

Canadian

OSHAWA, ONTARIO SEPTEMBER, 1944

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



THE GOOD NEWS

A vast appreciation of foreign missions and missionaries is one happy result of this war being carried into out-of-the-way corners of the earth. The service men are learning to understand the missionary enterprise, not only in saving men from sin, but also its by-product of practical value to themselves. Lost and destitute soldiers are being rescued by Christianized natives, the wounded are nursed and given life, and the whole personnel is being entertained and made at home in mission houses in the South Seas, India, Africa, Iran, and China. They are being feasted instead of being served as a feast. And, strangely, "civilized" soldiers are coming to Christ through the labours of natives who found Him first.

"The things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel." Philippians 1:12.

A great gold boom is on in Canada, reminiscent of the old Yukon days. Enormous sums are being invested in mining companies that have little hope of doing much till after the war, and have not even discovered any gold yet. They put much confidence in new methods of gold vein detection. One prospector, Hans Lundberg, applies science to the search. He uses chemistry, among other methods, to locate hidden gold, going so far as to analyze the leaves of trees for gold content, since trees are said to draw water from one hundred feet down. Lundberg predicts the finding of deep gold by the use of electrical instruments carried in airplanes over unsurveyed territory.

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, . . . might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." I Peter 1:7.

A bumper wheat crop is being harvested in the West, as the mighty army of combines and harvest hands (made up largely of old men, women, boys and girls) advances from Texas and Oklahoma up the great plains to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Provision has been made for the unrestricted passage of the thousands of harvesters across the international line. The golden flow of grain cannot be handled by the overworked railways, already loaded with war prior-

ity goods. The huge surpluses of the "staff of life" will be entirely inadequate, however, for the hungry people of devastated Europe; but millions will be saved from starvation because nature's God is good to us, giving us abundance and the heart to pass it on.

"Love your enemies, . . . do good to them that hate you, . . . that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven; for He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth

posited to coercion being applied to inherently voluntary acts, such as saving and spending, even though it may be for their ultimate good. They don't like paternalism and "put-the-penny-in-the-piggy-bank" methods. Liberty may have its weaknesses, but on the whole it is too priceless to forego. It is well to apply this to religious freedom also.

"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Revelation 22:17.

Grim determination characterizes the belligerents in the current war. Japan says she will fight a century-long conflict in order to attain her objectives. And she has already proved that this is not bluffing. Her victory-or-death devotion is her chief asset; and that cannot be crushed. As far as human foresight is concerned, the world faces long-drawn-out war. In view of this dreary prospect, how cheering is the good word from God to the effect that many "signs of the times" now



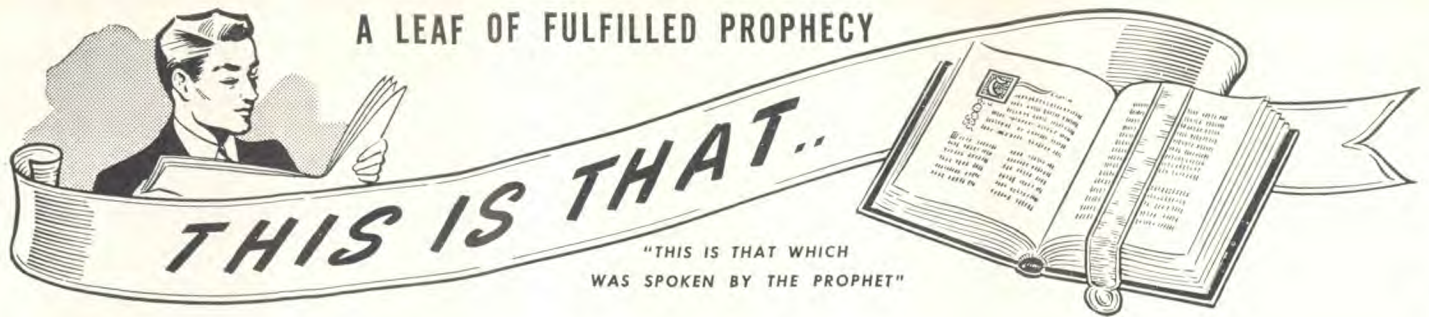
One of the newest planes, which can be used for transport, can fly 3,500 miles, and will float indefinitely on water.

rain on the just and on the unjust. . . . Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:44, 45, 48.

Compulsory saving has been abandoned by the Government. Beginning with July, Canadians are receiving more cash pay. The system was given up because it was found to hurt the war effort. Defense workers resented being compelled to save, so slackness and absenteeism increased. People in free countries are op-

exhibited in earth and sea and sky point to the imminent return of the "Prince of peace." We are fast reaching the consummation of all things, and we take terrible risks if we do not immediately learn how to relate ourselves to the times.

"Knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." Romans 13:11, 12.



Does Church Union Help?

THE *Christian Century*, a widely-read, undenominational weekly, has been publishing a series of articles under the general head of, "What is Disturbing the Churches?" Outstanding spokesmen have been chosen in each Protestant denomination to set forth the trouble his particular church group is experiencing during these times of world strain and of changing and falling religious standards. Thus the Methodists, Baptists, Lutherans, Presbyterians, and others have laid bare their internal stresses, weaknesses and worries. It is a revealing series.

One of the latest articles answers the question, "What is Disturbing the United Church of Canada?" The writer is G. Preston MacLeod, minister of Rosedale United Church of Toronto. Most of our readers are aware that the United Church came into being nearly twenty years ago by the merging of the Methodist Church (Canada), the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and the Congregational churches of Canada. After deploring the fact that a minority of the Presbyterian Church refused to unite with the union body, thus causing new overlapping, the writer expresses satisfaction with the general results of the merger.

Yet he says that the United Church has been "thoroughly behind" in the movement for larger church union in Canada. In his view, his church "has not swept forward on the momentum of great beginnings"; and to prove it he cites the facts that the missionary and maintenance funds have fallen from two and a half million to one and a half million dollars annually; that the budgets for home and foreign mission work are little over fifty per cent of what they were before the depression; that there is a shortage of candidates for the ministry, not attributable to the war; that ministerial training has been "one-sidedly intellectual"; that the former Methodists have lost their "Methodist enthusiasm"; that Sunday school enrolment has declined twenty-five per cent; and other trends equally alarming.

United Church leaders have our sympathetic understanding. Other denominations have similar difficulties. We are not disposed to criticize. But we must all admit that the root cause of churchly shortcomings is the lack of spiritual power,—power from on high. It is a glaring fact that the churches do not have the dynamics they used to have to move

men's hearts. Their leaders confess it. But is there no remedy?

There is; and it is in the recovery of lost power from God. But it is very plain from the frank admissions of the contributors to the "disturbed churches" articles that church union has not recovered this power. Dividing the number of churches and thereby multiplying the number of adherents has not added power but rather subtracted it, if we may credit the ministerial testimony.

Moreover, demanding or supplicating

creation and re-creation; they have trampled on the true Sabbath, the "sign" between God and His people. (Ezekiel 20:12, 20.)

Let us not stop with the confession of our failures. Let us confess also the sins that caused the failures. Let us rend our hearts and not our garments. "Power belongeth unto God," and He will grant it to those who obey Him. But "he that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be an abomination." Proverbs 28:9. "In vain they do



A Canadian Sunderland flying boat sunk this U-boat, which its crew is abandoning as it begins to sink.

the power of the State will not bring the power of God. The writer of the article in review congratulates his church for supporting "more specific religious teaching in the public schools." Shall the church, signally failing to attract its children to the Sunday school, turn to the civil power to enforce haphazard religious instruction in public schools in order to make its failure less evident? Shall we subject our children to the sort of religious instruction that any public school teacher is able to give, or could be expected to give?

To speak plainly, we are sure that the churches have lost divine power and blessing because they have not been awake to the inroads of Modernism; their intellectuals have denied the inspiration of the Bible, belittled or repudiated the atoning salvation of Jesus Christ, and set up evolution in place of

worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Matthew 15:9.

