

The Holy Spirit is Christ's representative, sent into this world to be Christ's successor in the church on earth. Every step in the work of redemption, such as conviction of sin, repentance, justification, consecration, and sanctification, is wrought by the Holy Spirit. See John 16: 8, etc. Yet the baptism of the Holy Spirit in its completeness is given only to such as reach the highest standard of Christian perfection; for God cannot trust this gift in its fullness to men possessing love of self.

If we are candidates for this, the greatest of all Heaven's trusts committed to men, we must have the inspired prayer of Christ and the apostles answered in us. (John 17: 17 and 1 Thessalonians 5: 23.) Then we can say: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me." Then the Spirit will rest upon us as it did upon Christ, without restraint. See Luke 4: 18 and John 3: 34.

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THE MARKED BIBLE

PART THE ELEVENTH

BY CHARLES L. TAYLOR

AT the close of Mr. Anderson's service in the parlor, Mr. Spaulding, in company with Mr. Gregory, had sought a quiet place on deck to discuss what had been said and done. They were both much agitated, though the latter was inclined to acknowledge the truth of many things he had heard.

But while they talked together, Captain Mann passed near. Mr. Spaulding called to him.

"Say, captain, just a moment of your time. I simply want to make an appeal. Can we not devise some plan to stop further spread of this Sabbath talk? It is not producing the best results, inasmuch as it stirs up the spirit of unwholesome argument, and sooner or later may be the means of unsettling the views of some very good Christian people who are aboard. That young man with the marked Bible is already completely out of the way, and I notice that he is influencing some people whose good sense ought to shield them. You see, captain, I am terribly afraid of fanaticism."

"Well, Mr. Spaulding, you are aware that you are at liberty to plan as you wish. The freedom of the vessel is yours. But let me say to you, in the brief moment that I may stop, that the young man of whom you speak, Harold Wilson, has become, during the brief period since we left San Francisco, such a splendid Christian, such a trustworthy and capable coworker, that I marvel. From a profligate, a drinking, swearing, gambling, thieving criminal, as I have known him, he has been transformed into the sober, praying, industrious, honest young man you behold to-day. This certainly must be the fruit of a good tree. And I confess that I myself have tasted and been made better.

"I must hasten; but let me assure you that this is something of which you need not be afraid. It is not fanaticism. There is a large amount of zeal, but it is founded on knowledge of the Bible. No one can go far astray who studies the Word in order to live it. And Harold Wilson is living it."

THE captain passed quickly on and into the parlor.

The view that met his eye as he entered was one which he was never to forget. There sat Mr. Severance, bowed over the table, with face buried in his hands. And as he entered, Harold Wilson, with Bible in hand, and with an arm thrown over the shoulder of the merchant, was bearing witness to him of the surety of God's promise, and of the wonderful blessing that had come to him in the truth of the fourth commandment.

As Captain Mann beheld the spirit manifested by Harold—the spirit of the real soul-winner and helper of those in trouble—his emotions overcame him, and tears filled his eyes. How strange, and yet how beautiful, was this expression

of tenderness in this hardy veteran of the sea!

But not a word escaped his lips. He simply stepped over to Mr. Anderson, gripped his hand strongly and feelingly, and with quivering lip hastened on to duty.

A SHRIEK startled the little group in the dining room, and almost immediately the cry "Woman overboard" began to sound from one end of the vessel to the other.

"Who is it? Who is it?" was on everybody's tongue. But no one knew.

The two clergymen—Mr. Spaulding and Mr. Gregory—rushed to the opposite side of the vessel, reaching the rail just in time to see Harold Wilson emerge from the main parlor, quickly lay down his Bible, take off his coat, and plunge into the sea.

"Ah! How foolish! How foolish!" exclaimed Mr. Spaulding. "It means two lives instead of one. No living man can handle himself in the wake of this vessel."

"But God help him!" was Mr. Gregory's response.

And God surely did help. The brave act of Harold was one of faith; and even while battling with the waters, his thoughts went up to God for help and deliverance, and his prayer was graciously answered.

His eye caught sight of a hand as it appeared for an instant above the swirling waters a few feet away, and he threw himself toward it with all the might at his command.

The drowning woman's dress was now in his hand, and quickly and deftly he made sure of his human treasure and started toward the vessel.

"Thank God!" called out Mr. Spaulding. The passengers cheered and wept.

Meanwhile Captain Mann had ordered the engines reversed, and the great Tenyo Maru was brought to a dead stop, a lifeboat was lowered, and Harold and the yet unknown woman were soon safely lifted to the deck.

Mr. Gregory pressed his way to the center of the scene, that he might grasp the hand of the young hero, and incidentally to be of whatever service possible. But as he was about to reach for Harold's hand, the face of the rescued woman, now partially resuscitated, was before him.

