



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

THE WORLD'S PROPHETIC WEEKLY



WHEN Peter said to Jesus, "Thou art the Christ" (Matthew 16:15), he really said, "Thou art God," for Christ was to be called "Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Matthew 1:23. He was the Son, spoken of in Isaiah 9:6, who is also "The Mighty God."

How it thrills one through and through to think of the church's being founded upon "The Mighty God"! It certainly was a great moment when a man was able to recognize God in human form. Of course, no man could have had this marvelous conception if he were depending upon his own natural reasoning powers. For a man to be able to look upon a dusty traveler with whom he associated from day to day, eating and sleeping with Him, and then to recognize that He is actually God, takes more than human perception. Indeed, Christ immediately stated that Peter could never have recognized Him as "The Mighty God" if he had not received a direct revelation from above. He said to Peter: "Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee." Matthew 16:17.

No man, through simple human reasoning, can come to the conclusion that Jesus Christ is actually God. No one can figure out how this Man Jesus could be born, how He could live among us like other men, how He could die and be raised from the dead. No human mind can reason it out satisfactorily. As the



The Keys of the Kingdom

What Are They? Who Has Them Today?

by CHARLES T. EVERSON

scripture says, "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." 1 Corinthians 12:3. Peter never reasoned it out, but God gave him a direct revelation whereby he was able to recognize in Jesus Christ the God from above.

Some years ago Mrs. S. M. I. Henry, the noted temperance worker and national evangelist for the Women's Christian Temperance Union, was holding a meeting in an Eastern town. She had delivered a powerful address on temperance. The presiding officer stepped forward when the meeting was over and congratulated her, saying, "What is the secret of that great address that you have delivered before us tonight?"

Mrs. Henry replied, "The secret of my power is God."

The presiding officer immediately looked a little dismayed, and said, "God? That is somebody I do not know."

"Oh, don't you believe in God?" Mrs. Henry exclaimed.

He answered: "I have not believed in God for many years. I was brought up in the church, but, when a young man, I was disillusioned by seeing so many people in the church that I felt were out-and-out hypocrites. So I left the church.

I was elected to a judgeship, and as I went from place to place on my circuit I filled my bag with books on skeptical ideas—books written by Tom Paine, Bob Ingersoll, and similar authors. After

some time I became thoroughly convinced that there is no God, and I have been preaching it and arguing for it now for years."

Mrs. Henry felt very much distressed when she heard this, and she said to the judge, "Would you like to believe in God?"

"Well, there is no way out," was the answer.

"If you will go home and get down on your knees and pray about it, I am sure the Lord will reveal Himself to you," Mrs. Henry said.

His reply was: "How can I pray to somebody I do not believe exists?"

"Well, judge," said Mrs. Henry, "I want you to swear me in."

"I don't need to swear you in, Mrs. Henry," said the judge; "I'll take your testimony without an oath."

"Then I will give you my testimony: I know there is a God," she said earnestly and solemnly.

"I don't see how that can help me," answered the judge.

But Mrs. Henry replied: "Might I not know somebody that you don't know? If I were to come into your courtroom and say that I know a certain individual, would you maintain that I couldn't know him because you didn't know him?"

The judge said: "No, you might know somebody I didn't know."

Then Mrs. Henry continued: "I want to tell you that I know God; and upon the basis of my testimony that I know God will you go home and pray to God and ask Him to reveal Himself to you?"

"I'll do it," was the wholehearted answer.

The judge went to his room and got down upon his knees and began to pray. "God," he said, "if there be a God,—and



Kissed reverently by visitors to St. Peter's, the toes of this statue of Peter have been worn smooth.



The pope, in right foreground, with black cape, kneels before one of the altars in St. Peter's, at a service preceding the beatification of a group of martyrs.

Mrs. Henry says there is a God,—I pray Thee reveal Thyself to me.”

He hadn't prayed very long before the revelation came to him, and he knew that God actually existed as much as he knew that the sun had risen that morning. The only thing that worried him was that he was loath to go forth and tell his friends that he had been mistaken for so many years about the existence of God. He struggled over it for some time, but he finally said: "I told Mrs. Henry that if I found God I would tell the story to my friends, and I'll do it!" He rose to his feet, and went out. As he was going down the street, Mrs. Henry met him, and she exclaimed, "Judge, don't tell me anything! I know that you have found Him. I can see it in your face!"

That man's faith never wavered, and he was a mighty factor in building up the kingdom of Christ until the day of his death. There is nothing that we need so much today as this special revelation from God direct to the hearts of men. The Christian church today is honey-

combed with skeptical ideas. The very fundamentals of the Christian religion are doubted even by men and women who attend church regularly. All too many are confused concerning this great question of Jesus Christ's being God. What they need is to cease trying to reason it out from a purely human viewpoint, and fall upon their knees as the judge did, and receive a special revelation from heaven. Then they will know that Jesus Christ is God and that upon this mighty rock is founded the Christian church.

When you think of the Christian church, remember that in this church Christ is all and in all. He founded it upon Himself before He left, and in the

OUR COVER PICTURE

This week our cover shows a scene in Jerusalem, where, owing to strife between Arabs and Jews, British soldiers have had to quell riots and search everybody for arms, as they are doing here.

book of Revelation, chapter one, we see Him standing in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks. The seven golden candlesticks, we are told, are the seven churches. Verse 20. "Seven" represents a perfect number, and here we have Jesus Christ standing in the church of the living God down to the end of time.

In Colossians 1:18 we read: "He is the head of the body, the church." So He is the foundation upon which the church is built. He is the head of the church. He stands in the midst of the church. In fact, Christ is the all and in all in the church. No wonder we read in Matthew 16:18: "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Jesus' Victory Over the Grave

The expression "the gates of hell" really signifies the gates of the grave, for the word "hell" is here translated from the word "Hades," which means grave. In 1 Corinthians 15:55 we read: "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" The word "grave" here is translated from the same word, "Hades." There is no victory for the grave; Christ Jesus entered the tomb, and robbed it of its sting. He says, "Fear not: . . . I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell [the grave] and of death." Revelation 1:17, 18.

If you must be laid in the grave, "Fear not," says your best Friend; "I have the keys of the grave in My hand, and I will let you out and set you free, and because I live you shall live." Only Christ has triumphed over the grave; Peter is still locked up in the tomb, there to remain until Christ calls him forth.

Speaking of the tomb of St. Peter in the Church of St. Peter's at Rome, St. John Chrysostom, in "The Homilies on the Epistle of Romans," says: "From this place Peter, from this place Paul, shall be caught up in the resurrection. Oh, consider with trembling that which Rome will behold when Paul suddenly rises with Peter from his sepulcher, and is carried up into the air to meet the Lord."