"Heaven" in India

It is reported that Mahatma Gandhi has declared himself in favour of a separate Moslem state in India, in order to break the present deadlock in that country between the Indian National Congress and the Government.

Indian political parties and religions almost exactly coincide. The two chief religions, and thus the two chief political parties, are Hindu and Moslem. Gandhi is the virtual leader of the National Congress party, representing the 250,000,000 Hindus, and Jinnah is the titular head of the Muslim League, backed by the 80,000,000 Moslems.

The one-time dream of all India was a united India, established on democratic

principles. But ostensibly this would mean a Hindu India, for the Hindus have a vast majority. For a long time the Moslems hoped and pled for equal representation in the proposed legislature, in spite of their small minority. As this would not be democracy, and no doubt for other reasons, it was refused by the Congress. At last the Muslim League came out for a separate Mohammedan state, which they call "Pakistan," which means heaven,—the promised land."

One of the chief objections of the Government to granting India commonwealth status in the Empire was this irreconcilable Hindu-Moslem antagonism. Now "Great Soul" Gandhi surrenders his

Papal Neutrality

IN A recent address, the pope of Rome declared, according to reports, that "the distinctive mark of the Catholic Church" is "the negation and living opposite of that discord by which the nations are disturbed and torn."

Does Rome change after all? For this is certainly a new position for the papacy to assume. From our knowledge of history, we cannot agree that the Roman Catholic Church has always refrained from war. Its very nature as a state as well as a church compels it to maintain an army. Certainly it has taken sides, even in the present war.

with him?" (See Revelation 13:3,4.) You can't make war with an avowed and persistent neutral. But one who refrains from the use of material weapons can be a mighty power in the earth, either for good or bad.

We Challenge Protestants

THE LARGE Protestant church bodies, and unions and federations of church bodies, are now emphasizing with renewed vigour the necessities of world peace, and are crowding their views on the attention of the statesmen by whose hands the peace will be formulated. These churchmen are urging that, among other freedoms, religious liberty be granted all peoples; as if such liberty were granted by them and they were eager to extend its blessings to others. But the truth is that these same Protestant denominations show by their attitudes that they favour a free conscience for themselves, but not for others.

Largely at the instigation and by the agitation and insistence of large Protestant bodies, laws restricting religious freedom are spread upon the statute books of our land to-day. Laws enforcing the religious observance of Sunday are examples. To make a man a potential criminal for keeping some other day and working on Sunday is to deprive him of his religious freedom. Who will deny it?

It may not be known commonly, but there are laws that infringe religion, in our own Protestant Christian country, that wait only to be enforced to bring dire persecution down upon the heads of countless thousands of our fellowmen about us. And, mark you, they will be enforced very soon.

We issue a challenge to Protestant peacemakers. Be consistent. Begin freedom's work at home. First take the intolerance beam out of your own eye. Let the great church federations petition the Government to repeal Sunday laws, and all others that compel the consciences of loyal citizens and subjects, and they would be repealed as soon as the legislative bodies could get around to the task. It is the church attitude that is curtailing religious freedom. We cannot hand out religious liberty to others till we have it ourselves.

"Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth." Romans 14:22.

Only fifty per cent of the people of America belong to church. Nevertheless, church members provide eighty per cent of all college students, seventy-five per cent of all home owners, and ninety per cent of all philanthropy. It is said that only two per cent of all criminals have ever been church members. There is much criticism of professed Christians, even among themselves. Yet even a profession of Christianity helps the individual life. We cannot come into contact with Christ without benefit. But possession added to profession is better.

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering." Hebrews 10:23.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



A remarkable picture of the war pyrotechnics as a freighter is bombed.

dream of a united India (it must break his heart) for the sake of ultimate independence for both parties. Whether or not his fellow Hindus are with him in this we are not informed. In fact, it would be difficult to determine now.

From some twelve years of close contact with India and her peoples and problems, we are convinced that "Hindustan," as its peoples know it, is destined to play a great part in world events during the next few years. This fifth of the world's population is sure to carry some weight in international events, especially in view of the Bible prophecy of Revelation 16:12-16, which gives a prominent place in the wind-up of human affairs to "the kings of the East."

India is on the move. Watch it!

Or does papal neutrality mean that the Church is on both sides, rather than on neither side? We are forced to this conclusion by the statements of leading Catholic cardinals and bishops in nations on either side of this global conflict. Either the Church is divided, or it follows a policy of expediency.

We wish the pontiff would clarify and justify his new stand. Or is he bidding for a place as arbiter at the coming peace table? There is a wide-spread belief among Catholics that the pope is the only man on earth who is in a position to dictate the terms of peace. Holy Writ forecasts that "all the world" will "wonder" after this church power. And all except a very few of the world's people will say in awe, "Who is able to make war

GET READY TO

Meet LIFE

By CLIFFORD A. REEVES

A VOICE once said to a great man who at the moment was not meeting life courageously, "What doest thou here?"

That same Voice says to youth to-day, "What are you doing here?" What are you doing in life? Do you know? Have you even thought about it? Remember that aim in life is to character what the backbone is to the body—without it we are invertebrate.

Purpose is the primary element of all true living. Character is purpose crystallized. Success is purpose loyally obeyed. Achievement is purpose bearing fruit.

Circumstances are not always within our control; but we are absolute masters of purpose. Where we are may be determined by others; what we do is determined by ourselves alone.

"Do not dare to live," says a great thinker, "without some clear intention toward which your living shall be bent. Mean to be something, and to do something, with all your might. Do not add act to act and day to day in perfect thoughtlessness, never asking yourself whither the growing line is leading."

The true life clusters around a clear purpose; from this purpose it takes direction and form. Such a life declares: "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world." For such a life, failure is impossible.

The man with a purpose is invincible and irrepressible till the purpose is realized. Ian Maclaren truly said: "Men with a fixed purpose are terrible men. They crash through conventionalities like a cannon ball."

Without a purpose, life is like a ship without a rudder. The breeze of fortune may fill the sails, the power of talent may throb within to urge it onward, but the purposeless soul will simply drift on the surface of life's ocean.

Environment and opportunity never yet made a great life unless they were combined with a noble purpose and earnest effort. To Luther and Erasmus came great opportunity in early Reformation days. Yet the life of Erasmus is forgotten, while Luther's name is a household word. Why? Because Luther "wove

The purpose that makes a success of life is something more than you can see in a mirror.



into the strands of divine opportunity the threads of his own dauntless purpose."

The man of purpose is he who bends all circumstances and privilege to one sublime objective. Such a one was Daniel. Though a beardless stripling in a strange land, he rose superior to his environment. "Daniel purposed in his heart." That was the secret of his ideal life. He would not let any fleshly indulgence cut the nerve of his spiritual endeavour. Purpose in your heart, and you are halfway to victory.

When a young man, the late Lord Roberts applied for admittance to a certain regiment. Though he was found to be a fraction of an inch too short, and was consequently refused, he was in no wise deterred; with indomitable determination that would pay any price, he went out and bumped his head repeatedly against a wall until he had raised a bump high enough to make the required measurement complete. Then he had himself remeasured on the plea that there must have been some mistake in the former measurement! What a striking example of earnest purpose forcing its way! "Can't" is the groan of a slave. "Try" is the cry of a hero.

Of course Jesus is the supreme example of a sublime purpose. In the one all-controlling purpose of His life He stands alone. The same changeless devotion to the will of His heavenly Father inspired Him from the beginning to the end of His life, and shone out in

His every word and look and act. That single-minded pursuit of His divine mission led Him on to Calvary's height. The cross of Christ is luminous with the blood-red light of His redeeming purpose.

"Live for something—have a purpose, And that purpose keep in view. Drifting like a helpless vessel, How can'st thou to life be true?"

