

*Canadian*

OSHAWA, ONTARIO SEPTEMBER, 1945

# SIGNS OF THE TIMES



# THE GOOD NEWS

Returned service men from overseas report that there was one article of food they craved more than any other—fresh, cold milk. Authorities on food tell us: "Drink three glasses of milk a day if you are a grownup. Drink a quart if you are a growing child. It does not need to be taken as plain milk, for it can be used in cooking. But in these days it is vitally necessary to have milk in some form, when so many persons are finding it difficult to obtain a balanced diet. Milk helps supply the much-needed riboflavin."

Russians have made progress in bringing the dead back to life, says a contemporary magazine article. They inject blood enriched with glucose and having a calculated amount of adrenalin in it. But the report hastens to say that these "dead" are only "clinically dead," in the accepted sense of the word. If they are beyond the help of medicine or surgery more than five minutes they cannot be brought back to life. However we may question

whether they are actually dead or not, it is a gratifying advance in medical technique to be able to save the lives of victims who are within the limits of a five-minute margin. But we are made to marvel anew at the power of Christ to resurrect the dead just before and after the funeral, and His promise of resurrection after thousands of years.

Lloyd C. Douglas, author of the popular novel on the life of Christ, "The Robe," says of his writing the book, "As I proceeded with my task, it became increasingly apparent that the First Century was menaced by much the same problems as have set our whole world on fire today! We drew a map of the Roman Empire under old Tiberius and found that we had also drawn a map of Hitler's Europe! You couldn't dodge the facts that the world into which Jesus came was enduring the same slaveries, brutalities, aggressions that have made our hearts sick in our own time. We pasted the map in 'The Robe.' Many people, pondering

it, have inquired, 'Do you think Jesus will come again?'" This is an excellent testimony to the exactness of Christ's prophecy of Matthew 24, when He drew a parallel between His times and ours, and predicted that these times were signs of His imminent return. "When ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors." Matthew 24:33.

Pessimistic and sober notes are being sounded by military and industrial leaders with regard to the security afforded by the San Francisco agreement. And many more groups will agree with their doubts about future peace, if they expected great results from the conference in the first place. We didn't; and will therefore not be disappointed if there is a breakdown in the plans. The conference revealed that nationalism is more pronounced than ever; and when not a single nation is willing to sacrifice any of its "sovereignty" for the sake of peace, and defines that sovereignty as the right to hold all it had before the war regardless of the promises of the Atlantic Charter, nationalism becomes the rock that will wreck the security ship. We are happy that so far the United Nations have done better than we had expected.

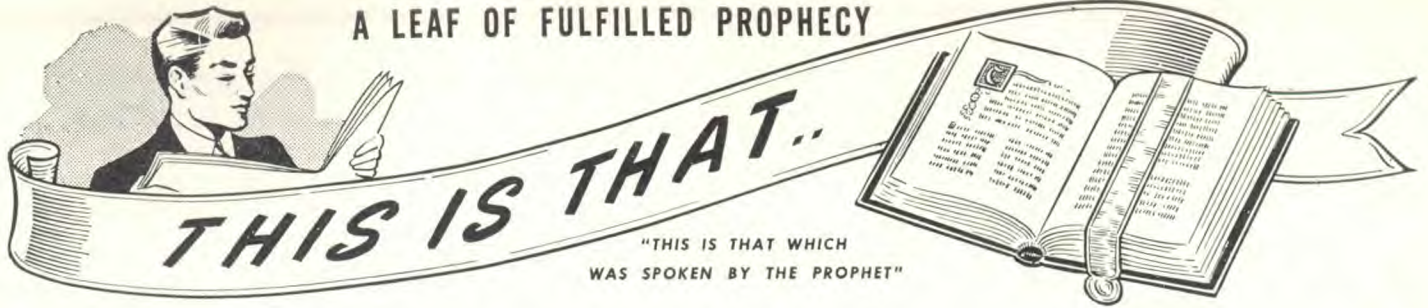
A shrunken world is ours. Army planes are flying from New York to India and China in three days. Planes can fly to Moscow in the same time that trains can run from Winnipeg to Vancouver. No place on earth is more than sixty flying hours from any airport on earth. And of course communication anywhere is almost instantaneous. God is using men to get ready for something. We venture that it is the heralding the good-will news of Christ's return to earth, to provide escape for the saved-by-grace, and to destroy those who fanatically refuse unconditional surrender to His good-will.

The Youth for Christ movement is sweeping the country. Surprising results are being obtained in rallying thousands of youth, on Saturday night of all nights, in large halls in the great cities, to give their hearts to Christ. Fifty thousand young people gathered in Soldier's Field, Chicago. Twenty thousand crowded Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto. "Streamlined religion" is presented to the masses of youth, and they respond amazingly, say reporters. The movement has been characterized by observers all the way from a genuine revival of religion to the latest racket in religious hysteria. We withhold comment till the agitation shows permanent results. But any movement that takes youth off the streets and away from questionable amusements on Saturday nights is to be commended, that far.