The time when the saints shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air is the last day, for we read in 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17: "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."

It is evident, therefore, that the gates of the grave have prevailed against Peter, and that he is still behind the gates wait-

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DIVIDING the WORD of TRUTH

"STUDY to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15.

How may we know when we are "rightly dividing the word of truth"? How may we know when it has been rightly explained by the minister in the pulpit?

This is a fundamental question. Indeed, it is because the Scriptures are not rightly divided, not rightly understood, not rightly applied, that there are so many various and conflicting opinions as to what is truth.

The first words of this verse say, "Study to show thyself approved unto God." No man can rightly divide the word of truth without study—earnest, careful, prayerful study. And with that study there must be a willingness to do whatever the word teaches. There must be a willingness to obey God.

The Holy Spirit is promised to be our guide "into all truth." John 16:13. But He comes only to those who are obedient to God's commands. "We are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey Him." Acts 5:32.

God warns every seeker after truth that unless he is willing to receive the truth—to love it, to obey it, to rejoice in it—he will not be shielded from strong delusions, but will accept lies. Note the language of 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12: "Then shall that Wicked be revealed, . . . whose coming is . . . with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

The responsibility of walking in the light is a serious one. But oftentimes the cross is a little too heavy for the life that is not fully consecrated, the life that has "pleasure in unrighteousness."

Before drawing a conclusion as to what is truth, it is necessary to gather together the testimonies of the various Bible writers on the subject under consideration. This instruction is found in Isaiah 28:9, 10: "Whom shall He teach knowledge? and whom shall He make

How to Study the Bible

by

J. L. TUCKER

to understand doctrine? . . . For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little."

The reason for this instruction will be very evident with just a little thought upon the origin of the Scriptures. The Bible was not all written at the same time, nor did God use only one man to write it. The writings of approximately

forty different authors comprise what we call the Bible. More than fifteen hundred years are covered in the writings of this Book. Many of the Bible writers lived and passed off the stage of action before others of its penmen wrote their portion. But one thing must be observed, and that is that many of them cover the same lines of thought, perhaps adding some additional details to their narratives. This being true, it is apparent that the only proper way to arrive at a correct conclusion as to what is truth is to study the Bible in a topical way.

First of all, determine the subject you are going to study, and then group around it all the texts that have an application to the theme. Let Moses, Isaiah, David, Daniel, John, Paul, Peter, and other inspired writers make their contribution to the subject. When you have assembled all the testimony of all these writers on any one particular subject, then you have the mind of God on that theme.

It is fatal to a right understanding and to a right dividing of the word of truth to read a verse of Scripture and then draw one's own conclusion from that verse while ignoring the teachings on that same subject by other writers.

The apostle Peter cautions us in these words: "No prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation." 2 Peter 1:20. The many writers of the Bible are like so many witnesses of the same event; they all tell their stories, and we must listen to each one's testimony before we draw our final conclusion.

To know whether a teaching is correct or not, ask this question: Does it harmonize with all the teachings of the prophets and the apostles? It is never safe to conclude that because some particular point is emphasized in a certain chapter other truths and other commands that are definitely explained elsewhere are no longer of importance.

For instance, when the rich young ruler came to Jesus with the question, "What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" Jesus answered, "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Matthew 19:16, 17. Now if one were to read this verse and ignore all the other teachings on the subject of faith and grace, he could present a strong argument for obedience as the essential thing to salvation.



God's Way Is Best

JESSIE WILMORE MURTON

God's way is best, dear heart! We cannot tear

*Apart the future's petals! We must wait
Till He, beyond our heartache and despair,
Unfolds each bloom, flings wide each
close-barred gate.*

*God's way is best! Today, we may not know
The wise and loving reasons why He
planned*

*This bleak and lonely way that we must go;
But sometime, somewhere, we shall
understand.*

*God's way is best! As earthly fathers take,
At dusk, a tired child's cherished book
or toy,*

*Some shining morn we, too, as they, shall
wake,*

*The night forgotten in the new dawn's
joy!*

From "Frankincense and Myrrh," published by the Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Mich.

But if we turn to some of Paul's teaching,—for instance, to his experience with the Philippian jailer, when that man cried out, "What must I do to be saved?"—we read that Paul answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:30, 31. Some have read this text, and similar texts, ignoring all the texts that refer to obedience, and have come to the conclusion that faith in Christ is all that is required—that obedience to the commandments is of no importance.

But the Bible does not contradict itself. It does not teach in one place that we are saved by works, and in another place that we are saved by grace. A little study will reveal that Paul was trying to put faith and grace in their proper places before those people who sought salvation by works. Later on he wrote, "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Romans 3:31.

In other words, when the Scriptures are rightly understood, "rightly divided," on these two subjects of faith and obedience, there is found a perfect blending of the two, a perfect harmony, for a saving faith brings a transformation in the life, it brings obedience, it brings men into harmony with God. And so the fruitage of faith is the keeping of the commandments, for Jesus said, "Why call ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46.

To rightly divide the word of truth will take study; it will take prayer; it will take the leadership of the Holy Spirit; it will take a great yielding on the part of the individual to be willing to do what God's word tells him to do. But the promise is found in John 7:17, "If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God;" in other words, he will be able rightly to divide the word of truth.

THE religion of Christ uplifts the receiver to a higher plane of thought and action, while at the same time it presents the whole human race as alike the objects of the love of God, being purchased by the sacrifice of His Son. At the feet of Jesus, the rich and the poor, the learned and the ignorant, meet together, with no thought of caste or worldly pre-eminence. All earthly distinctions are forgotten as we look upon Him whom our sins have pierced. The self-denial, the condescension, the infinite compassion, of Him who was highly exalted in heaven, puts to shame human pride, self-esteem, and social caste. Pure, undefiled religion manifests its heaven-born principles in bringing into oneness all who are sanctified through the truth. All meet as blood-bought souls, alike dependent upon Him who has redeemed them to God.—E. G. White.

Declining Godliness—

A Sign of the Times

by DONALD F.
HAYNES

MANY of the words of Jesus are devoted to a careful description of conditions that will prevail in the world just prior to His appearing. Among other signs He mentions the state of those who profess His name. Some of them will be asleep, careless, and indifferent. "The love of many shall wax cold." Matthew 24:12. Jesus even asked: "When the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8.

The answer is forecast in Paul's letter to Timothy, where he wrote: "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." 2 Timothy 4:3, 4.

And Peter wrote: "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." 2 Peter 3:3, 4.