Without the guiding compass of purpose, the voyage will be a failure and no port be reached at last. Life will be a tragedy of aimlessness. "Sad will be the day for any man," says Phillips Brooks, "when he becomes contented with the thoughts he is thinking and the deeds he is doing—where there is not beating at the doors of his soul some great desire to do something larger, which he knows that he was meant and made to do."

Ask the question of your own soul until it is answered: What am I doing with my life? "What doest thou here?"

The answer must come from yourself. Circumstance and environment cannot reveal it. The true answer is contained in that one mighty word—purpose.

"What doest thou here?" It is a sentry's challenge on the battlefield of life. It comes to youth, before whom life is opening with untold promise. It comes also to those who for years have "borne the burden and heat of the day." It calls to labour, to battle, to conquest.

KINGDOM TO COME

BEYOND POST-WAR TO POST-WORLD

By J. LAFAYETTE TUCKER

CHRIST is coming soon! O, glorious thought! He who loved us infinitely more than the combined affections of all mankind will, without much longer delay, come for His waiting people. With eagerness all heaven is astir with plans and anticipation waiting to welcome the redeemed ones. Christ is ever conscious of redemption's cost. The urge is ever upon Him to gather His loved ones to Himself. Job says: "Thou wilt have a desire to the work of Thine hands." Job 14:15. Those scarred hands are a continual reminder of love's price. Once He came to open a way for guilty man to be saved. He came the first time to sow the seed for an eternal harvest. God so loved the world that He gave Jesus a ransom to pay the awful debt of man's transgression. The way was opened; the seed was sown; the debt was paid. Now the final act in the drama of God's plan for human redemption is about to be consummated. As the great husbandman, He will soon reap the harvest of His seed-sowing.

How Christ loved His own! No price was too great for their redemption. "Who for the joy that was set before Him

problems, and the son of God must come back soon to keep the human family from completely destroying itself. Men talk sincerely of reforms, new orders, and of a coming Utopia. Humanity needs a rescuer, and a rescuer it will have. The Bible prophets predicted it; Jesus promised it; a perishing world demands it.

"It's almost time for the Lord to come
I hear the people say
The stars of heav'n are growing dim,
It must be the breaking of the day."

This is the hour to which all the patriarchs, prophets, and apostles looked. This is the day around which all their predictions centre. Only the willingly ignorant can read the scores of Bible prophecies concerning the field of religious, social, educational, physical, and international activities, and not be deeply impressed that current events are strikingly fulfilling the predictions.

After outlining many things that would be signs of His appearing, Jesus said: "When ye see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors." Matt. 24:33.

Look at the international world plung-

ing filth of our social world. Read the frightful statistics of the staggering increase of disease brought on by wholesale violation of the seventh command. Purity, modesty, chastity, are virtues that seemingly hold no value for the vast majorities. Sodom and Gomorrah live again in all their rotten licentiousness. "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot, . . . even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." Luke 17:28-30. (Read Jude 7, 2 Peter 2:6-8; Gen. 18-20.)

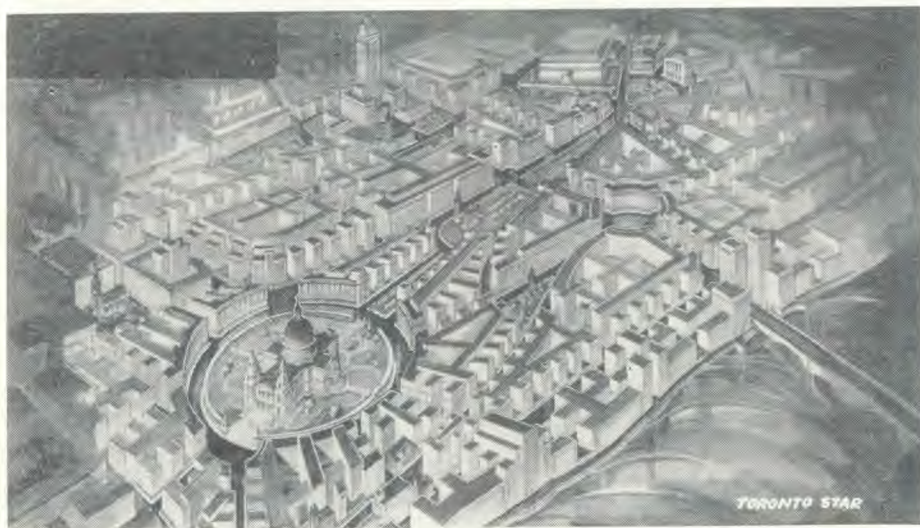
Blush at the hypocrisy of a nation selling the sobriety, the morals, the manhood and womanhood of its populace into the drunken hands of the liquor crowd for a little revenue money. See our mighty educational institutions pervert the object of their existence by propagating false philosophies that take the crown of dignity from man's creation in the image of God and make him the descendant of a race of obscene and dirty brutes. Weep at the condition of large sections of the Christian church that has adopted the modernistic attitude toward the Bible, denying the creation story, the fall of man, the Bible miracles, the virgin birth, the divinity of Christ, the blood atonement, the need of a new birth, a coming day of retribution and the second coming of our Lord. The Son of man came two thousand years ago to His professing people, but they were so busy with their own programme, they received not their Lord. By every possible device Satan seeks to cause religious history to repeat itself.

Why were all the signs listed? That we might know where we are in the stream of time and knowing, make the necessary preparation. The Bridegroom gives us this word of admonition: "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matt. 24:44.

Are you ready to look into the face of your glorified Lord and coming King? Do you have on that robe of purity and righteousness, which was woven in the loom of heaven? Have you drunk deeply at the fountain of salvation's waters? Do you know the joy of sins forgiven? Are you walking daily in the light of His presence and obedient to His every command? Is your faith just a mental assent to a historic fact, or is it a quickening, transforming power in your life?

Do you love the things your Lord loves? Do you truly hate the things He hates? Can you say of a truth, "I live, and yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Gal. 2:20.

Christ holds a high standard for His bride, the Church. She must deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world as she waits the appearing of the Bridegroom. (See Titus 2:12-14.)



The plan for a new London after this war. But the Christian visions an even greater and more beautiful city after this world.

endured the cross, despising the shame." Heb. 12:2. And, wonder of wonders, He does not, and never will, count the cost too great. "He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied." Isa. 53:11.

The long dark night of sin is about over. The awful prevailing conditions—this nightmare of horrors which covers the face of the world—is but proof of the inability of man to cope with sin's

ing toward the final battle of Armageddon—that cataclysmic struggle of the nations that rings down the curtain of human history. (Rev. 16:12-16; Joel 3:7-14.)

Behold how the stage is set in the economic world for the speedy fulfillment of the prophecy of James five, where capital and labour unions are presented in deadly combat just before the coming of the Lord.

Contemplate the abounding, nauseat-



We look for a time when the flags of all nations will never again be carried to battle.

In her mouth is found no guile for she is "without fault before the throne of God." (Rev. 14:5.) Her affections are centred on things above. Though living in the midst of the most wicked age, she partakes not of its spirit or sins. She is described as being "in the world and yet not of the world." The Revelator pictures her as patient, obedient to God's commands, and possessing the faith of Christ. (Rev. 14:12.) If the bride is to dwell with the Bridegroom, she must have the same ideals and standards as He. "When He shall appear, we shall be like Him." I John 3:2.

Think for a moment of those three characteristics—patience, obedience, faith of Jesus. Truly here is the essence of true godliness, the foundation principles of Christianity. Patience in an impatient age; suffering unjustly with not one thought or desire of retaliation, only returning good for evil.

It says the bride "keeps the commandments of God." Yes, she's old fashioned. She asks for the "old paths where is the good way." Jer. 6:16. Like her Lord she cries, "I delight to do Thy will, O my God, yea, Thy law is within My heart." Ps. 40:8. The Bridegroom says: "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." John

14:15. She does love Him.

