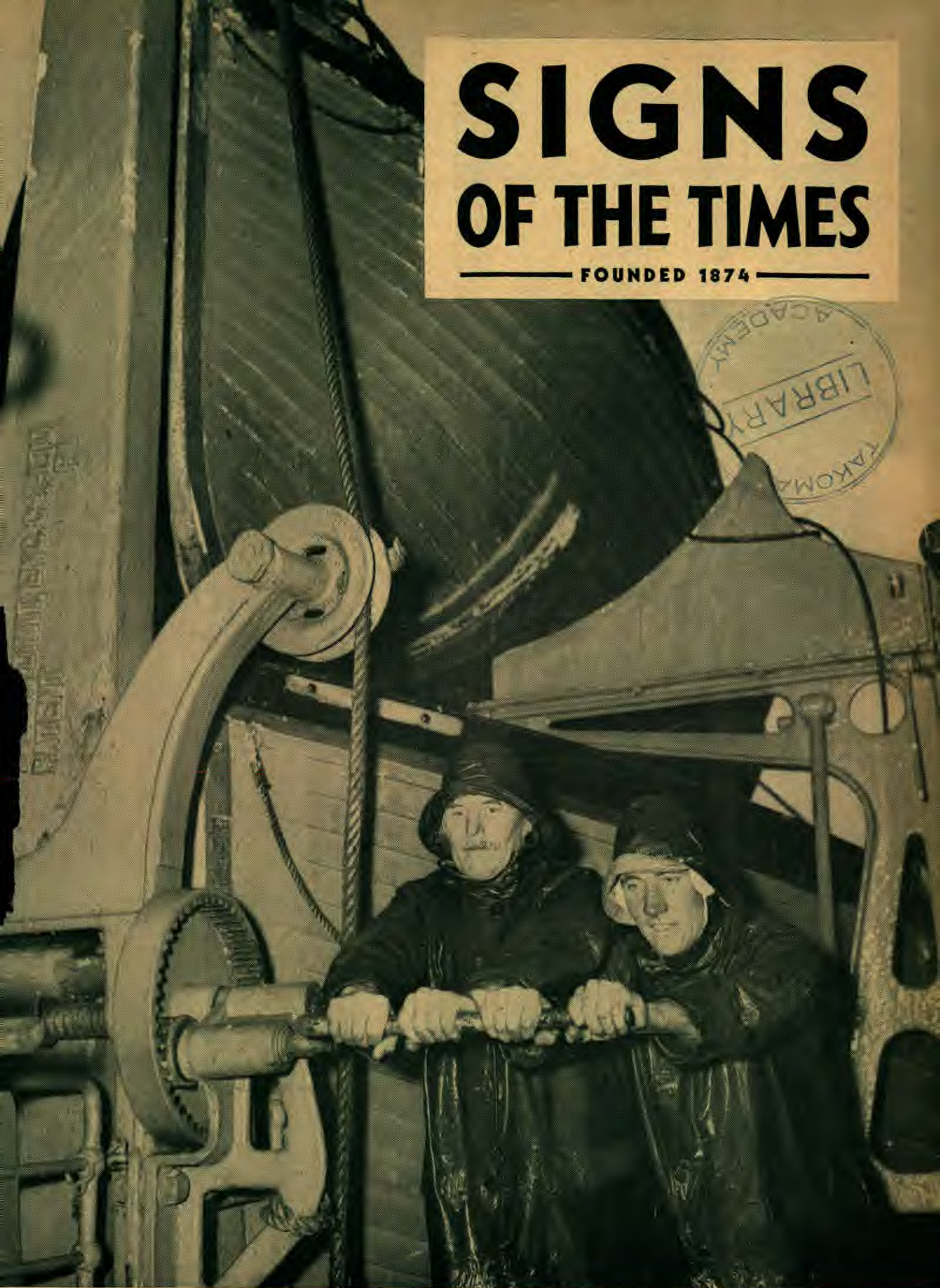


# SIGNS OF THE TIMES

FOUNDED 1874



INTERNATIONAL





## THE CHURCH SHOULD KNOW

**N**O ARTICLE in a business journal has caused such a furor in religious circles as that which appeared in the January issue of *Fortune*, under the title, "The Failure of the Church." The argument continues.

In our opinion the most serious charge made against leaders of religion concerned their admission of "disillusionment." The writer of the article in question stated that he had written to 137 pastors of nine major denominations, and out of a 65 per cent reply "the vast majority of these earnest respondents had a peculiar complaint, namely, disillusionment after the World War. This, they said, accounted largely for their change in attitude between 1917 and 1939."

But now, says this writer, it may have been perfectly proper for soldiers to be disillusioned. No one would blame taxpayers and bondholders for feeling the same way. Moreover, it is "fair enough for statesmen, even, to be disillusioned, because they tried to set up an international system of peace—and failed. Disillusionment, indeed, might be expected of the laity, who had tangible hopes for

a better world, which were not fulfilled. But is disillusionment a proper plea for the church to make?"

We agree with this writer that it is not. The church has no right to plead disillusionment. It should not be disillusioned. It should not follow a course from which it has to retreat. It should know with certainty "what Israel ought to do," and speak with authority to the world that looks to it for leadership.

The trouble, of course, has been that too many church leaders have been following their own vain imaginings rather than adhering to the plain teachings of Holy Scripture. They have been looking to science and art and culture for salva-

## A Survey of World Events

by the EDITOR

INTERNATIONAL  
Forty-four fighting planes like this, ordered for the U. S. Navy, were released for use in Finland. This all-metal plane is capable of a speed of more than 250 miles an hour.

tion rather than to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. They have been building their hopes on what man might do for himself rather than on what God must do for him. And as long as they do that they will suffer constant disillusionments and make themselves the butt of ridicule from their critics.

Christians who study the Bible, who believe in the inspiration of its prophetic outline of history, will not need to make such abject confessions. They will not expect humanity to deliver itself. They will not build their hopes on the frail promises of politicians and statesmen. Rather will they trust in the Lord God of hosts and the plain testimony of Jesus Christ recorded in His word.

"The way out," says the author of the *Fortune* article, "is the sound of a voice, not our voice, but a voice coming from something not ourselves, in the existence of which we cannot disbelieve. It is the earthly task of the pastors to hear this voice, to cause us to hear it, and to tell us what it says. If they cannot hear it, or, if they fail to tell us, we, as laymen, are utterly lost. Without it we are no more capable of saving the world than we were capable of creating it in the first place."

### OUR COVER PICTURE

Lifeboats mean more to sailors nowadays than they have for a quarter of a century, and our cover picture this week reminds us of the perils of the sea and the gallantry of those who sail it in these turbulent times. These sailors are hauling in lifeboats on the S. S. "Scythia" after a safe crossing of the Atlantic.



He is right. The church should speak with the voice of God. In these troubled times it should take the lead amidst the perplexed and distracted multitudes, crying, "This is the way, walk ye in it." Yet it will never do this successfully without the Bible in its hand and in its heart; for, herein, as of old, is the message of certainty, of confidence, and of deliverance, for which the world cries out today.



## EMBARRASSING DISCOVERIES

**I**N preparation for the proposed 1942 World Exhibition in Rome (war permitting, of course) Mussolini has arranged for the complete excavation of the extinct harbor town of Ostia, at the mouth of the historic Tiber. Covered with silt for fifteen centuries; it now reveals in striking fashion the life and times of ancient Rome.

Archaeologists are still busily at work, constantly bringing to light interesting relics of those far-off days. Recently they found another of special concern to Christians.

Out of the accumulated debris of the ages they dug a church! Only a small basilica, truly, crudely built with ill-matched columns apparently salvaged from ruined pagan temples, but obviously a Christian church. Upon the architrave are two inscriptions, one naming the four rivers of Eden, mentioned in the second chapter of Genesis, and the other the sacred monogram composed of the first two letters in the word *Christos*.

Inside the basilica, says a report from Rome, is a wall between the church proper and the baptistery. And in the baptistery is a marble tank with water pipes still intact!

*Training of men designed for service in the tanks and armored cars of the modern army is expedited by this mechanized "tank trainer."*



*Air-raid shelters are now being erected in Trafalgar Square, London, in anticipation of a German "Blitzkrieg" in the spring.*

There is nothing unusual, of course, in ancient churches having tanks in their baptisteries. Such examples are to be seen in many parts of Italy and the Near East. What is remarkable in this case is that this particular church, said to be the earliest known Christian church in existence today, should also have a tank in its baptistery.

