

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



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The Royal Commission - See page 5

July 25, 1950

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

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OUR COVER

Like a stream of purest water, forever flowing from the towering crags of time, to bring life and beauty to the world, the love of God streams down from heaven to earth to bring peace and happiness into human hearts. To help men recognize and appreciate this love, Jesus, the Son of God, came and died on Calvary. Then, that all might hear of it, and be blessed by it, He gave to His disciples His "Royal Commission": "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." See the new series of articles by Frederick Griggs, which starts on page five of this issue.

CIRCULATION MANAGER H. K. CHRISTMAN

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Methodist Minister

DEAR SIR:
 For several weeks I have been receiving the *Signs of the Times*, and have been enjoying it immensely. It is very instructive and interesting. The articles by George McCready Price on evolution and related subjects are very illuminating. Also, your interpretation of the prophetic writings of the Bible is something that has awakened my interest in the second coming of Christ.

Whoever is responsible for sending me this publication has surely done me a great favor. I wish to express through you my appreciation, for I am keeping the copies on file for future reference. A METHODIST MINISTER.

Boston, Massachusetts.

Catholic Reader

DEAR SIR:
 I have greatly appreciated the kind generosity of my aunt in sending me the *Signs of the Times*, and have enjoyed reading the paper. I am taking your Bible correspondence course, and, being a Catholic, I am beginning to know more about the Bible than ever before. That and the *Signs* mean so much to me.

MRS. H. P.

Buena Park, California.

Fortunate Mistake

DEAR SIR:
 Your magazine was left by the postman in our box by mistake. Thinking it mine, I opened and read it. I received the magazine several weeks. Not finding the owner, and realizing that the person was losing some valuable reading material, I notified the post office of the error. Enclosed is a check for my own subscription. MRS. M. L. S.

Toulon, Illinois.

Surprise Question

DEAR SIR:
 Some four weeks ago a lady stopped me on the way from the grocery, and asked the address of the *Signs of the Times*. I was rather surprised and curious, for I had not met her before. I asked her what she knew of that magazine, and what value she placed on it. She replied, "I used to get it regularly, but through one mishap and another I let the subscription expire. Now I miss it dreadfully. It is the finest magazine I have ever read. It supplies the best explanations on Bible prophecy. I don't believe there is another magazine like it in the world." W. W. R. L.

Yarnell, Arizona.

On the Floor

DEAR SIR:
 I found a copy of the *Signs of the Times* on the floor of the post office. I was so despondent, and it helped me on this weary road. I enclose my subscription. L. Y. M.

Trona, California.

Police Enjoy "Signs"

DEAR SIR:
 Enclosed find two dollars for subscription renewal to the *Signs* for another year. I enjoy each number and pass it on to police headquarters. I am told, "They are crazy about them." From 3 to 7 p. m. they have little to do, so enjoy reading them. MRS. F. L. D.

Brooklyn 17, New York.

Hydrogen Holiness

THERE was a time when a certain type of Christian preacher sought to win converts to the gospel by holding them, figuratively speaking, over hell-fire. The hotter they made the flames, and the more terrifying they portrayed the sufferings of unrepentant sinners, the more souls they hoped to win for the kingdom of God.

Now that popular belief in hell-fire has declined, and sermons concerning it are definitely out of fashion, the same preachers or, more correctly, preachers with the same mentality—have found an excellent substitute in the hydrogen bomb. Its possibilities of human suffering and destruction are so limitless that it provides them, supposedly, with an equally satisfactory means of frightening people into church fellowship, or into some other urgent religious duty of the moment. The new technique seems to be, "Repent, or the hydrogen bomb will get you," or, "Raise your quota for missions, or the church building fund, before the bomb blows everything to smithereens."

Someone has called the results of this type of religious promotion "hydrogen holiness," and the name is most apt. For it is a spurious, synthetic holiness, as evanescent as the hydrogen in a toy balloon.

Fear is a poor substitute for love in the propagation of the Christian faith or the achievement of Christian objectives. A congregation raised up on fear of the future is not likely to last long. Money squeezed from frightened people by tall tales of purgatory, hell-fire, or hydrogen bombs is not likely to accomplish much permanent good in the sight of God.

Not for a moment would we minimize the consequences of sin, or the punishment of the wicked, both of which are real and terrible; nor would we make light of the hideous horror likely to attend the detonation, in time of war, of hydrogen bombs; but we would stress that the one and only motive acceptable to God, in Christian service and Christian witness, is love.

True, we are to "fear God, and give glory to Him," true also that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;" but there is no suggestion here of the craven fear of a frightened slave for a cruel, tyrannical master. Rather



A woman clinging to a rock only three hundred feet above Niagara Falls was rescued by two men in a helicopter. A wave capsized the first machine, but all were saved by a second helicopter.

do these words suggest the respect that is due from a child to his parent, the reverence of a creature for his Creator.

God is love, and it is love and love alone that He seeks from men. The supreme reason why Jesus came from heaven to earth was to help men understand something of "the breadth, and length, and depth, and height" of the love of God, "which passeth knowledge." He came to bring that infinite love within the reach of finite minds. By His life and ministry, and His death upon the cross, He tried to make them see that "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

He wants us to repent, not because we are afraid of Him, but because we feel the tug of His love upon our heart-strings. He wants us to give, to work, to witness, not because we are fearful of what may happen to us if we don't, but because His wondrous compassion constrains us to yield our all to Him.

Seeking to emphasize that love is first in all God's thoughts and calculations, He summarized the moral law in these two commandments: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." Luke 10:27. "There is none other commandment greater than these," He added. Mark 12:31.

The apostle Paul perceived this fundamental principle in all God's requirements, and said, "Love is the fulfilling of the law." Romans 13:10. It is. Indeed, there is no other way to fulfill it than by love.

With deep spiritual insight he told the Corinthian believers, "I may speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but if I have no love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal; . . . I may have such absolute faith that I can move hills from their place, but if I have no love, I count for nothing." 1 Corinthians 13:1, 2, Moffatt.

For the good of the church and the advancement of the cause of God on earth, it is imperative that we all understand that it is love that matters most to God—love that comes freely, spontaneously, generously out of the great depths of the human soul. He does not want His creatures to be in terror of Him, but to adore Him. He yearns for full, perfect love, and "perfect love casteth out fear." 1 John 4:18. His desire is that we should "serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him, all the days of our life." Luke 1:74, 75.

