

Canadian

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SIGNS OF THE TIMES



THE GOOD NEWS

Good news for one side is bad news for the other side, in this world at war—and for those who try to remain neutral it is all only news. We long for some news that is good for everybody. In this category is the news that in some countries that have been swept by war there is hope born anew in the hearts of the people, and they are beginning to rebuild their shattered homes and lives. Such news is but a trickle yet; but it is increasing, in spite of the front pages wholly devoted to reports of war. The very old and the very young have been the most unfortunate victims of this war, and even their enemies have tender feelings for them. May the good news for everybody grow in volume. The news of salvation through Jesus from the sin that has caused the war is even better good news for everybody.

The inventor of the radio, Marconi, was moved by religious inspiration to introduce wireless to the modern world. One evening while taking a walk, "he thought of space and time, of their relations to eternity, of the vibrations of the human mind that know of no barriers, which bridge every distance. Suddenly, he was struck by an intuition that physical vibrations, too, might overcome the obstacles of time and space! Waves of the ether, waves of light, just as the waves of human intellect travelling at high speed, beyond all horizons—just like our thoughts and our longing for eternity reaches up to God in meditation and prayer. . . . Soon international broadcasting was born." Max Jordan, Director of Religious Broadcasts, National Broadcasting Company. If we only knew it, God has inspired every inventor who has by his invention made communication and transportation easier and quicker, to the end that the prophecy be fulfilled which says, "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" at "the time of the end." Daniel 12:4. And this that His message and His missionaries might be witnesses to His second coming even to the ends of the earth.

The Bible in Basic English is now an accomplished fact. An English professor, S. H. Hooke, of the Bishop of Coventry's staff, has made the translation from the original. It will be published by the

Cambridge Press. The possibilities in the use of this translation are bright. Basic English reduces the vocabulary of the English language (already the most widely used language in the world) to about eight hundred words, hardly any over two syllables in length. An intelligent person, whatever his mother tongue, can learn it in a matter of weeks, some in three weeks. This translation is another demolition bomb dropped on the Babel of earth's languages, for it will enable God's message for this time to be heralded quickly in spite of unknown tongues. What a striking fulfillment of the prophecy, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14.



Dr. Chain, formerly of Germany and now a British subject, who has had an important part in developing penicillin, the wonder cure of modern drugs.

The calamities and griefs which our times have brought us have in most cases taught us to be more kind and sympathetic and considerate in dealing with others. Who knows what a noble record has been made by someone who appears quite humble? Who knows what a crushing grief the stranger by our side is bearing silently and bravely, and with a sur-

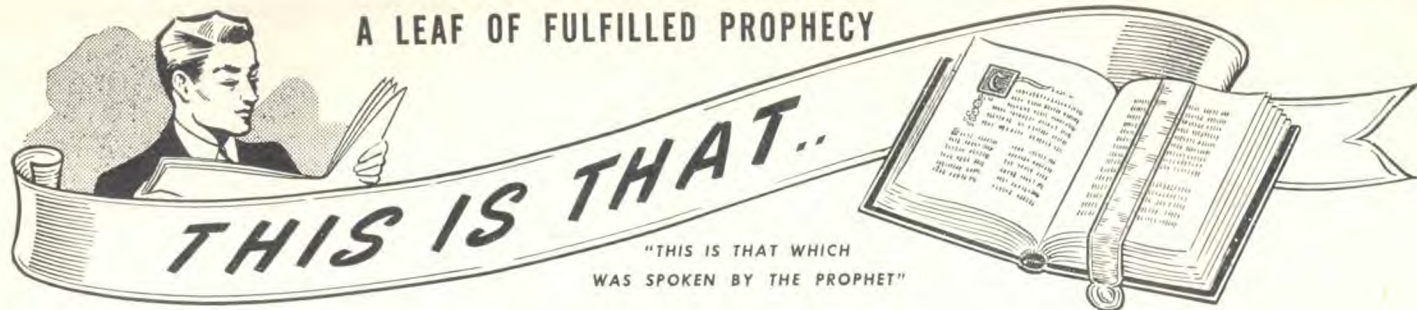
face cheer that he hopes will penetrate deeper? Who knows the fearful prospects real or imaginary, that someone is facing? Who knows the inner gnawings that must be kept secret lest they be misunderstood? Do we wonder what we can do to alleviate some of this suffering? We will make no mistake if we are uniformly kind in heart and word and smile and action.

"A moral failure," was stamped upon the League of Nations by New Zealand's Minister to the United States, Carl A. Berendsen, at a recent victory rally in New York. "The League failed because its members lacked the courage or the sense to do the right," he said. "The League failed because of a false and vicious idea that international morality differs in some way from individual morality. . . . The supreme problem . . . is how to abolish for all time this wicked insanity of war. . . . It is a moral problem. . . . If we fail to solve it as a moral problem we will solve it permanently in no other way." Mr. Berendsen was for many years a representative in the League of Nations. How true his words concerning a double standard for individuals and nations. Statesmen with irreproachable private lives will lead their nation to break every commandment of the decalogue. God holds nations, as nations, accountable for their deeds.

Periodic wars are not necessary to stimulate discoveries and inventions which are beneficial in peace time, as some would have us believe. Rather, it is the concentrated effort to bring war to a speedy end and to mitigate its sufferings that are the stimuli. For, since in modern wars, victor and vanquished alike lose irreparably and are left exhausted, all peoples are reasonably happy when they end. The only excuse for war is a vindication of righteousness. If that fails, and very often it does, then war is the worst waste and crime known to history.

The chaplains of the army and navy of the Southwest Pacific forces report that many Christian soldiers and sailors have expressed a determination to prepare for mission work as soon as the war is over, and to return to those regions as soldiers for God. They have seen with their own eyes what transformations are worked in the lives of the natives by the power of Christ. Do missions pay? They do, in a thousand ways. One of these is in saving of the lives of hundreds of men of the armed forces by converted South Sea Islanders when the former were in tight places on land and sea. And the strange thing is that many an irreligious fighting man, perhaps from a Christian home, has been won to Christ by "heathen" islanders who have turned to Him. "God works in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

A LEAF OF FULFILLED PROPHECY



A Desperate World

FEAR GRIPS the heart of stricken mankind. The international calamity of war threatens to continue for years to come. In countries supposed to be "liberated" there is little real liberty, but only political chaos and economic confusion. Wars between nations are being replaced by civil wars, and bloodshed goes on.

Peoples who have lost everything that life cherishes, and who have sacrificed and risked beyond endurance for freedom, now want a reward commensurate with their suffering. This is but natural. But in too many cases the slavery and privation they have experienced have driven their crazed minds and torn hearts to crave the other extreme, license to do as they please. This makes for anarchy.

War's hell deprives men of reason and judgment. Distrust of their enemies leads them to distrust everybody, even their liberators. And, temporarily at least, war-passed countries are vast insane asylums. Could anyone expect anything else?

The worst feature of the global situation, however, is that faith and hope are dying out of men's hearts. The ideals for which millions have already been killed and wounded are trailing in the mud; and this, seemingly, from dire necessity, so the leaders tell us. Those who expect real peace are dubbed "perfectionists", and are scorned by "practical" statesmen.

The securities to which men have pinned their hopes have slipped or are slipping away. Geographical location means safety no longer. "Let no one forget that the robot bomb and the rocket are still in their infancy, say United States Secretary of State Stettinius in an article in the *Kiwanis Magazine*. "Many of our outstanding scientists agree that within the space of ten or twenty years these deadly missiles may be perfected to the point where they can travel thousands of miles at incredible speed. In that event, our oceans, our industrial strength and our manpower would not be able to prevent surprise attack and vast damage by accurately aimed weapons travelling faster than sound."

In other words, we have so perfected the means of mutual destruction that our only hope of survival is to wish for the more benevolent powers to keep the more malevolent powers under subjection till all can be induced to sign a "reasonable peace," and wait for the triumph of hope over experience. This is the only alternative to unspeakable disaster," says the leader before quoted.