Now this church did not have a tank in its baptistery to assist the pastor in administering baptism by sprinkling a few drops of water on the heads of new converts. Obviously it was needed for baptism by immersion, and for nothing else.

Here, indeed, is clear evidence, if further evidence were needed, that the early Christian church, resulting from the preaching of the apostles themselves, practiced the Bible method of baptism.

This is another embarrassing discovery for those who have been trying vainly to find support for their un-Biblical methods of administering this sacred rite; but truth will out.



## THE LISTENERS

**L**ONG before the war actually broke out it was expected that one of its major problems would be that of counteracting the effect of foreign radio propaganda. In some countries this has been done by forbidding individuals to tune in on certain wave lengths, on pain of death; in others, by making official replies to false statements in the language of the country from which they originated.

The latter course is being followed by Great Britain, where the most elaborate efforts have been made to listen to the broadcasts of every nation and to make replies whenever necessary.

The task of listening in to everybody has already assumed large proportions. Specially skilled linguists, known as "monitors," have been attached to the staff of the BBC, whose duty it is to listen to all foreign broadcasts, take note of important passages, submitting them to subeditors, who reduce them to a summary for the Government.

Sir Stephen Tallents, describing this task, says:

"The staff of 'monitors' work in four shifts, ten being on duty at a time. There are also twenty subeditors working in shifts, and a number of shorthand writers, as well as a staff of engineers employed by the news service.

"The transmissions of the world are brought under continuous or periodical observation as changing needs from time to time dictate. The list of countries to which the monitoring organization listens includes not only all the main European countries and the United States, but such distant countries as Japan and Chile.

"About 150 news bulletins alone in a

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"Suffer little children to come unto Me" proved a love for man equaled by no pagan, however revered.

# The EAST INVADES the WEST

*Christendom's Peril From  
Oriental Philosophies*

by

W. A. SPICER

THE religious philosophies of the East have, for a generation, been sweeping over the West. They are like a fog bank, dank and dark, swept in from the sea, shadowing the land.

Prophecy foretold just such an invasion in the latter times. The second chapter of Isaiah bears a warning message concerning it. Of misleading influences at work, the prophet Isaiah wrote: "Thou hast forsaken Thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the East, and are soothsayers like the Philistines." Isaiah 2:6.

Preceding verses show that this is a prophecy of things that were to "come to pass in the last days."

It is surely coming to pass. Christendom is being replenished with the bewitching philosophies of the East. Years ago a Buddhist observer wrote of the theosophical Eastern cult: "Its thoughts are stealing unseen through the whole West. We see its effects in the great leading lines of Western thought."

The only refuge from this sweeping wave of mysticism is under the clear sunlight of the plain word of God. There we find no finespun webs of philosophy, but are dealing with a living God who makes known His ways—the Infinite One who is at work to save us from sin and to bring an end to evil.

The apostles of Christ were fighting these mystical teachings of the Oriental religions in their day. The apostle Peter contrasted the surety of the concrete things of the gospel message with the uncertainties of the misty philosophies that the Gnostic theosophy was teaching. He wrote: "We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. . . . We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the Day-star arise in your hearts." 2 Peter 1:16-19.

That light of the sure word of prophecy is the need today. It penetrates the fog banks of error. Error pushes in, counting on the fact that many have no certain light.

For instance, the other day I picked up a theosophical "Manual" on the shelf of a small-town library. Boldly it affirms: "All the essential teachings which have been supposed by the great majority of Christians to have been revealed only through Jesus, were taught ages before His time."

"We cannot do more here," says the Manual, "than name a few of the great teachers." It names Krishna and Gautama Buddha, Jesus the Christ, Lao-tse, Solon, Plato, etc. "And a host of others," we are told. Look at those we have named, as best known of the list. These are the great teachers that are set alongside Jesus.

*Krishna.*—One of the divine teachers, according to India's Hindu philosophy. He was the incarnation of the god Vishnu, they tell us. The popular story has passages describing his evil life on earth. One may see pictures of Krishna, sold in the bazaars of India, that would not be acceptable on the walls of a room, considering the well-known incidents of his life. Beach of Yale wrote: "Mortals guilty of a tithe of the crimes that mark the story of Vishnu and Devi would have been jailed and executed by any modern court of justice."—"India and Christian Opportunity," page 128.

As nearly genuine as anything that anybody can cite of Krishna's supposed teaching is this declaration from the Hindu sacred writings. It describes the moral level of his teaching: "Actions defile me not."—"Bhagavad Gita," lecture 4:14.

And men tell us he was a "great teacher"!

*The Buddha.*—All anybody knows about his teaching comes from tradition, written down centuries after his death in India. He had no message of life, that is certain. A Buddhist scholar of India, Sir S. Radhakrishnan, tells us: "Buddha is indifferent to the question of a supreme personal God."—"Hibbert Journal," April, 1934.

As to any life to come, the majority of students of Buddhism seem to decide that "extinction, pure and simple," is to be inferred as the fate of all. The writer just quoted says: "Buddha himself did not tell us his views. He observed an ambiguous silence."

Yet serious books on religion list him as a "great teacher," comparable to Jesus!

*Lao-tse.*—Here is a "great teacher" of ancient China. He founded the religion of Taoism. The meaning of the word

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# DESTROYING *the* FOUNDATIONS

*How the Deadly Work Is Done*

by

AGNES LEWIS CAVINESS

**D**RIVING through the residential section of a certain city one day, I was struck by the appearance of a house on the corner of a street we were approaching. The houses on the street looked prosperous to the casual glance, and in fairly good condition. They were in an ordinary state of repair—with the exception of this corner house.

It seemed habitable, but a certain strange appearance made us look closer, when we discovered that the foundations had been carried away from the whole corner of the building. The rest of the foundation was intact, and the house was upheld without the foundation at this point because of the foundation at other places. Such a weird impression it gave us—a human habitation standing out over space!

A few days later we passed it again. The whole house had pitched over at this corner, and had broken down entirely. This happened in Long Beach, California, in late January, 1934. A sudden catastrophe had destroyed the foundations at one place, and presently the whole house was in ruins.

Some years ago a college near my home was to have a new wing added. Standing upon a hillside of rock, the building, so the directors felt, was solid and in such condition as to warrant the new addition. When the workmen commenced operations, however, they found to their amazement that the uprights had all been eaten by termites, and had to be torn out and replaced by other timbers. The honeycombed condition was not apparent until the flooring was removed and the uprights were revealed. The rock was as solid as ever. The whole hillside was still of stone, as it had always been. But man-made uprights erected upon the solid stone were eaten away, and crumbled where they stood.

## *Causes of Downfall*

Less spectacular, but quite as hopeless, is the situation of the building whose foundations give way at last because they were never tested or inspected, nor reinforced or watched over. No one has thought anything about them. They have just been neglected until they disintegrate because they have never been the subject of care.

I have seen a house in the path of a swollen, uncontrollable stream, stand against the current for hours, then sud-

denly creak once or twice, strain, shiver apparently at the fate before it, and then plunge down into the flood, there to nod and bob its way along like a chip in the gutter along the edge of a street on a rainy day.

In these ways are foundations destroyed.

A long while ago I used to play with blocks to amuse my baby brother. One of our games was to stand all the oblong blocks up on end, one behind the other. Then a touch of the finger to the hindmost block, and the whole long line went tumbling down to the floor.

And so we see about us every day houses of spirit that have collapsed—sometimes suddenly, before a whirlwind of calamity; sometimes slowly when confidence and trust in all stability of life has been eaten away; sometimes in a maelstrom of the "rivers of sorrows" that overflow; and sometimes in the darkness of discouragement, despair, and self-pity.

Every time you pass a shabby gray figure with a nondescript pack on its back, as you drive into town, you are seeing one of these tragedies—a collapse of the personal world in which someone has lived. It is another illustration of the failure of personal foundations.

Every time you see in the morning paper that someone in whom many have

had confidence has taken his own life, you know it is another similar failure. What has brought this about? The poor wretch may have been sure it was his loss of a job or of health or of happiness that broke him; but, without doubt, that was but half the reason. The other half was that someone or something he trusted had miserably failed him—that the thing for which he was fighting suddenly appeared no longer worth fighting for.