This is the holiness that He desires in His human creatures. Not "hydrogen holiness," a temporary, synthetic product of fear for one's personal safety; but the true holiness of the spirit which flows from that sublime union of man with God, as heart touches heart, and love divine envelops and suffuses every thought and action. A. S. M.

Debunking the God of Science

THE twentieth century has often been called "the Scientific Age," and man has gloried in his accomplishments with the test tube, the microscope, and the cyclotron. But the so-called "scientific attitude" that is supposed to prevail in our day is not true science. Indeed, this

"attitude" has done much to destroy faith in a personal God and has sapped spiritual strength from millions of human beings. It has become a fetish for fools to hide behind.

In thought-provoking style, Anthony Standen, well-known chemist, has written *Science Is a Sacred Cow* (E. P. Dutton and Co., New York), a book which exposes the sophistries of our generation in regard to the "scientific method."

Scientists have made great claims for seeking truth and nothing but the truth. They have said: "The success of the scientific method . . . is based entirely upon an absolute honesty of mind and love of truth." They have shouted that "the future of our civilization depends upon the widening spread and deepening hold of the scientific habit of mind." Yet, as Mr. Standen points out, "the dreadful cocksureness that is characteristic of scientists in bulk is not only quite

of evolution set forth by the majority of scientists and professors today. "The precise theory," says Mr. Standen, "has never been proved at all. However, like relativity, it is accepted as a faith."—Page 101.

The author quotes noted scientists who admit their lack of proof to make evolution a fact. Professor J. Arthur Thomson has put it this way: "Many of the genealogical trees which Haeckel was so fond of drawing have fallen to pieces. Who can say anything, except in a general way, regarding the ancestry of birds or even vertebrates? *The Origin of Species* was published in 1859, but who today has attained to clearness in regard to the origin of any single species?"

"And yet," points out Mr. Standen, "the more this scientist comes to the conclusion that he knows nothing precise about evolution, the more firmly he is convinced of it."—Page 104.

What faith or gullibility is asked of this generation! Yet this man would have us believe that evolution is "scientific" and that it is based on "truth" or "proved facts" which have been accumulated by the "scientific method." No wonder science is "a sacred cow." No wonder Mr. Standen declares that the theory of evolution "is much further from being proved than men are from flying to the moon."—Page 103.

The author does not merely debunk the weaknesses of science. He points out what its proper service to humanity should be. He says, "The first purpose of science is to learn about God, and admire Him, through His handiwork. If any usefulness comes in—as it does in large quantities—why, so much the better. If scientists looked upon their work in this way, they would cease to worship science, and they would be the better scientists for it."—Page 200.

This is an age of great light; but much that is called "light" merely opens the way for the sophistries of hell to enter the mind. Social scientists and psychologists who attempt to use the "scientific method" in the study of man have more often than not forgotten that he is the child of God. They degrade man to a mere animal. They look upon him as a pagan; they destroy moral standards and say that man is to be the creature of his every whim and desire.

The path of error often lies close to the way of truth, and many gullible people accept the dangerous speculations of so-called "scientists," and in so doing cast aside eternal truth. "Philosophical speculation and scientific research in which God is not acknowledged are making skeptics of thousands of the youth," we are told.

Let the Christian beware of the prejudiced "scientist" who uses the "scientific attitude" to his own ends. Such men usually oppose the Bible and its teachings. In a recent general biology text for college students the author said: "Advancement of science has rendered the scriptural theories of life beginnings obsolete." Many gullible people have accepted these statements of prejudiced men as truth, when they are merely the speculations of twisted minds that are fighting against God.

A Christian professor of biology makes an important statement concerning Bible truth in a recent book. He declares: "The student who is content to listen to the opinions of others regarding the veracity of the Bible or its lack of veracity, and allows himself to be guided by what others think on this subject, is in a most unfortunate situation. Obviously

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The premier of Iraq delivers the opening address at the recent meeting of the Arab League, in Cairo, Egypt.

ACME

foreign to the spirit of true science, it is not even justified by a superficial view."—Page 31.

In our limited experience with scientists in several universities, we have been amazed at their "intolerance" of ideas which do not harmonize with their pet theories. Many times we have noticed that love of truth is far overshadowed by a determined fight on their part to uphold partially proved pronouncements. This is their privilege, provided they do not call themselves "scientists." Author Standen is correct when he declares: "The idea that science is infallible and beyond criticism, is a delusion, and even a dangerous one."

As an example of the distortions of the "scientific method," take the theory

As an illustration of cocksureness, the author quotes the biologist, R. S. Lull, professor of paleontology at Yale University. This scientist says, "Since Darwin's day, evolution has been more and more generally accepted, until now in the minds of informed, thinking men there is no doubt that it is the only logical way whereby the creation can be interpreted and understood. We are not so sure, however, as to the *modus operandi*, but we may rest assured that the process has been in accordance with great natural laws, some of which are as yet unknown, perhaps unknowable."

In all seriousness we are expected to accept this statement. "Informed, thinking men" are to "rest assured" in that which is "unknown" and "unknowable."

THE Royal Commission

*God's Plan for Man's Redemption
Sending His Message of Love
to a Lost Race*

by FREDERICK GRIGGS

SOME years ago I was walking with a friend along a village street in India. There was no isolation of lepers here, and soon one of them approached me saying, "Baksheesh" ("A gift").

"Don't let him touch you," said my friend. So I dropped a coin into a hand badly eaten with leprosy and asked my missionary friend to interpret for me while I talked with this greatly-to-be-pitied man. I asked him how he became a leper, and he replied that he was born so. His father and mother had the disease before he was born.

Leprosy is not an enjoyable topic of discussion; but neither is sin, which, in its destructive ravages on the body, mind, and soul, is comparable to leprosy. The ancient Jews spoke of leprosy as a symbol of sin.

A leper cannot heal himself; neither can a sinner. There is, however, this difference between sin and leprosy: Lepers are really not "born so," they become lepers by thoughtless contact, whereas every individual is born in sin, for "as by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men." Romans 5:12.

Christ's Mission

In His love and wisdom God made provision to redeem any and all who, "born in sin," would choose to live His way of life. His plan for our redemption was not an afterthought, formulated after the fall of Adam. It was a revelation of "the mystery which hath been kept in silence through times eternal." Romans 16:25, R.V. This plan is clearly told in Paul's letter to the Roman church in the following words: "The wages of



sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23.