The believer in God's prophecies for this time, while eager to help forward every effort for peace on earth, can have little faith in these desperate efforts to fabricate peace by "men swooning with panic and foreboding of what is to befall the universe." Luke 21:26 (Moffatt). We have a "more sure word of prophecy" that only God can insure no-more-war, and He will do it by changing willing hearts, not by subjugating or educating unwilling ones.

mind-reading experts, and astrologers for a glimpse into the future, while the only authentic Book of prophecy gathers dust.

Now here comes Rufus Jones, a most estimable leader of social uplift and charitable action among the Quakers, with an article in the *Friends Intelligencer* on Mahatma Ghandi. He praises this "great soul" Indian, and holds him up for emulation by Christians. Thomas Carlyle is quoted with approval in saying that such a man as Gandhi is a mes-



They staged a flying bomb exhibition in London, to show them the weapon of their destruction and how to deal with it.

We can recommend the unutterable peace that accompanies finding and doing God's service, and trusting Him for guidance and protection in the darkness, ahead—for the day dawns beyond.

Forecasting Events the Highest Type of Prophecy

IN THESE days of uncertain to-morrows and gloomy futures, one would think that in the Christian world a prediction from the Bible would be given high interest, if not unqualified credence. But not so. Multitudes, even statesmen of prominence, are consulting anti-Christian Spiritualists, fortune-telling charlatans,

senger "sent from the Infinite with tidings for us." "He is rightly accounted a Prophet."

The writer of this editorial spent many years in India in contact with Mahatma Gandhi's teachings and influence. This Indian is a great religious and political leader, in the sense that he sways the minds of his countrymen for something better than they have. He has taken some of the surface meanings of Christ's Sermon on the Mount and applied them to real life to the shame of some professed Christians.

But Mahatma Gandhi, though he has had every Christian influence brought to bear upon him, is still a Hindu of the deepest convictions; confesses that in all his life-time search he has never found God; worships animals and, it is said,

expects to get into heaven by holding on to a cow's tail; and he vehemently opposes Christian missions. And now he is Mr. Rufus Jones' "Prophet." Since a prophet is "a mouthpiece for another," the only gods Gandhi could be a prophet of are the Hindu gods he believes in.

We suppose the "Friends" believe in the Bible. As for us, we read in that Book, that has never failed to warn us in times of danger, "Thou hast forsaken Thy people . . . because they be replenished from the east, and are soothsayers

tional courses of action, how much easier it would be to adjust what we are doing now to eventuate in a brighter future? No warning (and how necessary to our happiness are warnings!) has any force unless it predicts the results of heeding or disregarding it. The future shapes the present for happiness or woe. How much we need to know it! Every red and green light predicts.

In a more definite way, however, God through the ages foretold events with sufficient exactitude to let man know what

cratic countries like Great Britain, Canada, and the United States. A current series of articles in the *Christian Century* is an eye-opener as to what the Catholics are doing and planning for the complete control of America by the Church. This is the expressed objective of the adherents of the Vatican, to "make America Catholic."

As our readers are well aware, the same objective is being sought in Canada, but in a different way. And in both countries the efforts to Romanize are meeting with startling success. It is alleged that Catholics in Canada have the year set when they expect to dominate the country with Catholic votes.

Catholics now claim percentages of their adherents in American cities as follows: Boston, 73.3%; New Orleans, 66; Providence, 57; Detroit, 46; St. Louis, 43; Chicago, 41; Philadelphia, 29, New York, 22.

What of it? Do not Catholics have the right to increase their membership by every legitimate means, even as has any other religious body? Certainly they have; though some of their means are far from legitimate from the Protestant point of view. They boldly enter the political arena, and bring pressure to bear on statesmen to attain their ends. They exploit racial issues; use the boycott, as they are now doing in Mexico; manipulate labour unions; dictate in marriage relationships; and in many other ways seek to grasp control of a nation by other than strictly religious means.

Rome uses and glorifies any means to accomplish its purpose of enhancing the power and prestige of the Church. This is in keeping with its long-held policy, "The end justifies the means."

Whether or not we approve of the doctrines and policies of Roman Catholicism, and whether or not we are disturbed by the prospect of a Catholic majority in our population, the menacing factor is still beyond. For the avowed policy of the Roman Catholic Church, when it reaches an overwhelming majority in any country, is to so manipulate the government of that country as to *suppress all other faiths*.

Proof of this is found in a statement in the *Catholic Digest* of January, 1944, as follows: "If the country is distinctly Catholic, if the population is almost entirely Catholic, and the national life and institutions are permeated with the spirit of Catholicity, the civil rulers can consider themselves justified in restricting or preventing any denominational activity hostile to that religion."

Catholicism is now at work to make our country "distinctly catholic".

Catholics are carrying out this policy to the letter in Central and South American countries, where Catholic-controlled governments are squeezing out any Protestant activity. The Catholic Church plays a double role as suits its purpose. In countries where it is a minority, it loudly demands minority rights; in countries where it is in the majority, it grants no minority rights at all. And its favourite way to escape criticism is to throw the blame on the State.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



British soldiers can still laugh.

like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers." Isaiah 2:6.

We further quote Mr. Jones as he tries to justify his wholehearted approbation of the Mahatma: "When we call a man a 'Prophet' we do not mean that he is a foreteller of events, an announcer of what is going to happen. That is a cheap conception of a 'prophet.' A prophet of the great-soul type sees not merely what does happen, but *what ought to happen*, what fits the eternal order of events."

Certainly Mr. Jones has a right to define what *he* means by a prophet. According to him a prophet is one who sees what is happening (we all do that) and also what ought to happen. (Who doesn't have an opinion about that, too?) The world is full of such prophets, and they are milling about, bewildered because what ought to happen doesn't happen, and they can't make it happen.

True, prophecy has other aspects besides foretelling events, for a prophet of God is His "mouthpiece." And some true prophets have not predicted. But, far from being a "cheap" form of prophecy, the foretelling factor is pre-eminent. The reasons are obvious:

If we know the final outcomes of our individual and national and interna-

was coming. We can refer the reader to books which point this out till there cannot be a trace of a doubt of it to any fair mind. Every issue of this Magazine contains articles which call attention to Bible prophecies already fulfilled. And as to the future, we can safely predict with Bible authority that no dominating nation will ever rule the world again; that in the near future permanent peace will come, but not at all in the way men are now planning for it; that there is trouble ahead, "such as never was since there was a nation;" and much more. Is knowing all this "cheap?"

Mr. Jones is not alone in belittling divine prophecy. The great majority of leaders of world thought and action are plunging on in the same path. God's warnings go unheeded. Let all who would know what to do next, "Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." I Thessalonians 5:20, 21.

Overshadowing Catholicism

We wonder if our readers are awake to the enormous growth and increasing influence of Roman Catholicism in demo-

TO THE WORLD OF TO-MORROW

Do Men Have the Keys?

By

TAYLOR G. BUNCH

THE Scriptures speak of three worlds which represent the three great epochs in the history of this earth. As originally created, and as it existed before the deluge, it is spoken of as "The world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished." We often speak of this phase of the earth's existence as "the antediluvian world" which came to an end with the flood. This is the world of yesterday.

We also read of "the heavens and the earth which are now", which is also called "the present world", and "this present evil world". This is the world of to-day. Christians are admonished to look and prepare for "new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." This is the world to come, the world of to-morrow. These are the worlds of yesterday, to-day, and to-morrow; the past, the present, and the future.

We do not know a great deal about the world that *was*, but we are quite well acquainted with the present evil world in which we live, and it is our privilege to know far more than Christians generally do about the world of to-morrow, the place where they expect to spend all eternity. A study of this future world should therefore be of intense interest to every human being. We never make a move to a new location in this world without attempting to ascertain as much as possible about the climate, productivity, economic conditions, people and general conditions under which we are to live. This interest should be multiplied infinitely in our contemplation of the world to come, where the redeemed of earth will abide forever.