When such things come to my notice, I am disturbed not so much over the tragedy itself—which is desperate and sordid enough. The thing that baffles me and fills me with questioning is, "Was there no one in the whole world near enough to pierce this soul's aloneness, and share it, thus making it tolerable?"

## *Old Standards Breaking*

What has happened to these persons is what has happened to nations these postwar years. The United States, like every other country in the world, has been disturbed by a breakaway from the old traditions. Many Americans are alarmed by the indiscipline, the license, the moral bewilderment, of their young people, who, so far, have not found "a balance between liberty and discipline."

It has been very comfortable, these past twenty years, to blame the rising generation for all the breakdown of standards. But it is getting rather late to do that. These clear-eyed, fearless devotees of realism that are ours are legitimate children. They are those who were born during and immediately after the World War. They were sired by fathers who had seen "Christian" nation hack away at "Christian" nation in an orgy of pagan selfishness and ruthlessness. No use to preach the supremacy of the church to them. They knew better. "The war had made them ask serious and tremendous questions which some of their fathers and mothers would not answer, or shirked. Like all the youth in the world today, they were born with a sense of realism, and without reverence for tradition. How could they have reverence for a tradition which was hypocritical, they thought, in its evasion of realities? They rebelled against authority. Fathers, teachers, and clergy did not dare to enforce authority, because secretly they were doubtful of the old laws.

(Continued on page 14)



INTERNATIONAL



How

# CHRIST Will COME

No Secret Advent

"The Lord Himself Shall Descend"

by CARLYLE B. HAYNES

**W**EIRD and fanciful are some of the conceptions held by men about the second coming of Jesus Christ.

And there really is no reason why a sharp and clear understanding should not be had by everyone who reads God's Book.

Certainly the instruction contained in the Sacred Scriptures regarding the return of our Lord is full, complete, and in comprehensive detail.

When Christ comes again, all the world will know it. They will see Him come. There will be nothing secret, nothing hidden, about this history-climaxing event. Men will not have to be told He has come. "Every eye shall see Him." Revelation 1:7.

This will not be a spiritual coming merely, an unseen, hidden presence. The Bible makes that most clear.

When Jesus comes the second time, He will come *in person*, "this same Jesus."

He will come literally.

He will come visibly.

He will come bodily.

He will come *in the open sight of the whole world*.

He will come accompanied by a *demonstration of glory and power* never before witnessed by men.

The same Jesus who was nailed to the cross nineteen centuries ago; who was literally raised from the dead; the same Jesus who said, "Handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see Me have" (Luke 24:39); the same Jesus who, in the clear sight of His assembled disciples, was taken bodily up into heaven and received into a cloud—this same Jesus is coming back to this earth in the clear sight of all its inhabitants, and in the same bodily form in which He went away (Acts 1:11).

With emphatic positiveness Paul declares: "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven." 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

Not a spirit, but the Lord Himself.

Not death, but the Lord Himself.

Not the Bible, but the Lord Himself.

Not a dispensation of Providence, but the Lord Himself.

There is nothing vague about that.

And the whole heavens will flash with the awful splendor of His divine presence. "He shall come in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels." Luke 9:26. He "shall be revealed from heaven, . . . in flaming fire." 2 Thessalonians 1:7, 8.

When He came before, He was a weak babe in Bethlehem's manger. When He comes again, He will be an all-conquering king.

Before, He was "despised and rejected of men." Now, His lightnings will lighten the world, and all the earth will see and tremble.

Before, He was a sacrifice, and died on Calvary. Not now. Now, He comes a judge of all men, sitting upon a "great white throne."

Before, His enemies crowned Him with thorns. Now, there will be on His head "many crowns," and in their hearts' affections His people "bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all."

Before, He came in humility and weakness. Now, He comes in radiant glory exceeding the brightness of the sun, and with all power in heaven and earth at His command.

## He Will Actually Appear

The Bible is very explicit regarding the manner of the second coming of Christ. It declares: "Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him *shall He appear* the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:28.

This word "appear" should be given special attention. Christ, when He comes the second time, will come in an open, public manner; there will be nothing secret about it; there will be nothing hidden from the eye of man; He will "*appear*;" that is, He will actually be seen



The promise is: "Behold, He cometh" in the same manner as He went away.

by the people that dwell on the earth.

Attention, too, is directed to the following expression: "Looking for that blessed hope, and the *glorious appearing* of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2:13.

The return of Jesus will be an appearing, not a spiritual, invisible coming, unrecognized by the world, as some teach today. Christ will *appear*. His coming will be literal, personal, bodily, visible. It will be a real thing, not the coming of a "spirit being," an "invisible Lord," but the very same Jesus who walked with His disciples on the hills of Galilee.

The Spirit of God has seen it to be so important to emphasize this thought that the Lord will *appear* when He comes that this word is used again and again in speaking of His coming:

"When Christ, who is our life, shall *appear*." Colossians 3:4.

"When the Chief Shepherd shall *appear*." 1 Peter 5:4.

"And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when He shall *appear*, we may have confidence." 1 John 2:28.

"We know that, when He shall *appear*, we shall be like Him; *for we shall see Him*." 1 John 3:2.

"Be found unto praise and honor and glory at the *appearing* of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 1:7.

"Until the *appearing* of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Timothy 6:14.

"The Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His *appearing* and His kingdom." 2 Timothy 4:1.

"*They shall see the Son of man coming* in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Matthew 24:30.



Certainly these passages should be sufficient to settle forever the point that when Christ comes the second time, His coming will be a literal, personal, visible, public coming.

In addition to this, the appearing of Christ will be a world-wide appearing. He will be seen by all the world and will appear to all the world, not merely to a certain class who may be expecting Him; not merely to the church, not merely to a certain section of the church; not merely to those who are looking for Him; not alone to the righteous, but to every living soul on earth.

### No Secret Coming

"Then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: 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.

Attention is called to the fact that it is "all the tribes of the earth" who shall see Christ when He comes. This truth that the coming of Christ will be witnessed by the entire population of the globe is made even stronger by John, who writes: "Behold, He cometh with clouds; and *every eye shall see Him*, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him." Revelation 1:7.

The rather popular current teaching that Christ will come secretly, taking one here and one there, and that this information will become known to the rest of mankind only by the absence of those who have been taken away, is by these passages and this clear teaching plainly demonstrated to be untrue.

The coming of Christ will be accompanied by such a demonstration of power and glory that nothing in all the annals of history will compare with it. The Lord will not even come in silence, for we read: "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a *shout*, with the *voice of the Archangel*, and with the *trump of God*." 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

And His coming will be visible: "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 24:27.

His coming will be overwhelming in glory and majesty: "They shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven *with power and great glory*." "He shall come in *His own glory*, and in *His Father's*, and of the holy angels." Matthew 24:30; Luke 9:26.

We have in the Scriptures a description of the exact manner of the second coming of Christ as it was given by the angels who spoke to the disciples at the time of Christ's ascension. This record is: "While they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men

stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, *shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven*." Acts 1:10, 11.

Notice the expression, "in like manner as ye have seen Him go." He went away visibly; He will return visibly. He went away personally; He will return personally—"this same Jesus." He went away literally; He will return literally. He went away bodily; He will return bodily. He went away with clouds, "a cloud received Him out of their sight;" "behold, He cometh with clouds," and "they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven." Acts 1:9; Revelation 1:7; Matthew 24:30.

In the last book of the Bible we are given a wonderful picture of the manner in which Jesus will come and battle with the nations. The King will travel in the greatness of His strength. The wide-spreading heavens will open, and down the parted skies the white war horses will come in battle array. The great Captain of salvation, His eyes like flames of fire, will marshal the hosts of the Lord. Following Him, clothed in spotless white, are the warriors of heaven. They go forth to decide the controversy of God

with man. "Out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treadeth the wine press of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." Revelation 19:15, 16.

Down the pathway of the glory-gilded skies the Lord of lords will come, His face shining like the sun in his strength, His form clothed with the glory and radiance of heavenly majesty, His voice as the sound of many waters, His head crowned with a halo before which the sun pales, His flowing robes more beautiful than the rainbow. He holds the keys of death and the grave. With clouds composed of myriads and myriads of angels the immortal Conqueror, the eternal King, comes to take to Himself His own. In a manner entirely befitting Him as creator, redeemer, prophet, priest, and king, He will be accompanied by a splendid retinue of shining seraphim. These brilliant bands will fill the glory-flashing skies from end to end. How magnificent will be the advancing pageantry of the skies! How sublime beyond all mortal comprehension will be the Lord Jesus when He "shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels!"