Of Jesus Christ we read, He "gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." Titus 2:14. Christ's mission on earth was to teach the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man; to re-establish His kingdom in all its pristine beauty here on earth.

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:9-11.

We can but marvel at a love which would cause God's Son, by whom "were all things created, that are in heaven,

In giving the gospel commission, Christ not only commanded His disciples to go into all the world but also taught them how to accomplish the work.

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and that are in earth" (Colosians 1:16), to take "upon Him the form of a servant," to be "made in the likeness of men" and to humble "Himself, and become obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:7, 8). Small wonder that all heaven is concerned in the work of returning prodigal man to his lost estate. Small wonder that the angel who announced the birth of the Saviour to astonished shepherds, was followed by "a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:13, 14.

The Life and Work of Christ

Two great purposes appear in the life and teachings of Jesus: First, to reveal God as the eternal, rightful Ruler of this world; and, second, to educate and train a great company of believers in His gospel to proclaim throughout all the earth the great truth that His Father's kingdom of righteousness is to be again established in this earth.

The work of Jesus for all men and for

all time was summed up by the apostle Peter in these words: He "went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil." Acts 10:38. He is the Saviour of all from the first man created—Adam—to the last man born into this world. The principles of the plan of salvation, which are "the foundation of God's throne," make certain the complete redemption and restoration of this earth to its exceeding beauty and productivity when first created. The citizens of the promised new earth are to "build houses, and inhabit them," to "plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them," and to "long enjoy the work of their hands." Isaiah 65:21, 22. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." 1 Corinthians 2:9.

The Royal Commission

During His ministry our Lord chose and ordained twelve men to be taught the principles of the kingdom of heaven "that they should be with Him, and that

He might send them forth to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses." Mark 3:14, 15.

Christ first sent out these twelve men to preach and to heal. Later He sent out seventy to do the same work. They all returned "with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through Thy name." Luke 10:17. Thus Christ taught His disciples and followers that they were to do the very work which they had seen Him do—that of bringing the kingdom of heaven to men. He had brought heaven to them, and now they in turn were to take the glad news to all the world.

Before His crucifixion and resurrection the chief emphasis of His teachings was upon the work which He was giving them to do. Not only did He give them a commission to go "into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," but He taught them how to do it. "As Thou hast sent Me into the world," He said, in His prayer for His disciples, "even so have I also sent them into the world." John 17:18.

In His prayer Christ made it plain that He was not praying alone for the disciples who were with Him at the moment, but for all who down the ages should believe on Him as their Saviour. Said He, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word." Verse 20. All men, throughout all time, who believe in Him are thus commissioned to be examples by word and deed of the life and works of the Saviour.

This royal commission, such as Christ gave both before and after His resurrection, is not only a command but a promise. "I will not leave you comfortless," He said, "I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; but ye see Me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in My Father, and ye in Me, and I in you." John 14:18-20. Thus those who are commanded to preach the good story of salvation are given the mind and spirit of Him who sends them. This is all encompassed in these two words of our Lord—*Come; Go*. "Come unto Me," then "Go into all the world."

It is truthfully related that some years ago a rich San Francisco lawyer—a bachelor—had a Chinese houseboy, Sam, who served him as housekeeper, valet, and cook. Sam was one hundred points efficient. He served to perfection. Both men became fond of each other. One morning Sam, who seldom spoke, said to his master at breakfast, "I leave you next week. I get you better man." His astonished employer offered him a large

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75,000 Teach in One-Room Schools

The nation's little red schoolhouses have been disappearing at the rate of about twelve a day for the last thirty years, the Office of Education, Washington, D.C., said recently. However, according to the *New York Daily News*, the seventy-five thousand one-teacher schools still in operation account for: (a) About half the public schools, (b) about one twelfth of the nation's teachers, and (c) about one fifteenth of the enrollments—1,500,000 boys and girls.

Colored Sidewalks

During the past few months, Londoners have been walking on sidewalks laid by the Road Research Laboratory to find out how asphalt of various colors will wear in all weathers, reports the *New York Times*. Thirteen sections of paving have been laid, each of a different color. So far, red and green have stood up better than other colors. Blue and yellow have not lasted well.

Protestant Gains

Fifteen major Protestant denominations have had an average membership gain of 36 per cent in the last twenty-five years, it was announced by the United Stewardship Council, at Hillsdale, Michigan.

During the same period these fifteen denominations also experienced an average increase of 80 per cent in giving.

The greatest percentage increase in membership in the twenty-five-year span was reported by the Southern Baptist Convention. In 1925 the convention had 3,574,531 members. Last year it had 6,000,000—a gain of 67 per cent. The United Lutheran Church reported 1,355,912 members, an increase of 58 per cent since 1925.

U. S. Fire Losses

Fire losses in the United States last year amounted to \$667,536,000, according to estimates of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

The total was 6 per cent below the record of \$711,114,000 in 1948, and represented the first decline from a preceding year since 1942.

Children Pushed too Fast

American school children are being pushed too fast in their studies, says Dr. E. T. McSwaine, dean of University College at Northwestern University. "We cannot speed up psychological and emotional development any more than we can speed up biological or physical development," Dean McSwaine declares.



ROBERTS

How I Found Christ

1. I Found Him on a Warship

by ROBERT LEO ODOM

ONE bad habit after another had fastened itself upon a young petty officer aboard the U.S.S. "Hart," a mine-laying destroyer operating in the Asiatic fleet. What had begun in apparently innocent fun and mirth was now becoming slavery and ruin. A battle between baser tendencies and better impulses raged furiously in his inner soul.

Pausing in his reading one day, the sailor said to himself, "Odom, you have been reading this 'trash-can' literature for a long time, and you haven't much more sense now than when you started. Why don't you spend your time and money for something that will make you a better man?"

Slings the fiction magazine aside, he started aft and met the chief boatswain's mate. "Boats," the youth asked, "where can a fellow find something to read that will make him a wiser and better man?"

"There's a box of old books back there," replied the mate, pointing toward the stern. "Someone sent them over a few days ago. Maybe you'll find what you want among them."