All false religion leads away from obedience to God's commands. Wherever there is a voice setting aside any or all of God's commandments, that is the voice of Satan or one of his agents. True Christianity leads to full and complete obedience. Obedience is the first fruit seen on the tree of salvation.

The bride also is said to have "the faith of Jesus." She has but one example in all things,—her Lord. What did Jesus do? What did He teach? His doctrines are her doctrines. The unfailing trust that He displayed, she too will have. She will not complain of Gethsemane's cup, or Calvary's cross, but in perfect faith will say, All things that my Lord permits will work together for my good. (Rom. 8:28.)

Soon the cry, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh," shall echo and re-echo through the land. If that message should be heard just now, would you be filled with joy unspeakable, or with dread consternation?

Do I hear you say, "I am not now ready for the Bridegroom's appearing." But friend, you can be ready this very hour. Never forget you are dealing with a mighty God. One who made worlds out of nothing. "He spake, and it was done;

He commanded, and it stood fast." Ps. 33:9. If you yield completely to *Him* now; if you turn from, and confess your sins now; if you claim just *now* the forgiveness and mercies provided in Christ Jesus; He will wash away all iniquity; He will forgive and accept you freely. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land. Isa. 1:18, 19.

The good things of the heavenly land are all yours if you yield full and complete allegiance. They are yours when you yield. Why not make the present moment the time when you say, "All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give." Yes, give Him all—all the failures, the sins, the wasted years,—all. Then He will give to you of all the resources of heaven. Oh, marvellous exchange! Our rags of sin for His robe of righteousness. Our load of condemnation for His peace and joy. Our utter weakness, our dismal failures for His power and constant victories. "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy." Jude 24.

THE WORLD CALENDAR

THE WORLD CALENDAR of 12 months and equal quarters is a logical rearrangement of our present calendar. Every year is the same and begins on Sunday, January 1.

THE YEAR is divided into equal quarters of 3 months—13 weeks—91 days. The months are arranged in 31-30-30 days: each month has 26 week days, plus Sundays. The various time-units all agree at the end of quarter-years.

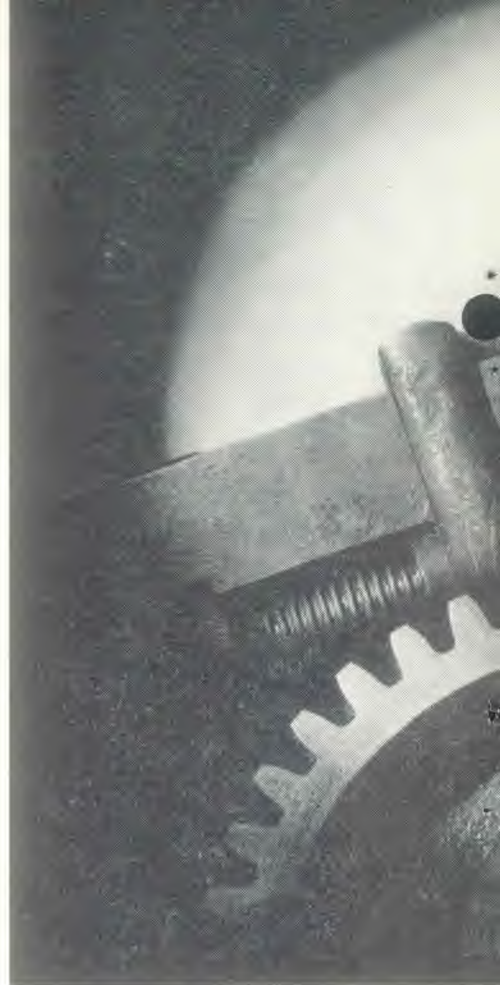
*THE 365th DAY at the close of every year is the natural Year-End Day, the extra Saturday, December W (the old December 31).

**In leap years the 366th day, the Leap-Year Day (the old February 29), is placed in the midyear on another extra Saturday, June W. Both are World Holidays.

This year is significant because the last four months are identical in both the old and new calendars. Sunday, the old December 31, becomes the extra Saturday, December W—a World Holiday.

YOU have the opportunity to apply this calendar and observe its benefits YOURSELF in the last four months of this year.

The Last Four Months of 1944 Are Exactly the Same in Both Calendars



Is calendar change throwing

WORLD

PRESENT
GREGORIAN CALENDAR

1944

PROPOSED
WORLD CALENDAR

FIRST QUARTER								
JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
						22	23	24
						25	26	27
						28	29	30
						31		
SECOND QUARTER								
APRIL			MAY			JUNE		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
						22	23	24
						25	26	27
						28	29	30
						31		
THIRD QUARTER								
JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
						22	23	24
						25	26	27
						28	29	30
						31		
FOURTH QUARTER								
OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
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						28	29	30
						31		

FIRST QUARTER								
JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
						22	23	24
						25	26	27
						28	29	30
						31		
SECOND QUARTER								
APRIL			MAY			JUNE		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
						22	23	24
						25	26	27
						28	29	30
						31		
THIRD QUARTER								
JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
						22	23	24
						25	26	27
						28	29	30
						31		
FOURTH QUARTER								
OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	7	8	9
19	20	21	22	23	24	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	29	30	13	14	15
31						16	17	18
						19	20	21
						22	23	24
						25	26	27
						28	29	30
						31		

This calendar has 52 weeks and must borrow from another week to complete the year. This causes the calendar to change every year and is responsible for its confusion. Also note varying number of days in each quarter.

* A WORLD HOLIDAY, DECEMBER W, the Year-End Day, an extra Saturday, follows December 30th every year.
** A WORLD HOLIDAY, JUNE W, the Leap-Year Day, another extra Saturday, follows June 30th in leap years.

THERE is an indissoluble relationship between religion and the week. It is again seriously proposed to this relationship by the adoption of this so-called World Calendar, which for the first time in human history would establish the continuity of the week.

This has been tried before, but it was not openly and avowedly as a campaign against religion.

It was attempted in the wild days of the French Revolution, and more recently in the Soviet Union as part of a campaign to annihilate every trace of religion.

The religious worship of Jews, Christians, as well as Mohammedans, is closely related to certain fixed points in the weekly cycle. The adherents of these religions hold a tenacious belief



H. A. Roberts

monkey wrench into the intricately geared machinery of time measurement?

RELIGION

Attacked By

World Calendar

By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

particular day has been divinely set apart as sacred from the other days of the week.

This definite and inseparable relation of religion to a fixed day of the weekly cycle bridges all the centuries back to the beginning of time. Through all human history this unique grouping of the days into sevens has been preserved unbroken.

It is now proposed to break it, and set the holy days of religion wandering unfixed, lost, through the mazes of confusion of mis-named days.

But this present attempt is not open and candid. It does not dare to disclose itself as what it really is, a pagan attempt to destroy religion, as did the French and Russian Revolutions. It masquerades as a campaign for the simplification of bookkeeping in the interest of comparative statistics. In reality it is anti-

Catholic, anti-Protestant, and anti-Jewish, anti-religious, anti-God.

A world-wide powerful organization has been created, known as the World Calendar Association, Incorporated. Its sole purpose is to displace the present Gregorian Calendar and substitute in its place what is called the World Calendar.

It is spending many thousands of dollars for propaganda to obtain the approval of commercial, governmental, and civic bodies for the adoption of the World Calendar and placing it in effect January 1, 1945.

It has numerous subsidiary organizations throughout the world working for the adoption of this new calendar.

What they propose to do is to re-name the days for the year 1945 so that Monday would become Sunday, and all the

following days be moved up one 24-hour period. They would do this by throwing Sunday, December 31, 1944, out of the week altogether, and calling the next day, Monday January 1, 1945, by the name of Sunday. This in order that the year 1945, and all years to follow, may begin with Sunday, whether it is Sunday or not.

