

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

THE WORLD'S PROPHEPIC WEEKLY

ACADEMY



INTERNATIONAL



What did it matter to the apostle John that he was banished to the lonely Isle of Patmos, when he could see the glorious city of God, and his name inscribed on one of the foundation stones?

The OUTLOOK and The UPLOOK

"THERE shall be . . . upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. . . . And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:25-28.

These are days of trouble, when the hearts of men are failing them for fear. Men are looking at the things taking place upon the earth. They see war and destruction on every hand. They see the fruitful fields laid waste, and flourishing cities destroyed. They see women and children fleeing for protection. They see mighty nations in a death grapple for supremacy. They see a rain of bombs from the sky; mangled forms of human beings are scattered everywhere, and hundreds of lives are snuffed out in an instant.

Yes, men are looking at the things taking place upon the earth, and the outlook seems dark enough.

But there is another look. We need not always be *looking at* the fearful conditions around us. We should *look up* toward God. Our Saviour knew what was coming upon the earth. He could foretell the horrors that men would witness today. But He told His people that in such a time as this they should look up, and lift up their heads. The outlook may be dark, but the up-

look will always be bright and hopeful.

Paul did not permit the sufferings, trials, and difficulties through which he passed to discourage him. He had another look—an uplook that encouraged him. He looked forward to the reward. He looked at these things from the eternal and not from the human viewpoint. Boldly he could say: "None of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus." Acts 20:24.

In making his comparison between the trials through which he passed and the glory that awaited him, he found the difference so great that there could be little comparison. His sufferings were as nothing—they sank into insignificance before him; they scarcely were worthy to be mentioned. He said: "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Romans 8:18.

Others might have called his trials heavy. They could

A Cheering Message for Darkening Days

by N. P. NEILSEN

have called his sufferings terrible. Those one hundred ninety-five stripes he received were all unjust; he had wronged no one. The three times that he was beaten with rods he did not deserve punishment. Once he was stoned by those to whom he had come to preach the glad tidings of salvation. This surely was unjust. Often he was weary; he was hungry and thirsty; he was cold and ill-clad, and yet he did not murmur. He declared: "Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." 2 Corinthians 4:17.

How could Paul call all these terrible afflictions and trials light? How could he speak of these scourgings and imprisonments as "but for a moment"? *It was his viewpoint.* He compared these trials with the eternal glory to be revealed. He measured the months of his imprisonment by the measuring rod of eternity, and all these things were but light; they

the flight of
TIME

the Editor's comments
on world events, will
appear again as usual
next week.

were transitory when compared with "the far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" to be his in the kingdom of God. His look was not fastened upon these temporal, material things; he had an uplook that changed the aspect of all the trials around him.

The apostle John was on the lonely isle of Patmos. He was banished for the word of God and for the truth he had proclaimed. Doubtless he often went down to the rocky shore and looked across the waters toward the churches he had left behind. Then a feeling of loneliness would steal over him, and he would long to be with his own again. On Sabbath mornings, no doubt, he would thus sit, meditating and looking across the deep, blue waters, wishing that he might mingle his voice with others in holy worship to God.

But God had something better for him. Instead of looking out and thinking about his own banishment, he was to look up and view the glories of God. The heavens were opened to his view. He saw the host of the redeemed in the city above. He heard the song of praise from the unnumbered throngs around the throne of the Eternal One. He looked and beheld the city of God in all its

OUR COVER PICTURE

Suggestive of the warfare now being waged upon Christianity in many lands is this picture of a beautiful old English church reduced to a pile of smoldering wreckage by a bomb from an invading plane.

glory. He saw the streets of gold, and the jasper wall with its pearly gates. He saw the foundation of that wall garnished with all manner of precious stones. He looked more intently, and saw the name of Peter engraved upon one of the foundation stones. He looked again, and behold, there were the names of James and Andrew and Matthew inscribed as with letters of gold. Once more he gazed, and, lo, there was his own name plainly engraved upon the precious stone. He saw it, and was satisfied.

What now did it matter to him that his name was on the black list of Rome when he saw it inscribed upon the foundation stone of the eternal city? What now did it matter to him that he was banished to that lonely isle when he

could see the city of God in all its splendor and could hear the song of the redeemed floating down to him from the courts above? He was looking at a better world, and this present one had lost all attraction for him. Its charms were gone. To him all the sufferings he had endured were as nothing when compared with the glory that was revealed to him and that would be his if he were faithful. He beheld the glory, and his trials were as nothing.

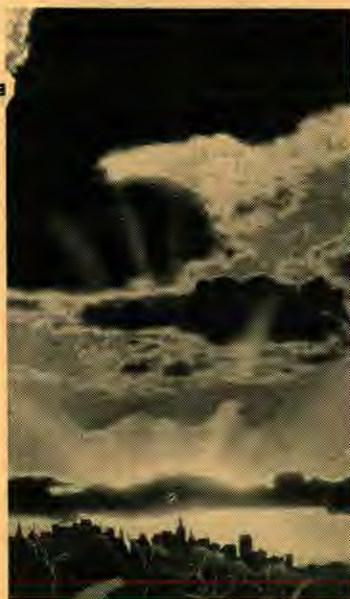
Yes, the outlook in this troubled world may be dark. It may be gloomy, foreboding; but while the world is looking down in discouragement, we are to look up and lift up our heads. When others see nothing but destruction and chaos before them, God's children are to view matters from the mountain peaks of God's promises, and get a correct perspective of the meaning of these things. We are to look beyond the smoke of the battlefields of earth, and see the land of the blessed—"the home where changes never come." We are to look for the coming of the Lord and the redemption of the faithful of all ages. Yea, the time has come for us to look up, and lift up our heads, for our redemption draws nigh.

A SENSE of impending doom overshadows the entire globe. Men, sensitive to present trends, fear that the confusion of today will culminate in a catastrophe from which there can be no recall.

From the Bible viewpoint we are headed for a catastrophe—an event more drastic and far-reaching than anything man can picture in the wildest flights of his imagination; for one of these days nature will herald the coming of Him whose right it is to rule. As the overwhelming splendor of His appearance bursts upon us in a moment of inexpectancy, this world with all that is evil will be shaken to its foundations.

But while this event will mark the end of this world as we know it, it will also herald the dawn of a better day. For in place of the universal chaos will blossom forth a new world—a world in which every economic problem has been solved, every wrong righted, and every obstacle to the pursuit of happiness removed. Death, disease, sin, and poverty will have been forever banished.

It will be a world filled with happy, wholesome people, reveling in the full vigor of youth. Their minds will be unfettered by care, their dispositions untainted by the selfishness and greed of this present evil world. Conspicuously absent from this new earth will be the maimed, the halt, and the blind—not alone in the physical but in the intellectual and spiritual sense, for bruised hearts and minds will have found the healing of the presence of Him who is the Prince of Peace. Under the skillful touch of His hand, resources that have slumbered throughout this life for lack of stimulus and opportunity will come to life.