His face blanched, his strength gave way, and he fell heavily to the deck.

It was his wife!

"MR. WILSON," said Mrs. Gregory, "as she lay in her stateroom, 'I must tell you why I have sent for you. My husband here must know also.

"I was at the service yesterday in the parlor, and heard the Rev. Mr. Anderson discuss the Sabbath question; and while I am ashamed to say it, I was really angry at some things that were said. I didn't like to hear them, and I didn't want others to hear. And, of course, I

blamed you. Some one had told me that it was because of your relations with the Rev. Mr. Anderson that the service was held; and when, at the last, I heard you say 'Amen,' I said to myself, 'I wish that young upstart would fall overboard, and thus deliver us from any more Sabbath talk.'

"After the meeting, I came to my room, and tried to forget the whole thing; but I couldn't, so I returned after a time, and as I saw you still there, I was more bitter than ever. I passed the parlor door; but as I did so, my feelings overcame me, I grew dizzy (I have such spells when my feelings run away with me), and—well, I knew no more until I wakened on deck and learned that I had been delivered from a watery grave.

"And you, the object of my evil wishes, were chosen of God to be my rescuer!

"Mr. Wilson, I am begging your forgiveness, which I am sure you will give; but I am begging more—I am going to ask you to take your Bible and tell me more about the truth which I have been trying to reject. Will you do it?"

Harold humbly acknowledged his great ignorance, and asked if she would not rather study with Mr. Anderson.

"Do you think he would be willing to come," she asked, "and come soon?"

"Oh, I am sure he would," was the reply. And Harold hastened after his good friend.

"**D**R. ANDERSON," said Mrs. Gregory, "I am deeply in earnest today, and husband and I both desire further instruction. The terrible happening of yesterday was from God, to correct us and make us willing to receive unadulterated teaching. Now, what I want to ask is, Why do you specially emphasize the question of the seventh-day Sabbath? Does God require you to do it? And why is it that so many people, especially the ministers, are so determined not to listen to your message?"

"Sister, your questions are rather broad, and really require more study than the circumstances will permit. However, they are to the point, and I am glad the Scriptures can give you an answer.

"Let me call your attention first to the fact that along with marriage, the Sabbath is one of the great blessings that have come down to us from the Eden home. Marriage was designed to preserve a sacred relationship between members of the human family; the Sabbath, to preserve a sacred relationship between the human family and the Creator.

"The most casual reading of the fourth commandment shows the great and wonderful purpose of the Sabbath. 'Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. . . . For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth.' Exodus 20: 8-11. The Sabbath was to keep in mind the making of the heaven and the earth. It is the memorial of that great work. It keeps before the mind God's creative power. It calls upon us to obey Him because He is Creator, and, in its service, bequeaths to us the power necessary to overcome. True Sabbath keeping means constant surrender to God, and therefore has always been the one thing that has kept man from idolatry.

"This is beautifully brought out in the words of Exodus 31: 17: 'It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever.' And Ezekiel tells us, 'I [the Lord] gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them.' Ezekiel 20: 12, 20. The reason is that God, or Christ, puts Himself, His own presence, into the day, and through its acceptance, into the Sabbath keeper's heart, and so every Sabbath renews and strengthens faith in the Creator.

"You will note that the Sabbath is a sign between God and Israel forever. This refers not only to Jews, the mere fleshly descendants of Abraham, for they soon gave up real Sabbath keeping, and therefore did not know the Sabbath as a blessing. "Israel" means more than Jews. The term is one that includes the true believer in all ages, and down to the end of time. All Christians are spiritual Israelites. See Romans 2: 28, 29; John 1: 47; Galatians 3: 29. Hence all who would be kept in the way of righteousness will keep Sabbath, and find it a sign, a memorial, of His redeeming power. Creation and redemption, you see, are the same, both calling for the Sabbath memorial."

"Yes, brother, I can see that," said Mrs. Gregory. "Isn't it beautiful?"

"With this thought in mind, it is very easy to see why the Lord has always emphasized the truth of the Sabbath. As you remember, it was the test which God brought to Israel in Egypt (Exodus 5: 5); it was the test thirty days before they came to Sinai (Exodus 16); and at Sinai, the fourth commandment was specially revealed. Nehemiah 9: 14. All the commandments were important (this goes without saying), but only the Sabbath is He said to have made 'known.' The Sabbath is peculiarly vital.