And yet, strange as it may seem, interest in the world of to-morrow on the part of most people is strangely lacking. This is doubtless due to ignorance regarding the future state, and also because of the strange and mystical ideas of the life beyond the grave. It is to most persons the land of unreality, and



the unreal never appeals strongly to thinking men and women. There is nothing very attractive about the future world as it is usually described. There is no special appeal in the belief that in the future life the saved will be ghost-like beings occupying their time sitting on the ragged edge of a cloud and playing a golden harp. Nor is the incentive to reach heaven enhanced by thinking that redeemed beings shrink to the size whereby ten million of them can dance on the point of a needle, as expressed by a leading churchman several years ago. In this life we are sometimes made to feel quite insignificant, but the reader doubtless shares the hope of the writer that we will never become that small.

Christians used to sing, "Beyond the realm of time and space, my soul shall find a resting place." Where is such a resting place for the soul? It is manifestly nowhere, because there is no such place.

No being, human or divine, can go beyond the realm of time or space. Such sentiments lead us to share the feelings of the man who expressed his desire in verse:

"I want to be somebody and go somewhere,

And be somebody, when I get somewhere."

Modern man is too well satisfied with the world in which he lives, because he knows of no better place in which to live. Moody once declared that no one will prepare for a better world until he gets tired of the one he is in. The events and conditions of the modern world should be enough to make anyone dissatisfied with the environments and results of sin. This is true of all who get a real vision of the world to come.

As the result of the entrance of sin, this earth and everything in it became unnatural and therefore unreal. The

apostle Paul pictures the unfallen creatures of the universe waiting with longing expectation till the reign of sin is over and man and his home are restored to their original state of perfection and reality: "For all creation, gazing eagerly as if with outstretched neck, is waiting and longing to see the manifestation of the sons of God. For the Creation fell into subjection to failure and unreality (not of its own choice, but by the will of him who so subjected it). Yet there was always the hope that at last the Creation itself would also be set free from the thralldom of decay so as to enjoy the liberty that will attend the glory of the children of God." Romans 8:19-21, Weymouth Translation.

Faith is defined as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things

world began." (See Acts 3:20, 21.) Restitution means to restore to a former state or condition. All that has been lost because of sin is to be restored to the former state through Christ. This includes man's lost home as well as man himself. God's original and eternal purpose will be carried out as if man had never fallen, "for the Lord of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and His hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?" Isaiah 14:27.

God's original plan was spoiled by sin and He does His work all over again through redemption. Physical chaos preceded the original perfect state, and the restoration of the perfect state will follow the present social, political and moral chaotic conditions of the modern world. Robert Quillen declared that "If

themselves in the abundance of peace." Psalms 37:9, 11. "The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell therein for ever." Verse 29. This teaching runs all through the Scriptures.

The purpose of the Lord for this earth at the time of its creation is set forth in Isaiah 45:18: "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." This statement indicates that if the earth had not been inhabited it would have been created in vain because of not having fulfilled its purpose. It was created for man and was given to him for a home. Because man surrendered his dominion to a usurper does not destroy or disannul the original plan or purpose. It has only been delayed, not destroyed.

That this dominion will be restored to man through the sacrifice of Christ is evident from the following Scriptures: "And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem." Micah 4:8. "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory; and before Him shall be gathered all nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats; and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matthew 25:31-34. "The first dominion" is this earth when it was given to Adam as a possession. This is also the inheritance or kingdom prepared for God's people "from the foundation of the world." The same inheritance is to be restored to the redeemed.

After speaking of the universal kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome, reigning over the earth, the prophet Daniel said, "But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever." "And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him." Daniel 7:18, 27. No person can read this chapter without coming to the conclusion that the dominion and kingdom spoken of here is this earth, the place over which the kingdoms of earth reign and fight to control.

In Psalms 104:30 we are told that following the resurrection of the righteous the Lord will renew "the face of the earth." Only the face or surface of the earth has been marred by sin. In Isaiah 51:3 it is stated that when the face of the earth is restored even the wilderness will be "like Eden" and the "desert like the garden of the Lord", and that "joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody."



Model of an ideal housing unit of the future, the world of to-morrow. God promises much more beautiful homes for His world of to-morrow.

not seen," or "a well-grounded assurance of that for which we hope, and a conviction of the reality of things which we do not see" Hebrews 11:1, Weymouth. Faith convinces us of the reality of the world to come. Most of the things the Christian hopes for are invisible to the eye. The most valuable things of this life are invisible, but because of that fact no person questions their reality. This is true of knowledge, wisdom, talents, and all the gifts and fruits of the Spirit. To the person of faith the world of to-morrow is even more real than the world of to-day, because it will be more natural and perfect. Again the apostle declares that "when the perfect state of things is come, all that is imperfect will be brought to an end."

According to the Scriptural record the world was in a "perfect state" at the close of creation week. The written records of the ancients uncovered by archeologists as well as the legends of most of the primitive peoples of the world, separated often by impassable ocean barriers confirm the sacred records by describing an original perfect state. The human family began in a garden called Paradise, a Persian word meaning orchard, garden or park. It was "the garden of all delights."

The Scriptures tell us that Christ came into the world "to seek and to save that which was lost." We are promised that there will be a "restitution of all things" and that this has been the assurance of "all His holy prophets since the

we wish to make a new world we have the material ready. The first one was made out of chaos." Redemption is a restoration of what once existed. It does not change the original nature of that which is redeemed. Man's redemption restores him to what he was when first created. We must remember that we are the lineal and literal descendants of Adam and Eve. The restoration does not change us into beings less real, into mere ghosts of our former selves.

There are many Scriptures which tell us that the world of to-morrow will be only another phase of or epoch in the history of the earth which was created for man's abode. The Lord's original plan and purpose is not changed because of the reign of sin. The world that was ruined by sin is to be restored to its edenic glory and perfection as the eternal home of the redeemed descendants of the first Adam whose failure is to be retrieved and the earth rehabilitated through the second Adam. Out of the wreck wrought by sin will eventually come forth a "new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness."

In saying, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth", Jesus virtually quoted from the Old Testament Scriptures and was expressing the belief of "all the holy prophets since the world began." The Psalmist said: "For evil-doers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth," and again, "But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight

The entire thirty-fifth chapter of Isaiah is a description of the new earth and conditions which will prevail. Then the desert will "blossom as the rose", and "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped", and "the lame man shall leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert," and "the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

In Isaiah 65:17-25 is a beautiful description of new earth conditions. The Lord promises to "create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered nor come into mind." Then the "voice of weeping shall be no more heard", nor "the voice of crying." The redeemed "shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vine-

yards, 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." Then "the wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock" and "they shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, saith the Lord." In Isaiah 66:22,23 it is declared that as long as the new earth remains "so shall your seed and your name remain," and "from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the Lord."

Space forbids our quoting many more Biblical pictures of the new earth's state when it becomes the eternal home of the redeemed from the present evil world. The last two chapters of the Bible picture the Paradise regained, just as the first two chapters of Genesis describe the Par-

adise that was lost through sin. The Scriptures end where they begin, with a picture of the perfect state. Thus the Bible is a perfect and complete book covering the history of mankind from the fall to the restoration.

The world of to-morrow is beyond human description or even imagination, for "eye hat not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." I Corinthians 2:9. When the Prince of Peace returns, "the government shall be upon His shoulder", and "of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end." Isaiah 9:6, 7. In the world of to-morrow "the Prince of the kings of the earth" will occupy the throne forever and the very prospect of such a King and kingdom should cause us to join the Revelator in saying, "to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

There is No Everburning

PHILIP MOORES

HELL

THE fires of hell are commonly invoked for the purpose of scaring people and thus inducing them to forsake evil. Genuine Christians are not made that way.

A preacher met one of the strange characters of his parish. She was carrying a bucket of water in one hand and a lighted torch in the other. Apparently she was waiting for him to come along. "What are you going to do with the fire and the water?" the preacher asked. It was just the question she wanted him to ask. "Good Sir, she said, "I have the fire to burn up Paradise and the water to put out the fires of hell, that men might not serve God through fear or through the hope of reward, but that they might serve Him simply because they love Him."