GALLOWAY

Beyond the NIGHT

by

EDITH PETERSON

Gone will be the fears, prejudices, inhibitions, and untoward circumstances that stunt and warp our development in this life. Absent will be the incessant toil that dims our perception and curtails freshness and originality of thought; dire necessity will not be there to force men's minds into the grooves of some narrowing occupation.

The insatiable curiosity inherent in every human being will be fed, not stifled by care or perverted into unsatisfying channels. With the wonder and delight of a little child, we shall explore the world about us, probing deep into its mysteries and gaining new intellectual powers as we study.

Esthetically, we shall be set free. The poet, the artist, the musician, residing in the meanest of us, will no longer remain imprisoned by an adverse fate. As we behold that land of unsurpassed loveliness, the great deeps of our beauty-loving natures will be unleashed. The rhythm and beauty of life will open to us through myriads of channels. We shall see with the eyes of the artist; we shall hear with the ears of the poet; and, as the years go by, our appreciation of beauty will ever grow more keen.

Socially, we shall be at our best. Our deep yearning for companionship will be satisfied. To each and everyone will come the sweet consciousness of loving and being loved, of understanding and being understood. We shall find in one another's society a delight and a stimulus, a give-and-take undreamed of in the isolated atmosphere that surrounds us at present. Over there our lives will not be insulated from one another by selfishness and greed. We shall need no mask for our thoughts, no coldness to defend a wounded pride; with hearts made free from sin, there will be no need for the masks of reserve and indifference beneath which we hide our real selves in our present abode.

But, best of all, we shall see Jesus face to face. Our spiritual heritage will be fully realized. The gulf made by sin, which has separated man from his God, will be completely bridged. No veil will obscure from view the love, the deep understanding, and the comprehending sympathy of Jesus for each and every one of us. In His love we shall rest securely, as a little child rests in the love of its parents.

Come, happy day!

LIVING TEMPLE

THE marvels of the human body excite our wonder and admiration. Every step in the study of anatomy brings a new thrill and fascination until at length man retreats in baffled amazement before the miracle of life.

Here is an intricate mechanism that can grow and build into its own useful structure the materials fed into it. Here is a device possessed of the faculty to repair itself while in operation. We partake of food today; tomorrow it becomes heat and strength, flesh and bone, reason and memory, love or hatred. With David we exclaim: "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it." "I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are Thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well." Psalm 139:6, 14.

The average weight of a man's brain is about three pounds; and when examined under a microscope is found to be largely composed of curious, living cells, some of which appear similar to a tadpole with a long appendage, others are like a spider with legs projecting on all sides. In these tiny cells the experiences, the education, and the mental skill of a lifetime are stored.

From the billion and more nerve cells composing the brain and spinal cord, little silken fingers extend to all parts of the body. By this telegraph system the movements of head, hands, and feet co-ordinate. All move in harmony with the commands of the specific nerve cells that govern each part and function; even during sleep the heart beats, the lungs breathe, and the glands function in obedience to these vigilant, sleepless watchers. Consider, too, that when a pin pricks the fingertip, the "little brain" at the extremity instantly turns in a "trouble call" to the central office, which in turn flashes the message to the muscles, "Pull the hand away!" Truly, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

The heart of an average person is about the size of his closed fist, and weighs less than a pound. Yet this living pump keeps steadily working throughout life from infancy to old age, making about 72 strokes a minute, and never stopping

Marvels of the Human Body

by

ROY F. COTTRELL

to rest for as long as ten seconds at a time. It is a force pump and a suction pump, pushing the blood outward through the arteries and pulling it inward from the veins.

In its daily task it pumps some seven and a half tons of blood.

The heart is the most efficient engine known to man; yet who can explain the secret of its lifelong activity? Modern science has made painstaking investigation. Skilled surgeons have performed successful operations upon this organ; and even when life seemed spent and the motor ceased to function, science has revived its action and caused it to throb once more for a period of a few minutes—or even a few hours. When the heart of certain animals is dissected into a number of pieces, each section will continue to throb for a time. In a laboratory in New York City is the heart of an embryo chick that has been kept beating for more than twenty years. It has been removed from the original body, and is preserved in a glass jar. The ordinary life of a chicken is but five or six years; but here is this living organism, nourished with perfect food, with the toxic poisons removed as soon as they are generated; and scientists conducting the experiment see no reason why this little heart should not continue to beat indefinitely.

Some sections of the heart contain nerve ganglia, or little intelligence centers; and here the physiologist thought he had discovered the long-sought answer as to the origin of life; yet the apex of the heart, which contains no nerve cell at all, usually beats longer and stronger than any other part. So again

the investigator is baffled. The primal cause of the rhythmic heartbeat remains a mystery to science that is "past finding out."

God long ago propounded the questions: "Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart?" Job 38:36.

Consider the lungs, lined with a delicate membrane which, if unfolded, would cover a surface of about 2,250 square feet. Beneath this membrane an amount of blood equal to the entire bodily supply passes each minute for purification. It gives off certain poisons; and each tiny red corpuscle may carry with it a load of life-giving oxygen larger than the corpuscle itself. "He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things." Acts 17:25.

The modern camera elicits our wonder and admiration; yet no camera devised by the skill of man can compare with the miracle camera of the eye. This little organ, less than an inch in diameter, is able constantly and automatically to photograph objects a few inches from the eye, or many miles distant, and to transmit these pictures immediately to the brain for interpretation and registry. By the harmonious action of twelve mus-

The transparent woman—science's gift to health education—shows the intricate structure and perfectly functioning mechanism of the female body.



cles, six to each orb, the two normal eyes co-ordinate perfectly.

The optic nerve, composed of numerous tiny strands, or nerve fibers, enters at the rear, and spreads out to form the lining coat of the eyeball. Upon each of these nerve endings is a highly specialized light receptor. These are provided with a sensitive photochemical substance, the visual purple, which, when occasion demands, is employed to make the eye more sensitive to light. As a person passes from light into darkness, he may see nothing at first; but in a few moments the visual purple is supplied to the nerve terminals, and the eye may presently become "twenty-five times as sensitive to light."

Observe also the automatic adjustments in this living camera, whose shutters, or iris, open and close to admit the necessary amount of light; whose intricate muscles focus the tiny lens for accurate vision, near or distant; and the numerous other devices, all of which synchronize in producing vision. "The light of the body is the eye." "He that formed the eye, shall He not see?" Luke 11:34; Psalm 94:9.

This "window of the soul," set in the front of the cranial cavity, is surrounded by a strong bony case to prevent injury. Here also is indicated the Creator's care and solicitude for His children.

Speech a Priceless Talent

"Thou, O Lord, . . . hast opened the ear." "He that hath an ear, let him hear." 2 Samuel 7:27, margin; Revelation 2:7. Wondrous beyond expression is the gift of hearing! The sound vibrations gathered by the outer ear pass through the auditory canal, strike the drum membrane of the middle ear, and are carried across this cavity by a swinging chain of three delicate bones. The internal ear, a spiral tube about the size and shape of a small snail shell, is filled with a fluid, and contains a number of minute ear stones. Across this tube are stretched "24,000 strings varying gradually in length and resembling in general arrangement the strings of a piano."