A biography, a history, and a little black book entitled *The Holy Bible* were chosen. The Bible I hid in my bunk and read it secretly from day to day. The leaven of divine truth soon began to work in my mind, and my conscience was quickened. I knew that my life was under the scrutiny of the eye of the omniscient One. Incentive to make a break for spiritual freedom pounded hard and called loud at the door of my heart.

One night, while our ship was anchored in Manila Harbor, I was alone in charge of the quartermaster's watch on the bridge while an orgy of drink and shame was going on among my shipmates below. Beside the logbook I had placed that little black Book so that I could read a bit when I made the entries

in the log. A great urge came to me with tremendous force to make a decision then. Procrastination would mean my ruin. So up the steel ladder I went to the searchlight and range-finder platform above. Lying down flat on the grating, and with a crushing sense of guilt for a life of sin weighing me down, I cried to the Lord, "Oh, God, if there is anything that You can do to save me from my wretched condition, do it now, please! I cannot go on like this any longer, for I am sinking deeper and deeper into the mire of sin and ruin. Oh, God, please forgive me and save me!"

When I rose to my feet, the burden was lifted, and I had the relief and peace of mind for which I had yearned.

Back down to my station I went, but a different man. Instead of living for selfish pleasure, I had determined to spend the rest of my life in working for the good of others.

My shipmates soon discovered that I was a changed man. With due politeness I persisted in refusing to join them in their sinful indulgences. Repeatedly they threw the memory of my past into my face to discourage me. One day a jovial coxswain said to me:

"What are you reading, Odom?"

"The Holy Scriptures," I said, showing him the little black Book.

A puzzled expression came over his face as he said: "What! You—you—reading that Book!"

His stare and glare must have caused my blood pressure to rise a bit, for I answered, "Look here, Soupy! I have read every sort of rotten thing around here for the past two years, and nobody has said a word of unfavorable comment about it. But now I pick up this, and I am ridiculed. What's wrong with this Book?"

"People are superstitious about that Book!" he bellowed with a snort and a sneer.

I was on my feet by that time, and pointing a finger straight at him, I said with energy, "I'll tell you why so many people don't like this Book, Soupy. It tells a man just what sort of guy he is, and it doesn't hesitate to tell the truth. That's why they don't like this Book!"

My next problem was to find out which of the many religions was the true one, for a lifetime of study would not suffice fully to investigate them all. After inquiring into several, I decided to follow the counsel given in Isaiah 8:20. That was early in 1921.

After passing the summer in Chefoo, China, our ship stopped for a few weeks in Shanghai. Late one afternoon, when

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Johann K. Petursson of Iceland is 8 feet 8 inches tall and weighs 425 pounds. His size approaches that of the ancient giants.

TRUE science, when divorced from evolution, gives powerful corroboration to the early history of man and the animal kingdom, as outlined in the Bible. If there ever was a superrace on earth capable of enjoying a utopian state, it was that which existed soon after its creation by a loving God. The fertile earth brought forth abundantly, and the fruit of the soil contained the elements necessary to produce and sustain a vigorous race of men and animals. The antediluvian animals grew to robust proportions, because food was not only plentiful, but nourishing. I have found many skeletal remains of dinosaurs in the plains of New Mexico, where today they would starve to death.

Recently in the press there appeared a news item of a Soviet scientific expedition which claimed to have found the greatest dinosaur graveyard in the world. The leader of the expedition, A. Efremov, told of finding in the Gobi "the remains of millions of dinosaurs," one of which measured one hundred feet in length.

We all know of the thousands of mammoths discovered in the frozen steppes of Siberia. It required a lot of food to supply these vast herds of giant beasts. The fertility of the earth today and its consequent ability to produce food for animal life is but a fraction of what it was before the Flood of Noah. Much of the fertility was buried deep with the plants and animals, and we still benefit from it in the form of coal and oil. What fertility was not buried deep by

When GIANTS Roamed the Earth

Their Fossil Footprints Still Visible!

by CLIFFORD L. BURDICK



This dinosaur track was found in a limestone formation in the Paluxy River bed near Glen Rose, Texas. In the same formation nearby were found human footprints.

the Flood was largely washed out to sea; and the whales, fishes, and pelicans are enjoying good health today as a result. In the fabulous fertility of the antediluvian soil, dinosaur, mammoth, and man flourished; but now we must go to the sea to find our largest animals.

No wonder Methuselah lived so long. The rich soil was watered by gentle mists, that did not cut ravines and gullies and wash the forming soil into the ocean.

With a withering earth we see a withering humanity. Not only has man decreased in stature from a magnificent specimen ten or twelve feet tall, to an average today of less than six feet, but his average life has shortened from many centuries to little more than half a century. Where do we find any human evolution here?

As recently as early Jewish history we read about giants in the land that Caleb and Joshua were sent to spy out. Occasionally even today we see a rare speci-

men, as Johann K. Petursson, of Iceland, who is 8 feet 8 inches tall, and who weighs 425 pounds.

The bottom of Mr. Petursson's shoe is about fifteen inches long. Recently I found impressions, or tracks, in Moenkopi (Triassic) sandstone near the Petrified Forest, in Arizona, that were evidently made by the shoes or moccasins of a human giant, probably antediluvian. These footprints measured from eighteen to twenty inches in length. In the photographs illustrating the find, there will be seen recent carvings of some boy's initials; but the erosion shows the foot imprints to be very old. The giant was evidently standing on the soft sand, and his feet sank in, leaving the depression or track.

Not many miles from these giant human tracks are the well-known dinosaur tracks near Cameron, Arizona. Truly the fertility of the soil, as well as its moisture supply, has greatly deteriorated since these giant reptiles and giant hu-



PHOTOS BY C. L. BURDICK

Huge human footprints found near the dinosaur track shown on the opposite page. The man's foot shows comparative size.

mans roamed these plains. Thus the primitive writing of "footprints on the sands of time" attests to the truth of Holy Writ. Degeneration, not evolution, is the apparent verdict. By comparing the size of Mr. Petrusson's shoe with that of our Petrified Forest giant, we might well conclude that the latter was from ten to twelve feet tall, and probably weighed more than five hundred pounds. Together with this superb physical development went a giant intellect that would shame the mental aberrations of degenerated man.

The tracks found near the Petrified Forest compare favorably with those found in the gypsum flats of the White Sands of New Mexico. Both locations show about the same size and shape of sandal. In the case of the Arizona tracks, the giant was standing, while the New Mexico tracks indicate that the man was taking giant strides. Ellis Wright, a government trapper, first reported the discovery of these tracks west of the White Sands, now a national monument. Thirteen footprints were found in all, each about twenty-two inches long and eight to ten inches wide. On the side were found marks apparently made by a staff or cane the giant was using.