Jesus will come suddenly and unexpectedly; "in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matthew 24:44. When the wicked world is dreaming of pleasure, when the people are all unready, when the false cry of "Peace" is sounding over the earth, He will come. As the blinding glare of lightning suddenly stabs across the heavens, so Jesus will come. Verse 27.

"Behold," said our Lord, "I come quickly." Revelation 22:12.

And Christ is not only coming *some-time*. That is true; but that is not all the truth. He is coming *soon*. He is coming *quickly*. He is *at the door*. His feet are on the threshold; His hand is on the latch. Soon, and suddenly, He will come. Decades will not pass into centuries and centuries run on into millenniums before we witness the solemn scenes of the end. But quickly, quickly, Jesus will come; speedily, speedily, He will return; soon, soon, He will be here; while men and women are putting far off the eventful day, while they are trying to think it will not come in their lifetime,—suddenly, oh, how suddenly!—a change will come over the spirit of their dream, and they be awakened by the very voice of the Son of God as it rolls through the earth, speaking life to the blessed dead, but bringing terror and despair to those who are living in their sins.

Who then shall be able to stand?

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## Flashlines

by W. L. EMMERSON

**RUSSIAN ATHEISM** M. Yaroslavsky, leader of the League of Militant Atheists, claims for his Society a membership of nearly three million.

**AN ALARMING DROP** The Church of England "Year Book" for 1940 reveals a heavy and unchecked decline in the rolls of that church's Sunday schools. In the past four years there has been a total drop of 241,236 children, the present attendance being 1,456,371. There are also 3,442 fewer teachers than in 1938.

**NOT PRELUDE TO KINGDOM** "Should not the churches, whilst manifesting their sympathy for the League of Nations, have warned Christians in season and out of season against the delusion that the League could in any way be associated with the conception of the kingdom of God?" asks Sir Alfred Zimmern, in his latest book, "Spiritual Values and World Affairs." "I would be almost ashamed to emphasize this had I not so constantly heard and read utterances and statements to the contrary—suggestions that the League was in some way part of a Messianic scheme, a milestone on the road to an ultimate World Commonwealth."

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# Prophecy Speaks: *and* MILLIONS MARCH

by ROY F. COTTRELL

Myriads of heavy feet pound and shuffle in the dust;  
Myriads of war-plagued men,  
Jaded soldiers, haggard-eyed, heavy-laden  
shoulders sagging,  
Marching to the wars again.  
Endless miles and endless marching, through the rain  
And through the mud;  
On the road again to ruin, marching with their  
ceaseless thud.

Heavy boots upon the highway pass the shattered wayside trees;  
Hurry through the shell-wracked town;  
Past the gaunt, uprearing ruins, cottage, market  
place, and mansion,  
Windows staring blindly down.  
Plodding feet in straggling columns, trudging  
over war-torn ground,  
Lately drenched with crimson blood,  
Toward the futile Armageddon; marching with  
their endless thud.

—Ralph Mitchell Crosby.

ONCE again the resounding tread of army boots spoils the peace of the world. Multitudes ask, Are they marching to Armageddon? Is civilization itself to go down in a final crash? An eminent writer suggests that we no longer need to await the airy navy from Mars to annihilate us, for we have decided to destroy ourselves.

One of the ancient prophets wrote of the terrors of war: "Every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood." Isaiah 9:5. Modern science has made remarkable contributions by lessening man's hardships, increasing his comforts, and multiplying his pleasures; but, instead of diminishing the hazards and frightfulness of war, it has provided the nations with vicious new weapons in earth and sea and sky, beside which the club of the savage and the Indian's poison arrow are but as childhood toys.

How tragic, yet how true, are the lines of S. D. Sage:

"Man made a gorgeous pair of wings  
To sweep him to the stars,  
But yet the only planet found  
Was crimson-coated Mars:  
Else why should temple bells be hushed  
And silent in the din  
Of slaughtering wings that foul the air  
With shrapnel shells of sin?  
The world should blush for very shame  
That one must speak and tell:  
Man used the gorgeous wings he found  
To make another hell."

When the World War of 1914-18 snuffed out the lives of about sixteen million persons, and cost five times the combined property value of two countries like France and Belgium, would we not suppose that any military chieftain would be slow about starting another conflagration?

But in the quest for more power, ambitious man appears willing to gamble away his choicest possessions. Ere long Japanese armies were overrunning Manchuria and China; Roman legions were marching to the conquest of Ethiopia; Spain matched swords in a brutal and costly civil war; Italy annexed Albania; and Germany's war machine won bloodless victories in Austria and Czechoslovakia, then roared into Poland. Not to be outdone by his brother dictators, Stalin sends his Soviet troops to pounce upon the back of prostrate Poland, and to frighten little Baltic nations into submission; but in the onslaught against Finland, the paws of the Russian Bear have been badly frozen and lacerated, while Finland's annual blanket of snow and "black-out" of arctic night have aided in her defense.

Where the lightning of destruction



will next strike no one can tell. In a recent speech Prime Minister Chamberlain warned his people of an approaching "phase of this war much grimmer than anything we have yet seen." He continued: "This new year, which will probably be a fateful one in the history of the world, has opened quietly, but it is the quiet of the calm before the storm. We are at war, and vast numbers of men, armed with the most powerful weapons of destruction that science can devise, are watching one another from behind their defenses. From time to time we hear the sound of guns, but as yet there is no general engagement. We do not know how long that will last. In the air there is greater activity. But in the air, as on the land, we know that what is happening is merely the preliminary to the main struggle."

## International Suicide

Millions are hoping and praying for a speedy end to the present reign of war and terrorism. Practically all agree that there is imperative need for a new world order. But how may it be attained? It is suggested that the death of martyrs sometimes enables others to live on in a better world; and in this terrible struggle, born of conflicting ambitions, the martyrs are legion. But will an ideal Europe emerge from the fields of destruction? No, it will most certainly be suicide for victors and vanquished alike.





LAMBERT

In her "Prayer for Peace," Anne Morrow Lindbergh sees a gleam of hope, and says: "Even if this war wears itself out to complete exhaustion, even if our particular civilization should go down, another would follow. Something will emerge out of the worst period of chaos and transition. Some medieval culture will spring again after the Dark Ages which may be ahead of us. In another five hundred years or so there may rise out of the slime of European chaos the pure flower of a Chartres Cathedral."—*"Reader's Digest," January, 1940.*

But in our plans and prophecies how often we leave God out of the reckoning! Concerning the future, human wisdom has no assuring solution; human genius, no trustworthy forecast; while human hopes find little ground for optimism. Yet in this hour the world is not left in utter darkness. There is a Book containing hundreds of divine predictions that have been literally and accurately fulfilled. That Book also speaks to our day, vividly describing the present world condition, and definitely disclosing future events of vital concern to all peoples. How deeply grateful should we be for the inestimable gift of the Bible!

In that grand old Volume that has been scorned and neglected by many, every major problem that confronts the world today was foretold by the God of heaven. Through His divinely appointed spokesmen, He announced the dawn of this industrial age of material

progress (Daniel 12:4); predicted the giant struggle between capitalism and labor (James 5:1-8); forewarned of the increasing flood tide of crime, the decay of the home, the craze for maddening pleasures (2 Timothy 3:1-5); and visioned a period of universal "distress of nations, with perplexity," with "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Luke 21:25, 26.

God likewise foretold the extensive peace propaganda on the one hand, and the extensive war preparations on the other, that would characterize this twentieth century. Nearly three millenniums ago He revealed that "in the last days" "many people" would unite in a mighty crusade for peace, proposing that swords be beaten into plowshares, that spears be turned into pruning hooks, and that the nations should no longer "learn war" or "lift up sword against nation." Isaiah 2:2-4. In fulfillment, behold the peace palaces and organizations of the past few decades, to which some of the world's greatest minds and noblest hearts have contributed their best. Behold also the mighty pageant of armaments that God declared would be marshaled throughout the world just prior to the second coming of Christ: "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; 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. . . . Let the heathen be awakened. . . . Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. . . . Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision." Joel 3:9-14.

This graphic forecast with its view of the "sickle," the "harvest," and "the day of the Lord," establishes the time of fulfillment as immediately preceding the second coming of Christ. While many high-minded legislators and statesmen have untiringly labored for world peace, the nations have madly rushed onward in the race of armaments. How could divine prophecy be more accurately and explicitly fulfilled?