These prophecies are now meeting their fulfillment. The scoffers are here. If you doubt it, tell some friend of yours that you have just read the statement that Jesus is coming back to the earth very soon, and see Peter's prediction fulfilled before your eyes.

Even among those who profess to believe that Jesus is coming again, there is some reluctance to have Him make His appearance too soon. People don't like to be pinned down to a practical statement of their belief in His imminent return. Some will say that while they believe He will come again, it won't be for another fifty years. Others will put it at a longer period. And when we come right down to it, there are very few who will say honestly that deep down in their

hearts they want Him to come right away. Most persons aren't ready to meet the Lord Jesus; and that in itself is one of the most definite signs of His imminent return.

This condition was again described by Jesus in these words: "As the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the Flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and knew not until the Flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." And He added the warning: "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matthew 24:37-39, 44.

Be ready! How we all need to heed this admonition in this solemn hour! Signs and portents all about us clearly foretell His coming. May they stir us all to new devotion to our Master, to cease from sin, and to make a definite heart preparation that we may meet Him in peace at His appearing.

"The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. . . . Surely I come quickly." Revelation 22:17-20.





Are not our youth being paganized by the teaching that matter has within itself the powers with which it acts?

What Makes It Act That Way?—3

Nature's Mysteries Drive Us to God

by
GEORGE McCREADY PRICE

THE purpose of the present series of articles is to study the true way, the Christian way, of explaining the phenomena of nature.

We have already shown that modern textbook science, that is, the form of science commonly taught in the chemistry and physics classes of the land, is rankly and openly materialistic in its handling of the *causes* of natural phenomena. It ignores God as the immediate or direct cause of gravitation and other similar processes which involve action at a distance and cannot possibly be explained on a materialistic basis, and it even ignores Him as the ultimate or First Cause of all natural phenomena. Instead, it teaches the youth that matter has within itself the powers and tendencies with which it acts, which is an unchristian and even pagan view.

The present article can be rightly understood only in the light of what has been given in the two previous issues of this paper. But in this one we wish to advance to the consideration of other physical phenomena, namely, those which are usually classed as manifesta-

tions of energy, such as electricity and light. We shall find that in this department of the subject the same materialistic tendencies are shown in the common methods of teaching, although all the highest authorities admit that these phenomena cannot be explained on the materialistic basis as due to inherent properties and forces in matter itself.

At the outset of our study we meet with a serious difficulty in the matter of what definitions we are to adopt; for, while we met no such difficulty in studying gravitation and the molecular attractions, the definitions of electricity, heat, light, etc., are in a state of absolute chaos. All agree that they are manifestations of energy; but, beyond that, there is little agreement as to how to define them. The writers of some dictionaries and some textbooks still keep up the old nonsense of an ether pervading the entire universe, and use this imaginary ether in their definitions of electricity and all forms of radiant energy. Others who have outgrown this hypothetical ether cannot agree among themselves as to how they can frame any adequate definition for

these varied and perplexing phenomena.

But it is at least some advantage that all the best minds have outgrown the theory of the ether. When the Michelson-Morley experiment and its subsequent confirmations had effectually disposed of the ether, Einstein came forward with his esoteric mathematics to keep the world from realizing the logical consequences of this loss of an ether pervading all space, even the interiors of all solid bodies. By this quirk of relativity a new vogue was started, which seems to want us to believe that anything which can be expressed in mathematics is physically true and should be regarded as "scientific." As a result, we have a veritable orgy of "discoveries" regarding the ultimate composition of matter, until the atom seems likely to be found as full of different kinds of particles as space was formerly full of different kinds of ethers, each inconsistent with and absolutely contradictory to all the others.

Dr. P. W. Bridgman of Harvard University, whom no one will accuse of ignorance or of prejudice against the legitimate uses of mathematics, tells us very

plainly of the abuses to which it may be subjected. Dr. Bridgman says:

"It [mathematics] begins by being a most useful servant when dealing with phenomena of the ordinary scale of magnitude, but ends by dragging us by the scruff of the neck willy-nilly into the inside of the electron, where it forces us to repeat meaningless gibberish."—"The Logic of Modern Physics," page 149.

But I must not wander away from my main topic, which is a consideration of such phenomena as electricity and light, and a decision as to whether these phenomena lend support to the materialistic view of the universe, or whether they do not, on the contrary, compel us to say that they cannot be explained without a God.

Whether scientists can or cannot agree in their attempts to define electricity and light, even common people have fairly definite ideas of what they mean by these terms. So without attempting here to present a formal definition, we can pass on to a study of how these scientific entities behave.

Perhaps as good a method as any of presenting the subject is to quote at some length from Dr. Willis R. Whitney, vice-president of the General Electric Company, as given in an interview a few years ago. Whitney was at that time director of the research department of the General Electric, in which he had nearly five hundred college graduates working under him in research work. When speaking about the problems arising in advanced research in electricity, Dr. Whitney said:

"We have discovered that the deficiencies in our grasp of electricity are so many that one hesitates to claim that we know anything fully. However, it is pretty clear today that no matter what electricity is, it seems to be the ultimate essence of what everything is made of, and by which most processes occur."

The interviewer asked what this ultimate essence really is.

"We have our theories," answered the scientist, "but can't prove them." He picked up from his desk a small bar magnet. "Bring this near to a steel needle, and the needle will leap to the magnet. No one knows why, but we have worked out elaborate explanations. We speak of lines of force, we draw a diagram of the magnetic field. We know there are no lines there, and "field" is just a word to cover our ignorance."

"He laid the magnet over a wooden base in which was embedded another bar magnet, and the upper magnet floated in space about half an inch above the base.

"What supports it? Sir Oliver Lodge says it is the all-pervading ether. But Einstein denies that there is any ether. Which is right? I say that the magnet

floats in space by the will of God. The magnet repels another magnet by the will of God. And no man today can give a more precise answer."

"What do you mean by the will of God?" I asked.

"What do you mean by light?" shot back the scientist. "A beam of light comes speeding from a star, traveling hundreds of years, and finally it reaches your optic nerve, and you see the star. How does it do that? We have our corpuscular theory of light, our wave theory, and now our quantum theory; but they are all just educated guesses. About as good an explanation as any is to say that light travels by the will of God."

"The best scientists," he added, "have to recognize that they are just kindergarten fellows playing with mysteries—our ancestors were, and our descendants will be."—*New York "Times" Magazine, Nov. 2, 1930.*

So much, then, for the testimony of

one of the very foremost men of science in America. Do these words give any encouragement to the theory that matter has within itself the power to act as it does? They do not.