The life boat in the foreground has been dropped from the airplane, and has everything needed by the men on the rubber raft.



## A LEAF OF FULFILLED PROPHECY



## “PEACE IN OUR TIME”

It was a dramatic scene when the representatives of fifty nations affixed their signatures at San Francisco to the new peace charter of a world weary of war. Although it was in a “Hollywood setting,” the men who had spent many weeks carving out a unanimous declaration of

were still left at the mercy of large nations. There is too much centralization of power. Many flaws may be pointed out. But it is the “best that can be done.”

The Big Three or the Big Five may qualify and modify and even eliminate some of the charter’s provisions when

support. We cannot, however, believe that this pan-treaty will accomplish anywhere near all its sponsors hope for it.

For one thing, it makes an approach to a world state. President Truman, on his way home from the conference, stopped over in his native state, and is reported to have said in a speech that there was no reason why the nations of the world could not unite even as the states of the United States are united. But the states of the American Union are one integrated nation and government, with one head. Can fifty or more distinct and exceedingly varied nations cement such a union?

There is no question but what a world state will be more and more idealized from now on, and realized if possible. For it promises a way to prevent war, and that is the dearest goal of the greatest and strongest nations, as well as of the weaker ones. But the prophetic Word of God says that any effort now to create a world state, even though the parts should be loosely united, is certain to be a failure.

In the forecast found in the second chapter of Daniel, the prophet writes concerning the nations of our time, that some of them will be strong and some “broken.” How vividly this has been fulfilled at San Francisco! A very definite cleavage was there made between the stronger and weaker powers. And the seer likens the two classes to iron and clay. He predicted that they would “mingle themselves with the seed of men” and try to “cleave one to another.” How desperately they are trying to “cleave,” the story of the San Francisco security conference tells.

However, the dictum of Him who rules in the realms of men is that “*they shall not cleave one to another*, even as iron is not mixed with clay.” We may take it that they will not come very near succeeding in their efforts to unite, since clay is used in making moulds for shaping iron, for the simple reason that the two will not mix to the least degree. We are certain that the inspired seer conveys the thought that world union is doomed to failure as a means to world peace. Read Daniel 2: 36-45.

Then God, true to His character as the Father of comfort and hope, makes a positive declaration on what *will* bring peace in our time. For the prophet continues: “In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for-

Much of Europe is now a vast area of ruin and devastation, broken homes and broken lives.



universal concord were in deadly earnest. The chief incentive was no doubt the disgust engendered by the glaring fact that war does not settle anything.

Never before in history have so many nations, among them the strongest, agreed so completely to abandon war as a recourse for the settling of international disputes. If ever peace by agreement succeeds it must succeed from this time on. For the supreme effort has been crowned with super-success. Statesmen agree that if this grand scheme fails, civilization is doomed. Means of destruction of life and property have been discovered and invented, and to some extent used, in this war which will wipe mankind off the globe if they are ever again let loose.

Its makers have been the first to admit that the security pact they have set up is far from perfect and war-proof. No signer got all he thought his nation ought to have to insure a feeling of safety from future war. Small nations

they sit around the final peace table. Actual experience in carrying out its strictures may prove it impracticable or impossible of execution. And we might go on naming the dangers and pitfalls to which it will be subject. But withal it is a noble document, and worthy of all praise for the effort put forth in producing it.

Prime Minister Mackenzie King said of it as he signed his name, “To-day the nations represented here are united in the defense of freedom. The signatures their representatives have affixed to the charter is a pledge to the world that from now on they will remain united in the service of mankind. The Magna Carta of 1215 has been termed the keystone of English liberty. May the keystone of world liberty be found in the United Nations Charter of 1945.”

We add our acclaim to this achievement of modern man to live in peace. Every peace movement has our wholehearted support. We earnestly wish we could make our confidence equal our



The housing shortage will be remedied. This prefabricated house was built in one day near Vancouver, B. C. Started at 9 a.m., and here shown after six hours work, it was finished at 6:30 p.m. The family moved in immediately. So, cheer up.

ever." This kingdom will be just as real and material as the nations which rule now and which it will displace.

This is the way, God's way, that peace will come, not by nations uniting to make it, but by their being destroyed, as nations, because they cannot make it. And it is God's will that peace must be made, and that in the very near future. This is not complimentary to the strenuous efforts of world leaders to get together by compromise and sacrifice to force peace on the world. But it is definitely the divine method. And as we observe what will happen in the next few years, we will be more thoroughly convinced that God's way is the best and only way.