As the little bony chain of the middle ear swings to and fro, the fluid in the tube is disturbed, the minute ear stones dance up and down upon these 24,000 strings, and the specialized sound receptors pick up the impulses and telegraph them over the auditory nerve to the brain, where the intricate code is received and interpreted. Only He who can hear could create so marvelous a mechanism!

The gift of speech is equally wonderful. In the voice box, or larynx, are but two vocal cords, each less than an inch in length, and exactly alike. Yet of the approximately two billion inhabitants of our globe, no two voices are precisely the



Hold Thou My Hand

MAY LACEY WHITE

As shadows longer grow on life's rough way,
And everything around seems changed and strange.

My longing eyes look up to Thee each day,
Shepherd divine.

When, looking back upon the past, I see
How far I've been from what I should have been.

Regret and sorrow fill this heart of mine
And courage fails.

I cannot tread alone the path that lies
Before me in this world of sin and woe;
I must have Thee to hold my hand in Thine
Till life is o'er.

Support me with Thine everlasting arms,
And draw me close to Thy great heart of love;

I dare not trust myself in this dark world,
O God above.

And as I give myself anew to Thee,
And look to Thee for guidance and for care
Each day that comes, may I at all times feel
Thy presence near.

Then hold my hand, dear Lord, through all
life's way,
Nor leave me e'en one moment to myself—
I cannot do without Thee night or day.
Hold Thou my hand!

same; and each normal person with these two little strings is able to produce tens of thousands of variations in tone and expression.

The power and influence of speech is an even greater miracle than the organ by which it is produced. It can pour forth the sweetest music, and stir the deepest emotions of the soul. It may charm with the tenderest accents of love, or terrify with the thunderbolts of anger. It may burn as a fire or chill as an iceberg. Its influence may bless as "apples of gold in pictures of silver," while the untamed tongue "full of deadly poison" is "a world of iniquity." Proverbs 25:11; James 3:8, 6. It may arouse millions to face peril and death undaunted, or it

may soothe the timid babe to rest, and to the troubled heart whisper, "Peace, be still." "Death and life are in the power of the tongue." Mark 4:39; Proverbs 18:21.

How did mankind acquire so priceless a talent, so marvelous a gift? "Who hath made man's mouth? . . . have not I the Lord?" Exodus 4:11.

Think on these things. Do they indicate that in the search for our ancient ancestors we should go to slimy ooze of some prehistoric pool? In the amoeba, the tadpole, the mollusk, the reptile, and the ape shall we seek to trace the growth of our family tree? *Never!* To conceive that man with all his wondrous endowments came by chance, by accident, or by evolution requires a stretch of preposterous credulity that passes reason.

To Attain an Exalted Destiny

The human body, with its myriad wonders, its delicate design, and its adaptive mechanism, reveals in countless ways the handiwork of an infinite designer and builder. Truly, "the hand that made us is divine." Man is not an irresponsible creature of fate. He was brought into being and placed upon this planet to fulfill a noble purpose, and to attain an exalted destiny. Both by creation and by redemption he is a son of God; and the Father says: "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy." 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 3:17.

This perspective reveals that the laws of health are indeed the laws of God, and that as a vital part of the Christian's life of victory he will seek to guard his health as sacredly as he guards his character. Recognizing that as keeper and custodian of this "temple" he will be held to strict accountability to keep the sanctuary free from all defilement and to maintain his physical powers at the highest degree of efficiency, his motto for Christian living will ever be: Whether therefore I eat or drink, or whatsoever I do, I will do all to the glory of God.

THERE are none of us so close to Him, but that we may be nearer, and the secret of our daily Christian life is all wrapped up in that one word which is scarcely to be called a figure, "coming" unto Him. We know not how close to His heart we can lay our aching heads. We know not how near to His fullness we may bring our emptiness. We have never yet reached the point beyond which is possible no closer union.—*Alexander Mac-laren.*

Youth's PROBLEMS



4 The Problem of ASSOCIATION

by
D. E. REINER



I BELIEVE in friends, comrades, and pals. Young people need them all. But remember that he who would associate with worth-while friends must be willing to pay the price.

These friends are not easily found. They do not sit around on the street corners or in the public market places. We must seek for them, and wait for them. We must beware of those who glitter too much on the surface. They may be only base metal. They must be given time to prove themselves.

As bad as this world is, there are still many of the best friends left for us in our day—friends who are true, who will not compromise or sell out at any cost.

You may say: "How may I know them when I see them?"

Well, anyone who seeks to lead you away from right principles is not your friend. Nor is one who weakens your faith, and suggests compromises with holy principles. He will become a spiritual dead weight in your life, and will surely drag you down. You must learn to forsake such acquaintances, and leave them alone. And the sooner you do it, the better it will be for you and for your future.

King Solomon named seven characteristics to be avoided in "friends": "These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren." Proverbs 6: 16-19.

How many young men have I seen in

my meetings whose hearts were moved toward the right and who wanted to be Christians, but were turned away from Christ because of their friends! They were afraid of mockery and criticism, and did not wish to be left alone.

But what if we are left alone? God's great men have often been alone.

We must learn to say no. To do it we need the power of a strong will actuated by lofty motives and guided by great principles—not by feeling or fancy. We should manifest a willingness to heed the voice of experience of others who have passed over the road. We should counsel often with those who love us, know us best, believe in us, and who lead the successful life. We should find our dearest friendship with Christ who "sticketh closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24.

Spend more time in group associations and do not specialize too much, clique off, and become too confidential. It will save you many a heartache in the days to come. Abraham Lincoln once said: "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to what I know to be right. I must stand with anybody who stands right; stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong." This is good counsel indeed.

I contend that those who strive to be Christians, who belong to the church of God, who believe in Christian principles, and who do their best to live up

to them, are still the best men on earth. We should endeavor to find our friendship and our pleasures among this class of people.

The problem of association is a real one, but it can be solved if we are willing and obedient, and determined to follow our Guide. Let us make the prayer of this young man the prayer of our heart:

"God, make me a man!
Give me the strength to stand for right
When other folks have left the fight.
Give me the courage of the man
Who knows that if he wills, he can.
Teach me to see in every face
The good, the kind, and not the base.
Make me sincere in word and deed,
Blot out from me all sham and greed.
Help me to guard my troubled soul
By constant, active self-control.
Clean up my thoughts, my speech, my play,
And keep me pure from day to day.
O make of me a man!"



A SHORT time ago I was walking down one of the busy streets of Philadelphia during the noon hour. Standing on a corner were three businessmen engaged in very earnest conversation. As I drew near, I heard one of them say: "But I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Immediately I became interested, because I had heard the name of my great Leader and Saviour mentioned. Yes, these men were talking about world conditions—past, present, and future, and about leaders who had brought and were to bring salvation. They were looking for a leader to bring order out of this present chaos, a leader who would save civilization.