And yet while many other first-class thinkers might be quoted along much the same lines as these remarks by Whitney, the shameful thing is that no hint of such views is allowed to filter down to the high-school and college textbooks from which all the youth of the land get their "science." In a few cases these textbooks will admit that there are some things which science has not yet solved; they may even permit the student to see some of the inevitable limitations of the scientific method. But each and all carry the same old pagan, materialistic assumptions, that matter has within itself the power to bring about all the processes of nature.

And under this materialistic regime

(Continued on page 12)

POINTED PARAGRAPHS

OF WORLD INTEREST

NEWS FLASHES



by W. L. Emmerson

✪ **NEMESIS IN HISTORY** "Many centuries," writes Mr. J. L. Garvin, "have seen the reappearing Nemesis of armed despotisms led to regard themselves as 'invincible and irresistible'—words that we hear again today."

✪ **TELLTALE FIGURES** Since the Congress Party took over the government of the 50,000,000 people in the United Provinces of India in 1936, armed robberies have risen from 412 to 702, burglaries from 28,316 to 34,745, murders from 862 to 1,135, and riots from 1,464 to 2,750.

✪ **INTOLERABLE EXPENDITURE** "Rearmament cannot continue at the present rate of acceleration," writes Mr. Winant of the International Labor Office, "without eventually absorbing so much of the national income of many countries as will prove intolerable. A point may come when defense expenditure will cause actual starvation in the lower-income groups. Before this happens, it may be hoped that some general international settlement will intervene."

✪ **CHURCH'S MESSAGE** "The church's chief message today," declared the Archbishop of York to the York Convocation, "must be the declaration that we stand together under the judgment of Almighty God for neglect of His law. We have not, as individuals or as nations, loved our neighbors as ourselves. If we obeyed that law, the threats of war would disappear."

✪ **VATICAN CITY CENSUS** According to the latest statistics, Vatican City has a population of 741, of whom 566 are of Italian origin and 177 are Swiss.

✪ **RESCUE NEEDED** "After all our boasting about progress," declared the Archbishop of Canterbury at the Mansion House, London, "it has become plain that civilization has no power to save itself, and that, if it is to be saved, the rescue must come from a supernatural source."

✪ **GERMAN CENSUS** The first information on the recent German census reveals a population in the Greater Reich of 86,553,000—the largest population in Europe after the U. S. S. R. These figures show an increase of 14,400,000 on the 1933 census, of which 3,200,000 is natural increase, and the rest is due to the enlargement of the borders of the Reich.

✪ **MISPLACED WORRY** "It is characteristic of the modern man—by whom I mean the modern pagan of our Western civilization—that he is uneasy about the state of the world, but not yet uneasy enough about himself," recently declared Prof. Alan Barr, moderator of the United Free Church of Scotland. "He will pronounce self-confidently upon the mysteries of life with which the greatest souls of the ages have wrestled with sweat and tears almost in vain, and among his conclusions is this, that the church, and not he—is played out."



Will Palestine Jews

ACCEPT CHRIST?

Perplexing Prophecies Made Plain

by

F. CHESTER CARRIER

(Broadcast over WIBC)

*"Afterward shall the children of Israel return,
and seek the Lord their God." Hosea 3:5.*

FOR a long time many Protestant preachers have taught that before the second coming of Christ the Jews will return to Palestine, set up a great nation, and, as a united Jewish commonwealth, accept Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah, and have Him rule upon the throne of David.

Great impetus was given this teaching during the World War. At that time England needed the formula for acetone, a chemical necessary in the manufacture of high explosives. A Jew by the name of Dr. Weizmann, connected with the Admiralty Laboratories, finally discovered the formula. Great Britain expressed her appreciation by offering Dr. Weizmann any honor or title that he wished.

This brilliant Jewish chemist loved his people and his ancient homeland. He requested, therefore, a national home for the Jews. In the Balfour Declaration of 1917, England granted his request, and new life was put into the dream of the Zionist Movement.

England, however, soon found herself in a very precarious situation. The Arabs had fought on the side of England, and had helped to drive the Turk out of the Holy Land. As their forefathers had lived in Palestine for many centuries, they resented very much the influx of Jewish colonists, and there has been turmoil and strife ever since.

Comparatively speaking, there are but few Jews in the Holy Land—175,000 or thereabouts. As a matter of fact, a very small percentage of the total Jewish population of the world reside on ancient Hebrew soil.

Here is another fact that we must not overlook: Palestine is only 140 miles long

and from 23 to 80 miles wide. Its area is about 9,000 square miles. The present population is considered by some to be too great for its size. How could it be possible to add sixteen million Jews to that already well-populated area?

"But," I hear someone say, "the Bible teaches that 'all Israel shall be saved,' " (Romans 11:26), and I ask this question, Who are Israel? Is the term here applied to the Jewish people, or does it have a deeper, more significant, more far-reaching, application?

It is my purpose now to prove to you



Some of the Arab desert police, organized to protect caravans in Palestine, have deserted to join in the rioting against Jews.



Jerusalem in the

that "Israel" is a name applied, not to nationality, but to character.

Speaking through the ancient prophet Jeremiah, the Lord said of the Hebrew nation: "I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy" (Jeremiah 18:17); and in the nineteenth chapter and the first verse, addressing the prophet, He says: "Go and get a potter's earthen bottle, and take of the ancients of the people, and of the ancients of the priests."

Jeremiah obeyed the instruction of the Lord. He gathered the elders and the people together. Then he was commanded: "Then shalt thou break the bottle in the sight of the men that go with thee, and shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again." Verses 10, 11.

Here we have a prediction that the great Hebrew nation would be broken and scattered, and would not be made whole again.

But what does the apostle mean when he says, "All Israel shall be saved"?

In the ninth chapter of Romans the apostle Paul says: "I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the



Christ. The temple of that day was a marvel of beautiful construction.

promises." Verses 3, 4. And in this connection you will note that all these blessings are given to Israel.

It is a startling fact that there are no promises or blessings for Gentiles, as Gentiles. Gentiles must first become Israelites before they can be partakers of the covenants, promises, and blessings given by God.

Jeremiah makes clear the fact that the new covenant was not made with the Gentiles, as many suppose, but with the house of Israel. "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the *house of Israel*, and with the *house of Judah*: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers: . . . but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the *house of Israel*; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put My law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be My people." Jeremiah 31:31-33.

The Law Written in the Heart

This same fact is brought to view in Hebrews 8:10.