Before the present European conflict burst forth, James Dykes, in his poem, "Paradox," wrote the following significant lines:

"The hate-mad world begins to arm,  
And sin and evils fast increase,  
While sounds abroad the false alarm,  
'Prepare for war; we must have peace.'"

This is precisely what the nations of the world have been doing. Many times have the statesmen announced that the best assurance of peace and the only security against war were armaments so mighty that other powers would be afraid to attack. And, more astonishing than all else, the Bible foretold this amazing paradox. Both the unprecedented peace movements and the unprecedented preparations for war appear as exact facsimiles of God's blueprint for our day. The divine signet of authenticity is unmistakable, for the fulfillment is in duplicate. "This is the finger of God."

### *East Shall Meet West*

Ponder also the prophetic words, "Let the heathen be awakened." For millenniums the pagan millions of Asia and Africa slept on and on. But today, what an awakening! The "unchanged East" throws off its slumber robes, and arises to "the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war." Jeremiah 4:19. Here is seen a notable sign of our times; for, according to the prophecy, this surprising transformation among the vast pagan multitudes was to occur just prior to the announcement, "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe."

Looking forward to that time immediately preceding Christ's second coming and the final judgment, John the revelator declared: "The nations were angry, and Thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that Thou shouldest give reward unto Thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear Thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth." Revelation 11:18.

(Continued on page 14)





*Round the World With the Gospel*

*In the*

## STEPS of the MASTER

*The Splendid, Christlike Service of  
Medical Missionaries in India*

by H. G. WOODWARD

*Superintendent, Telugu Mission  
of Seventh-day Adventists*

WAS it not David Livingstone who said, "God had but one Son, and He sent Him to this world as a medical missionary"? The Gospels reveal that the Lord Jesus spent very much of His time in the ministry of healing. Henry Twells has beautifully expressed this truth in the familiar lines:

"At even, when the sun did set,  
The sick, O Lord, around Thee lay;  
Oh in what divers pains they met!  
Oh with what joy they went away!"

Matthew tells us in his inspired record that "Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, . . . and healing all manner of sickness." Matthew 4:23. How powerful is the appeal when we think of Jesus as the Great Physician! When He sent forth His chosen disciples, the charge was: "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers." Matthew 10:8. In India, where good doctors are very few compared with the dense population to be served, we believe that the command is still binding upon all those who are in a position to bring relief to the needy.

The longer one lives in the East, the easier it becomes to visualize the scenes so often enacted by the Great Healer—the dirt and the dust, the interested and not too considerate crowd, the hopeful patient. History repeats itself every day as the medical missionary ministers to the physically needy ones, and he truly feels it a privilege to be following in the footsteps of his Master.

How overwhelming is the need! Not that there is a deficiency of doctors, but rather of doctors of the right kind. I never did fully comprehend all that is inferred in the story of the poor suffering woman mentioned in the Gospels until I came to the East. "A certain woman," we read, "had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse." Mark 5:25, 26. The missionary doctor sees that story repeated every day.

Here in India there is no restriction laid upon any man who thinks that doctoring means easy money, and usually the less said of the methods practiced

and the medicines used the better. Of course, in the large cities there are splendid medical colleges, and many very efficient doctors are graduated therefrom; but that does not prevent the ignorant native doctor from practicing. Such doctors often have a large clientele, and some of their cures are inexplicable. For instance, a child was brought into a mission hospital recently with a strangulated hernia. The doctor was convinced that there was no hope for the child, and told the parents so; but he urged them to leave the child until the morning. A native doctor came along, took the child away, and achieved the impossible in reducing the hernia by means the mission doctor would never have dared to attempt. However, it does not always work that way; most of the cures seem to be worse than the disease.

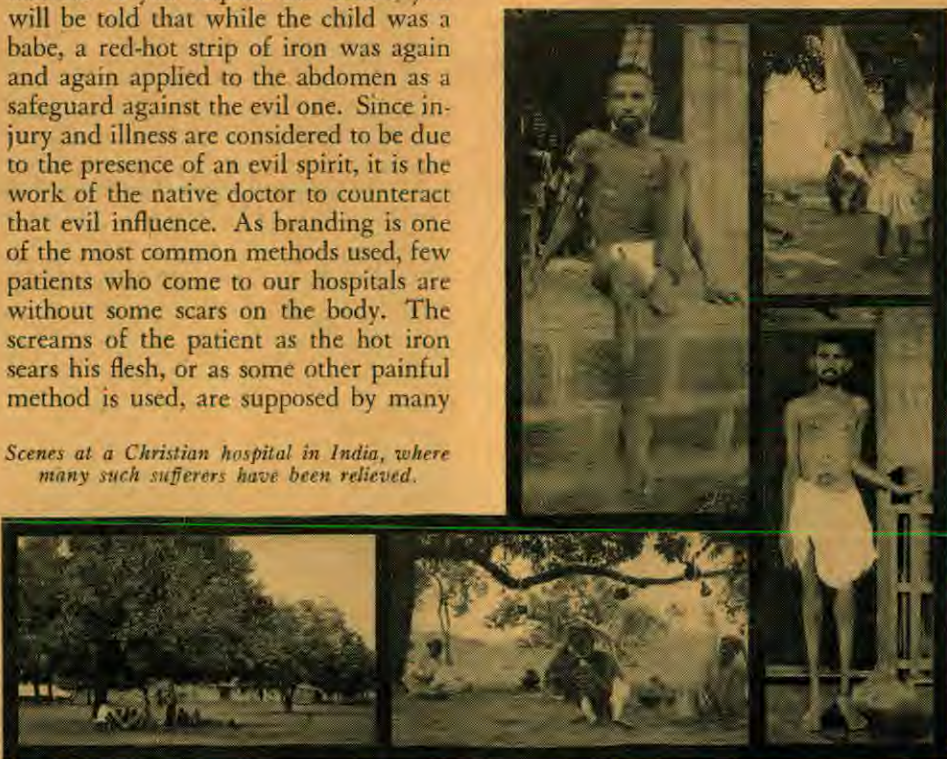
Here on the east coast of India, the abdomen of every village child is badly scarred. If you inquire the reason, you will be told that while the child was a babe, a red-hot strip of iron was again and again applied to the abdomen as a safeguard against the evil one. Since injury and illness are considered to be due to the presence of an evil spirit, it is the work of the native doctor to counteract that evil influence. As branding is one of the most common methods used, few patients who come to our hospitals are without some scars on the body. The screams of the patient as the hot iron sears his flesh, or as some other painful method is used, are supposed by many

of the simple country folk to indicate the passage of the evil spirit as it leaves the body by way of the mouth.

A mission doctor tells of walking through a village in South India in company with his wife, when they were startled by piercing cries from a near-by house. On entering the house, they found a little girl being forcibly held down by the misguided parents, while the native doctor rubbed a mixture of pepper and chilies into her eyes.

Mathematical proportions seem to be considered a matter of great consequence, and we heard recently of a patient who paid a big fee to a native doctor because he was told that the medicine he used was composed of no less than five hundred different ingredients. The great cure-all is cow dung. Whether used externally as a poultice or internally as a purifier, it is considered without a rival for efficacy.

*Scenes at a Christian hospital in India, where many such sufferers have been relieved.*





But what of the work of the medical missionary? Come with me into the hospital in our own compound. A large number of new patients have already gathered in the receiving hall. With most of the inpatients they form an attentive audience. The Indian evangelist is giving a simple talk about the divine Physician. One little fellow is so impressed by what he hears and sees lived out in the wards that he makes it known to all that he has changed his name; hereafter he is to be known as "Christianity."

Going quietly into the wards, we see them filled with those who have passed under the tender care of the doctor and his helpers. See that old fellow in the corner? Little he knew of the loving Father when he first entered the mission hospital. But he followed with wistful eyes every action of the nurse, and there saw love personified. The nurse noticed that he gazed continually upon her, and she thought it an opportune time to speak to him of Jesus.

"I have never seen this Jesus you speak of," he replied; "so how can I worship Him? But you surely must be a goddess; so let me worship you."

Let us pass into the operating room. There is much surgery to be attended to, and already one patient has been prepared for an operation. Clothed in a surgeon's overall and cap, the medical missionary joins the waiting company of nurses and orderlies. But wait, before the operation is undertaken, heads are bowed while an appeal is made to the Great Physician for wisdom and skill. Is it to be wondered at that the rate of recovery is higher in mission hospitals than in institutions where divine aid is not sought?