I gathered from the conversation that all three were businessmen of long acquaintance. One was of the Jewish race. He said: "Moses was a great leader, and we look for another like him." Another, a believer (in theory at least) in Christ, said: "God is the Supreme Being. Moses was a great leader; but Christ is the Son of God." The third named a present-day ruler, and said: "He, like Moses and Christ, is a great leader. It is his purpose to give everyone work and a place to live." The men stood looking at one another in bewilderment for a moment, then separated to go in three different directions. Three men, all seeking one objective—peace, home, and happiness; all looking for a leader; but all confused as to how he might solve the great problems of the modern world.

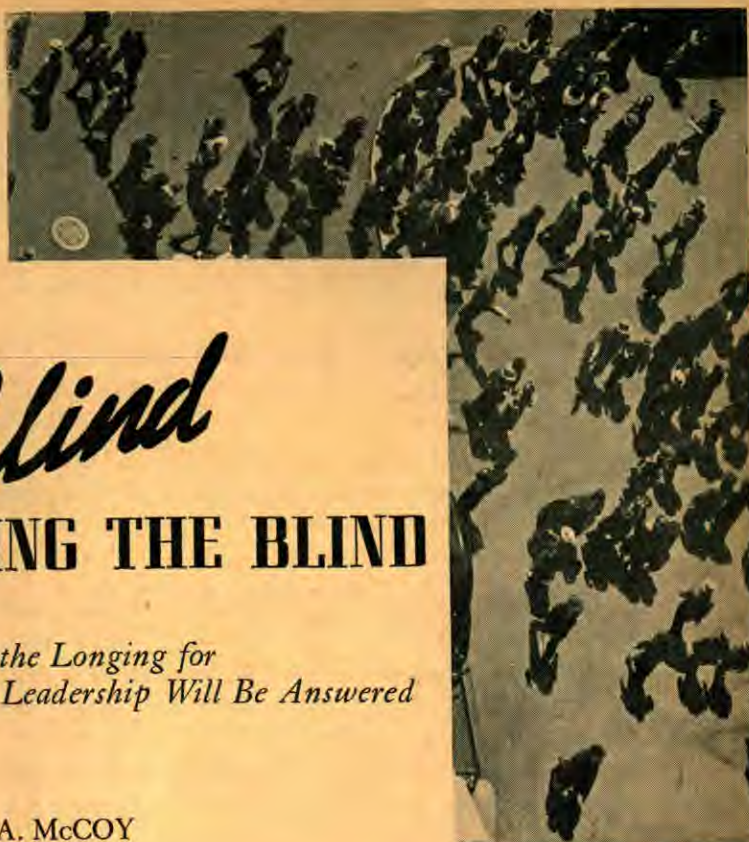
How like were these men to most people today—all looking for a way out, all wandering about in darkness, the blind leading the blind.

God, by His prophet Isaiah, foretold just such an hour as this. "Behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people." Isaiah 60:2. The Son of God came to this world to save sinners in a time of similar darkness. People were worshiping anything and everything but God. There was a state of bewilderment. Even the spiritual leaders were helpless.

There was Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews and a prominent religious leader of that day. He came to Jesus by night to ask concerning His leadership. Christ sought to teach him the spiritual doctrine of the new birth, but he was so materially minded, and so spiritually seared, that he could not understand. Then Jesus asked, "Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?" John 3:10.

In the fifteenth chapter of Matthew we read that the disciples told Jesus that the Pharisees were offended at His teaching. Christ answered by saying: "Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Verse 14. Even so it is today. Many spiritual leaders are

To avoid physical or spiritual disaster, only a wise, keen-sighted guide can be followed.



Blind

LEADING THE BLIND

*How the Longing for
New Leadership Will Be Answered*

by T. A. McCOY

blind, and are leading blind congregations. As a result, they have largely lost their influence upon the world, and the world at large is headed for "the ditch."

I am not a prophet, but I do believe in the prophets of God who wrote the Scriptures as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. 2 Peter 1:21, 22. The Holy Book says in Amos 3:7: "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets." Yes, we have these things revealed in the Bible, if we will take the Bible as it reads, *rejecting nothing*. 2 Peter 1:19 tells us: "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."

We need not be in darkness. We may know the way out. We may know who will be the next world ruler, for we have the sure word of prophecy. And we shall do well to take heed unto it, "as unto a light that shineth in a dark place."

The cup of iniquity of the kingdoms of this world is fast filling up, and one of these days it will be filled to overflowing. Then God will look down and declare that it is enough; events have gone beyond His forbearance. His mercy will then come to an end, and He will send Jesus to execute His wrath upon the nations. "He shall rule them with a rod of iron," which is symbolic of destruction and death. Revelation 19:15.

Some persons have been taught that the coming of Christ will mean another chance for the unrighteous to prepare

for eternity; this, too, is contrary to the teaching of the sure word of prophecy. Let us note well the "stone" of Daniel 2:34, 35, 44. This stone represents Christ, and these verses tell us that the stone is to smite the image upon the feet, that are of iron and clay, and break them to pieces. "Then was the iron, the clay, . . . broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them." This stone is to "break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms."

From this it is plain that Christ is not coming to reign in a kingdom contemporary with other kingdoms of this world. He will first consume all these kingdoms of ungodly people at His coming, as symbolized by the smiting, consuming stone. After these kingdoms are obliterated, then He will set up His righteous kingdom upon this earth.

Christ is not coming this time to save sinners. He is coming to destroy sinners who have not repented of their evil deeds—sinners who obey not the gospel of God. He will receive into His kingdom only those who obey the gospel of His salvation, only those who are ready to go into it.

Let me bring to your attention two of a number of Scripture references that point out very clearly the attitude of Christ toward sinners when He comes. "The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flam-

(Continued on page 14)



3,000 YEARS

The Book That Beat the Scientists by Three Millenniums. Amazing Knowledge of Natural Wonders Revealed by Bible Writers.

by TAYLOR G. BUNCH

MORE than three thousand years ago the Lord asked Job eighty or so questions about the simple but unexplainable things of nature. Many of these questions were not answered until the marvels of modern science gave them meaning.

Did the Lord have reference to the use of electricity in transmitting messages when He asked, "Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are ["Behold us," margin]?" Job 38:35. What better description could be given of the modern telegraph, telephone, wireless, radio, television, and other modern means of communication by the power of electricity?

"Can you send out the lightning on its mission? Does it say humbly to you, 'Here am I?'" is Moffatt's translation. Beginning with the days of Benjamin Franklin, the lightnings have been tamed and made the servant of man in carrying messages around the world. In 1844 the first long-distance message—"What hath God wrought!"—was sent over the telegraph, which Samuel Morse had invented. In 1858 the first submarine cable was laid under the Atlantic, and hundreds more have since been laid under the oceans of the world for the transmission of messages. Two men in New York recently talked to each other around the world by telephone. The message traveled 23,000 miles in one quarter of a second. Recently a wireless message traveled 360,000 miles in a series of twenty loops between Warsaw and New York before it died out. The speed of the message was 186,000 miles a second. "Behold us" will doubtless have a more definite meaning when television is perfected so that we can see the person with whom we converse.