No one has ever been truly won to God by the fear of hell fire. The opposite has many times been true. Robert Ingersoll might have lived a different life than that of an infidel if his father had told him the Bible truth about hell. When his father told him that there were infants in hell who were not over a span long, and that they were destined to burn through all eternity, Robert Ingersoll said, "If this is what God does, I hate Him!"

Many people have been perplexed by this same problem. They have heard that when a man dies, one of two things awaits him. Either he goes to heaven or to a molten hell where he suffers through eternity.

It is true that the impenitent and rebellious sinner will be cast into hell. For Jesus said, "If thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell

fire: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Mark 9:47, 48. There is a hell to shun. However, the hell Jesus spoke of here is different from the hell of popular belief.

Many believe that when a wicked man dies, his soul goes into hell fire to be tortured. Jesus did not teach this. He taught that the real man, body and all, would go into the fire of hell to be destroyed. He spoke of a man with two eyes to go into hell fire. Two eyes indicates the man would have a head; two hands would need two arms, and two feet would indicate that the person would have two legs, when cast into hell fire. In Matthew 5:30, Jesus issues a warning lest the "whole body should be cast into hell."

The time when the wicked will be cast into hell is explained by Jesus in Matthew 13:40-42, where he explains the parable of the wheat and tares. "As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of Man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: There shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." Jesus makes it plain that at the end of the world the wicked will be gathered and cast into hell.

Some have the idea that the wicked will live in this fire through the ceaseless ages of eternity without coming to a final end. But this would be eternal life, as life is necessary to torture, and eternal life in any condition is not promised to the wicked. Matthew 10:28 shows that both soul and body will be destroyed in hell. "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul:

but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

The wicked who have died, are not being punished in hell fire now, but they are reserved unto the day of Judgment to be punished. This is made plain in II Peter 2: 9. "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished." This distinctly states that the sinner will be reserved to the last day of judgment to be punished. Punishment could not lawfully be inflicted until the great Judge has pronounced the sentence.

The punishment in hell fire cannot take place until after the second death. Thus in Revelation 21:8: "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

The casting of the wicked into hell fire is called the second death. In order for the wicked to die the second time there must be a resurrection after their first death to give them the second life. Thus we conclude that the wicked will not be punished with fire and brimstone until after they come up in the second resurrection.

This earth will be turned into a lake of fire at the day of judgment. The earth is the location of hell as pointed out in II Peter 3:7-13: "But the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. . . . The elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein shall be burned up."

Revelation 20:7-9 speaks of the wicked going up on the breadth of the earth and surrounding the beloved city which has come down from God out of heaven. As the new Jerusalem rests upon the earth and the wicked surround it, the Bible says, "Fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them." The fire devours the wicked—they are reduced to ashes.

To help the fire burn, Isaiah 34:8, 9 tells us that God turns the water of the earth into pitch and the dust into brimstone. Thus hell will be this earth turned into a lake of fire at the day of judgment for the wicked.

The Psalmist puts it this way, Psalms 11:6: "Upon the wicked he shall rain snares [quick burning coals, margin], fire and brimstone, and a horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup." Again in Zechariah 14:12 the Bible says, "Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth." Truly a fearful destiny awaits the man who will not turn to God. But it is evident that in many cases the actual suffering may end quickly.

Some reader may be thinking of the text in Matthew 3:12, that says the "fire is unquenchable." This does not mean a fire that will never go out, but a fire that cannot be stopped until it has accomplished its work of destruction. To illustrate: A wooden house gets on fire. There is no water or chemicals available to put it out. The fire cannot be quenched, but will that house burn through all eternity? No. How long will it burn? Just as long as there is a piece of wood to burn: when that fire goes out, the house has gone up in smoke forever and ever. So it will be with the wicked.

"Everlasting fire" is mentioned in Matthew 25:41. The explanation of this everlasting or eternal fire is given in "Jude, verse 7: Sodom suffered the 'vengeance of eternal (or everlasting) fire.' Is that fire burning to-day? No. The Dead Sea rolls over the very spot where Sodom stood. Fire reduced Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes. (II Peter 2:6.) The everlasting fire of God will do the same thing to the wicked. It is everlasting in its effects.

After the wicked are punished for their deeds they will be completely burned up. Malachi 4:1—"For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven: and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of Hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch."

Malachi 4:3: "Ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts." This text says the wicked will be burned to ashes. Nothing could be plainer than this, God prepared everlasting fire for the devil and his angels, but John 3:16 says he prepared everlasting life for all men who will choose to side with Him rather than with the devil and his angels.

"THY KING

FOR centuries the prayer has been ascending to the throne of grace, "Thy kingdom come." This prayer will some day be answered. It has not been answered as yet for still the petitions are ascending, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Never have hearts longed more for that time to come than in these troublous times, when nation is rising against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and famine and pestilences are anticipated.

When will the prayer be answered? men are asking. When will the kingdom come? When will God's will be done on this earth as it is done in heaven? When will there be universal peace on earth and good will to its inhabitants? When will sin, which is responsible for the present world condition, be a thing of the past? When will the inhabitants of this sin-cursed earth have their prayer answered and they shall no longer suffer from war, bloodshed, famine, pestilence and disease?

This is something still in the future, but we may look forward with confidence that it will be realized and the prayer taught us by our Saviour will be answered. The time is coming when nation will not rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. There will be no implements of war, no death, and no destruction of property. There will be one universal kingdom and Christ will be the King.

When will Christ take the throne as King? The Jews expected it would take place at His first advent. They were disappointed. Will it take place when He comes the second time? No. He will be crowned as King before He comes, for when He comes, He comes as "King of kings."

The subjects of His kingdom too are made up before He comes, for when He comes, "His reward is with Him." "The dead in Christ" will come forth from their graves to welcome their King. The living saints, with them, will be caught up to meet Him in the air, to be escorted by their King and the heavenly host to the mansions prepared for them. The wicked at the same time are destroyed by the brightness of His coming. All this takes place when Christ comes the second time as "King of kings and Lord of lords."

The Jews longed for and expected a king who would destroy their enemies and would take the throne of their father David.

Their long-looked-for king came, but was unrecognized by them. "He came

unto His own, and His own received Him not." They were disappointed in Him. Some who understood where their King should be born, and from the prophecies knew that the time for His appearing had about come, tried to take Him by force and crown Him king. He, refusing to be made king, then they said, "Away with Him! Crucify Him!"

They longed for deliverance from the results of sin; Jesus came to save them "from their sins." He came as a prophet: they wanted not a prophet but a king (as did their fathers in the rejection of Samuel) to fight their enemies and subdue them. They had been inoculating their people with hatred for the Romans who were their enemies; but the One whom they wanted to crown as King said to them, "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute 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 rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethern only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:43-48. This teaching was at variance with theirs. It did not fit into their programme. Their long cherished hopes had fallen to the ground to be trampled upon by their enemies.

They wanted to be saved from the foes without. He came to save them from the foes within. He came to inoculate them with the love of God, which He revealed in His life and ministry.

They crucified Him, but He rose from the dead and ascended to His Father. By His life and death, as man's representative, He "reconciled the world unto Himself" not imputing our trespasses unto us. "He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." "Be ye reconciled to God" is the appeal that came to the human family. Those who forsake sin and accept Christ as their personal Saviour will be subjects for His kingdom. The subjects are made up before He comes. "This gospel of the kingdom, shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come," Jesus replied in



NGDOM COME"

By Daniel H. Kress

answer to the question, "What shall be the sign of Thy coming and of the end of the world?"

When this is accomplished, then, and not until then, will "the kingdoms of this world . . . become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ."

At the time when in heaven He is crowned as King by His Father, we read, "The nations were angry." Revelation 11:18.

When the nations of the earth are angry and destruction is universal, and annihilation is threatened is the time given when God will interfere and cut short this cruelty.