Thus those who hold Sunday to be a holy day would be asked to accept Monday in its place, rechristen it Sunday, and observe it instead of the real Sunday.

Those who keep the Bible Sabbath would face equal confusion. The last Sabbath they keep in 1944 will be Saturday, December 30. The next Sabbath would normally be Saturday, January 6. But Sunday, December 31, will be banished from the calendar, called an Extra Saturday, or December W, and used as a holiday, and January 6 is therefore to be called Friday, when in reality it is Saturday.

Conscientious Sabbath keepers, obedient to the law of God rather than to the changing requirements of man, and acknowledging only the definite, identical seventh day from creation as the true Sabbath, would keep that day, even though the calendar in use designates it as Friday, the sixth day.

Surely this will be confusion worse-confounded, a genuine Babylon. Conscientious Sabbath keepers would observe Friday, the calendar sixth day of the week which in reality would be Saturday, the actual seventh day. Conscientious Sunday keepers would observe Saturday, the calendar seventh day, which in reality would be Sunday, the actual first day.

And in 1946 consistent Sabbath keepers would be observing the calendar days marked Thursday and Friday; in 1947, Wednesday and Thursdays; in the first half of 1948, Tuesday and Wednesdays; in the latter half of 1948, Monday; in 1949, Sundays and Mondays; and in 1950, and not until then, would the days of the calendar become again the actual, original days of the week; after which the confusion starts all over again.

Think of the indescribable disabilities to which this would subject conscientious religionists. What business organization would willingly give employment to men who would require Sabbath off on different days each year, and two different days each leap year? What school would want to receive pupils whose parents kept them home for purposes of worship on Monday one year; Tuesday the next; Wednesday and Thursday the next, and Friday the next?

In order to make a living the strongest pressure would be brought to bear upon consistent Christians to abandon their religion and crush their consciences. In order to obtain an education the price demanded would be departure from God and disobedience to His law. In order to buy or sell conformity to man-made alterations in divine times and seasons would be required.

All Protestants, all Catholics, all Jews can work together against the anti-religious proposal of the World Calendar advocates. This proposal is equally antagonistic to all these religions, one-half the population of the world.

The FATHER of MULTITUDES

and the MULTITUDES

Third in a Series of Editorial Articles on "THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH." This one narrates the successive incidents that centred divine and human interest in Palestine before Christ.

THE yearning Father of all was able to persuade the Abram family, preachers of righteousness, to occupy the centre of the earth. And he would make of this apparently senile old man and his wife a nation that would be like "the sands of the sea" in numbers. It was to be a miracle nation and people, for it was to come of Isaac, the son who was born out of bearing time. Abram's name was changed to Abraham, "the father of multitudes," a name prophetic of that which was to come, the most amazing multitude of all time.

When that multitude, which was to be likened to billions of grains of sand, was hidden in embryo in what might be likened to one small grain of sand, God commanded Abraham, the father of Isaac, to destroy him. Shaken, but unbowed by the shock, the grief-stricken but obedient parent prepared to sacrifice his son, in seeming abject imitation of the heathen worshippers of Moloch around him, who killed their children to appease their god. What a mockery! Yet men are often called upon to risk losing their reputations in order not to lose their integrity.

This was a test of faith in God, and stands forth as a type of the heavenly Father doing to death His only begotten Son for the saving of lost mankind. "It was by faith, when Abraham was put to the test, that he sacrificed Isaac; he was ready to sacrifice his only son, although he had received the promise and had been told that it is through Isaac that your offspring shall be reckoned—for he considered that God was able even to raise men from the dead. Hence he did get him back, by what was a parable of the resurrection." Hebrews 11:17-19, Moffatt.

In connection with this paramount occurrence that prefigured the crucifixion of Christ which was to come many hundreds of years later, God took occasion to make the first move toward establishing the city that was to be the metropolis and capital of the nation that was to possess the centre of the earth. At the time, Abraham was in the southern part of the country. He might have built an altar there for the supreme crisis of his life. But no, in obedience to divine command, he journeyed three days northward to the district of Moriah, and on one of its hills, as directed by Jehovah, he stood the test.

When God stayed Abraham's hand, and prevented him from performing the overt act of slaying his son Isaac, He provided a ram caught in the nearby thicket for the actual sacrifice. This was a type of Christ's substitution for man in

the punishment for sin. An allegory of the central tragedy of the plan of salvation, the crucifixion of Jesus, was enacted on that spot that day. And Abraham caught the significance of it. He called the place, Jehovah-jireh, "The Lord will see, or provide." It gave rise to a saying, "In the mount of the Lord it [the plan of man's salvation] shall be seen." Genesis 22:14. Thus this mount of Moriah was chosen as the "mount of the Lord". (And the places that were to be Gethsemane, Golgotha, and the Garden tomb were in the vicinity.) This was to be the centre of the centre of the earth.

Eight centuries passed into history before this spot again became prominent. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had long slept with their fathers. Their descendants, "the children of Israel," had reached the proportions of a multitude while in slave-exile in Egypt. Two million strong, they had marched out of that foreign land under the directing hand of God, and after many vicissitudes had settled permanently in Canaan, the "promised land." They had covered Abraham's high road like a blanket, and had overlapped on other countries round about. They had been ruled by judges in a theocracy for four hundred years. At last they set up a monarchy.

David, the second of their kingly line, built a capital city, Jerusalem, on Mount Zion, next hill to Mount Moriah. He was about to erect the temple which was to be the national centre for the worship of God, and was deliberating its location. Such a decision had to do with the sacred places where God was to dwell with His people. So Deity intervened in a most remarkable way. Read about it in I Chronicles, chapter 21.

God allowed Satan to tempt David to take a census of the nation, obviously for a source of congratulation to the royal pride. The king fell into the temptation before he was convicted that he had made a serious error and displeased God. In punishment, there was a great destruction among the people; and the divine hand was raised to destroy Jerusalem. The narrative proceeds (Moffatt's translation): "The Eternal looked and changed His mind about the punishment; He said to the destroying angel, 'Enough! Hold your hand!' The angel of the Eternal was standing by the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite, and when David raised his eyes, he saw the angel of the Eternal in mid-air, holding a drawn sword over Jerusalem.

"Then David and the sheikhs, clothed in sackcloth, dropped on their faces, and David said to God, 'Was it not I who ordered the people to be numbered? It

was I who sinned, I who acted so wickedly! But these poor creatures, what have they done? Let thine hand, O Eternal my God, be against me and against my father's house, not against my people, to plague them.'

"Then the angel of the Eternal ordered Gad [the prophet] to tell David to go up and erect an altar to the Eternal at the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite. At the bidding of Gad, who spoke in the name of the Eternal, David did go up. When Ornan turned round, he saw the angel; and his four sons who were with him hid themselves. Ornan was threshing wheat; and, as David approached him, Ornan looked out, and when he saw David he went outside the threshing-floor and bowed to the king with his face to the ground.

"Then said David to Ornan, 'Let me have the site of this threshing-floor in order to build an altar to the Eternal, that the plague may be averted from the people. You must take the full price for it.' 'Take it as your own,' said Ornan; 'let my lord the king do whatever he pleases. Here I give you the oxen for burnt-offerings; and the threshing sledges for wood, and the wheat for the cereal offering; I give you them all.'

"'No, indeed,' said king David to Ornan; 'I will buy it for its full price; I will not take what belongs to you for the Eternal, nor offer a burnt offering that has cost me nothing.' So David gave Ornan a thousand gold guineas for the site; and there David built an altar for the Eternal, and offered burnt-offerings and recompense offerings, worshipping the Eternal, who answered him from heaven with fire upon the altar of burnt-offering. Then at the bidding of the Eternal the angel sheathed his sword again.