Other tracks, apparently human, but of smaller size, have been dug out of a sandstone quarry at Ashfork, Arizona. But the most striking find of all was the one at Glen Rose, Texas, as reported by Roland T. Bird of the American Museum of Natural History, Department of Vertebrate Paleontology. His report was

made public about ten years ago. The remarkable feature of the impressions which he discovered was that the giant that made them was barefooted; and if we can judge by the present pitch of the strata, which is lower Cretaceous, he was hurrying upstream or uphill, apparently to escape some overpowering flood. These barefoot tracks were about seventeen inches long. Mr. Bird describes them as "the strangest things of their kind I had ever seen. On the surface [of the rock] was splayed the near likeness of a human foot, perfect in every detail."

Some of these human footprints have been cut out of the rock and sent to a museum in Arizona. I have helped to make plaster casts of them, and have photographed them. The image is perfect. When the giant stepped in the soft lime mud of what is now the bed of the Paluxy River, the mud oozed up about his foot, as one would expect when pressure is exerted.

But the inexplicable thing about the find to Mr. Bird was that alongside the human tracks, *in the same formation*, estimated to have been laid down about 120,000,000 years ago, were perfect dinosaur tracks. These were large in size and were eventually chiseled out and shipped to the American Museum of Natural History, where they can now be seen. The presence of dinosaur tracks of course stamped the formation as Cretaceous. But we are not now primarily concerned with the dinosaur tracks, as they are common, except that their presence definitely shows that man was

contemporaneous with the dinosaur. This discovery fits in perfectly with Deluge geology, which teaches that all fossil animal life was contemporaneous before the Deluge.

This discovery cuts crosswise of the evolutionary hypothesis, and at once Mr. Bird was ready to back down on his identification of the giant human tracks as human. There were so many, it was impossible to deny their existence. There used to be a whole trail of them, but most of them have been removed and sold. Mr. Bird reasoned, "No man ever existed in the age of reptiles;" therefore they cannot be human. How do we know no man existed in the age of reptiles?—by deductive, a priori reasoning only, to adhere to the theory. But we live in an age of inductive reasoning based on discovered facts. Theories are all right when they harmonize with evidence; but when new evidence makes old theories obsolete, it is time to discard



These giant human footprints were found near the Petrified Forest in Arizona. Notice size as compared to a human foot of today.

the old theories, and make new ones.

Further to prove the case, our guide, Mr. Ryals, cleaned out a pocket in the river bed and presto! another giant human track. When scientists, biologists, and geologists are ready to accept the facts at face value, and let the chips fall where they may, they will discard the one-hundred-twenty-million-years-ago "Age of Reptiles" and classify all life as antediluvian or postdiluvian. Deluge geology explains all known facts in harmony with Holy Writ.

The conclusions from these remarkable discoveries are crystal clear, but have far-reaching repercussions:

1. Degeneration, not evolution has been the fate of the human race.
2. Finding human tracks and dinosaur tracks in the same formation prove them contemporaneous, rather than separated by from 60,000,000 to 120,000,000 years, thus collapsing the geological age theory.
3. Evolution has always leaned on the geological age theory for its main support; therefore with the collapse of the geological age theory, the generalization of organic evolution also collapses.

EARTH'S FINAL HARVEST



*Garnering of the Righteous
and the Wicked*

by TAYLOR G. BUNCH

IN CHRIST'S parable of the sower, He declared that "the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels" (Matthew 13:39), adding that in the end of the world the wheat would be gathered into the heavenly garner and the tares would be gathered and "burned in the fire."

Christ came at the time of His first advent to sow the seeds of gospel truth. The second advent is the reaping time, when He will gather the fruit of His labor. Long has the great Husbandman waited for "the precious fruit of the earth." Someday the harvesttime will come.

Describing this great event the Revelator said, "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud One sat like unto the Son of man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in Thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for Thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And He that sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped." Revelation 14:14-16.

The return of Christ immediately follows the proclamation of the threefold message symbolized in this prophecy by the three flying angels. This indicates that this heaven-sent message constitutes God's last appeal to the human family. No other message will follow it, or take its place. It will end in triumph, and those who maintain their loyalty will

triumph with it. The golden crown gives evidence of royalty, sovereignty, and victory; that Christ has defeated all His foes and become King. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords; the Ruler of the righteous whom He comes to gather into His kingdom of glory. The cloud here described is composed of shining angels which make up the celestial chariot. See Isaiah 19:1; Psalms 104:3, 4; 68:17, 18.

There are two phases of the reaping of a harvest. The first is the gathering of the grain into bundles, and the second is the separation of the wheat from the straw or chaff so that the former can be garnered and the latter burned. Our text describes the latter phase of the gospel harvest, which takes place after the close of probation. The gathering of the righteous into companies or "bundles" takes place during, and as the result of, the giving of the gospel to the world. The threefold message during the last generation will firmly unite and securely bind in bundles and seal for the kingdom of heaven all who accept it and proclaim it to the world.

"The sharp sickle" in the hand of the Great Reaper indicates that the harvest field is white in readiness for the reaping. The sickle is "sharp" in preparation for a quick work. The picture is of the gathering of the living harvest at the time of the second advent, first the first fruits, and then the "great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues," who have come "out of great

tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." See Revelation 7. The sitting posture of the Son of man may indicate a work of executive judgment and separation, for at the time of the harvest the final separation is made between the wheat and the tares, the righteous and the wicked. See Matthew 13:41-43; 25:31-34.

When Christ comes to gather His people, the harvest will be "fully ripe," "overripe," or "ripe and ready," as given by various translations. The harvest has reached the limit of its development. The saints have reached maturity in spiritual growth and character development. The early and latter rains have accomplished their mission of bringing the spiritual harvest to perfection in readiness for the sickle. It also indicates that the reaping is done at the last hour. Perfect ripeness calls for speedy action. The time of harvest depends not so much upon a fixed time as upon the fulfillment of a fixed purpose, upon the ripeness of the grain. Jesus said of the farmer, "But when the fruit is ripe, immediately he putteth forth the sickle, because the harvest is come." Mark 4:29, margin.