Another ancient prophet said: "The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." Psalm 68:11. Whether or not this has direct reference to the modern printing press that is playing such an important part

in the dissemination of the truths of the gospel in these last days, it is an accurate description of what is happening in the modern world as the gospel message is being heralded speedily "to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." See Revelation 14:6-14.

In 1811 the cylinder printing press was invented, and thereby production of the printed word was greatly increased over what had been possible from unwieldy hand presses. The modern press can print, cut, fold, and count 300,000 twenty-four-page papers an hour. A few years ago three living trees were cut down at 7:35 o'clock in the morning, and the trunks taken to the mill and transformed into paper. At 9:30 the roll of paper was delivered to the newspaper plant, and at 10:00 the papers were being sold on the streets. In two hours and twenty-five minutes the living trees were transformed into newspapers.

Other Scientific Discoveries

The Bible reveals many scientific facts that have only recently been discovered by man. No modern scientist is able to answer all the questions the Lord asked Job regarding the miracles of nature. Nature is filled with marvels that are known to be facts, but which science is at a loss fully to explain. Like many things in the spiritual realm, they must be accepted by faith rather than by reason. The Lord's questions humbled Job, and they should do the same for those today who boast of their human wisdom. Plato, Aristotle, and other great scientists and philosophers of ancient times would doubtless have scoffed at the idea that the air has weight; and yet it was recorded in the Scriptures many years before their day. "To make the weight for the winds" is the statement in Job 28:25. Not until the seventeenth century was it discovered that the air has a pressure of about fifteen pounds per square inch at sea level.

Only in recent years was it discovered

that the winds travel in circuits according to fixed and unchangeable laws; but this also was placed in the Scriptures almost three millennia ago. "The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits." Ecclesiastes 1:6. The trade winds are exceedingly regular in their course from the northeast in the Northern Hemisphere, and from the southeast in the Southern Hemisphere. Then there are the antitrades, which travel in the opposite directions, contrary apparently to all reason and law. The winds are almost as regular in their movements as are the heavenly bodies, making it possible for scientists to forecast the atmospheric changes long in advance of the arrival of the storm. The atmospheric heavens contain no stagnant air.

Water also obeys a divine law that keeps even the oceans in motion to prevent stagnation and to serve vegetation. Water is continually leaving the sea through evaporation, and is carried by the clouds and poured out in rain upon the thirsty land, and through the streams and rivers returns again to the sea from which it originally came. This scientific fact is also recorded in Holy Writ: "All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again." "Seek Him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is His name." Ecclesiastes 1:7; Amos 5:8.

Ocean Streams

The currents that keep in circulation the waters of the seven seas are also mentioned in the Bible, although they were unknown to man until the eighteenth century of the Christian Era. The Lord

S AHEAD!



Modern scientists are today harnessing and applying power unknown until our generation. Yet these "wonders" have ever been revealed in the Book of God.

asked Job the question, "Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the depth?" Job 38:16. "Have you found out the fountains of the sea?" is Moffatt's translation. The existence of "springs" or "fountains" and well-defined rivers in the oceans was unknown until long after Columbus discovered America and the seas began to be navigated. Mariners in the 1760's knew of their existence, for they had learned that better time could be made by taking certain routes even though the distance was greater. Benjamin Franklin in 1770 made the first chart of what he called the Gulf Stream. He got most of his information from a Nantucket whaling captain, who told

him of these streams in the sea in which no whales were found. His knowledge, of course, was very limited compared with what is known today of the Gulf Stream, the Brazil Current, the Labrador Current, the Japan Current, the equatorial current, and other ocean rivers that stir up and keep in motion the waters of the mighty deep. It is interesting to note that the gulf and ocean streams of the Northern Hemisphere move in the same direction as the hands of a clock, and those of the Southern Hemisphere move anticlockwise.

The greatest flow of water on earth is the Gulf Stream, so called because it has its origin or "spring" in the Gulf of Mexico. It is estimated that this stream, or

river, flows through the straits between Cuba and Florida at the rate of ninety billion tons an hour. Compared with this mighty river, those on the land are mere brooks. The Gulf Stream is more than five thousand miles long, and would make five hundred Amazons, three thousand Mississippis, or ten thousand Hudsons. On the average it is thirty-two miles wide and one thousand two hundred feet deep. The average flow is eighty miles a day; but in places it reaches the speed of nine miles an hour, or two hundred a day. As the Gulf Stream flows northward along the east coast of North America, it is so well defined that it leaves between it and the shore a "cold wall" of green water, the stream itself being blue. The temperature of the water in the green wall on either side of the blue stream often shows a difference of from twenty-five to thirty degrees. In the length of a ship a difference of twenty-one degrees has been registered. This cold wall is as real as a levee. These ocean streams greatly affect the climate of all the lands they touch. If it were not for ocean streams, Northern Europe would be a frozen waste, since the British Isles are in the same parallels of latitude as Labrador.

The American ship "Jeannette" was caught in an ice pack and wrecked north of eastern Siberia on June 13, 1881. Part of the wreckage floated, and was found in the North Atlantic in 1884, more than four thousand miles distant from the scene of the wreck. With this knowledge, the explorer, Nansen, built the powerful ship "Fram," and shaped and reinforced it so that it would safely ride the ice. With several years' provisions on board, he entered the Arctic Ocean from Bering Sea and arrived at the vicinity of the wreck of the "Jeannette" on September 20, 1893. As was expected, the "Fram" was lifted by the ice and drifted on even keel high above the water, emerging near Spitsbergen in August, 1896. The journey required almost three years, and was made without loss of life or damage to the ship. It proved that there is a powerful stream, or current, flowing through the Arctic Ocean above Siberia from the direction of the Pacific to the Atlantic. The many ocean streams are constantly being studied by the use of derelict ships and corked bottles, which have been found to circumnavigate the world in about three years' time. About ten thousand of these bottles are picked up each year, furnishing abundance of information in regard to the movements of these mighty streams or rivers that move through the seven seas.

The question, "Hast thou walked in the search of the depth?" doubtless has reference to the great depth of the oceans, which are now known to be as much as 35,400 feet, or almost seven miles, in

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BANDITS ACCEPT CHRIST



by

MADGE HAINES MORRILL

LEE MU-SI [pastor], the bandits! My friend tell me they come. Maybe today, maybe not." The Chinese cook gravely bowed and returned to the kitchen.

Slowly the white-haired missionary raised his head; he sat looking toward the door; the lines in his face deepened.

Bandits! Oh, would they never stop raiding the villages, torturing the women and children? Distinctly he recalled their horrifying visit less than a year before.

Wearily he arose and tramped to and fro across the front room, his hands clenched nervously behind him.

How vividly the memory stood out! He saw it all again, and he relived it once more as he paced the floor.

"*Djan dju!*" (Stand still!) a voice had shouted that morning just outside the compound gate. The missionary and his wife had slipped into the gateman's house and peered through the window overlooking the street. There stood a group of perhaps fifty hard-faced bandits, with bayonets pressed threateningly close to three young colporteurs.

Silently the missionary watched and prayed. He dared not leave the house. Just then a voice called in Mandarin, "Beat them up, and let us go on. We will not enter here today."