Before He is crowned King, every case has been passed upon in the investigative judgment and the subjects for His kingdom have been made up and it will have been said "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."

Of the day and hour, when my name and your name is brought up for investigation, knoweth no man. Jesus said, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." When our names come up it is too late to get ready. The admonition is be ready.

In vision Daniel the prophet beheld the ceremony of the crowning of Christ as king. He said, "Thousand thousands ministered unto Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened." Daniel 7:10.

These books revealed the names of those that had been retained in the Lamb's book of life and whose sins had been blotted out. Then, "one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven (the angel escorts), and came to the Ancient of days (God the Father), and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." Daniel 7:10, 13, 14.

While this takes place in heaven, the prophet said, on earth "there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time Thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." Daniel 12:1.

In view of all this, the message comes, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus Christ, which before was

preached unto you: whom the heaven, must receive until the times of restitution of all things." Acts 3:19-21. The assurance comes "he that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life." Revelation 3:5.

To His disciples who returned with great joy from their work of ministry, saying, "Even the devils are subject unto us through thy name," Jesus said, "I give unto you power . . . over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not . . . but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:17-20.

To have our names recorded in the books of heaven is something to rejoice in, but to have the names *retained* there, and not blotted out, but be numbered with the overcomers, is a matter of much greater rejoicing.

Great tests await the people of God at the time spoken of when "nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences", we are assured, "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." Referring to the overcomers, "They shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven: and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings." Malachai 3:17, 18; 4:1, 2.

Peter said, "The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which 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. . . . Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless." II Peter 3:10-14.

It is our privilege to look forward to a clean universe, and a new earth inhabited by the righteous. Then the prayer that has been offered more frequently than any other, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven," will be answered.

LIGHT is beaming, day is coming!

Let us sound aloud the cry;

We behold the day-star rising

Pure and bright in yonder sky!

Saints, be joyful;

Your redemption draweth nigh.

We have found the chart and compass,

And are sure the land is near;

Onward, onward, we are hasting,

Soon the haven will appear;

Let your voices

Sound aloud your holy cheer.

DOMINION *from the* *Centre of a New Earth*

Last in a Series of Editorials on "THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH."

TO THE child of God, prospects for the future are never forlorn; dark they may be at times, but never hopeless. His lot while here on earth is not to miss the pains and disappointments and trials of other men. But in every trial he finds the "way of escape," in every divine prophecy of an ominous future, he finds the promise of the way through to better times; he sees the gleam through every gloom.

As the Bible prophecies are abundant that this sinful world will soon experience a disastrous close to this era, when Christ will come in glory to catch up the righteous to heaven for a time, destroy the wicked, and devastate the earth; so they are also abundant that such chaos will not continue forever, but will end in another great upheaval which will usher in eternal peace and joy.

The twentieth and twenty-first chapters of The Revelation have the enthralling narrative of that event: All its righteous people taken to heaven at Christ's second advent, its wicked perished, its surface a waste, the earth is likened to a "bottomless pit." Into it, Satan, who has been the instigator of all the evil, is cast, and is bound there by a "chain" of conditions; for he has no one to tempt and lead into evil, which has been his only occupation for six millenniums. His prison term is a thousand years, the "millennium."

Meanwhile, the saved of earth are "priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years," in heaven, of course; for at Christ's coming they had ascended from the earth to be with Him. I Thessalonians 4: 16, 17.

The millennium is brought to an end by the rise from their graves of the wicked dead, of whom it was predicted that they would live "not again until the thousand years were finished." They swarm over the earth, every wicked man who ever lived, billions of them. By this event, Satan is "loosed a little season"; for now he has subjects to work upon. And he immediately starts to work upon them, "and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the sea." Revelation 20:8.

But whom will they fight? One another again, as through all past ages? No; there is a far greater prize. At this time will be fulfilled the vision recorded in Revelation 21:2. "I, John, saw the holy city,

New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven." The people of God in heaven have been living in the New Jerusalem during the millennium. In it were the "mansions" which Jesus went to prepare when He left the earth nineteen centuries ago. (John 14:1-3). Now it descends to the earth in glory unimagined.

Preliminary details of this magnificent spectacle are depicted in a prophecy of Zechariah. Read carefully its fourteenth chapter. It would seem from the first two verses that, when the wicked are resurrected, the land of Palestine and the old Jerusalem are again a bone of contention; but then the God of battles steps in: "Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle. And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley, and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains, . . . yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah, king of Judah; and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee."

By the similarities of these and other prophecies, we have every reason to believe that this passage of Scripture refers to the final advent of Christ to earth. He descends to prepare a place for the New Jerusalem; His nail-scarred feet touch Mount Olivet, and it is cleft apart (no doubt at the "fault" discovered by modern geologists, which may have been formed during the earthquake of the "days of Uzziah"), the parts are moved northward and southward, and a "very great valley" is spread out, so great that the New Jerusalem, which follows Christ's descent, may rest upon it. Those who fondly hope to establish themselves in the old Jerusalem as a centre of power and dominion over the earth, will flee in every direction to escape the descending metropolis of a New Earth that is to be.

We may well believe that then there will be "no more sea" (Revelation 21:1) and the "desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose." Isaiah 35:1. For that enormous and wide-spreading city, three hundred and seventy-five miles square (Rev-

elation 21:16) if its centre were placed at old Jerusalem, would reach from the island of Cyprus and the Nile Delta on the west to the Euphrates River and the depths of the Arabian desert on the east.

The prophet John saw in prophetic vision the final scene of the last act in the great drama of the ages. His narrative: "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." Revelation 21:10, 11. And the seer continues to describe that beatific vision of the holy city in language whose exaltation transcends the gift of tongues.

Satan and the sand-numbered hordes of the wicked gaze through the crystal-clear jasper walls of the city, and view with envious eyes the peace and bliss of the saved inside its gates of pearl. And they decide to besiege and take it by storm, and make all its joys theirs. Bombers can top its towering walls, and drop death and destruction within; TNT can blast its foundations of precious stones; poison gas can suffocate its unsuspecting inhabitants.

"And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city." Revelation 20:9. A battle threatens that will out-Armageddon Armageddon. It is a tragic moment. The age-long controversy between Christ and Satan has at last come to the final crisis. All warriors of six thousand years of history bring to bear all the wiles and stratagems and weapons that a war-trained world can muster for this stupendous trial of military strength. The heavenly city seems to be doomed. How can it withstand?

The denouement is simple: as always when the safety of His chosen ones is in God's care. When all is ready, and the attack is about to begin, "fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." The angelic flame-throwers come to the rescue; and the last battle that eternity will ever see comes to a timely end. "Our God is a consuming fire" to His enemies.

The flames that bring sin and sinners to destruction purify the whole earth of all the effects and curse of sin. By miraculous power and protection the golden city survives the consuming fire. "Who among us shall dwell with the de-

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. . . . They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." Isaiah 11:6, 9.



vouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly, . . . he shall dwell on high." Isaiah 33:14-16.

Out of the purifying and renewing fire a New Earth shall bud and blossom as a rose. "And the Lord shall be king over all the earth; in that day shall there be one Lord, and His name one. And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited." Zechariah 14:9, 11.

From this new centre of the New Earth, much more completely than from the old, God will rule and bless His people. From His throne in the centre of it shall proceed the River of Life, with the Tree of Life arching over it with twelve varieties of fruit yielded every month; and the leaves are for the health of all the people. All the promises and prophecies of good that God has ever uttered will be abundantly fulfilled in the city. All the seeming extravagant predictions—"abundant entrance," "more than conquerors"—will be realized.

"On this mountain shall He strip away the mourning shroud from all mankind, the veil of sorrow from all nations, displacing death forevermore. So shall He

wipe the tears from every face." Isaiah 25:7, 8. Moffatt. "He will swallow up death in victory."

"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.