This same principle will determine the time of the final gospel harvest, which has been long delayed because righteousness has been slow in reaching full maturity in God's remnant people, and because they have been negligent in doing their full duty in sowing the seed. The "Lord delayeth His coming" because the saints, represented by the ten virgins in

the parable, "all slumbered and slept." The Great Reaper will gather no half-ripe or partially developed characters into His kingdom of glory. All must reflect the image of Christ fully and "be like Him" when He comes. To them has been imputed and imparted the character or righteousness of their divine Lord.

The second harvest is described in the following words, "And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great wine press of the wrath of God. And the wine press was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the wine press, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs." Revelation 14:17-20. See also Joel 3:13, 14.

This harvest is also "fully ripe." It is fully matured in wickedness for divine wrath and destruction. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on "all flesh" ripens both harvests, for the same rain that causes the wheat to grow and develop for the sickle, also matures the tares for the devouring fire. The rejection of the threefold warning message brings to maturity the harvest of sin and rebellion. Sin reaches its climax in the wicked at the same time that godliness reaches maturity in the saints.

At that time the line of demarcation between saints and sinners will be clear and distinct, and Malachi 3:18 will be fulfilled: "Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not." Swete calls this second reaper of the second harvest "the angel of vengeance," and declares that "there is a delicate beauty in the assignment of the ingathering of the vintage to an angel, while the Son of man Himself reaps the wheat harvest." Instead of "tares," "wild grapes" are used in this symbolic parable to represent the wicked. See Isaiah 5:1-7.

Results of Two World Messages

The two harvests here described are prepared for the reaping by the two world messages which gather the inhabitants of the earth into two groups. The message of God, proclaimed by the three angels, gathers the righteous into bundles for the heavenly garner. The mes-

sage of Satan, given through the beast and false prophet, gathers the wicked into bundles for the lake of fire. The gathering of the ungodly to the worship of the beast and his image is symbolized in Matthew 24:24, 28 as the gathering of vultures to a carcass. "There will the vultures flock together," and, "Wherever the corpse may be, there will the vultures be gathered," are other versions.

Very soon after the death of an animal in the Orient, between twenty and fifty vultures gather to eat the carcass, which becomes their habitation until the corpse is consumed. In the same way fallen Babylon "is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." Revelation 18:2. Those who accept the threefold message are gathered to Christ, and those who accept the message of the beast and false prophet are gathered to the antichrist. There will be only two classes in the world when Christ returns.

The angel from the altar had power over fire, the symbol of judgment. This is doubtless the same angel described in Revelation 8:3-5. It is Christ who commands that the harvest of the wicked be gathered and cast "into the great wine press of the wrath of God." In the parable of the wheat and tares it is Christ who sends His angels to gather the tares for the furnace of fire. See Matthew 13:38-42. Satan sows the seeds of error and unbelief that produce the great harvest of tares and wild grapes, but divine agencies wield the sickle, and cast the tares into the lake of fire, or the wine press of wrath and vengeance. This also is "a sharp sickle" which cuts clean and leaves no gleanings. Then will be fulfilled Psalm 37:10, 11: "For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

(Continued on page 15)

"THAT'S ALL"

by L. A. HANSEN



NOT long ago there appeared a news item telling of the unusual funeral of a seventy-nine-year-old man. A few months before his death he had placed on a recording disk what he intended to be his own funeral service. The mourners faced the flower-covered casket and heard the recording.

A voice said, "This is my funeral. The clergy is a racket. I want no religious songs. This is going to be a perfectly rational funeral."

The voice further explained, "I am an atheist and have been for many years." Then came an attack on religion, the Bible, and belief in God. There was a pause. Then, very quietly:

"That's all."

What a bleak, empty ending for a life! The last two words sum up its hopelessness: "That's all." What a cold and gloomy contrast with the glorious prospect of the Christian who looks forward to eternal life!

"That's all" spells a dismal barrenness which no man needs to face. Paul voiced an assurance that everyone who accepts Christ as his Saviour may possess:

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

The cheerless "that's all" is not the destiny that God has planned for man. It is not His will that any man should be lost; He would have all men come to salvation.

Those "having no hope," and who are "without God in the world" are the ones for whom He provides salvation through the gift of His Son.

Saying "that's all" does not end it all. God's account with a man does not close at his funeral. There is to be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and of the unjust. There is to be a final reckoning with God. Whether we like it or not, there is a judgment we all must face.

Willing ignorance, hardened unbelief, arrogance, or flippancy will fail a man in that solemn hour. To those who have rejected God's overtures and who have resisted His tender pleadings, the last word will have a depth of solemn import not expressed in a casual "that's all."



27. The Eternal Home Of God's People

by RICHARD F. FARLEY

JUST before His death what assurance did Jesus give His followers?

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2, 3.

Where did Jesus say this eternal home will be located?

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5.

What was God's purpose in creating this earth?

"For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else." Isaiah 45:18.

Our Lord Himself will welcome the faithful into their eternal home with the wonderful invitation: "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

God's plan for the formation of this planet, to be occupied by a race of holy beings in harmony with Himself, cannot be defeated. Satan's interruption is only an interlude that makes the final outcome more certain and secure.

What was the earth's primeval condition, fresh from the Creator's hands?

"And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good." Genesis 1:31.

What superlatively beautiful garden did God provide in this perfect world?

"And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the

tree of knowledge of good and evil. And a river went out of Eden to water the garden. . . . And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it." Genesis 2:8-15.

Here was a home that was ideal, perfect, safe. It furnished an adequate food supply. The climate was perfect, with no storms, floods, or droughts. Man had the delightful occupation of caring for the garden.

What three disastrous curses came upon the earth as a result of sin?

1. Weeds hindered the growing of food crops, and made necessary hard cultivation. Genesis 3:17-19.

2. Even under cultivation the soil would not yield its strength to man. Genesis 4:11, 12.

3. The world was destroyed. This involved tragic changes in terrain, soil, continental outlines, climate, water areas, etc. 2 Peter 3:5, 6.

Ten generations after the Flood, what did God promise to Abraham and his children of faith?

"And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee." Genesis 13:14-17.

"For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith." Romans 4:13.

"And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29.

What is the present condition of the earth?

"For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." Romans 8:22.



What will become of it?

"And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of Thine hands: they shall perish; but Thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shalt Thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail." Hebrews 1:10-12.