"It was then, as David saw the Eternal had answered his sacrifice at the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite (for although the tent of the Eternal, made by Moses in the desert, and the altar of burnt-offering, were there on the height of Gibeon, David could not approach them to consult God there, he was so terrified of the sword of the angel of the Eternal), that David declared, 'This is to be the house of God the Eternal, this is to be the altar of burnt-offering for Israel!'

"So David had all the aliens in the land of Israel collected, and he set masons to hew cut stones for building the house of God."

Finally, David did not build the house of God. Solomon his son built it, as states the record in II Chronicles 3:1: "Then Solomon began the building of the temple of the Eternal at Jerusalem, on Mount Moriah, where the Eternal had



Chiefs of the Allied Armies making a survey of Jerusalem as it is here shown in the temple area.

appeared to his father David, on the very spot fixed by David at the threshing-floor of Ornan." (Moffatt.)

The reader cannot fail to see the similarity between the episode of Abraham and Isaac, and the episode of David and Israel, enacted on the same spot eight centuries apart—the innocence of the victims, the drawn sword, the offered substitution, the mercy of God, and the accepted substitution of that which cost David something. There are avenues of great truth which open in every direction from these tragedies, vistas that lead to light through darkness.

For our purpose here, we note that the eminence of Moriah was the sacred spot on which the scheme of redemption centred, if it could be said to have centred anywhere geographically. Here Solomon erected the David-planned temple, which was to stand in its original and restored form for a thousand years. It is noteworthy also that this area had been used as a threshing-floor. Thus it was typical and prophetic of "the harvest which is the end of the world," when the wheat will be separated from the chaff, the righteous from the wicked, in the consummation of the divine plan of salvation, for which that temple stood.

Little did the Hebrews of those old days realize the universal scope of the drama of the ages in which they were acting a part. Little did they sense the importance which both divinity and humanity would some day attribute to this royal spot.

Another notable event which affected this earth-centre and was to affect it for all time to come, was an earthquake. Earthquakes have been more or less common throughout all ages of the history of the world, though they have become more frequent, more destructive, and have spread over a wider range in modern times. Violent and life-destroying

earthquakes were rare in the pre-Christian era; and when one did occur it became a time-marker. It was the earthquake.

The Old Testament prophet Amos refers in the first verse of his book to something that happened "two years before the earthquake." This was in the reign of Uzziah, king of Judah. It would seem that this great quake was of such gigantic proportions, and so close by, that the seer used it for a before-and-after year-post from which to reckon time, instead of using the year of accession of the reigning king, as was usually done. In that age it stood out somewhat like the Flood of a former age, or the Exodus.

In the prophecy of Zechariah, the same quake is mentioned in these words: "Ye shall flee like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah." It must have been a terrible visitation, the only notable one of its kind in old Palestine. We shall have occasion to refer to it again in a later chapter.

Modern geologists and archaeologists have done much exploring in Palestine. In their investigations on and about the Mount of Olives, which lies across a narrow vale east of Jerusalem, they have discovered a "fault" in this historic hill. A fault, in geological terms, is caused by an earthquake opening a crack down through the strata of rock, more or less at right angles to the layers; the crack usually closes again, but because of one side slipping or rising, the strata do not come together as they did before. The matter of moment about this fault in Olives is that it extends down through the middle of the mountain, from east to west. Was Olivet prepared ages ago by the earthquake for a crowning event in the far future of the place where God chose to set His name? We shall see.

The multitudes of the children of

promise grew in number like the stars of heaven—not the comparatively few stars which Abraham could see with his naked eyes, which were as binoculars compared with ours in the clear skies of the semi-desert country—but stars as numerous as they may be seen through gigantic modern telescopes. However, they went the "way of all flesh", away from God and good. They wrapped themselves up within themselves, despised Gentiles, as they called all non-Jews, and steadfastly refused to spread the truth of the Creator-God. Situated at the centre from which rays of truth might radiate to the whole earth, they put their light under a bushel—and, deprived of the oxygen of spiritual life, it went out. In control of the centre, they scorned those at the circumference.

Unwilling to send to others, God sent others to them. King Hezekiah took sick, and in answer to prayer God healed him, and gave him a sign—the shadow on the sun-dial turned back fifteen degrees, the earth stood still for an hour. The ruler of the greatest nation on earth, Babylon, saw the remarkable phenomenon, and sent ambassadors to investigate. Hezekiah, flattered, instead of taking this exceptional opportunity to tell them the whole truth and to glorify God, glorified himself by showing the emissaries all his treasures. In later years, Babylon returned in force and seized the treasures he had so vainly revealed.

Unwilling to go as missionaries to the heathen, God allowed the emperor of the world's first universal empire to take practically the total nation of Israel into captivity—involuntary foreign missionaries. But, with a few notable exceptions—Daniel and his three companions, Ezra, Esther, Nehemiah, Ezekiel—they were content with being exiles only. Seventy years later, He returned a sorry remnant of them to their own land. Weened forever from idolatry by this captivity, they settled into a spiritual lethargy and formalism that is without parallel in the history of religion.

Christ, the only Child of God, was sent to them as the Saviour toward whom all their sacrifices and prophecies had pointed for four millenniums. But they rejected Him and killed Him, thus sealing their doom as God's chosen people. Their cup of iniquity was filled a few years later (A.D. 70), and they were destroyed permanently as a nation, while their fair city and superb temple were razed to the ground and a plow run over the place where God had chosen to set His name. To-day the Jews are scattered to the ends of the earth and all the way between, and Israel is no more.

But, with all this woe and disappointment, God did not swerve a hairbreadth from His eternal purpose. His people had failed, not He. From among the Gentiles, He began to gather a people unto Himself, still willing that the Jews should come back to Him, as individuals. But the "abomination of desolation" trampled down the holy places of Palestine, till to-day, though now known as "The Holy Land," it is less holy than it ever was since Abraham first trod its verdant hills.

Read, "SWEPT BY THE TIDES OF EMPIRE," in the November number.



Where Are We

in the

PROPHETIC

STREAM of TIME?



By GREGG C. ROBINSON

THE question is often asked to-day, "Have we entered into the beginning of the battle of Armageddon?" or more correctly, the war of Armageddon.

This, no man living can answer. The only correct reply is to be found in the prophetic Word of God. We are in the New Testament era, and as the greatest Prophet who ever lived gave His first prophecy at the beginning of this era, it is the better part of wisdom for us to go back to His prophecy found in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21.

Necessarily we must confine ourselves to only a small part of that prophecy. There are other concurrent scriptures which we have no time or space to consider here, but merely refer to.

In Luke 21:5,6,20-24, Christ describes the desolation of old Jerusalem and of the beautiful temple where Jesus spoke this prophecy, which was fulfilled in A.D. 70. Also we have portrayed the persecution and scattering of the Jewish people among all nations. This scattered condition was to prevail until "the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled," (Luke 21:24), or "until the time of the end." Daniel 8:17.

In this scripture, the vision spoken of is outlined in verses 1-14 of this chapter.

In the old Hebrew economy, the cleansing of the Sanctuary, (Daniel 8:14; Lev. 16) came at the close of the Jewish year and represented the clearing up or the confession and final forgiveness of the year's record of the sins of the Jewish people. This was also a symbol of the closing of God's great work of salvation for "this present evil world" Galatians 1:4.

It was considered by the Jews as a day of final judgment and symbolized the great Judgment spoken of by prophets and apostles, wherein the sins of six thousand years of this world's history would be disposed of. This expression, "the time of the end," shows that the great judgment of God occurs immediately preceding the end of this present world.

In Luke 21:25-28 we see that "the time of the end" culminates at the coming of the Son of man, the Lord Christ Jesus. This period of time is marked by great signs in the sun, moon, and stars, and upon the earth great distress and conflict of the nations of earth. In Revelation 11:18,19, we read that the judgment of God is in progress at the going forth of the "Gospel of the Kingdom."