Under the old-covenant relationship the children of Israel gave their promise to be obedient to God's law. They said: "All that the Lord hath spoken we will do." Exodus 19:8. But under the new-covenant relationship the children of Israel are to have the law written in their hearts, instead of upon hard, cold tables of stone. And the new covenant

is based upon better promises, the promises of Christ.

Now let us try to find the exact meaning of the term "Israel." Does it refer only to the Jewish nation, the literal seed of Abraham? In the thirty-second chapter of Genesis we have pictured to us the experience of Jacob, whose name means "deceiver" or "supplanter."

Jacob had been in Padan-aram for twenty years. He was wealthy, and had many children. The night before Jacob was to meet his brother Esau, whom he had deceived, a strange thing happened. All night, on the plain, Jacob wrestled with an angel. When morning broke, Jacob cried to the angel, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." The angel said unto him, "What is thy name?" and he said, Jacob. And he [the angel] said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed." That is, Jacob became Israel because he was a "prevailer with God," an "overcomer."

From that day to this, all who prevail with God, all who are overcomers in Christ Jesus, are of Israel; they are the true children of Israel; regardless of race, nationality, or color. In other words, all those who have become new creatures in Christ Jesus, who have experienced the new birth, are the true children of Israel.

Paul emphasizes this fact in Romans 9:6-8: "They are not all Israel, which are

of Israel: neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children. . . . That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God."

Again, in Romans 2:28, 29: "He is not a Jew, which is one outwardly: . . . but he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit."

The True Seed of Abraham

Again we read in Galatians 3:29: "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

And again, in verse 7: "Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham."

So then, those who accept Christ are spiritual Jews, Abraham's seed, true Israelites. They are the children of Israel with whom the new covenant is made. Upon their hearts God has promised to write His law, the Ten Commandments.

In Jeremiah 11:16 God calls the Jewish nation, "a green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit." But, "with the noise of a great tumult He hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken."

"Well," Paul says in Romans 11:20, "because of unbelief they were broken off." Jesus "came unto His own, and His own received Him not." John 1:11. Of Jesus of Nazareth Moses had said, "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken." Deuteronomy 18:15. But they rejected Him; therefore they were scattered to the ends of the earth, and became the persecuted wanderers of the centuries.

Speaking to the Gentiles, Paul says in Romans 11:17: "If some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them." And again in the 24th verse: "If thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree."

Here we have the grafting process set before us. The Jews have been cut off. The Gentiles, regardless of race, nationality, or color, who accept Christ, are grafted "contrary to nature," into the good olive tree, Israel. Thus they become Israelites, and heirs according to the promise, for we read: "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29. That is, all, regardless of nationality, become Israelites when they accept Christ, for at that time they are adopted into the family of God, grafted into the parent stem—Israel.

But what of the Jew? Is he left out and rejected forever? No, for we read in Romans 11:23: "They also [the Jews], if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be

(Continued on page 15)



Back to the Bible!

The Greatest Need of the Modern Home

by MARTHA E. WARNER

WHEN I was in New York recently, a young woman said to me in the course of conversation, "I don't believe the Bible. I never read it. It has no place in my life. I believe in getting what fun I can as I go along; and, so long as I do not do anything positively wicked, I feel sure of making the grade, if and when death comes. So why bother about the Bible?"

Then, lighting a cigarette, she picked up a movie magazine and began to read, thus signifying that the conversation was ended.

Her remarks, however, set me to thinking—thinking about conditions in the world today: the fear, the greed, the spirit of lawlessness, which seem to be taking possession of young and old, and spreading from village to town, city, and state, and to troubled nations.

As I tried to analyze this condition, it seemed to me that the cause underlying it all is the fact that the people living in this wonderful world of ours have become so confident, so sure of themselves and of their ability to do things, that God has been forgotten, left out of their living.

The greatest need in the world today is the need of returning to God. Without Him there can be no lasting peace or happiness.

A little boy was heard to say: "My mother is swell! She showed me how to blow smoke through my nose." Mothers *could* be in better business. Mothers *should* be in better business. They should be teaching their children to believe in the word of God; and, thank God, there are still mothers doing just that.

And that reminds me of an experience I had a few years ago. I was at the end of a road, where stood a house very much in need of paint.

In front of the house was a small en-

closure for flowers and shrubs, while just over the fence to the left were some grunting pigs, and, to the right, a calf and some sheep were pasturing.

Running all around were the chickens; and from somewhere came the raucous voices of guinea hens, which, added to the barking of two dogs, announced to the occupants of the house that strangers were around.



Great Preparations

N. P. NEILSEN

English history tells us of the time when Queen Elizabeth visited Lord Leicester at Kenilworth Castle. There must have been great excitement, for it is on record that "the moment of her arrival was considered so important that all the clocks of the castle were stopped, so that their hands might point to that moment as being the most significant of all."

The king of glory has promised to visit this world. His escort will be a retinue of angels. He will come in all the pomp and glory that can attend the King of kings. The moment of His arrival must be considered as one of the most important events in the history of the universe. A preparation must be made to meet Him and to pay Him the homage due the Creator of the heavens and the earth.

The hand of the great clock of time indicates that the hour of His coming is nearing. Our robes must be washed in the blood of the Lamb. We must be clean and white to meet Him. Our hearts must be prepared to pay Him the honor due His name. His coming will be more significant than any earthly event has ever been. Let us prepare to meet Him.

One hard-working mother was amply repaid for the time taken in teaching high principles to her two children.

PUBLISHERS' PHOTO

In the fraction of time left before I was discovered, I, like the Pharisee, lifted my eyes to heaven, and said, "Lord, I thank Thee I do not have to live in any such out-of-the-way place as this." And then, because of the sight of a face at the window, I hurriedly added, "Please, please, Lord, have pity upon the poor woman who *does* live here."

But I did not know! I did not know that the woman who came flying down the path to welcome me would prove to be the happiest-faced woman I had seen for many a day; but so it was.

"Won't you come into the house," she invited. So I went in, and there in that plain but spotlessly clean kitchen I found them, tacked on the wall over the kitchen table—the Ten Commandments, I mean.

When I expressed my surprise and delight, the woman said: "Every morning before my two children leave for school, I have them read the commandments. It helps them to be good children, and it will make them good men and women."

Although this was my first visit to that house which had such a drab outside appearance, it was not my last, for I wanted to learn, if possible, what influence the word of God would have upon the lives of those children.

During the passing years they finished the grades and were graduated from high school. The boy went into business. The girl was enrolled in a business college, from which in time she was graduated, and then took up secretarial work. Today, she is married, and her brother is in business for himself; neither of them smokes, drinks, or swears. And all because that little mother took time to teach her children the Ten Commandments!