By what means will the Lord renovate this polluted world?

"The heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat." 2 Peter 3:10-12.

See also Isaiah 24:6: "The curse devoured the earth." Man's sinful conduct unfits him for further possession; so it is taken from him. By fire it is completely cleansed of the weeds of sin.

What has God promised to do with the purified remains of the present world?

"Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:13.

How far beyond the fondest dreams of man will this new home exceed his finest present experience?

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." 1 Corinthians 2:9.

God's Spirit gives us brief glimpses of this new world that stimulate our imaginations and our hopes. See verse 10.

With what finality will all curses be removed from the earth?

"And there shall be no more curse." Revelation 22:3.

What dazzling description is given of the capital of the new earth?

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the Holy City, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Revelation 21:1, 2.

"And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; and had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. . . . And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. . . . And the city lieth foursquare. . . . And he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs [1,500 miles in circumference]. . . . And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. . . . And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." Verses 10-21.

Who will be its ruler?

"And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: and they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads." Revelation 22:3, 4.

What will be the physical condition of the inhabitants?

"And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity." Isaiah 33:24.

"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing." Isaiah 35:5, 6.

How bright will be the illumination within the city?

"And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for

the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. . . . And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there." Revelation 21:23-25.

"And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light." Revelation 22:5.

How bright will be the light in the country districts?

"Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of His people, and healeth the stroke of their wound." Isaiah 30:26.

How frequently will the saved go up to the New Jerusalem to worship?

"For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before Me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the Lord." Isaiah 66:22, 23.

How secure will the redeemed feel in their new home?

"And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of My people, and Mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." Isaiah 65:21, 22.

Who will be excluded from this attractive place?

"And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie." Revelation 21:27.

Who will be welcomed to the eternal home of God's people?

"Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Revelation 22:14.

Eagerly our Lord awaits the day when He can say to His people, "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matthew 25:34. Will you accept His invitation of salvation now so that you will be prepared to enter into the joys of that day?

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The Editor

SIGNS OF THE TIMES
Mountain View, California



Why Children Go Wrong

Boys and girls often go wrong because of delinquent parents. Our children are generally what we as parents make them. Some of the reasons are:

- Wrong example by parents.
- Bad reading; comics, crime stories, etc.
- Movies, radio, television—crime serials, murder stories, mystery dramas, etc.
- No church influence.
- Lack of Christian training in the home.

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The Royal Commission

(Continued from page 8)

wage increase to remain. "No," said Sam, "I go China. I die one month two day from now. My brother twenty-two year old, wife and baby. He in prison. He going be killed one month two day. I fifty year old, no wife, baby. Chinese law my province let me die for my brother. I give him my money." Sam went to China and in one month and two days to a day was beheaded that his brother might live.

It was in this filial spirit that Christ, our Elder Brother, gave his life and risked His throne that each member of His great human family might live an eternal life of perfect happiness. It is in this spirit that men and women, heeding His royal commission, have gone and are going "into all the world," giving their all to "preach the gospel to every creature."

How I Found Christ

(Continued from page 7)

I went to get my binoculars and the logbook from the place where I kept them on the wire screen in a ventilator near the gangway, I found a roll of out-of-date papers—*Signs of the Times* and *The Watchman Magazine*—lying there. Some missionary-minded person had come aboard at a time when I was attending to duties elsewhere on the ship, and had left the papers there and gone. I took them down below when I was relieved of the watch, and carefully read them. As I looked up the Bible texts cited and thought upon them, I became convinced that I had found the truth for this time, and my soul was thrilled.

From the American consul in Amoy, China, I learned that there was a Seventh-day Adventist mission station on the nearby island of Kulangsu. There I found Pastor B. L. Anderson and wife one Sunday morning, and he counseled me to return to America and prepare for foreign missionary service. Following his advice, I was on my way back to the United States in May of 1922 to enter training at what is now Southern Missionary College, near Chattanooga, Tennessee.

During the following summer of 1923 I worked as a colporteur in the mountains of western North Carolina, and returned to the school in the fall. The summer of 1924 found me helping an evangelist in a public effort in Laurel, Mississippi. In September I went to Puerto Rico to work as a missionary departmental secretary until the latter

part of 1927. This experience was followed by work as an evangelist in the United States and Spain, after which I went to Panama in 1937 to do English and Spanish editorial work for the Pacific Press Publishing Association, publisher of *Signs of the Times*. In January of 1943 I was appointed editor of *The Watchman Magazine*, now *Our Times*. At present I am a missionary editor in the Philippines—back where I found Christ while reading a little worn Bible that someone put on the U.S.S. "Hart" in 1921.

Earth's Final Harvest

(Continued from page 11)

In Isaiah 63:1-4 is a prophecy of Christ with "garments like him that treadeth in the wine fat," as He treads the wicked in His anger so that "their blood shall be sprinkled" upon His garments and stain His raiment because "the day of vengeance" has come. The same event is described in Revelation 16:19, which says that "great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath." The image of treading grapes in a wine press is a familiar one in Palestine. The grapes are placed in a vat, and the juice is pressed out by men treading them with their feet. Often several men run about in the vat singing and shouting as they tread the grapes, the wine of which stains their garments. In Revelation 19:11-15 Christ is described at His second advent as being "clothed with a vesture dipped in blood" because "He treadeth the wine press of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God." In Genesis 49:11 wine is called "the blood of grapes."

Never before has such divine indignation followed a heaven-sent message. Under the rulership of the beast, rebellion against heaven ripens into its fullest and most God-defying fruitage.

The wine press of God's wrath is trodden "without the city." What city is meant? Is it the spiritual Babylon which is spoken of elsewhere in this chapter as "that great city"? Or does it refer to the city of Jerusalem outside of which the great battle of Armageddon will be fought? See Zechariah 14:3, 4, 9, 10. Speaking of the valley of Megiddo near Jerusalem, Dr. Seiss says, "That has ever been one of God's great battlegrounds for the judging of the armies of the wicked. There Jabin's hosts, with their nine hundred chariots of iron, were utterly overwhelmed by Jehovah's special interference. There the Midianites, and Amalekites, and children of the East

were routed before Gideon's three hundred men with pitchers and lamps. There Samson triumphed with his crude instrument over the might of the Philistines. There the ruddy son of Jesse met and slew the great Goliath, and opened a breach of destruction upon those who defied Israel's God. And it is but fitting that here should be the seat of the wine press for the final crushing out of the mightier Jabin and Goliath of the last evil days."—*Ibid.* vol. 3, p. 50.