God's retributive judgments are abroad in the earth in which God's great wrath against unrepented sin is summarized in the seven last plagues, Revelation 15:1, 4-8 and Chapter 16. This period of God's great wrath terminates with a great earthquake and an overflowing scourge of immense hailstones.

During this earthquake, islands and mountain chains will disappear and the whole surface of the earth will be broken up.

The expression, "the seven last plagues," would indicate that there are no more plagues or physical judgments to follow before the actual end of the age or, "the time of the end." As the "time of the end" closes with Christ's coming (Luke 21:27), we can see about where we are in the great prophetic stream of time.

The great signs in the sun, moon and stars of which Jesus spoke are all in the past, the last one having occurred more than 110 years ago. We are now in the midst of the great anger of the nations and of God's judgment, also, "the time of the dead that they should be judged." Rev. 11:18. The other concurrent prophecies to which we have already alluded show that we are near the end of the judgment and the final pouring out of God's unmixed wrath, unmingled with mercy, (Revelation 14:10) in the seven last plagues. In matter of time we are

now between verses 25 and 26 of Luke 21. See also Matthew 24:29,30 and Mark 13:24-26.

Be it so that we are now near the close of God's great judgment hour, (Rev. 14:7) in the which the plan of salvation shall dispose of the sins of those that "fear God and keep His commandments." Eccl. 12:13,14, (Exodus 20:1-17). The thinking person who values eternal things, is constrained to take an inventory of his soul's condition before God. (2 Peter 3:10-12).

It is high time that those who profess to be followers of God should seek Him while He may be found. (Isa. 55:6,7). For when the judgment ends, there will be no more forgiveness of sins, and the fiat will go forth from the great white throne above as presented in Revelation 22:10-12, 19, 20.

Dear reader, we can see by the events transpiring around us that we are in a very crucial time. For the world is now in God's great crucible of test and trial of His professed people. We know not how soon the judgment will end, neither do we know the day nor the hour when God's voice shall end the work of forgiveness of sins. (Matthew 24:36). He who is cherishing known sin when the divine decree shall go forth from above shall fail to gain the eternal inheritance which might have been his.



THE TIME OF REWARDS AND PUNISHMENTS

Question: Do our souls remain in Paradise until the Judgment Day, or do we go straight to heaven at death?

Answer: In order to answer this question adequately, we must get our terms clear. In the first place, what is meant by "our souls?" Most people cling to the notion that "souls" are the "disembodied spirits" of the dead. But the Bible does not recognize the actual existence of any such spirits. What purport

to be the spirits of the departed are evil or fallen spirits impersonating the dead, as was the case when the witch at Endor, controlled by one of these spirits, professed to call up Samuel from the grave. (1 Chron. 10:13,14.)

The soul, like the body, is an integral part of the whole man, and when life is extinct the man as such ceases to be. (Gen. 2:7; 3:19.)

There is no solid Scriptural basis for
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

the idea that the soul of man is a separate conscious entity which survives the body at death. It is a purely pagan conception. Death, in the Biblical sense, is the complete dissolution of the man. (Eccl. 9:10.) In the old Testament, the patriarchs and prophets were quite clear about this. And in the New Testament, death is described as a "sleep," which nothing but the re-animating power of God can disturb. Until such disturbance takes place, the dead sleep on, completely unconscious of all that is happening. (John 11:11; 1 Cor. 15:51-58.) The "works" of the dead may "follow them," but the dead them-

selves "know not anything." Eccl. 9:5.

Nor does Holy Writ teach that Paradise is the place of departed souls or disembodied spirits. That is a Roman Catholic fabrication borrowed from paganism. Paradise is the place where God dwells, and no human being has yet reached it, except by resurrection, or by translation. (Rev. 2:7; 1 Cor. 15:21-23; Gen. 5:21-24; 11 Kings 2:11.)

Now if, as the Bible substantially teaches, death is a state of complete unconsciousness, then no one at death can enter heaven, or, for that matter, any other realm of consciousness. The second advent alone will bring about the

general resurrection of the dead. (John 5:28, 29.) Those who enter heaven will do so as Jesus did, in their resurrected bodies, unless they happen to be alive on the earth "at the last trump," when, like Enoch and Elijah, they will be translated. (1 Thess. 4:14-18.)

We should be very thankful that this is so. What a merciful oblivion death is! The departed know nothing of the trials and tribulations through which those they have left behind are passing. That is why, in the church burial service, we give thanks that it hath pleased God "to deliver this our brother out of the miseries of this sinful world."



The Comfort of PRAYER

By
**MARTHA E.
WARNER**

As daffodils heal
the scars of
bombed St. An-
drews at Ply-
mouth, so the
broken human
spirit finds a balm
in prayer.

One bright beautiful spring morning, many, many years later I was reminded of this incident. I seemed to be afflicted with a restless feeling. I couldn't seem to set myself about anything. And as the morning grew long the restless feeling turned to one of depression. I could not seem to throw it off, so I went to my room and there I told the Lord all about it, and I prayed that He would prepare me for what he was preparing for me, be it joy or sorrow. Then as I prayed peace came into my heart and the rest of the day was a happy day.

The next morning, as I was washing the dishes, the restless feeling of the day before, returned and more so. It seemed as though a heavy weight was hanging over me and gradually coming closer and closer. Never in my life had I experienced anything like it. Again I went to the Lord, and as I waited before Him this is what He said to me. "He shall not be afraid of evil tidings, his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord." Ps. 112:7.

And then I questioned, Evil tidings, Lord? Has mother reached the end of life's journey? Has the nicest man been hurt? But all the answer I could get was, "He shall not be afraid. His heart is fixed." Then the heavy weight that had been hanging over me lifted and my heart was filled with peace, quietness and assurance that, come what would, God had promised I should not be afraid.

It was just about an hour after this when the phone rang. The telegraph station was calling. Calling to tell me that my dear brother had been instantly killed. The shock was great, but I was prepared. God had promised and I was not afraid. Although my heart seemed breaking, I could say as little Helen said so many years ago, "God is a good God."

Oh, it is such a blessed privilege to pray, to thank God for His goodness and into his listening ear whisper, "In gladness or sorrow, To-day or to-morrow, Dear Lord, I have need of Thee."

WHY pray? Well, I pray because I know that God is good, and because I have great need of Him, and to prove to you the truth of this statement, "I am going to tell you a story."

It was a beautiful spring morning. Too nice a morning for children to be shut up in a schoolroom, but nevertheless this is where this group were, and almost I felt sorry for them, for all nature seemed to be calling them out into the open.

Bang! went a book down on the floor. That would be Harry trying to, accidentally but more likely intentionally, attract Jim's attention. And he did, for like a flash, round went Jim's head and there was a giggle. Those two were a thorn in the flesh for any teacher.

It was little Helen's first term of school. Chubby little Helen who was

laboriously making a page of o's. Funny little pumpkins, she called them, with tails. But it was such hard work for a tiny girl, so when Mr. Robin, who was out in the apple tree, began singing, "Cheer up, cheer up", she paused to listen. As he flew away, she turned her beaming face to me and said right out loud, "God is a good God, isn't He?"

"Yes," I said, "He is. And because He is, let us bow our heads and thank Him for the little song the robin sang to us, and ask Him to help us be quiet and study hard so we too, may soon be out in the sunshine."

So we did, and the rest of the morning passed like magic, and before we realized it, school was over and the children marching out into the great wide open, for this was a country school.

Prevalence of Disease

Public health services estimate the following prevalence of disease in Canada:

Rheumatism, 685,000
Heart Disease, 370,000
Arteriosclerosis and high blood pressure, 370,000
Hay fever and asthma, 345,000
Hernia, 210,000
Haemorrhoids, 200,000
Varicose Veins, 175,000
Nephritis and other kidney diseases, 155,000
Nervous and mental diseases, 145,000
Goiter and other thyroid diseases, 120,000
Cancer and other tumors, 93,000
Tuberculosis, all forms, 68,000
Diabetes mellitus, 66,000
Ulcers of stomach and duodenum, 33,000



WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH US?