### *The Master's Work*

But is the work of the medical missionary confined to the hospital? Ah no; emergency calls must be expected at any time. In some parts of India there is an annual outbreak of cholera; at such times the doctor has to work day and night. Here is a true report from a mission hospital, written by Dr. Somervell of Mount Everest fame: "We used to go along the roads, calling out every half mile or so, 'Is the cholera here?'"

"Yes, in the next house."

"We dismount and look at the case. It is a new one, just begun an hour ago. We take his name and give him a bottle of medicine—'sixty drops in that much of water every hour.'"

"There is some cholera in a village over there. Thirty cases died last week, and there are over twenty new ones today."

"So back in the car we go for more medicines, and then tramp across the fields to the village. But where is the

man who has promised to show the doctors the way?"

"Hey, come on; is this the place?"

"Yes, but I cannot come nearer, or the cholera devil will get me!"

Inside the house what a sight meets their eyes! These are the words of the doctor: "A thin woman is lying on the floor, her head resting on her little baby. I am on the point of protesting, when I stoop to feel the little child and find it is dead and cold. All the rest of the family are dead, . . . and there is nobody left to bury the little baby. So why should she not use it as a pillow? It will not be long before she joins her little child, for she is very far gone. Over there in a field are two men digging a grave. We tell them to make it a bit bigger, for it will have three to hold instead of one."

And so, day after day, for weeks at a time, the medical missionary follows in the footsteps of the Master; nor is such noble service confined to the fully qualified European medical missionary. It was during a scourge like this that one of our Indian village teachers gave a

splendid demonstration of Christlike service. People were dying all around, and lying untended by the wayside. Although he had his school to teach and his inquirers to prepare for baptism, off he went every day as soon as his classes were finished, with his stock of medicine obtained from the hospital. Even the high-caste man forgets the "pollution" of the humble follower of Christ, and pleads for help in his dire need. And after his recovery he says: "Your Jesus religion must be very wonderful to make you do such things."

So, all honor to the noble army of medical missionaries, who have gone forth in response to the call of their Master, "Heal the sick." All honor to the splendid company of nurses, without whom the doctors would accomplish so little. And all honor to the compounder, the orderly, even to those who do their part in a more humble way in service for Christ in the mission hospital. Truly they are following in the footsteps of the Master, and verily they shall not lose their reward.



## NEWSGRAMS

by BENJAMIN MAXSON

NOTES AND QUOTES FROM FAR AND NEAR

**No Substitute for Christ** A deep-thinking editor remarks very pertinently regarding spiritual conditions in these days of inferior and substitute goods: "We can put up with many substitute materials in these days, but an ersatz Christianity is out of the question."

### **For Finland—\$60,000,000?**

Already there are credits of \$20,000,000 arranged for Scandinavia; there is some private financing for Canada; and, in the Far East, the United States has been backing China with a loan of \$25,000,000. The question that has been giving Congressmen and Senators considerable thought is whether or not the proposed sum of \$60,000,000 should be lent to Finland, to be spent anywhere, for any purpose. Opinion is sharply divided, sympathy for Finland being offset to a great extent by the feeling that such an action would be but the first step toward "foreign entanglements" and a more active and decisive participation in the European war.

**Ideals for Peace Terms** President Roosevelt has determined upon four ideals as the basis for peace terms: (1) Freedom of worship; (2) freedom of commerce; (3) freedom of information; (4) freedom from military domination. It is the plan that these principles be formulated and ready to be offered at a time when belligerents may tire of warfare. No new ideals, to be sure, these suggested "freedoms" may receive a hearing within the next few months. The President's idea is that the dream of peace may become the force that will produce early peace.

**Unprecedented Spending** According to a table that appeared in a recent issue of the *New York Sun*, setting forth the complete financial record of every President of the United States from the adoption of the Constitution in 1789 to date, the totals show that Franklin D. Roosevelt, in eight years, has spent 58½ per cent as much as all his predecessors put together in 144½ years. He received in taxes in these depression years 44 per cent as much as all his predecessors together have collected; and he has almost exactly doubled the national debt.

**Serious Setback** In the opinion of Dr. Anton J. Carlson, Professor of Physiology, University of Chicago, "civilization" will receive a serious setback, but will survive another world war. He considers that "the most serious setback to our civilization by war is in the realm of the spirit, our conceptions of liberty, justice, and fair play. But even these will survive and sprout again."

### **Too Little Democracy in U. S.**

The greatest threat to democracy in the United States, according to the psychologist, Dr. Goodwin Watson, of Teachers College, Washington, D. C., may not be foreign invasion or totalitarian "isms," but neglect of democratic procedures in everyday life. Wanting to get things done results too often in America in autocratic direction instead of in co-operative effort in homes, schools, factories, organizations, and national affairs. He placed the blame for crime and youthful irresponsibility partly on this undemocratic trend.





*Second in a Series Tracing the Rise of Many Un-Biblical Doctrines and Practices Still Held by Christian Churches.*

# The SERPENT

## Coils Around the World

by MURL VANCE

LIKE a giant serpent, the devil worship of ancient Babylon threw its coils of counterfeit religion around the entire world, until worship of the true God became well-nigh extinct. Devil worship even contaminated the worship of God in Old Testament times, and fought it to a standstill. After a pure religion was re-established by Christ, the same old counterfeit religion at first attacked it openly, then feigned conversion—a policy that enabled it to penetrate into the very heart of Christianity during the Dark Ages. The early fathers, and many later reformers, raised their protesting voices in vain. The great mass of the people, without access to the word of God, contented itself with what was being taught, never bothering to check up on the source of the doctrines, rituals, and holydays the church was presenting.

Even the Reformation failed to dislodge many of these counterfeiters. Declares Browne, in "This Believing World": "Isolated rites, festive days, theological notions, even some of their god names persisted. They took up their abode—albeit furtively, clandestinely—in the religions that endured. And there they persist to this day. For this reason, one cannot well refer to those cults of Babylon, Egypt, and the rest as 'dead religions.' Actually they are not dead at all, for the echo of their ancient thunder is still to be heard reverberating in almost every form of faith existing today. They are dead only in name."

Olcott, another scholar of no mean standing in the world of history, declares, in his "Sun Lore of All Ages": "Our most important ecclesiastical feast days in fact are but survivals of ancient solar festivals." Then, after discussing the history of these various festivals at length, he adds: "From the foregoing, which treats merely of the more important solar festivals, it is clear that these products of paganism are as much in force at present from a symbolic point of view, as they ever were, and that Christianity countenances, and in many cases has actually adopted and practices, pagan rites whose heathen significance is merely lost sight of because attention is not called to

the sources whence these rites have sprung. . . .

"The reason for the survival of many of the symbols of sun worship . . . lies in the fact that the early Christian teachers found the people so wedded to their old rites and usages that it was vain to hope for the complete abandonment of these long-cherished practices." We learned last week, however, that this sun worship was in its origin nothing less than open devil worship, with a sacred serpent, whom the Babylonians worshiped, says Sayce, as "the incarnation of wickedness and guile," in practically every sun temple.

The Scriptures likewise point out the fact that the devil worship of Babylon did not die with Babylon. In Jeremiah 51:7 we read, "Babylon hath been a golden cup, . . . that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad." And John the revelator, writing cen-

turies after the kingdom of Babylon had ceased to exist, declares in Revelation 18: 2-4: "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit. . . . For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

### Counterfeit Religion Universal

We notice two points in these texts: the statement that Babylon's devil worship became universal, and the warning for all who name the name of Christ to weed out of their religion all forms having their origin in this ancient pagan kingdom. On the first point we find striking confirmation in history.

*Persia.* "In Persia," declares Jastrow, "the Mithra cult reveals unmistakable influence of Babylonian conceptions." The Encyclopedia of Religion, vol. 8, pp. 752-759, likewise shows this relation between Persia and Babylon: There was a "close *rapprochement* between the Babylonian and the Persian cults. . . . When we find the busts of the sun and moon and the circle of the zodiac standing features in Mithraic monuments, we can have no doubt as to the ultimate source of this element." And another name for Mithra, the 'sun-god,' we must remember, was Ahura-Mazda, the first word coming from a root meaning demon. Zoroaster attempted to eradicate demon worship from Persia by eradicating Mithra, but the "Magi started a counterreformation, and restored primitive conceptions."