"And now note this: When the time came that God permitted His people to go into captivity, to lose their place and their nation, He told them plainly it was because of Sabbath breaking,—that is, forgetfulness of Him. Compare Jeremiah 17: 19-27 and 2 Chronicles 36: 14-21. Had they been faithful to His Sabbath, had they preserved their knowledge of Him as their Creator and Sovereign, the Babylonians could never have carried them away.

"Listen also to the striking word of Isaiah, the gospel prophet: '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, . . . then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth.' Isaiah 58: 13, 14. How plain the prophet makes it, doesn't he, that all spiritual power and uplift were to be found in the Sabbath of God!

"I have said that Isaiah is 'the gospel prophet.' He is. This which we have read has reference to our own gospel time. God is calling, in Isaiah's message, for us to turn our feet from the Sabbath,—to stop trampling it underfoot. And the wonderful promise is actually fulfilled to those who obey."

"Do you know, Brother Anderson, that Harold Wilson impresses me as having found a great blessing?" said Mrs. Gregory.

"Yes, and in this very truth. He has kept only one Sabbath, but he found a remarkable blessing in it. Really, dear people, it was what came into his soul from the Sabbath, that carried him over the ship's side yesterday. He has told me this. And he is certain that God regarded his obedience, and answered his prayer in his finding you. He calls you his 'Sabbath-saved woman.'"

"I don't doubt it, not for a moment," Mrs. Gregory replied; "and that is why I am really and truly opening my heart to-day."

"**B**UT let me continue a bit further. In the fifty-sixth chapter of his book, Isaiah prophesies of a great Sabbath reform among the gentiles of these last days. Read verses 1-3, and you will see that it is specially a gospel message, and promises those who enter into a Sabbath covenant with Him 'a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters.' He will give them 'an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.' Everlasting life is involved.

"Surely, then, some one must preach that Sabbath message at this time. Some one must specially emphasize its importance, even as God asks."

"Well, Brother Anderson, why is it, then, that the ministers—those of other denominations—do not accept these plain statements? They certainly are plain, though I never read them before. But the ministers have read them."

"I can tell you why some of them do not accept," said Mr. Gregory. "They are a little too much as I am. They do not like to acknowledge that they have been wrong. If all the clergymen who really see the truth of this Sabbath question were to confess their convictions, there would be few left to offer opposition. I know whereof I affirm. Scores of them have privately admitted to me that the Sabbatarians are right."

"Well, husband, you have never said that before in my presence. I call that dishonesty."

"Better not say that, wife. Rather look at it as a blindness, which for a time hinders them from reading their own motives," said Mr. Gregory.

"Pardon me, dear friends," said Mr. Anderson. "I have not completed the study, but I am sure you are both weary. The strain of yesterday's experience has told on your strength, and you had better rest. I will therefore be going. The Lord quickly restore you to your full strength. Good-by!"

"**H**USBAND," said Mrs. Gregory, when they were alone, "what are you going to do about this truth of the Sabbath?"

A rap announced a "short call" from the Rev. Mr. Spaulding.

"Brother Spaulding, I am so glad you came in," said Mrs. Gregory, "for my husband and I have just been talking about a matter of personal duty, and I want to take you into our confidence."

Mr. Spaulding glanced about the stateroom somewhat nervously, instinctively detecting that the matter of "personal duty" was one which, above all others, he would at this time avoid. His distress was apparent, particularly when he saw lying near by, Harold Wilson's Bible, which in the young man's haste had been left behind.

(To be continued)

Spanish Influenza

SPANISH influenza, which in many respects seems to resemble the old-fashioned *la grippe* that has troubled us more or less for the last twenty years, is now making its ravages through this country. Dr. Rupert Blue, surgeon-general of the United States Public Health Service, in sending out his warning concerning the malady, says that eight million cases of the disease, it is estimated, occurred in Spain alone while it was epidemic there a few months ago. Dr. Blue says that those who are afflicted with this influenza should be put to bed immediately and kept there until they are cured, both for their own sakes and for the sake of the community.

Dr. W. C. Hassler, the chief health officer of San Francisco, recommends as preventive measures the avoidance of crowds where one is most likely to come in contact with infectious cases. The disease is carried through the nose and mouth, and is imparted by sneezing or coughing, when the germs are thrown into the air, and in this way spread to other individuals.

A handkerchief should be kept over the nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, as a precautionary measure; and when some one is either coughing or sneezing near you, it may help if you keep your own nose and mouth protected by a covering. In fact, in several communities, it has been suggested that regular masks be used to assist in curbing the spread of the epidemic.

Dr. Hassler suggests as a preventive the gargling of Dobell's solution, to be had at any drug store. He also states that many medical authorities who have made a special study of the disease abroad recommend the use of boracic powder by snuffing through the nostrils.