Dear homemakers, if in your home the Bible has been neglected or forgotten, let me entreat you to get it out this very day, dust it off, and read it, to yourself

(Continued on page 14)



THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Is LOVE

by

LEONORA LACEY
WARRINER

There are many symbols and badges in the world, each one standing for some organization or ideal. If you were to travel through certain countries in Europe today, you would see on every side an emblem that to many brings feelings of pride and exultation, while to others it is but the sinister symbol of cruelty and persecution.

The sign of the cross early became the visible emblem of the Christian church; but, though it is still revered by many believers in Christ, it, too, became the symbol of intolerance to many a brave martyr during the Dark Ages. And so, any visible symbol, no matter how exalted the ideal for which it stands, may, under changing circumstances, be perverted to the basest ends.

Christ, a short time before His death on the cross, gave to His disciples a living sign of their allegiance to Him: "By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. John, through the Holy Spirit, wrote: "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God." 1 John 4:7.

The Christian needs no other badge, for the man who truly has in his heart this greatest of all graces, from which all other graces spring, will carry in his face and deportment, for all to see, the visible sign of God's ownership.

Love divides itself into two great parts: first, supreme love to God, manifesting itself in adoration and reverence for His name and obedience to His divine will; secondly, love to man, embracing love in all its ramifications and winning attributes, as outlined in that wonderful treatise on love—the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians.

What a marvelous world this would be if love in its serene beauty were allowed full sway in the hearts of men! There would be no impatience, no anger, no revenge, no wars, no desolation, for love "suffereth long, and is kind" and "is not easily provoked." There would be no coveting of another's position, wealth, houses, or lands, for "love envieth not." There would be no pride or overbearing attitudes, for "love vaunteth



not itself." There would be no sordid social upheavals or broken homes, for love "doth not behave itself unseemly." There would be no trying to get the best of a bargain, no cheating, or selfish ambition, for "love seeketh not its own."

There would be no harsh criticism or undue curiosity regarding the wicked things of this world, for love "taketh not account of evil; rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth with the truth." 1 Corinthians 13:5, 6, R. V.

Forgiveness, kindness, and forbearance would be the rule in all walks of life, and mistrust and doubt would find no place, for love "beareth [or covereth] all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never faileth. . . . Now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love." Verses 7-13. Small wonder the apostle Paul adds, in the first verse of the next chapter: "Follow after love!"

The Spectrum of Love

One writer has said that in these verses in Corinthians is shown the spectrum of love in nine ingredients whose names are those of common virtues which we meet every day; they are patience, kindness, generosity, humility, courtesy, unselfishness, good temper, guilelessness, and sincerity. Read these verses over, and identify these virtues and make them your own.

Love has many aspects and a thousand ways of manifesting itself—love of a father, mother, brother, sister, child, friend, lover, husband, wife. In all these relationships the ungodly may love as deeply and as unselfishly as the Christian; but it is the follower of the great Lover of mankind who receives grace to obey the command, "Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. . . . For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. . . . But love ye your enemies; . . . and ye shall be the children of the Highest." Luke 6:27-35.

Paul gives in this same chapter in Corinthians a list of gifts and virtues that men are apt to value very highly; but the supreme test of their worth to the world is whether behind each of them is the grace of love. He writes of the ability to speak unknown tongues, of prophesying, of wisdom, faith, generosity, charity, self-sacrifice, and declares that without love they are as nothing.

Love is the universal language, understood alike by all races and ages. The

missionary going to a foreign land need not wait long months and years to learn a difficult tongue before he can speak to the hearts of the heathen to whom he has dedicated his life. From the first moment he steps ashore, love will speak in every look and action in a language all can understand. Though some whom he meets may never understand his spoken words, the outpouring of love in his life will preach a far more effective gospel than the most eloquent address ever given.

Love overcomes all obstacles. It disarms hate, breaks the sinner's heart, and brings warmth, sweetness, and comfort to all who are lonely, weary, and sad. The love of God, if shed abroad in our hearts, will overflow in gracious abundance to those around us.

Love Always Begets Love

How may we have this love dwelling in us, motivating our lives? The Revised Version of 1 John 4:19, reading a little differently from the Authorized Version, and giving a little different meaning to the verse, helps us to learn the secret. The word "Him" is omitted, and it reads thus: "We love because He first loved us." Henry Drummond, commenting on this statement, says: "'Because He first loved us,' the effect follows that we love, we love Him, we love all men. We cannot help it. . . . Contemplate the love of Christ, and you will love. . . . There is no other way. . . . Love begets love. It is a process of induction. Put a piece of iron in the presence of an electrified body, and that piece of iron for a time becomes electrified. It is changed into a temporary magnet in the mere presence of a permanent magnet, and as long as you leave the two side by side, they are both magnets alike. Remain side by side with Him who loved us, and gave Himself for us, and you too will become a permanent magnet, a permanently attractive force; and like Him you will draw all men unto you, like Him you will be drawn unto all men. That is the inevitable effect of love."—*Addresses,* pages 55-57.

"O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul on Thee:
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be!"

Nature's Mysteries

(Continued from page 7)

the young student is led along to the belief in hard determinism, where the iron laws of nature grind on, "awful with inevitable fates," and not only is prayer ruled out as being about as useless as invoking the east wind, but God, if He exists, becomes the great absentee, and

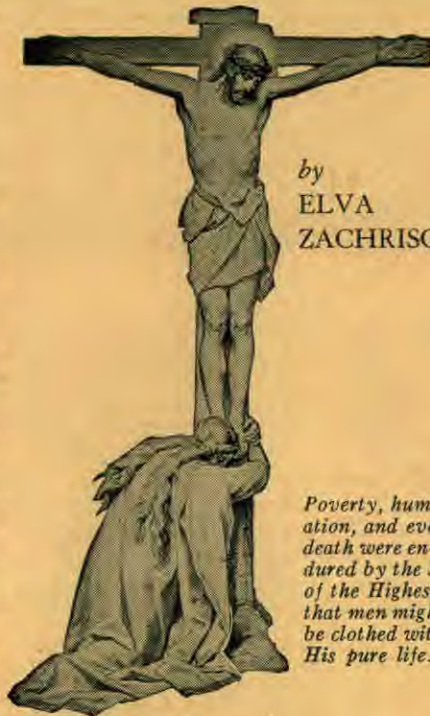
there can be no hope of eternal life at the end of the journey.