The young prisoners stood bravely, and silently received the blows on their naked backs. Then the band moved away as quickly as it had come, leaving two men cruelly beaten and one fatally wounded.

The missionary stopped his rhythmic tread and rubbed his hand across his forehead, still recalling the horrible scene.

Bandits!

"Why, John, what's wrong?" asked Mrs. Lee, who had just entered the room. "You aren't going to let those fellows keep you from work today, are you? At least they haven't come yet, and it's eight-forty-five. You'd better go—I think," she ended limply.

Together they knelt and asked protection from the threatening danger. Mr. Lee stepped outside and managed to hail a trembling ricksha coolie, who kept on taking just one more customer for the few

coppers he might receive before hiding.

The temples near the compound were much busier than usual, for the villagers had come to beg help from the gods. Few persons strayed in the open, and the huts were strangely silent. Nearly all the animals had disappeared. A few geese honked as they waddled noisily about the ponds' edges. A thin cat sprawled on the ground, and a nondescript *wonk* scrambled to its feet, barking loudly.

Arriving at the home of the Chinese pastor, the missionary planned an itinerary for the morning and much of the afternoon among the church members.

Together they set out. All morning they worked—and prayed. At noon they stopped and bought some rice, hot baked sweet potatoes, and buns from a toothless old man who smiled at them, though he often cast furtive glances down the narrow cobblestone street.

A typical Chinese youth of whom there are many others enlisted under the banner of Christ, their King.



Four-thirty came. Mr. Lee stepped into the mission clinic. He could not stay long—just long enough to visit two main wards and to consult with the alert Chinese physician. As they paused at each bed, the patients eagerly, fearfully leaned forward.

"I-seng [doctor] and Mu-si [pastor], what shall we do if the bandits come?"

"You will be all right. The doctor will be here, and the nurses, too. After awhile Mrs. Lee and I will come down to see you again. Don't forget to pray to God and read His Book. Good-by."

Out on the street once more, Mr. Lee searched vainly for a ricksha. Apparently, though tired, he would have to walk. One or two persons he met told him to hurry, that the bandits were just two hours away, and that they were ruthlessly raiding the villages en route, but hadn't killed anyone yet. This must have driven some of the fear away, for soon the children were playing about as usual.

A half hour later a ricksha, drawn by the same coolie who had brought him to town in the morning, unexpectedly caught up with Mr. Lee. The ricksha was quickly hired, and, passing the shops at a merry rate, Mr. Lee was presently at his home.

"How did the women's meeting go?" asked Mr. Lee of his wife as he entered the house.

"All right. Only, the women were rather uneasy, and were eager to leave; so we closed early," she replied, unable to conceal her relief at her husband's safe return.

"Master, the bandits!" said Wu Ching, the servant, excitedly as he slithered into the room. "My nephew just run here from south gate. The bandits are inside the city walls. They sent in guns in the bottomside of vegetable baskets by their own men, all the same dressed like coolie. This so they get past guards. Then they kill guards, and open the gates for the others to come in. Please, you and Missi hide—"

"Bandits! No, Wu Ching, Missi and I will stay right here." The missionary's head bent a minute as a piercing scream and accompanying gunshot struck their ears. Upstairs they ran to watch from

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INTERNATIONAL

SIGNS of the TIMES

THE relation of the law to the gospel is a much-disputed question among Christians. There seem to be four general beliefs regarding it.

1. That the law is a law of the Old Testament.
2. That the gospel is the gospel of the New Testament.
3. That the law and the gospel are at enmity.
4. That those who lived before the cross were saved by the law, and those who lived and are living since the cross are saved by grace, or through the gospel.

What does the Bible teach regarding this subject? Let the word of God answer on these four points.

1. *Is the law a law of the Old Testament only?* The Bible teaches definitely that the law is the law not only of the Old Testament but of the New Testament as well. The law was in existence before Sinai. "Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws." Genesis 26:5. When Joseph was in Egypt, and was tempted, he said, knowing that the transgression of the seventh commandment was sin: "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" Genesis 39:9. "Sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:4. If the law had not been in existence before Sinai, then Joseph could not have known what sin was. Before the children of Israel reached Mount Sinai, the Lord said: "That I may prove them, whether they will walk in My law, or no." Exodus 16:4. Thus we are assured that the law existed before Sinai.

As to the law in the New Testament, note first that Jesus said, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." John 14:15. The apostle Paul wrote, "I delight in the law of God after the inward man." Romans 7:22. These words were written sometime after the crucifixion. How could the apostle Paul delight in the law if it did not exist? James tells us that the Ten Commandment law was binding in his day, and that it is the standard that will be used in the judgment: "So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." James 2:12. John the revelator points out the fact that when Christ comes the second time, His church will be a commandment-keeping church. Revelation 14:12. Surely the statement that the law is only a law of the Old Testament is not based on facts.



© MOSER

Law and the Gospel

Can They Be Separated?

by W. B. OCHS

2. *Is the gospel the gospel of the New Testament only?* The answer must be No, for the gospel is found in both the Old and the New Testament. Christ is the personification of the gospel, for of Him we read, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21. Paul says: The gospel "is the power of God unto salvation." Romans 1:16. Thus Christ and the gospel are inseparable. Where the gospel is found, there also are grace and faith. "Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord." Genesis 6:8. He was "a preacher of righteousness." 2 Peter 2:5. There can be no righteousness outside the gospel; therefore, we must conclude that Noah in his day preached the gospel. Where there is faith, there will be found the gospel. Noah believed, for "by faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; . . . and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." Hebrews

11:7. Since "the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," we must conclude that the gospel was taught in the days of Noah. That the gospel is taught in the New Testament, every Christian agrees. The pages of the New Testament are filled with the gospel; every book reveals it.

3. *Are the law and the gospel at enmity?* The Bible teaches that the law and the gospel are inseparable. They are not at enmity; there is perfect harmony between the two. Do away with the law, and there will be no need of the gospel. If, as is generally believed, the gospel did away with the law, then the death of Christ was not needed. Jesus came to save people from sin. Sin is found only where there is a law. Romans 4:15. The death of Christ, therefore, is the strongest proof of the existence of the law of God not only in the Old Testament but in the New as well.

4. *Is it true that those who lived before the cross were saved by the law, and those who lived and are living since the cross, are saved by grace through the gospel?* All are saved the same way—through faith in Christ. Those who

lived before the cross were not saved by the law, but by faith, for we are told: "The just shall live by his faith." Habakkuk 2:4. In Hebrews 11:13 we read that "these all died in faith," referring to the saints who lived in Old Testament times. The New Testament teaches that "the just shall live by faith." Galatians 3:11. The question naturally arises, By what kind of faith are we saved? The answer is, Faith that is based on the word of God. Jesus said: "He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said." John 7:38. Paul substantiates this thought: "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17. The faith that saves us must be a working faith, for "faith without works is dead." James 2:17. It is not enough to believe in Christ and to accept His word in theory; our faith must be obedient to all the commands revealed in the word of God. When we possess this kind of faith, what will be our relation to the law? Paul gives the answer: "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: Yea, we establish the law." Romans 3:31.