## The Toll of Suffering

"THE most reliable estimates of battle casualties indicate a death toll of between nine and ten million men in the European war. To these are added another nine or ten million men permanently disabled, besides millions more who suffered slighter wounds. . . . The civilian casualties include the millions who have succumbed to disease and starvation or have been murdered in prison camps. They include, too, other millions who have survived but whose minds and bodies will continue to bear the marks of their long ordeal. . . . Britain's civilian casualties from enemy bombings and the robot and V-2 weapons number about 145,000. Of Poland's prewar population of 35,000,000, it is believed that nearly 10,000,000 have perished." *New York Times*, May 6, 1945.

To this add all the losses by death and wounds in the Asiatic wars; deaths by accident directly attributable to the war; deaths by the millions from epidemics brought on by the hardships caused by the war; and, not the least, the untold multitudes of grieving hearts over loved

ones lost. The size of the total is staggering.

And shall we not add the great grief in the heart of God and Christ and the Holy Spirit and the angels. The heavenly beings are capable of feeling much more deeply about all this than we are. Then why didn't God prevent it? He could have, but not without taking away man's freedom. And who wants Him to do that? Rather, let us ask, Why didn't men prevent it? They could have, if they had taken it in hand in time.

God will second every endeavour of man to maintain peace. But even He cannot force peace; for peace is the antithesis of force. And if He cannot force peace, how can man do it? "O that thou hadst hearkened to My commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." Isaiah 48:18.

It is the sin of every nation, not alone that of the "enemy" and the "aggressor," that makes war. Men are to blame; but, instead of blaming them, as men do God, the God of all comfort saves many from death, does eighty-five per cent of the healing of their wounds, and consoles the broken-hearted.

## What Knowledge Science

WE take off our hats to the startling discoveries and accomplishments of scientists, especially as growing out of the necessities of war. But when we do we seem to expose our minds to confusion resulting from the inconsistencies of these same scientists.

They stoutly maintain that they still believe in the theory of evolution, which is an explanation of the phenomenon of nature by infinitesimal changes and slow moves, so slow that millions of years are required to change a fin to a wing. Evolution provides for no major catastrophes, no sudden developments. Hence there

could not have been a world creation in six literal days, no universal deluge completed in a year's time.

Now our profound experts with the test-tube reveal that they are quite sure that they can "split the atom," whatever that may mean; and when they do so they will thereby destroy the world completely and instantly. We are told that, given another six months, German savants would have made this planet cease to exist. The Allies defeated Germany just in time to save the human race from extinction, for the scientists might have split the atom before they discovered how to control a split atom.

The whole procedure gives us a splitting headache when we allow ourselves to try thinking it through. We are ready to agree that this old world can and will be destroyed in a very short space of time, when God gets ready to destroy it as He says He will. But how does that accord with the evolution theory? For, according to that, the world has an excellent probability of rocking on, much as it is now doing, for some millions of years yet. This must be the "oppositions of science falsely so called," against which the Word warns us.

The word *science* derives from an original root meaning to *know*. Apart from the revelations of the Word, how much do scientists *know*?

## Public School Religion

ACCORDING to which newspapers and magazines you read, religion is or is not a safe subject to be taught in the public schools. Public school officials in the Province of Ontario are firm in their decision that the Christian religion should be inculcated in the minds of provincially supported schools. And many well-meaning tax-payers are with them in this. In fact, the great majority seem to be highly in favour. So the text-books have been printed, the teachers trained, and the programme launched.

We have examined some of the text-books for the primary grades, and find them quite innocuous as far as the average child of Christian parents is concerned. But teachers cannot be controlled as can a printed text; and they are sure to add ideas of their own with doctrinal bent, and therefore objectionable to parents with opposite views. Whether they do or not, the chief objection to the teaching of religion in public schools is that there are many positively non-Christian tax payers who are compelled to support the public schools; and they, a very large minority, should have something to say as to how their money is spent and how their children are taught when it comes to such a delicate and critical matter as religion.

To say that this is a predominantly Christian nation, and that the majority rules, does not dispose of the problem at all. In religion, the majority should not rule to the flouting of the religious rights of the minority, however small. To do so is to cast to the winds all that history has learned at the cost of millions of martyred lives.



But there is a better reason for optimism than our victory in the European war.

sessing godliness. Knowing about Christ may be very remote from actually knowing Christ. History testifies that professed Christianity plunged this world into the "Dark Ages." Man has shown brutal tendencies under the guise of Christianity. He who is not truly washed from his sins through the blood of Christ, will sooner or later reveal that under provocation he has blood in his eye. It is because of this that the "faithful and true Witness" has in love warned of the universal peril that would involve this world in global strife preceding His second coming.