It is also well that we do not allow ourselves to become unduly nervous or frightened because of this epidemic; furthermore, that we take good general care of our health, so that our powers of resistance shall be at the highest point. A reliable, competent physician should be immediately consulted when the symptoms of chilliness, backache, etc., that mark the disease appear.

The Points to Emphasize

ONE HUNDRED AND TEN delegates, representing fifty-three theological schools, belonging to fifteen different denominations, met at Harvard University in August to study the "problems of education arising out of the war." One of the problems with which the conference grappled was that of diminishing the number of candidates entering the ministry. All the delegates seemed to feel that the ministry was receiving far less than its share of the gifted men of the nation.

Stress was laid upon the thought that graduates from our theological seminaries "should know what Christianity is and be furnished with a message."

Another point of agreement was "that the curriculum of theological schools must be changed in its emphasis. Less emphasis than formerly is to be placed upon the ancient languages, and more upon the English Bible. Whatever

studies are taught must contribute to the revealing of God to men in their own day and environment."

Many thinking men are becoming aroused to the fact that the mere theories of Christianity and the formal dogmas of religion are not sufficient. The soul must come to the living word of God, and have a personal contact with the divine power, and have a definite message burning in heart and mind, if he is to attain the standards that are set for the follower of Christ. It is well that we stress more and more the careful study of the Bible, so that we may each know God for ourselves, and be living embodiments of His message of salvation to the world.



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"Frenchie," a canine veteran of the trenches, invalided home. He was born in the American trenches eight months ago. His mother, a message carrier, was killed shortly after his birth. His two brothers were killed at the time he received his wounds. A shell exploded near by, a splinter of which severed his tail, the member whereby he wigwagged his love messages; and one of his forelegs was fractured. He is at Camp McPherson, and is receiving medical attention, as other faithful soldiers are.

We Can Spare Such Revenue

THE President's order forbidding the manufacture of beer after December 1 is causing a great deal of nervousness and agitation in some quarters, because, they say, it will take four hundred millions a year from the government's revenue.

The loss of that four hundred millions in revenue will be the best thing that has ever happened to the United States government. That would only be about four dollars apiece for each of us in the nation, and we could well afford to raise that extra four dollars for the great benefits that will be derived. If for no other reason, it is worth far more than four dollars to the average citizen to see the very orderly, gentlemanly, well-behaved army and navy that the United States has organized, to say nothing of efficiency. And this efficient, orderly organization is in a large measure due to the fact that the President, the secretary of the navy, the secretary of war, and other leading men of the nation have sufficient backbone to issue the positive order that strong drink of all kinds should be denied to the men in the army and navy, and furthermore that for any individual in any way to supply

them with intoxicating beverages should be made a felony.

This is one of the greatest object lessons in history; and among the commendatory deeds of our national administration, nothing is more praiseworthy than the positive, clear-cut action they have taken on the question of strong drink and the social vice that is its usual accompaniment.

Crucial Test of Prophecy

THE farther the allied armies advance in driving the Turkish power and army out of Palestine, the greater the interest and the more widespread the discussion concerning the reinstating of the Jewish nation in that land of sacred fame and story. But the prophecies of the Old Testament Scriptures, when studied in their entirety, most clearly show that the Jews will never again be united as a national power. The old prophets foretold their overthrow and their dispersion among all the nations of the world, so to continue until the end of time. Those who have made a study of these prophecies will watch the developments with interest as the predictions of the Bible are given another crucial test.

Essentials of Belief and Education

AN editorial writer in the *Christian Work* expresses the conviction that the results growing out of the teachings of German universities have forever overthrown the oft repeated idea that "it makes no difference what a man believes; only his actions count."

The same writer also thinks that the war has shown the fallacy of the theory, so widely announced, that education is all that is necessary for the safety of a nation or a people. The highly educated man, if he does not have the proper moral balance, becomes one of the most dangerous of characters, for he may use his trained abilities to destroy as well as to build up and to bless.

Paul's exhortation to Timothy was, "Take heed to thyself, and to thy teaching." 1 Timothy 4:16. The experienced apostle also solemnly charged young Timothy to be careful to "preach the Word." 2 Timothy 4:2. The mere philosophies of universities are powerless to tame the savage heart; but the living words of Jehovah, when sympathetically received, will make even the most savage barbarian kind, gentle, true, strong for the right, and useful. The lessons of these days should deeply impress men with the importance of turning in a true way to God and His word with heart and soul and mind.

THE words of Jesus are, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16. Observe that the text shows that the shining of our light and the manifesting of our good works is to be in a manner that will bring glory to God and not to ourselves. Then if the glorification of self is our leading aim, are we really following the Master?

THE fuller and the more extended our acquaintance with God, the more constant will be our love for our fellow men.