Faith in Christ was taught through the sanctuary service. In the Old Testament, believers looked *forward* to the cross, and we today look *back* to it. Both are a mat-

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Three days after Christ's death He was recognised as the risen Saviour by two of His disciples as He sat down with them at their evening meal.

by CARLYLE B. HAYNES



TEN

MINUTES

After Death — Are We Dead or Alive?

ONE Man of all the sons of men has gone down into the prison house of death, and has come forth again to tell us what it is, where it is, and the way of escape from it.

And from Him, and His living word, with no vagueness, no circumlocution, we learn that death is not a modification of life. It is just the opposite of life.

Death is not a continuation of life in changed conditions.

Death is not a release into a fuller life somewhere else.

Death is not life in misery.

Death is not life in happiness.

Death is not life at all in any condition, whether good or bad.

To die is not to live. To die is to stop living. Death is a complete cessation of life.

I know this is not what we have been taught to believe. We cling to the idea of life so tenaciously that even when we look on the cold, still face of death, we continue to think of *life*, and in our world of imagination we put our dead friends into some realm where they still live on.

This may be done in imagination. It is not done in reality.

Death ends life. So at death man does not go to heaven. He does not go to hell. He does not go to purgatory. He does not go anywhere.

In death there is no life. The soul does not live. The spirit does not live.

There is no intelligence, no consciousness, no memory. All that composed the man is gone.

This is not to be interpreted as meaning that there will be no future life. There *will* be a future life.

The point insisted on here is the Bible doctrine that this future life is not a continuation of the life that now is. It is an entirely new life, a different life.

And it begins, not at the time of death, but at the time of the resurrection from the dead.

Life ends at death. But life begins again at the resurrection from the dead.

In death, and *during* death, there is no life, no consciousness, no intelligence, no memory.

This is the positive, unvarying teaching of the word of God regarding the condition of man in death.

Study with me briefly and see.

Consciousness depends upon the union of the breath with the body. Consequently, when these two, breath and body, are separated at death by the breath's leaving the body, a man's thoughts perish.

This is the explicit statement of Scripture. Psalm 146:3, 4.

From this it follows that there is no intelligence, no consciousness, in death. The ability to think has come to an end.

In death there is no knowledge or remembrance of God, and those who are dead do not praise God. Psalm 6:5.

That death results in an absolute cessation of conscious existence is taught plainly in Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6. These verses are worthy of close analysis. Their clear statements should be carefully noted.

"The living *know* that they shall die." There is intelligence, there is knowledge, with those who are alive.

"But the dead *know not* anything." Death is just the opposite of life. There is no intelligence, no knowledge, no consciousness, in death.

"The memory of them is forgotten." In death the scenes of life are not realized.

"Also their love . . . is now perished." While in life the love of a mother may have centered on an only child; yet, when she dies, her love "is now perished;" nor does she or her spirit return to hover over the object of her affection, for in death there is no love.

Nor does hatred continue in death. It, too, perishes there, as does envy.

And with anything that is happening in the earth the dead have nothing at all to do. "Neither have they any more a portion forever in anything that is done under the sun."

The dead, then, are completely unconscious of all that is taking place on earth.

How impossible it would be for any of God's people to be deluded by the lying claims of spiritism if these plain statements of truth were believed!

How impossible it would be for any-

one to be deceived by so-called, but false, "spirits of the dead" if the great truth of man's unconsciousness in death, so plainly declared in this scripture, were confidently accepted!

In the Bible, death is given a name that means unconsciousness. It is called "a sleep." Psalm 13:3.

Daniel agrees with David that death is a sleep. Daniel 12:2.

Paul agrees with both David and Daniel that death is a sleep. 1 Corinthians 15:6; 1 Thessalonians 4:13.

Our Lord says that death is a sleep. John 11:11-14.

Turn and read the 14th chapter of Job, and notice how positively the writer states that until the day of the resurrection, the day when the heavens shall depart as a scroll (Revelation 6:14), those who are dead will continue in unconscious sleep.

But notwithstanding all that is here written, death is not the end.

There is to be a resurrection from the dead. Read about it in 1 Corinthians 15:51-54.

This same blessed awakening from the tomb is spoken of in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.

Awakening at Resurrection

Notice how clearly this text sets forth the truth on this subject. "I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope."

Then Paul shows that those who sleep in death are not in heaven, but are in their graves awaiting the resurrection. "This we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent ["precede," R.V.] them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 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."

This was the time to which Paul was looking for his reward, not to death.

He declares in 2 Timothy 4:8: "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me," not at death, but "at that day [the day of judgment]: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."

"I go to prepare a place for you," said our blessed Lord.

He has gone. He is preparing the place.

"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself." John 14:2, 3.



HE CARES

LIDA MARIE ERWIN

Upon a holy moonlit night,
When myriad stars, with love alight,
Were twinkling there, it seemed for me,
I bowed my head, and reverently
My heart cried out in fervent prayer:
"How small am I! And yet You care!"

He will receive the blessed dead unto Himself from their graves.

They have not been with Him since their decease. They have been waiting in quiet and unconscious slumber for the call of the Life-giver.

When that call comes, at the return of our Lord, it will penetrate into the abode of the dead, into the sleeping ears of the saints, and bring them to life again.

It is then that the new life, the life beyond the grave, the future life, of God's people begins.

It is then that "the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

It is then, when corruptible shall be changed to incorruptible and mortal to immortality, that there "shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, *Death is swallowed up in victory.*" 1 Corinthians 15:51-54.

Bandits Accept Christ

(Continued from page 10)

a window. In the early dusk they saw a huge bandit host. Each man waved a bayoneted gun. They scattered the civilians who attempted to congregate around a small, tangled mass of blue clothes. The missionary turned sadly toward his wife.

"It's one of the children. I hope they do not continue this awful slaughtering. What will become of the patients?"

Within two hours the brigands had complete control of the city, including the inadequate garrison that had been depleted from constant desertion. No one was allowed to wander about the streets.

A group of bandits marched up to the compound chapel. Mr. Lee and his wife knew they would be unable to hold their usual evening meeting. Why not hold one for the bandits?

Down the stairs they hurried, and out into the yard.

"*Djan djul*" commanded an officer. "What do you want, running right out here?"

"We would like very much to have you come and hear some songs and stories. Won't you come?" replied Mr. Lee, pointing to the chapel.

Surprised, the chief turned to the men and uttered some unintelligible words. The men answered with grunts.

The Gospel Wins

Meanwhile from within the chapel came sounds of hymns from a cornet and a small harmonium. Curiously the bandits filed into the room and took their seats, constantly watching the two white people who seemed so friendly.

When the room was filled, Mr. Lee stood up and opened a book—his Chinese Bible. Turning to one of the Gospels, he read to them the story of the passion and death of Christ. The men listened intently, a thing they perhaps never had done before.

"If you will come back again tomorrow night, I will read this again," said Mr. Lee, holding up his Bible.

With thankful hearts, the unmolested missionaries bade their strange guests good night, watched them leave the yard, and were soon in peaceful sleep.