A Survey of the Causes and Cures of Common Diseases

By W. H. ROBERTS, M.D.

IT IS a common belief that most disease is caused by compression of spinal nerves. This idea has been quite generally accepted because the average person does not know that the nerves that emerge from the spinal column are much smaller than the holes between these bones. Moreover, the space about the nerve is padded with fat and soft tissue. This makes it possible for an acrobatic dancer and a contortionist to perform all sorts of feats with impunity. The X ray has been used to search for the dislocations which some assert are present, but they cannot be found. In fact, substances opaque to the X ray have been injected into the canal within the spinal column, and photographs taken later have shown the fluid passing around the nerves in a manner that would be impossible if these nerves were impinged on by the bony structures with which they are surrounded.

Others teach that auto-intoxication plays a major part in the causation of disease. Hence the still prevalent custom of giving to any ailing member of the family a laxative. It was not so many years ago that physicians dosed their patients with what we now consider to be dangerous drugs, such as calomel. Many sufferers religiously take enemas and colon irrigations to rid themselves of these mythical auto-intoxicants.

Again, the so-called foci of infections have largely been robbed of their terrors.

This has come too late, however, to spare the removal of tonsils, teeth, gall bladders, and other suspected members of the body.

It can now be said with some assurance that popular errors in diet and habits of living are the major causes of disease. This requires some explanation, and also modification.

In regard to rheumatism, it is admitted that the specific cause is still unknown. We do know, however, that it occurs most often among the poor, especially where there is overcrowding, and is more common in winter months. Children living in eastern cities are most liable. If they were permitted to spend their winters in the sub-tropics, all might be well. Undoubtedly we do not utilize what little sunshine we do get in our country. For instance, many homes are pervaded with a cellar-like atmosphere, because they have not been aired and ventilated. Upon rising in the morning, bed clothing should be removed piece by piece from the bed, and exposed to the air. The windows should be opened, the blinds fastened back, and the air allowed to circulate freely for several hours through the sleeping apartments. Shade trees and shrubbery should not be allowed too close to the house. In choosing a home site, low damp areas should be avoided.

Hearts may be damaged as a result of a bout with rheumatic fever, tonsillitis,

scarlet fever, chorea, or even German measles. In these cases the heart valves are scarred, causing a mechanical interference with the blood flow, or preventing the valves from closing properly. The maintenance of a high blood pressure over many years may fatigue the heart muscle, but the heart shows remarkable accommodation to this increased burden by enlargement. Similarly, an overactive thyroid may tire an otherwise good heart. Persons with rheumatic heart disease may often lead fairly normal lives if they are not called upon to do heavy manual labour.

Physicians are perhaps most concerned about the prevalence of disease of the coronary arteries. Overeating, particularly in the form of animal fats such as butter, pastries, fried foods, and fat meats is definitely a hazard from this standpoint. Also, anything which might cause the arteries of the heart to go into spasm such as emotional strain, or even the use of tobacco. Arteriosclerosis, which is nothing more than the term used for hardening of the arteries, is one of the most tangible evidences of advancing years, and of the fact that we are mortal.

Hay fever and asthma are allergic disorders, often with a definite hereditary background. However, a person may have such a tendency to these disorders and not succumb unless weakened by excessive work or worry, which indiscretions may tip the balance in the wrong direction.

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Hernia, hæmorrhoids, and varicose veins are essentially mechanical disorders.

Nephritis and other kidney diseases are, of course, related to arteriosclerosis and hypertension. In both cases the same causes would be operative.

Goiter is essentially a disease due to iodine deficiency. It could be prevented if iodized salt were used universally.

The cause of cancer is still not definitely known. Chronic irritation is much to blame. Other factors come to light as the result of ceaseless search for the cause and an effective remedy. The definite possibility that it may be due to a virus is no longer considered unlikely. The virus so far has been very elusive in contrast to the viruses of such diseases as the common cold, influenza, measles, common warts, etc. This seems to be due to the fact that the body elaborates a protective enzyme which destroys the virus almost as quickly as it multiplies—almost but not quite. And herein lies the tragedy. Once its defences have been broken, the human body is unable to rid itself of this parasite. When it is realized that every type of cancer found in the human body is duplicated in the animal kingdom, the vegetarian has the satisfaction of knowing that he is avoiding at least one of the possible sources.

Tuberculosis since Koch's time has been known to be caused by a specific germ, the mycobacterium tuberculosis. It is strange that there are still some who deny the existence of these disease germs, as if to argue that what is not known can do no harm. Certainly direct contact with known cases who have germs in their sputum should be avoided, also such known sources as unpasteurized milk and dairy products. Almost as injurious are the indulgence in health-destroying habits such as tobacco smoking and the use of intoxicants, intemperance in work and study, the wearing of insufficient clothing, and the chronic starvation caused by dietary deficiency.

In regard to diabetes mellitus, little need be said, as the average Canadian is well acquainted with the role of insulin. A person may have no hereditary predisposition to this disease, and still make excessive demands upon his pancreas by overeating, particularly of sweets, and by eating between meals. The average annual consumption of sugar per person in the United States and Canada is really tremendous in normal times.

The incidence of stomach and duodenal ulcer is not surprising when one considers what most of us put into our stomachs, often with very little preliminary mastication. Such a list would include heavy syrups, candy, irritating spices such as pepper and ginger, flesh foods which are notoriously indigestible such as pork, rabbit meat, and shell fish, fried foods, hot bread, etc.

The foregoing is but a summary of what is generally known by the informed public. A moment's reflection convinces one of the folly of assuming that some particular fad, medicine, or treatment, will remedy many or all of these disorders.



CONSULT YOUR FEELINGS

There has been so much urged upon us concerning doing what is right, regardless of how we feel, that the conscientious person is apt to ignore his feelings altogether, and do everything only from a sense of duty. The ideals of duty are set before us from without ourselves, by life experience, or by men of influence who have learned wisdom from experience with life. We would be safe in following duty if the rules imposed for it were always right; but sometimes they are not.

There are few beings in the world, especially in Christian, civilized lands, who are so depraved that their feelings can never be taken as a safe guide to any degree. Granting wholeheartedly the desperate wickedness of the natural human heart, we must concede *something*, at least, to the uplifting effect centuries of Christianity and cultural civilization have had on the peoples brought under their influence. This heritage of bent and desire that we have will by no means save a man, but it is worth while giving some attention to the shaping of our lives.

Mind we do not say: *Follow* your feelings. But consult them, take them into account. Like advice, they are not to command, but are still to have weight in decisions.

The health reformers used to tell us that we should ignore that tired feeling

on first waking in the morning, and bound out of bed and into an icy bath. Many a youth did that with impunity, because youth can be abused and seem to suffer no immediate ill effects. Many an older person met disaster in doing it. Now knowledge and good sense tell us to rise from slumber slowly, and gradually increase activities, and that the benefits of a cold shower are very questionable for all persons the first thing in the morning. But our feelings told us that.

Many a student has persisted in rising before daylight to master his most difficult mental task, when his mind kept telling him that it was at its best a little later in the morning. "The morning hour has gold in its mouth," but not necessarily the first morning minute, for everybody and for every sort of task.

Many a religionist, from a sense of duty, decides that he should give his whole time to worshipful devotion, even though his feelings rebel against such an extreme. Jesus, example of devotion, gave much attention to the material, mental, and social aspects of life.

Get God's rules for the guidance of human duty, and give attention to the desires that the Creator has implanted in men's minds and bodies. They do not conflict, and when followed lead to happiness and more abundant life.

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man"

Many, through ignorance of health laws, violate the laws of their being. The result is lowered efficiency and ill health.

If you are not certain that your daily habits of eating, drinking, and resting are correct then it is time to seek competent advice.

Don't allow little ailments of today to become a chronic condition to-morrow.

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