*Rome.* The Roman soldiers on their eastern conquests came into contact with Mithraism, and for some reason eagerly adopted it. They brought it back to Rome with them, where it gained wide-



© LOUVRE, PARIS  
Hammurabi worshipping before the sun-god, Shamash. The Code, of which this is a part, dates to the first dynasty of Babylon.



spread popularity just preceding and following the advent of Christ. Later it became the official religion of the Roman Empire, and we find emperors and peasants alike worshipping at the feet of the Babylonian sun-demon. Constantine was an ardent votary of the sun before his "conversion," and we find that he never gave up many of the tenets of his devil worship. It was the influence of Constantine perhaps more than any other single individual that brought about the compromise between Christianity and devil worship, enabling the latter to penetrate into the former during the Dark Ages. From Rome Mithraism spread throughout all Europe.

**Egypt.** That Egypt got its sun worship and its sacred serpent from Babylon is evidenced by many historians. Jastrow declares that the Tell el-Amarna tablets reveal unmistakable early contact between Egypt and Babylon. Budge declares that the magic practices of Egyptian temples were derived from Babylon. And Sir Flinders Petrie, the English scholar, declares: "The Eastern sun worship seems to have poured into Egypt with the second prehistoric civilization." Since Egypt everywhere had its sacred serpent connected with sun worship, and the same system of omens for foretelling the future as did the Babylonians, no one can doubt that Egypt is another of the nations that drank of Babylon's "wine."

**India, China, and Japan.** We would naturally expect that the Oriental nations that remained within the boundaries of what was once the great Babylonian Empire should continue on in the same religion of their forefathers. A glance at the religions that have endured in the Orient shows that our supposition is true. Sun worship is still prominent, with various phases deified. The sacred serpent is found everywhere, particularly in India. In China, the serpent usually appears in the form of a great dragon. Fire, the sun spirit on earth, is considered as holy. The cow and the bull are sacred to the sun,—representing its life-giving qualities,—the same as in ancient Egypt; swine are likewise holy, the same as in ancient Babylon. And in the Buddhist temple we see a "heavenly king," a hideous figure in dark, bound round with the coils of a serpent, and carrying a pitchfork! Even Buddha is pictured at times canopied by serpents. Ah no, the devil worship of Babylon did not die with Babylon!

**The New World.** There can be no controversy as to the source of the religion of the early American Indians. We may not know just how they arrived here from the Old World, but we do know that they brought their religion with them. Just as it has been since Lucifer appeared to our first parents in the guise of a serpent, so we find devil wor-

shippers everywhere reverencing poisonous reptiles. To this day, snake dances among the Indians are a common sight to American tourists, and practically every ancient temple has its stone serpents coiling everywhere. The sun was generally the chief deity, with a golden disk sacred to the sun and a silver disk sacred to the moon, just as in the Old World.

We find parts of the Indian mythology identical with the mythology of Japan, and other parts identical with that of Egypt. We find pyramids sacred to the sun the same as in Egypt. Hearts of the dead and of sacrificial victims were sacred to the sun, being "fed" to the image of the sun by the Indians as well as by the Egyptians and Babylonians. Both the Old World and the New had the same colors—gold and red—sacred to the sun; both have the same type of sun charms to be worn upon the person. Both branches of devil worship had their great nunneries filled with vestal virgins dedicated to worship of the sun. The *National Geographic* magazine for February, 1938, November, 1936, and June, 1937, has both illustrations and descriptions of many other similarities between the devil worship of the New World and that of the Old.

Truly all nations drank of Babylon's wine! That all paganism and apostate Christianity is in its origin devil worship clearly accounts for the warning from God, found in many places in the Bible, to come out of Babylon, "the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit," as John the revelator puts it. Just as one cannot honor Lincoln by keeping Lenin's birthday, so one cannot honor God by desecrating that which He declares is holy, substituting the counterfeit "holy" days, rituals, and doctrines having their roots in open devil worship. No sincere Christian can knowingly accept the counterfeit in place of the genuine, no matter how widely it may be observed and taught by professed Christians. The

Scriptures are the only safe guide in such matters. The following articles of this series will trace the history of the various doctrines of devil worship, contrasting with them the plain teaching of the word of God.

## The Flight of Time

(Continued from page 3)

variety of languages are being regularly monitored every day, while from time to time special arrangements have to be made, often at short notice, to take down word for word and to translate a foreign speech of importance.

"This traffic is, however, not evenly distributed, the main rush coming during the hours of darkness. The material as it is taken down by the monitors is rapidly passed to an editorial staff, which prepares at speed a daily summary at 11:30 A. M. and 3 P. M.

"This summary at present runs to as many as 30,000 words a day. It is stenciled, and immediately dispatched to some twenty-five Government agencies and all the Departments directly engaged in the prosecution of the war.

"In advance of the issue of this summary, information of special urgency is telephoned immediately to the Departments known to be interested. . . .

"New uses are being continually disclosed for the service and the material which it assembles. It seems clear that its value will increase as the war develops, and that it will be at least as essential during any future period of peace negotiations as it has already proved itself to be in war conditions."

Reading the report of this amazing listening post, we were reminded of another of far larger proportions, where not only national broadcasts are heard and noted, but where "every idle word that men shall speak" is jotted down in books of record.

Many centuries ago Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, saw in a dream "a



## Coming NEXT WEEK

in addition to the regular features:

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Inventions Speed the Gospel Story . . . . .    | William A. Spicer    |
| Rebuilding the Foundations . . . . .           | Agnes Lewis Caviness |
| World Enemy Number One . . . . .               | C. B. Haynes         |
| Christ's Greatest Prophecy Fulfilled . . . . . | Roy F. Cottrell      |
| The Changing East . . . . .                    | H. G. Woodward       |
| The Counterfeit Godhead . . . . .              | Murl Vance           |
| The Master's Gifts . . . . .                   | Inez Brasier         |



watcher and an holy one" come down from heaven; and Daniel the prophet, interpreting the dream, said: "This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men." Daniel 4:13, 17.

Malachi tells us: "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him." Malachi 3:16.

So there are watchers and listeners not only at the heart of earthly empires but in the capital of the King of kings. He hears all. He sees all. He knows all. Everything that is said and done on earth is recorded before Him.

No reply may be made today; it may seem to many that God does not care; but the heavenly watchers and listeners do not labor in vain. God will give His answer in the judgment.

## Foundations

(Continued from page 5)

New voices were calling through the open windows. New ideas were traveling through the ether. The curtains of the sanctuaries had been torn aside.—"Since Then," by Sir Philip Gibbs, page 334.

Do you remember the experience of Mary Antin, which she recounts in "The Promised Land"? She had been brought up in abject devotion to all the tradition of an orthodox Jewish household. The God she had been taught to worship—and to fear—was indeed "a jealous God," who wreaked vengeance upon him who dared even the slightest disobedience to known commands. She had asked their teacher, "Reb 'Lozke," questions he could not answer. "Finding from his unsatisfying replies that the *rebbe* was but a barren branch on the tree of knowledge," she passed from question to experiment. One Sabbath afternoon, when all the house was taking its after-dinner nap, she went out into the yard. She took out her pocket handkerchief and looked at it. Yes, that would do for the experiment. The sacred admonition not to carry anything beyond the house

limits on the Sabbath day, she knew as she knew that she was alive. And, with her handkerchief in her pocket, she stepped into the street. Her heart beat high. Nothing happened. She walked across the street. She ran as far as the corner, and stood still waiting. What form would the punishment take? Would a sudden bolt strike her? She stood and waited. Where were the thunders of Jehovah? Where was God? Either the act was no sin and all her preceptors were deceivers, or it was indeed a sin in the eyes of God but He refrained from justice for reasons of His own. She was bitterly disappointed.

When she went back to the house, she gazed at her mother, at her grandmother, dozing in their chairs. They looked different. *Everything* looked different. *She* was different. That which had been taught her as the truth by her father and mother was no longer sure. What should she believe? How much of it was true?

This is the condition of many young people today. This is the condition of many of us. Those who have had such an experience live in two worlds, a real and a make-believe one. And the difficulty is that much of the time we do not know which is which. The foundations have broken down. Is there no help for us?