But what are the Christian parents of America going to do about it? I say with all the vigor at my command that this is an intolerable situation in a land like this. Surely something ought to be done before the complete paganizing of the rising generation is accomplished. Mark Twain used to say that he had often heard people talk about the

weather, but he never heard of anyone doing anything about it. Surely the Christian parents of America, and also the small army of enlightened Christian teachers of science, are not going to resign themselves to the present situation as if it were inevitable like the weather. In some instances, at least, the situation can be remedied, and steps should be taken to bring this about.

(To be continued next week)

The HEAVENLY OUTFITTER



by
ELVA
ZACHRISON

Poverty, humiliation, and even death were endured by the Son of the Highest that men might be clothed with His pure life.

THAT I might be clothed, our Lord and Saviour was stripped—stripped of the glory of heaven, stripped of the honor and riches of His position with God, and finally on the cruel cross stripped of His earthly garments—that I might be clothed. I was naked and wretched and poor and blind and miserable. Sin had wrought havoc with my heart and life, robbed me of everything that would make me presentable to the Father. My heart was sick, and I was too low to reach Him.

Then Jesus found me. That was when life began for me. He saw me stretch forth my helpless hands, and He healed me. Bless His name for that! He forgave my sins, and the evil record of the past was blotted out. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive." Then He cleansed me. "The blood of Jesus Christ . . . cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:9, 7.

Having cleansed my heart, He filled it with His blessed Holy Spirit. Having been washed in the fountain open for sin and uncleanness (1 Corinthians 6:11; Zechariah 13:1), I was now ready to be

clothed, but not in the garments of my own righteousness, for they are "as filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6). No outfitter on earth could supply the need, so He purchased for me a garment woven in the loom of heaven, even the garment of His own righteousness. He wore it Himself when on earth; then He died on the cross that humanity might be entitled to wear it. He purchased it with His own blood. All who accept it may wear it.

Usually here on earth the garments indicate the character. In this case it is always so. Those who are clothed in the "filthy rags" of their own righteousness will not stand in the judgment. But those who are clothed in Christ's righteousness are cleansed from sin and self, and are equipped to face the impending conflict.

Because they have been emptied, they can be filled; and because they have been made clean, they can be clothed. Thus Christ's character is imparted to them through the agency of the blessed Holy Spirit. Of the Holy Spirit we are told that "this promised blessing claimed by faith will bring all other blessings in its train."

"He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness." Isaiah 61:10. No longer do I fear the judgment, for He has blotted out my sins. Isaiah 44:22. No longer do I fear to stand in the presence of the Father, for He has cleansed me and clothed me. My apparel is appropriate for every occasion, and I face the future with confidence and courage because of His ample provision and gracious loving-kindness.

In Him I have access to the rivers of living water. My thoughts are with Him, the One "altogether lovely," "the chiefest among ten thousand." Not only does He dwell within my heart, but His righteousness envelops me. When I gaze upon the beauty and splendor and perfection of His matchless person, and realize that to me He has given garments of exactly the same texture and quality, my heart overflows with gratitude and praise.



On an assembly line in a large automobile plant. *God's law of work and rest anticipated every condition under which men may live.*

WHY You Need a

by CLIFFORD A. REEVES

SABBATH

One Day's Rest in Seven a Physical, Mental, and Spiritual Necessity

God had laid the foundations of the earth. He had adorned the whole world in a garb of beauty. He had created all the wonders of land and sea. In six days this great work of creation had been completed. And God "rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it." Genesis 2:2, 3. In this familiar language we read that God set apart a day of rest—the seventh day of the week.

But for whose benefit and instruction was this done? Certainly not the Lord's. Our Saviour says, "The Sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27); therefore it was for all mankind and for all time that the rest was instituted and the blessing bestowed.

The very first thing that was blessed of God after creation was the Sabbath. It was provided to serve man's best spiritual interests.

God saw that a Sabbath was essential for man even in his perfect state. He needed to lay aside the busy pursuits and interests of the week for one day in seven that he might more fully contemplate the works of his Creator and be reminded more vividly of Him.

But if the holy Sabbath, thus instituted at the time of man's innocency, was needful and profitable, how much more so now that he has fallen into sin!

It is utterly erroneous to think that the seventh-day Sabbath was intended for only a small section of the human race,

the Jews. It was given to Adam as representative head of the human race twenty-five hundred years before the time of Moses—centuries before the Jews existed as a people. The Sabbatic law is of universal and binding obligation upon our race.

The fourth commandment enjoins a cessation from physical labor for both man and beast on the Sabbath day. Many students of anatomy testify that the peculiar construction of the human machine demands a rest of one day in seven. During the stress and strain of war days, 1914-1918, the evils resulting from a neglect of this law were amply

demonstrated. Munitions workers labored incessantly without even an occasional day of rest, and, as a consequence, even those with strong physiques collapsed.

It seems that God has even impressed a Sabbath law upon nature. At a congress of engineers held in Paris some years ago one of the decisions arrived at was that machinery will last much longer if used but six days out of seven.

The keeping of the Sabbath is not an arbitrary thing imposed on man simply because God says it or wishes it. It is something that contributes to the fundamental requirements of our physical,



Coming Next Week

in addition to the regular features:

- Coming Suddenly! Leon A. Smith
- In Time of Storm Murl Vance
- The Christian and the Law Walter P. McLennan
- How Will Christ Come? Donald F. Haynes
- God's Hand in Nature George McCready Price
- The Truth About the Millennium F. Chester Carrier
- Don't Smash Your Home Martha E. Warner
- The Fruit of the Spirit Is—Joy Leonora Lacey Warriner
- What Is Sin? George W. Wells
- The Best Things Grenville Kleiser

mental, and spiritual natures. There is a special blessing connected with the Sabbath that cannot be obtained elsewhere.

And not only does the Sabbath stand as a memorial of God's creative work in the beginning, for the power that made heaven and earth is the power that saves men from sin. The power that is manifest in the conversion of a soul to Christ, the power of the gospel (Romans 1:16), is also creative power. "Wherefore if any man is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17, R. V., margin. Thus redemption is simply the power that created man now working to restore him. And the Sabbath is a sign and seal of God's redeeming and sanctifying power. Ezekiel 20:12, 20. It is to be observed forever in the coming kingdom of God. Isaiah 66:22, 23.

The Sabbath—a fragment of the first perfect Eden—stands as a memorial of the Paradise that is past and as a pledge of the Paradise that is to come. It is a golden clasp that binds man to his Maker. Is not such a connection needed today?

Keys of the Kingdom

(Continued from page 3)

ing for Christ to open them to set him free in the last day.

How much more wonderful to believe that the church is founded upon a living Christ than upon a dead Peter!