This is not the city that David wrested from his enemies—Jerusalem, city of peace," that belied the name. This is the Jerusalem ruled benevolently by the "Prince of peace," the peace of whose people is "like a river," a peace that "passeth understanding," the "city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

This is not the Jerusalem which the masters of empire besieged, and starved out, and burned, and tore down and scattered, and plowed like a field, and cursed forever. This is the Jerusalem, capital and metropolis of the kingdom of the God of heaven, which shall never be destroyed nor left to other people, but shall be blessed forever.

This is not the Jerusalem of the drab, scalable walls, the narrow, cobbled, winding, dusty streets, the filthy gutters, the

flat-roofed houses, the crafty merchants, the blind beggars, and the arrogant rich. This is the Jerusalem of the towering jasper walls, of pearly gates, of magnificent distances, of gold-paved boulevards, of mansions Christ went to prepare, the commonwealth of all peoples, whose inhabitants never say, "I am sick."

This is not the Jerusalem of the golden temple, when silver was as stones and the passing glory and wisdom of Solomon awed the earth. This is the Jerusalem of "the King of kings and Lord of lords," and "the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it," and its foundations are fabulously precious stones.

This is not the Jerusalem of the weeping, the thorns, the scourging, the cross, and the tomb. This is the Jerusalem of the victory, the crown, exceeding joy, and faith and hope triumphant.

This is not the "New Jerusalem", modern and modernistic, whose theft of the title is an invitation to doom. This is the New Jerusalem, the holy city, free and "the mother of us all," the dream of the ages become the reality of the ageless.

"Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O New Jerusalem!"

THE HOLY CITY

"Last night I lay a-sleeping.

There came a dream so fair,
I stood in old Jerusalem,
Beside the temple there.
I heard the children singing,
And ever as they sang,
Me-thought the voice of Angels
From Heav'n in answer rang.

"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!

Lift up your gates and sing,
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna to your King!

"And then me-thought my dream was chang'd,

The streets no longer rang,
Hush'd were the glad hosannas
The little children sang.
The sun grew dark with mystery,
The morn was cold and chill,
As the shadow of the cross arose
Upon a lonely hill,

"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!

Hark, how the angels sing,
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna to your King.

"And once again the scene was chang'd,
New earth there seem'd to be.

I saw the Holy City
Beside the tideless sea:
The light of God was on its streets,
The gates were open wide,
And all who would might enter,
And no one was denied.
No need of moon or stars by night,
Or sun to shine by day.
It was the new Jerusalem
That would not pass away.

"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!

Sing for the night is o'er!
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna for ever more!"

The End

WHEN THE DEVIL IS INTERNED IN "NO MAN'S LAND"

By R. A. HUBLEY

THIS blood-drenched world is facing a blessed surcease from the awful tempest of war and tumult of nations imposed by "the prince of the power of the air." "Through blood and tears and sweat" this war-weary world is nearing the climax of the most gigantic liberation programme ever planned. Its consummation will be reached upon a scene of shattered cities and global desolation never before known and never to be repeated.

God has declared His decision to tie the hands of the devil. He has given His decree. His word is final. His will is unalterable. His matchless wisdom, power and love will effect the internment of this disturber of the universe, for one

"No Man's Land" while the righteous shall bathe in the bliss of the millennial reign.

From century to century through the nearly six thousand years of his insurrection against the Most High, this determined rebel has been moving on, in spite of his diabolic cunning and planning, to this inevitable hour. Suddenly, when sin and violence has reached a climax, the Son of God will appear in the clouds of heaven. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God." I Thessalonians 4:16.

Now note carefully what will then take place. "And the dead in Christ shall rise

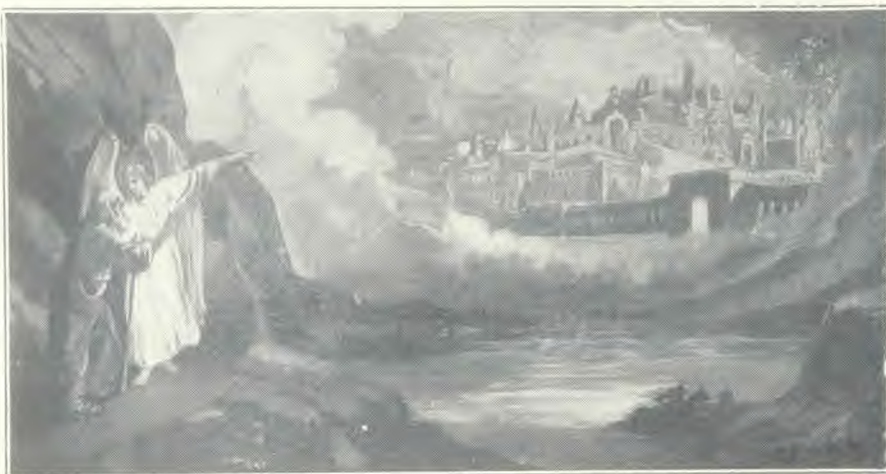
that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2,3. This promise is very clear that to the place where Jesus is now He will take us when He comes to raise the righteous dead and translate the righteous living. And where is He now? His present dwelling place is clearly stated thus: "Who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens," Hebrews 8:1. Beyond the question of a doubt this is where all the righteous will go when Jesus comes to take them to be where He is.

We are also clearly told how long the saints will continue there. Says the Scripture, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." Revelation 20:6.

In verse five we read, "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished." Since the resurrection of the righteous is called, "the first resurrection," and marks the beginning of the millennium, and since the rest of the dead will not live again until the thousand years are finished, it becomes evident that the millennial age is bounded by these two resurrections. During this period of time the saints will be reigning with Christ in Heaven. The wicked will be dead, and will not live again until the expiration of the millennium.

The expression, "The rest of the dead," embraces every soul who will not be numbered among the righteous, including those living on the earth at His appearing. The effect of that crowning event upon the wicked is graphically portrayed in this text: "And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground." Jeremiah 25:33. Another divine comment on the fate of the wicked at Christ's coming is stated thus: "Whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming." II Thessalonians 2:8. What a dreadful millennium for the rejectors of the grace of God.

Now let us look upon the God-painted picture of the earth during the millennium. "I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld,



The prophet John saw in vision the New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven.

thousand years. The crafty subtleties, the malicious scheming of this arch-enemy of the peace and order of the government of God, cannot prevent the closing in of the chain of circumstances by which the Eternal will terminate his programme of rebellion, "that made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof." Isaiah 14:17.

But *when* will this be done? *How* can it be accomplished? Thousands of stricken souls in every continent are crying, "How long, O Lord, how long?" To all such comes the assurance of "that blessed hope"—the second coming of the Prince of Peace. To the meek and lowly Jesus has been committed the plan of subjugating Satan and He will effectively achieve this at His second appearing. This glorious event, so near at hand, will result in terminating the devil's regime, and committing him to gloomy exile in

first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." Verses 16, 17.

The "prince of the power of the air" cannot prevent that meeting in the air of the resurrected saints of all the ages with the translated saints living on the earth when this long promised pageant shall be staged. What a meeting that will be! Let it be our inspired determination to share it by the grace of God at any cost. Let nothing deter us or swerve us from such a purpose.

What will then follow? Let Jesus' promise give the answer: "In My Father's house," said He, "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;

and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by his fierce anger." Jeremiah 4:23-26.

Never has this sin-distressed world experienced such an earthquake shock as it will experience when "the Lord shall roar from on high, and utter His voice from His holy habitation." Jeremiah 25:30. The Seer of Patmos beheld the scene. Said he: "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places." Revelation 6:14. It requires no stretch of the imagination to compare this world during the millennial chaos to an abyss—a bottomless pit, and that is the exact description given of Satan's internment camp by the Word of God. Read it in Revelation 20:1-3.

The words "bottomless pit" are from the Greek word, "Abussos", from which we have our English word, "abyss." This word is defined in the standard dictionary as "Primal Chaos." The Septuagint uses the very same word in Genesis 1:2, in describing the chaotic state of this world when it was without form and void before Christ prepared it as the home of man, that is used in Revelation 20:3 and translated, "bottomless pit."