Our text may also include the battle of Gog and Magog outside the New Jerusalem at the close of the millennium when the wicked of all ages are cast into the lake of fire to suffer the second and eternal death. See Zechariah 14:4, 5, 12, 13; Revelation 20:7-9. We must of course remember that the prophet is describing these events in highly figurative language. The literal wine presses were always located in the vineyards "without the city."

"Bozrah" is named by Isaiah as the place where Christ would tread the wine press in treading down His enemies. See Isaiah 34:6-8; 63:1-4. Bozrah is to the southeast of the Dead Sea, and Megiddo is near the Plain of Esdraelon. The distance between them is approximately 1,600 furlongs, a furlong being about one eighth of a mile. "For a distance of 200 miles," is the Weymouth translation. This is also about the length of Palestine from Dan to Beersheba.

According to our text the wine press of the wrath of God produces a deluge of blood that reaches "even unto the horse bridles." Reference may be made to the horses described in Revelation 19:11-16, where Christ is pictured riding on a white horse as the leader of the cavalry of heaven, also mounted on white horses. His garments are said to be dipped in blood as He comes with His symbolic horses and horsemen to tread the wine press of the wrath of God. This identifies our text with the second advent of Christ. While the language used in the scripture under consideration is

highly figurative and symbolic, it does indicate that the reward of the workers of iniquity will be terrible. To eradicate sin requires a bloody operation, but when it is over we are assured that the Lord "will make an utter end" of sin and sinners, so that "affliction shall not rise up the second time."

Debunking the God of Science

(Continued from page 4)

the Bible is one of the greatest facts in the world. It must be studied fairly by every man. A philosophy, for example, of the origin of man or the explanation of the conduct of man today, must of necessity be woefully lacking if it does not take cognizance of the great truths expressed so clearly in this most amazing and most astonishing and absolutely incomparable Book of books. And yet, the student of truth does not worship the Bible because it is a book. Rather, he cherishes it soberly, thoughtfully, and reverently, because through its pages the voice of the great I AM who caused all things to appear and through whom all things consist, speaks significant words to him."—Frank L. Marsh, *Studies in Creationism*, pages 169, 170.

May we drink of the fountain of eternal truth, which God has offered to every man. The Creator of the heavens and the earth, the Eternal One who set the stars in their courses and appointed the sun and the moon to do their work, speaks in love to His children. We need not follow speculative theories which are "science so called," when we can be taught of God.

It would be well for every young Christian student to read *Science Is a Sacred Cow*, for it would help him better understand the difference between true science and the sophistry of fools.

M. L. N.

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Knowing the Truth

The Greatest Discovery
a Man Can Make

by ERNEST LLOYD

GS BELIEF impossible to the modern man? According to a recent issue of *Life* magazine, a Princeton professor, Dr. W. T. Stace, argued that it is, and brought his argument to this terrifying conclusion: "We must expect men to wish back again the light that is gone, and to try to bring it back. But however they may wish and try, the light will not shine again—not at least in the civilization to which we belong."

What gloomy, deadening error for a teacher of youth to utter! We would not say that Dr. Stace loves "darkness rather than light," but he is certainly teaching it. And he has forgotten, evidently, that the light shines whether we individually see it or not. There are others who do see it.

Dr. Stace further stated, erroneously, that men are in the darkness of a world without demonstrable purpose or order, and, without a God of purpose or order, men must learn to live as best they can in their darkness. Then the editorial writer in *Life* rightly commented, "Must they? We think not. For what is belief? It is an act of the will, or at least of willingness."

Nearly two thousand years ago Christ, the Saviour of man, first uttered this great truth. Here are His words: "If any man *will* do His will, he shall *know*." He shall understand the truth, he shall see the light.

Again the Master Teacher declared, "He that followeth Me shall not walk

in darkness." Being willing to do, willing to follow Him who said, "I am the Light of the world"—this is the first step in the exploration of eternal truth and light.

Dr. M. D. Babcock, in his *Thoughts of Everyday Living*, says, "Men declare that when they know they will do; Jesus says that when they *do* they will know. He does not promise to manifest Himself to the man who dreams or debates, but to him who keeps His commandments. The seeds of truth sprout in the soil of *obedience*. The words of Jesus in the mind of a disobedient man are no more vital than wheat in the wrappings of a mummy. To know the divineness of Jesus' teachings, we must do His will with definite intention. Moral disobedience is mental darkness, but to submit our wills in loyalty to His law is to open our minds to *the light of His truth*."

It was long ago declared that "obedience is the organ of spiritual knowledge and vision," and if we would know God's truth and way, we must do His will. "He that doeth the will of God." This is one of the great discoveries of the Bible. It is purely a Bible thought. Philosophy never conceived a truth so simple and yet so sublime. Although it was known in Old Testament times, and expressed in the Old Testament books, it was reserved for the Lord Jesus to reveal it fully to the world—that the knowledge of God's will and purpose is hidden in the word "obey." Do we wish to have the Christian experience of walk-



CAMERA CLIX
Jesus, the Master Teacher, declared: "He that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness."

ing in the light? Then we must *will* to make the Christian experiment. Do we really desire to know Christ, the source of light? Then we must accept His invitation, "Follow Me," and obey His will.

It is not through philosophical thinking, but through faithful doing, that one comes to know the truth and to see the light. Faithful doing, willingness to do His will, is within everyone's reach. God gives us both the power to choose and the power to obey. The path which philosophers and scientists have often missed has been found by the shepherds on the hills and the humble toilers of earth. The fishermen of Galilee, after following the Master a few short years, knew more of God than did the scholars of Jerusalem. Belief grows, and the light shines brighter, as we follow the Master in humility and faith.

There are abundant evidences all about us that God is sustaining an ordered universe, and multiplied demonstrations of this fact are spread before us day and night. Truth and light are all about us. The man who opens his mind to the truth, desires truth, and seeks for truth, will not be long in the dark. Belief is a simple matter, if a man *wants* to believe. Earth and heaven are ready to help him to see the light. And the apostle Paul, in his great letter to the Romans, tells us there is "all joy and peace in *believing*." Blessed are the men and women who make this greatest of discoveries.