If Christ had intended founding the church upon Peter, He would have asked His apostles: "Whom do men say that Peter is, and whom do ye say that Peter is?" But He did not ask anything about the qualifications of Peter; rather, "Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?"

It is certainly a comforting thought to believe that the church is not founded upon a frail stammering man like Peter, who could deny his Lord at the very moment when Jesus Christ needed him most. If Christ said Elijah would not do as a foundation for His church, that Jeremiah would not do, that John the Baptist could not qualify, would Peter

be sufficient for the foundation of Christ's glorious church? While we are glad for Peter and his great confession, we thank God that we are not depending upon him for our future salvation, but are founded upon Jesus Christ, the "Prince of Peace," "The Mighty God."

What a mighty Rock this is! "His name shall be called Wonderful," and what a wonderful foundation Jesus is! This is the "great Rock in a weary land" that Isaiah foretold. Isaiah 32:2. This is the Rock that Paul speaks of in 1 Corinthians 10:4, "that spiritual Rock" that followed God's people through the wilderness. "And that Rock was Christ." This is the Rock spoken of in Matthew 21:44. Upon this, if a man fall and become broken in spirit, and converted, he shall be saved; but if the same Rock fall on him, it will grind him to powder in the final day. In view of such facts, who dare suggest that Peter could qualify and meet the requirements?

And yet to Peter Christ said: "I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:19. What did Christ mean by this?

The Pharisees of Christ's day shut up heaven against men by taking away the keys of knowledge—the knowledge of the truth. Matthew 23:13. So we might understand Christ to say: "To thee, Peter, has been given the wonderful knowledge that Jesus Christ is God, and upon this mighty truth the salvation of every creature in this world depends. Tell everyone that God has come in the presence of His Son, and whosoever believeth in Him shall be saved." The knowledge that Jesus Christ is the mighty God and Saviour is the key that will open the kingdom of heaven to any man who will receive it, and will shut heaven to those who reject it. The mighty name of Jesus is the key to the storehouse of heaven. All power in heaven and earth resides in that name.

Wherever the apostles took this mighty name and presented its claim, it loosed men from their sins and infirmities, and bound them to the throne of God by ties that persecution and death

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Advocating a return to the simple gospel of Christ, and a preparation for His imminent second appearing

EDITOR . . . ARTHUR S. MAXWELL

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could not sever. It was the key that never failed to open heaven.

Yet it had to be used individually. Indeed, the language of the text might be applied to each one of us: "Whosoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven." God binds in heaven only what we bind on earth; His decision is based on our decision.

It is what we bind here on earth, and not in some future state, that will seal our destiny forever. May we at this moment bind our all to Christ, and let God ratify our action in heaven. May we cut loose from the powers of sin and darkness, and let God ratify this also.

No one will ever be able to blame God for shutting him out of heaven. God does not shut any man out of heaven. The responsibility is ours alone. He places the keys of the kingdom in our hands.

Back to the Bible

(Continued from page 10)

and to your children, for its pages are filled with beauty, wisdom, and inspiration. Tell its stories to the children, and so instill in them a love for the word of God if you would have them grow up to be good men and women.

The Bible is a precious heritage given to mankind. And no one, irrespective of religious convictions, is truly educated who is ignorant of this Book of books, which tells us of God and His love for poor erring humanity. Let us read it and believe it.

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Will Jews Accept Christ?

(Continued from page 9)

grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again." That is, the Jew who accepts Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah and becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus, and experiences the new birth, is grafted into the parent stock of Israel, along with those of all nations. He then becomes, with the others, a true Israelite. And thus is fulfilled the scripture, "All Israel shall be saved."

We must not therefore look for a literal return of the Jews to Palestine in the last days, but for a turning to Jesus of Nazareth on the part of some in all nations. True, there will be a gathering of spiritual Israel; but that gathering will not be in present-day Palestine but in the holy city, the New Jerusalem, where Christ is now preparing mansions for those who love Him, those who are true Israelites, having His law inscribed on their hearts.

Out of suffering have emerged the strongest souls; the most massive characters are seamed with scars; martyrs have put on their coronation robes glittering with fire; and through their tears have the sorrowful first seen the gate of heaven.—*E. H. Chapin.*



Let's BUILD a HOME

DOES it require a fine house to make a fine home? Are comfortable and luxurious furnishings necessary to a pleasant and happy home? What does it take to build a home? And whose responsibility is it, anyhow? Give it a bit of thought.

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TWO-MINUTE
MESSAGE



Earnest men have tried to curtail the world's preparations for war, but their failure is all too apparent. Cartoon from San Francisco "Chronicle."

THE WORLD REARMS

by DONALD W. McKAY

EXPANSION of Europe's military establishments has been progressing of late at a prodigious rate. But an even greater increase in armaments is anticipated in the near future.

Much of the industrial activity of the totalitarian nations in recent years has been devoted to the building of highly efficient fighting organizations, armed with the most modern and destructive equipment. And now the democratic powers are being forced to rearm. The British Government has even introduced a limited form of conscription, and is spending huge sums on her navy, army, and air force.

The United States is now entering the international armament race in a vigorous manner, as was indicated in the President's message to Congress early in January. He recommended appropriations of \$552,000,000 to provide for the defense of the nation.

"World events have caused me growing concern," recently remarked Mr. Roosevelt, as he proceeded to dilate on the enlargement of armament programs everywhere.

"What needs to be emphasized," he said to Congress, "is the great change which has come over conflicts between nations since the World War ended, and especially during the past five or six years."

The world is veritably on the brink of catastrophe. Each nation is carefully watching the moves of its neighbor. Gun is matched with gun, cannon with cannon, plane with plane, and army with army. In order to continue this mad race, many nations are compelled to deprive their people of the necessities of life.

Everyone is nervous and fearful. All realize that another war would disrupt the world, and might destroy civilization.

It is significant to notice that this very situation is an exact fulfillment of prophecies that are centuries old. The present unparalleled war preparations were indeed foreseen long ago. Said the prophet Joel: "Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong." Joel 3:9, 10.

This graphic description points unerringly to the present period of earth's history, when the urgent call to arms is resounding throughout the world.

Christ also foretold these conditions with startling accuracy when He said that upon the earth there would be "distress of nations, with perplexity," and "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Luke 21:25, 26.

Today in this solemn and perilous time, with the signs of Christ's soon coming in evidence all about us, He calls upon His professed followers to arouse from spiritual lethargy, to sound an alarm, and to beseech men to prepare for citizenship in the homeland of the redeemed, where "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Isaiah 2:4. There the peace of Christ will fill every heart.

Today the warning message is sounding in all the earth, "Prepare to meet thy God."

Will you heed the call?