Summarizing the events when Jesus shall come the second time, we see how completely Satan will be bound during the Millennium. The saints will all be in heaven with Christ, the wicked will all be dead, the earth will be reduced to indescribable chaos and wrapped in darkness. What a haunting condition will be the lot of this mighty angel who for nearly six thousand years has been waging his relentless warfare against the Law of God, both by artifice and open antagonism.

At the close of the thousand years the New Jerusalem will descend. (Revelation 21:2.) At this time Christ and all His saints will return. (Zechariah 14:4, 5.) Then the resurrection of the wicked will take place, and by this event Satan will be loosed for a little season (for he will then have some one to work on) during which a supreme attempt will be made to take the New Jerusalem. (Revelation 20:7-9.)

God will render futile this final attempt to overthrow His throne, by raining fire from heaven upon Satan and all his confederacy of fallen angels and wicked men. Thus God will eternally destroy sin and sinners, root and branch. (II Peter 3:10; Malachi 4:1-3.) Having made a complete end of sin, God will then complete His glorious reconstruction scheme by restoring this earth to a sinless Paradise with the beautiful New Jerusalem as its glorious capital.

Thus upon this world so long afflicted by the attempt to defy the government of God, He will establish His throne and reign eternally. How thrilling is the assurance given in the words, "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."

Nineteen hundred years ago Jesus went back to the throne of God leaving us His pledged word to prepare a place for us and to come again. That beautiful city, resplendent in glory, is ready, and soon, yes, very soon, Jesus will come again attended by all the holy angels, to take His people of all the ages to be where He is now.

The pre-millennial conditions predicted as signs of His return are, in their fulfillment, declaring in a mighty chorus that His coming is at the door. Are you ready? Will you be among the ransomed throng gathered about the throne of God in heaven to spend the thousand

years, or will you be numbered with the vast millions of the inglorious dead upon this earth, lost by neglect or the rejection of God's redeeming love?

To every soul is given the choice. God waits to encircle every penitent soul in the arms of His infinite love, Jesus' blood avails for all who will come to Him. "To-day," says the Spirit, "if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." "Behold now is the accepted time, behold now is the day of salvation." The wisdom of every soul is in heeding the call of heaven, "Prepare to meet thy God." In no other way can we be prepared for the Millennium.



BIBLE MYSTERIES II

The parables of the Bible are the original mystery stories of literature. They antedate the folk tales and wise sayings of all peoples. There is every reason to believe that they were, many of them at least, handed down from parents to children orally for centuries, and mayhap millenniums, before they were committed to writing.

They are not fairy tales nor fables, though they may have some similar elements to these. Someone has called a Bible parable "an earthly story with a heavenly meaning," and that suggests their essential difference from common folk tales. Especially is this so with reference to the parables of Christ. They are taken from this life to illustrate eternal life. They illuminate the "Kingdom of God."

Parables are not illustrations, to throw light on a point difficult of understanding, to make concrete an otherwise abstract proposition. Usually, with illustrations, the point is made first and the illustration follows. When Christ spoke parables He usually narrated the story first and explained afterwards; or gave no explanation at all, leaving the hearers to draw their own conclusions and morals, which was a safer and more intriguing method.

Says the psalmist, "I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old." Psalms 78:2. This is a form of Hebrew poetry, in which the same thought is expressed twice in different words. Parables are dark sayings, not enlightening ones. They reveal by hiding. That is, they present a mystery, propound a problem, thus arousing within the human mind a curiosity that stimulates to heightened efforts to find a solution. And when the solution is so discovered, the moral drawn, the lesson learned, and the satisfaction and thrill experienced are much more indelibly impressed on the character than is the case when an easily understood story il-

lustrates the point. Not to say that easily understood stories do not have their place in driving home truth. But parables are better for that purpose, if they are followed through and solved.

Parables may be used effectively to disarm prejudice. For antagonistic hearers or readers are not sure of their implication, and therefore cannot find in them anything to fight. They themselves may place an interpretation on them, but in that case the burden of proof is on the interpreter. His not being sure of what is implied in the parable makes him hesitate, lest he be accused of seeing the point readily because it condemns his own actions and thoughts, or that he comprehends because he has a guilty conscience. Hesitating, to think it over, his combative spirit ebbs, and he is saved from making some hasty statement which pride of opinion alone will keep him from retracting, even after he is convinced that it is wrong or untenable.

It is a good idea to make our own parables, instead of depending entirely on time-honoured—and time-worn—parables of the ancients. Parables are drawn from nature, environment, and life experience, and these sources are as available to us now as they were to the sages and seers of the past.

In fact, modern invention and discovery have provided vastly increased source materials for parables. And these, being up-to-date, are more appealing to present-day minds. No longer need the life-light of a Christian be likened to a candle, but to a search light piercing scores of miles into the darkened sky. What opportunities for parables from the applications of electricity—telegraph, radio, telephone, motors—and the camera, X ray, radium anaesthetic, vacuum cleaner, sand-blast, aeroplane, and hundreds of others now within the purview of every intelligent person on earth.

TUBERCULOSIS

Stamp It Out!

By

HELEN SPICER MENKEL



Milk, eggs, cheese, cereals, green vegetables, and fruits will provide the necessary vitamins and minerals to help prevent and cure tuberculosis.

HAVE you been bothered by a persistent cough for some time? Are you eating your normal amount of food and you still continue to lose weight? If so, don't wait, but go to-day and see a physician without fail.

Through the unrelenting efforts of the Public Health Departments, tuberculosis has surrendered its first place as the cause of death, but wars breed tuberculosis. All public health agencies are appealing to you to help them in the fight against this great white plague. It claims the lives of thousands in our nation every year, and is the chief cause of death of all between the ages of fifteen and forty-five. What the story will be after this war will depend on the eternal diligence of all to keep the destroyer away from their doors.

Now when hospitals are so crowded, some of these cases of tuberculosis will have to be taken care of in the home by mothers and other members of the family. This brings up the problem of methods of isolation to prevent others from contracting the disease.

There is no sure way to keep from picking up tuberculosis, but some of the best methods of prevention are to see that you keep up sufficient hours of sleep, eat plenty of nourishing food, and avoid overwork and fatigue.

Tuberculosis is a disease which is no respecter of persons. The tiny bacillus which causes all the trouble is carried by the droplets of moisture or in dust which is inhaled into the lungs.

The best place for one with tuberculosis is in an isolation hospital, but if

this is impossible, some of the following hints will help you to see the importance of carrying out the procedures which will insure against spreading the infection to others.

A person with tuberculosis must be kept isolated from the rest of the family. All linens used must be washed and kept separate. They should be washed in strong soap and hot water. All of the dishes, glassware, silver and trays should be kept in the room. Dishes should be boiled for ten or fifteen minutes, then washed in soap and water and returned to the room. Left-over food can be placed in a bag and burned.

The patient should be kept in a cheery room if possible, but carpets and heavy draperies should be removed. Nothing should be in the room which cannot be wiped off with soap and water. A basin of water and soap should be kept in the room if there is no running water, and the hands should be scrubbed well before touching the door knob when leaving the room. The patient must be taught to cough and sneeze in a paper tissue, and a bag pinned to the side of the bed will serve for him to place the tissues in after use. All expectorating should be done in a cup containing a solution of carbolic or formalin, and when fairly full this should be placed in a bag and burned immediately. Small children particularly should not be allowed in the room.

Early cases of tuberculosis present very few symptoms, and it is in this stage that it can be arrested and cured. This enemy is a tough but slow attacker, and is able to enter and infect nearly every organ and tissue of the body. Some of the earliest symptoms are fatigue, loss of energy, indigestion, and a persistent cough. When these first signs appear, then is the time to act and consult a physician or public health nurse. If you do not take care of this at the very first signs of danger, soon will follow serious consequences, and months, yes, years of absence from work or home.