For the next three or four nights the bandits came when the music was played,



Coming Next Week

in addition to the regular features:

Americanism in Peril	John Edgar Hoover
Fossil Found Alive!	Benjamin Franklin Allen
Recreation	D. E. Reiner
Gunpowder in the Bible!	Taylor G. Bunch
My Gift to God	Martha E. Warner
Weighed in the Balances	W. B. Ochs
Is Christianity Just a Fire Escape?	Carlyle B. Haynes
Glories of the Cross	N. P. Neilsen

listened to the gospel stories, and left. Near the end of the week Mr. Lee thought that surely among those attending there must be some who had been touched by the word of God, and he decided to ask them. "If any of you men want to accept this Christ as your Saviour, I ask you to come and kneel down right here."

Thirteen of the rough-looking men went forward, their faces softened with tears for the first time since their youth.

Shortly afterward they all left, with the promise that the following morning a Bible class would be started.

How thankful the Lees were! Surely this was an unheard-of thing, converting bandits!

At four-thirty the next morning the minister and his wife were awakened by a disturbance in front of the house. Could it be that another group of bloodthirsty men had come to rob or to kill them? Going carefully downstairs, Mr. Lee opened the door to face the expected trouble.

As the door opened, the brigands stepped forward, but not the ones the white man had thought to see. They were the same bandits, each standing with outstretched hand. "Here is money for our Bibles," said the leader.

During the remainder of the week, others of their band were led to the meetings, and gradually they changed their lawless habits. When they left, the bandits joined the army of a Christian general, with whom Mr. Lee was acquainted.

One day some months later when Mr. Lee returned home from the regular "rounds," a letter was waiting for him from the Christian general. "We now have more than four hundred baptized Christians in this army," it said.

The missionary clasped the letter as he gave thanks for what had been done.

Blind Leading the Blind

(Continued from page 7)

ing fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." "Then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of

His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming." 2 Thessalonians 1:7, 8; 2:8.

Do not be deceived. There is no chance of salvation for anyone after Jesus comes, for this divine decree will go forth in heaven just before He comes: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still. . . . And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Revelation 22:11, 12. The case of every man, therefore, will have been settled before Jesus comes.

There is, then, a way out; Jesus said, "I am the way." He is the *only way*. He now is your loving Saviour; He is pleading for you to let Him save you. Today He can help you, but soon He will become your judge, no longer to plead your case, but to execute wrath. "The stone . . . cut out without hands" will soon smite the toes of the great image, and break them to pieces. Where will you stand in that day?

Today, if you will hear the voice of Jesus calling you to repentance, "harden not your hearts." "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Hebrews 3:15; 2 Corinthians 6:2. Tomorrow may be too late. Let Jesus save you *now*!

3,000 Years Ahead!

(Continued from page 9)

some places. The highest mountain is 29,141 feet above sea level. The depth of the sea is therefore greater than the height of the land.

Another scientific fact is revealed in the statements: "He maketh lightnings for the rain" and "He maketh lightnings with rain." Psalm 135:7; Jeremiah 10:13; 51:16. "Who hath divided a watercourse for the overflowing of waters, or a way for the lightning of thunder; to cause it to rain on the earth?" is the way the Lord put the question. See Job 38:25, 26. It is a well-known scientific fact that X rays or powerful electric influences will ionize the air; that is, break up its molecules into positively and negatively charged particles, upon which drops of

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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J. R. FERREN, Circulation Manager.

water will form. In this way fog can be produced by man. Recently two scientists announced that they had sprayed highly charged sand into fog, where it collected moisture and produced rain. It is therefore now known to be a scientific fact that rain is produced by lightning or electricity. While the scientific aspect of this fact has only recently been discovered and demonstrated, the fact was stated by the inspired writers as far back as three and a half millenniums.

In the light of these inspired statements coupled with the discoveries of modern science, how dare anyone say that the Scriptures are unscientific and therefore in disagreement with the facts of nature as revealed by scientific investigation? Every discovery and invention in this age of marvels adds to the already abundant evidence that the Book of written revelation and the book of nature are in perfect harmony because they both have the same divine Author. God does not and cannot contradict His own testimony. We need not hesitate to join the psalmist in saying, "Thy word is true from the beginning." Psalm 119:160.

Law and the Gospel

(Continued from page 11)

ter of faith in Christ. The Father and the Son were one in creation; They are one in redemption. If the law and the gospel are at enmity with each other, then the redeemed in glory will sing different songs. One class will praise the law for salvation, the other will praise Christ or the gospel. But we find that all will sing the same song of praise. Revelation 7:10. Therefore the only logical and sensible conclusion to which a student of the word of God can come is that the law reveals our sins and the gospel is the power of God to free us from sin. Having been freed from sin, the heart then becomes obedient to that law which reveals sin. Then obedience to the law of God will finally permit us to enter the city of God, and look into the face of the blessed Redeemer, who has died for us.

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GOD Still Reigns

by
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HOIT

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HENEVER I turn on the radio, the war news makes me heartsick. If the recital can be so distressing, what must the horrible reality be with men and women and little children, who are being terrorized and cruelly treated!

The only comfort to be offered in this all but universal melee is the assurance that "there is a God in heaven" who still has His hand upon the wheel of world affairs. Though just now the earth is reeling from the effects of war and hatred and strife, the whole cataclysm will eventually work out the divine will of Him who can make even stormy winds fulfill His word; the wrath of man shall praise Him; the remainder of wrath He shall restrain. Psalm 76:10.

Yes, "there is a God in heaven," and this wonderful fact is as true today as it was when Daniel spoke these words to the bewildered Babylonian dictator twenty-five hundred years ago. Daniel 2:28.

I know there is a God in heaven, for when I awoke this morning all nature was proclaiming that glorious fact. Not only the dew on the roses, but the beautiful roses themselves. Not only the contented cows in the pasture across the way, but the luscious grass they were eating. The sunlit mountain in the background told the same story, as did also the blue, blue sea. When I uncovered my bird, the first thing he did was to praise the Lord for the cheerful sunshine and the new day, and for the warble of his little wild cousins in the swaying branches outside.

In my heart I, too, thank Him for the peaceful day and the new tasks, and the love of friends and kindred. Most of all, I thank Him that He is, and that—

"He knows and loves and cares,
Nothing this truth can dim;
And does the very best for those
Who leave their all with Him."

But again I think of the thousands, yes, millions, of peace-loving citizens of other countries who this morning do not look out upon a tranquil countryside; who must behold destruction where God intended flowers; who must look upon carnage and war where God designed trees and gardens and peaceful homes should flourish; who must feel the unnatural shock of alarm and the agony of shattered nerves, and the loss of home and possessions and loved ones when God wants His children to dwell in confidence and in quietness. Truly "an enemy hath done this."

Again I come back to the word of assurance in God's Book of truth: "There is a God in heaven,"—a God who loves His earth-born children so much that He gave His only-begotten Son to redeem them; a God who woos them individually by His blessed Holy Spirit; a God who in the person of His Son sends out the loving invitation to all the world, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.

Let us trust Him more.