(To be continued next week)

## Millions March

(Continued from page 9)

In that final clash of armaments designated in Scripture as "Armageddon," the prophet beheld the "kings of the earth and of the whole world" impelled by demon spirits, and marshaled for "the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Revelation 16:16, 14. In any previous age, such an assembling of armed forces would hardly have been possible; but, with the advance of modern science and industry, the globe perceptibly shrinks, and all its inhabitants become "neighbors."

The world stage is today being set for just such a titanic struggle. Thank God for the assurance that it will be brief; for just as human turmoil and madness overflow the cup of crime, the limits of

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

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divine mercy are reached, probation closes, and the Prince of Peace returns to terminate the conflict, deliver His loyal people, and establish His endless reign of peace.

A few days ago we were privileged to read a personal letter from a friend across the waters, who vividly described the "black-outs" in the cities and towns of Great Britain. Throughout the United Kingdom and other warring nations, few leave their homes at night, for travel in the dark has become difficult and dangerous. The once brilliantly lighted streets and business districts of the great cities are shrouded in black. No headlights from railway trains or automobiles may illumine the darkness, while pedestrians stumble and grope their way about as in ages past. From shops and homes no friendly lights may cheer the wayfarer, for heavy shades are drawn to cover and blacken the windows.

Physically and spiritually war extinguishes the light of civilization. At a time when mankind might be walking by the lights of modern genius, the prophetic word is fulfilled, "Behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people." Isaiah 60:2.

At such a time as this God sends the awakening appeal to His people, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Verse 1. The lower lights are dimming; but the neon lights of prophecy shine brighter and brighter, illuminating the pathway ahead, and announcing in characters large and clear, "Behold, I come quickly." "Prepare to meet thy God."

## East Invades West

(Continued from page 4)

"Tao"—usually translated, The Way—is still disputed. Of the fruitage of the teaching, Beach of Yale credited Lao-tse with filling China to this day with "spirits above and spirits below, demons on the right hand and on the left, fears in life and terrors at death."—"Dawn on the Hills of T'ang," page 60.

The great commentator and preserver

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of Taoism was Chuang Tzu of the fifth century before Christ. We get a view of his dreamy mysticism from one incident. He dreamed one night that he was a butterfly. Ever after he was studying the problem: "Am I now a butterfly dreaming I am Chuang Tzu? or am I Chuang Tzu dreaming I am a butterfly?"

**Solon and Plato.**—We may look at only two more of these "great teachers" of religion. Of Solon, the great lawgiver of Greece, the historian Hume says: "It was Solon, the most celebrated of the sages of Greece, that gave parents permission by law to kill their children."

Under Plato's teaching, it was not mere permission but a command—this slaughter of unwanted innocents. In his ideal republic, "the proper officers will take the offspring of the good parents to the pen or fold; . . . but the offspring of the inferior, or of the better, when they chance to be deformed, will be put away."

—"Republic," book 5.

In the light of day, in our time, these teachers of pagan Greek culture are classed along with the Teacher, who said, "Suffer little children, . . . to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

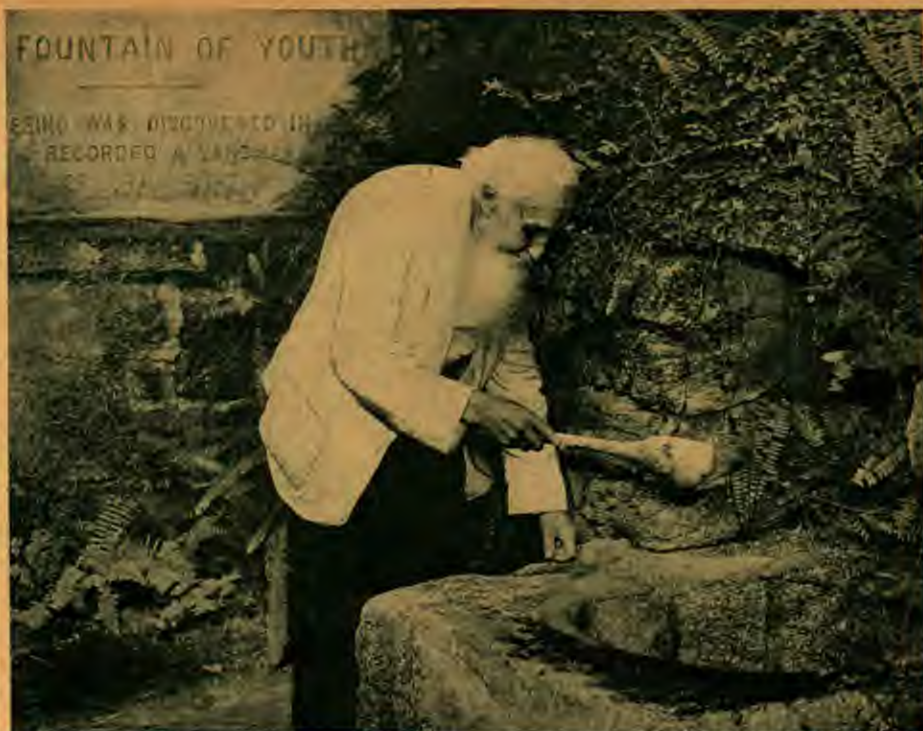
By no means would I suggest that non-Christian thinkers of ancient times left no good thoughts for posterity. But the fact is, every good that man has ever apprehended has come from the God of heaven, through Jesus, the Light of the world. One writer has put it exactly: "That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." John 1:9. The world has had its great teachers, men of giant intellect and wonderful research, men whose utterances have stimulated thought and opened to view vast fields of knowledge; and these men have been honored as guides and benefactors of their race. But there is One who stands higher than they. . . .

"We can trace the line of the world's great teachers as far back as human records extend; but the Light was before them. As the moon and the stars of the solar system shine by the reflected light of the sun, so, as far as their teaching is true, do the world's great thinkers reflect the rays of the Sun of Righteousness. Every gem of thought, every flash of the intellect, is from the Light of the world." —"Gospel Workers," by E. G. White, page 50.

Today, as the age-old mysticism of the East is sweeping into the West, as Christendom is being "replenished from the East," as the prophecy foretold, well may we warn men concerning it, "holding forth the word of life."

When God energizes the will, it becomes indomitable.—Strong.

for FEBRUARY 27, 1940



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HAVE you ever heard of an individual's "kicking the cat" in order to make an outlet for the emotions boiling within him? If so, you probably ejaculated, "Temper!" Explained the offender: "I was just nervous."

Which answer is right? It does not matter; for after all, which is the greater fault—a bad temper or ugly nerves? How many people, mentally bothered by something, come to the breakfast table sullenly, ignore the family, refuse to answer when spoken to, and, after breakfast, go out the door with a slam, then congratulate themselves on their self-control!

Remarkable in its sweep is the statement made by Hubert S. Howe, authority in the field of psychiatry, that in approximately 99 per cent of some 30,000,000 American homes, the expression, "It gets on my nerves," is an all too common one. Another psychiatrist has said that of all the people over thirty-five years of age who have been to him for aid in untangling their twisted threads of life, not one differed as to the thing needed to smooth out the perplexities and promote peaceful living. In a word, the thing needed was religion.

When people live without God, they are all too apt to exhibit ill temper and other weaknesses when meeting life's problems, making life miserable for others, and excusing themselves with, "Please forgive me; I am just nervous and cannot help it."

## JUST NERVOUS!



by

RUTH COOPRIDER

How different is the outlook of the person who has peace in his soul because of his assurance of the love and care of a divine Father! How calm and firm is the step of the one who realizes that the difficulties of life will clear up as trifles in the presence of a miracle-working God!

Here is the secret of the power of Christianity in the lives of men and women: "Neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon Thee." 2 Chronicles 20:12. Again we read: "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4. Jesus Christ loved us enough to come to this dark world, sharing our infirmities, that we might be saved. He has gone the way before us. His life was an example of the childlike trust we are to have in a Father who owns and controls the universe. His power is sufficient to guide us and keep us safe.

Christians do not "kick cats;" they do not need to. He who has entrusted his cares to Christ will come down to breakfast cheerily. He will have a smile on his face, and his voice will have the beautiful overtones that only kindness and love can give. As he goes out the door, after bidding his family good-by, he thanks God for two good feet and two strong hands and a job to work at. "Life isn't just what I want it to be," he may say to himself; "but, with God's help, I am going to conquer it yet."

Jesus Christ never said at any time, "That makes Me nervous;" instead He gives the invitation: "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew 11:28, 29.