Exhaustion, loss of weight, afternoon fever, and night sweats, along with

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streaks of blood in the sputum, or perhaps a slight hemorrhage from the lung, will surely send you to the doctor. But then it is too late for that speedy return to health and vigour.

When you go to the doctor, he will X-ray your chest, examine your sputum, and also give a skin test to see whether you have been infected with the tubercle bacillus. If he should find that you have tuberculosis, it means that you must have rest, complete bed rest. Complete rest means flat on the back, with a low pillow under your head. You should not try to get up, sit up, read, write, or talk more than is necessary. This regime must be carried on for several months. The meals should be well balanced, with a goodly supply of those foods which will give you the necessary vitamins and minerals. Milk, eggs, cheese, cereals, green vegetables, and fruits are all good, if they agree with you. There should be included plenty of nutritious foods to keep up body nourishment without over-eating.

Sunlight and fresh air are good, but exposing the body to direct sunlight or sun lamps is not advisable.

The tubercle bacillus tends to wall itself off by building a calcified area around the site of infection, and may lay dormant for months or years. Lowered resistance on the part of one carrying these tiny killers in his lungs or other parts of the body, will tend to bring them out of their hiding places and start anew the infection.

The Public Health doctors and nurses appeal to you to help them stamp out this scourge. They cannot do it without your co-operation. Don't do your own diagnosing; if you are in doubt about yourself, see your doctor. Put yourself in the hands of competent health workers, and follow their directions. This is the only way we can all help to rout this enemy which is lurking in every corner of this world to catch the unwary and the careless.

habitually tired, and, while urged on by ambition and self respect, are physically incapable of carrying on with their usual activities in a normal way. They may develop symptoms of "colitis." While this condition is merely the symptom of a nervous unbalance, it may in turn seriously interfere with the assimilation of vital chemicals and vitamins, resulting in some cases in serious illness and permanent impairment of health.

It is not possible to account for all the symptoms which some suffer, nor to account for all the factors which might precipitate an attack, for the bodily functions are exceedingly complex. It should be mentioned that prolonged deficiency of vitamin B might be the underlying factor in some. In these cases liver extract by injection is helpful.

It is quite obvious that treatment must be directed towards the elimination of excessive physical or mental labour. Suitable occupations must be found for those who are unhappy in their work. All must learn the value of relaxation. For some a mid-day rest period is required. Two vacations a year are better than one if they can be obtained. The successful results of sanitarium treatment are due in part to the rest secured, and freedom from care. The diet should be bland, but high in calories and vitamins, as many of the sufferers are underweight due to a self-restricted programme. Restriction of fluids at meal time permits more efficient action of the digestive juices. This in turn reduces gaseous distention. Ice cold liquids should never be taken, nor anything excessively hot. In the occasional case food allergy may be the important factor. Some may be very intolerant to cow's milk or almost any single item of the diet.

The typical bland diet restricts use of flesh foods, condiments, tea, coffee, tobacco, alcohol, fruits with seeds (berries), and coarse vegetables such as cabbage, Brussels's sprouts, turnips, parsnips, onions, and also bran.

SORENESS IN LEFT ARM SOCKET

For perhaps two years I have had a soreness in my left arm socket or in the muscles of the upper arm, it is hard to determine which. At least, it is difficult for me to reach the middle of my back to fasten or unfasten my clothes, and sometimes the arm is rather painful. Please tell me what is the cause and probable remedy.

There are several conditions closely related which might cause the soreness in your shoulder. The most likely cause would be arthritis, or peri-arthritis. Bursitis is more likely to be an acute condition, is seen more often in younger individuals, and has no particular relation to previous strenuous occupations. Treatment is to apply heat in any form for 15-20 minutes three or four times a day, rest of the affected joint (not so much that it will become stiff), and massage to the muscles about the joint.

W. H. Roberts, M.D.

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THE DOCTOR ANSWERS HEALTH QUERIES

COLITIS

Please give me some counsel on the treatment for functional disorders of the intestines, and colitis.

Colitis, mucous colitis, spastic constipation, irritable colon, and colon consciousness all probably represent different phases of the same underlying condition; a disturbance in the nerve control of the large bowel. As in all functional conditions, the fault does not lie primarily in the organ producing the symptoms, but in the unstable nervous condition of the individual.

The usual story is for some increased stress or strain to be coincident with the refusal of the bowels to act. On another occasion, or perhaps in a different type of individual, there may be looseness of the bowels and passage of mucus. In either case gaseous distention and abdominal cramps are usually complained of. The pain is frequently shifting in character, and cannot be easily described. It is more likely to be felt early in the morning, and may be sufficiently severe to awaken the sleeper.

The bodily functions are regulated by the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord with corresponding nerves), and the closely associated autonomic (more or less automatic or reflex) nervous system. These systems each have a certain degree of independence but each utilizes the other for the successful execution of functions for the general welfare. The latter (autonomic

nervous system) is divided into two parts, which in health counterbalance each another.

1. Parasympathetic. Stimulation of this part causes slowness of the pulse, nasal congestion, salivation, spasm of the colon, and increased production of mucus. These are the symptoms of what is so popularly known as "mucous colitis," and it is also noted that this does not represent actual inflammation.

2. Sympathetic. Stimulation of this part causes rapid pulse, sweating, nasal dryness, dry mouth, and relaxation of the bowel. Here then may be the cause of constipation in some.

It is interesting to note that fear, according to Cannon, probably causes a stimulation of the sympathetic nervous system, whereas anxiety or resentment is more apt to cause over activity of the parasympathetic system. These feelings are more apt to be indulged in by sedentary workers, who are under extra emotional strain. Many other emotions, which might be harmful in their effect, could be mentioned.

In addition to the emotions there are certain widely used drugs which play upon the autonomic nervous system. The nicotine of tobacco, the caffeine of tea and coffee, first stimulate and then depress. Persons who long continue their use are slowly but surely depleting their reserve energies and vital force. Witness the sad plight of hundreds who at a relatively early age become

Let's Give Them a Chance



We have been going all out to win the war. And our victory contributes to freeing the oppressed peoples of the world from domination and slavery. How despairing and tragic if all our extreme sacrifices were ultimately futile!

They may be futile if we stop with granting liberty to the millions in nations who have been caught in the drag-net of war through no fault of their own. Liberty for what? Liberty to freeze, to starve, to waste away in agony? No, it must not be!

Our glorious giving will not be futile if we add a little more to help these unfortunates to get started again for normal life. They deserve it at our hands. Many of them are anguished and destitute to-day because of the bombs we have helped pay for, which have been rained on their lands as a necessity of war. Let's give them a chance to come back. Love thus manifested will do infinitely more than anything else to establish permanent peace.

Rehabilitation is the word—rebuilding hopes, lives, homes, institutions; so banishing want, fear, and suffering. We cannot do less and really win the war for a better world.

The organization which the SIGNS OF THE TIMES represents has for many years been doing a great work for the uplift of every race and class and creed in all corners of the world. It has poured without stint tens

of millions of dollars into its healing, educating, helping ministry for strangers to whom it had no obligation except that of love for the unfortunate.

But the war has done untold damage to our material resources in many countries, upwards of two million dollars loss in China alone. Until we can restore some of this loss, our work is deplorably crippled, and our hands are tied. We have the courage and plans to rebuild as soon as possible. And hundreds of mission doctors, nurses, and educators must be sent, as the tide of war recedes, into these lands from which they have been expelled by the conflict. The lives of soldiers and sailors and airmen that have been saved by Christianized natives are alone worth the cost of missions.

We have begun a gigantic Reconstruction Programme, and are confident of raising five million dollars this year! To do it we will have to give to the utmost.

We know there are hundreds of readers of the Canadian SIGNS OF THE TIMES who will want to have a part in raising this fund. We guarantee that every cent donated will be used in places where it is most needed for rehabilitation and uplift. Some can give large amounts; but from the largest to the very smallest, all gifts will be gratefully received and acknowledged.

All gifts should be addressed: Reconstruction Fund, Care of The Editor, Canadian Signs of the Times, Oshawa, Ont., Canada.