All the signs given by the pen of divine inspiration as evidence of the coming of our precious Redeemer, have already been fulfilled, or are in process of rapid fulfilment as this world reels and staggers under the impact of sin, just before its emancipation by the coming of the great Deliverer, Jesus Christ. Living in the fulfilment of these signs, the child of God echoes the prayer of the fisherman Seer of Patmos, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

We have all had thrilling experiences when the heart beat fast and the pulse throbbed more rapidly. But who can measure the ecstasy when God's children of all ages shall join in the heavenward trip in the mighty carrier plane of angels? Such huge proportions as that angelic plane will have, no human mind can conceive. Every legion of Immanuel from the dawn of history to the present day will share in that thrilling journey through the starry heavens to the throne of God. With unlimited power pulsing in every part, that mighty plane of angels will swiftly and silently effect the most stupendous emigration ever conceived.

Then pain and parting will be no more. Under the illumination of God and of Christ and of all the holy angels, the glorified children of God shall bid farewell to trial and affliction. Then gloom will be exchanged for glory and immortal gladness. Death shall then have been swallowed up in victory. With radiant faces the children of God, so long buffeted by sin, will beam with the glory of immortality. Eyes so often bathed in tears shall then gaze upon the King in His beauty, as patriarchs, prophets, apostles, saints and martyrs shall unite with angels to ascribe "blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, unto our God for ever and ever."

Such a faith will make you immune to pessimism, and make you adamant in your refusal to be a calamity howler. Buoyed by the blessed hope, sustained by faith in the "more sure word of prophecy," and resting implicitly in the un-failing promises of God, you will share with those of whom God speaks in Revelation 14:12: "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Until that soon-coming day when hope shall change to glad fruition, every child of God will remain a confirmed optimist.

# OPTIMISM NOW

By R. A. Hubley

SIX years ago Canadians from the Atlantic to the Pacific were thrilled by the visit of their Majesties, our beloved King and Queen. That joyous event which filled the hearts of millions of loyal subjects with ecstasy took place on the verge of a series of calamities, horrors, and tragedies that have made those six years unparalleled in history—years in which this world has been mauled and torn by the wolves of war, which, with an insatiable thirst for blood and in fiendish fury, have sunk their fangs into the quivering flesh of stricken humanity.

Under such conditions as these, is there any reason for optimism other than that of wishful thinking? Soap box orators are talking in glittering generalities, but Mars still plots to unleash his war-dogs in fresh attacks upon a world now well nigh bitten to death. Looking these facts squarely in the face, is there any justifiable ground for true optimism? An affirmative answer is not ridiculous or out of place, for through the gloom of these days of "distress and perplexity" swiftly rushing us on to a mighty climax, shines the glory of the "blessed hope" when the "King of kings and Lord of lords" shall come in the most thrilling pageant ever witnessed. Following that divine event there will be no turning back to the gloomy regime of the grim war-god. His mailed fists will never again drip with the blood of the innocent, for the "Prince of Peace" will unseat the monster and disarm him forever.

However black and unpromising the present, the optimist sees with the eye of faith beyond the most discouraging aspect. When the bed of the river is bone-dry, and the entire landscape is seared until not a green sprout is visible, the roots of faith by which his soul is sustained, tap the hidden springs that flow from the hills of God, and under the most forbidding circumstances, "the righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." Such is the status of the last Legion

of the Cross, which, with an all-conquering faith will survive the fiercest blasts of these dark days, and emerge, triumphant, to behold the coming of the King in all His glory.

Only he who is cleansed from sin "through the blood of the everlasting covenant", and is "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" according to the pledge of the Eternal in "the more sure word of prophecy," can be a confirmed optimist in these days of peril when men's hearts are "failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Sustained by faith in the immutable Word of God, he knows that violence will continue until the appearing of Jesus, Who Himself said: "And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man." Luke 17:26.

Let us take a view of the days of Noah as divinely portrayed: "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." "And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way." "The earth was filled with violence." Genesis 6:5, 12, 11.

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." 2 Timothy 3:1-5.

In all sincerity we may ask that if such malignant sins prevail among those of this generation "having a form of godliness," to what source may we look for the prospects of a "New World Order" among the children of men? *Professing* godliness merely is in complete antithesis to *pos-*

# Who Made **THE DEVIL?** And if God Did, **WHY?**

*A Satisfactory Answer to an Age-Old Question*

By L. Warren Taylor

**V**IEWING the destruction, devastation and sacrifice of unnumbered innocent lives in this war, a mother poured forth from her grief-stricken heart, "Why did God make Satan? Why doesn't He destroy him?"

The morning paper carried this headline, "Youth Convicted on Murder Charge." Turning to the questioning mother I asked, "Why did this mother bring a murderer into the world?" Quickly she responded, "She didn't, she brought into the world a sweet, innocent child, and by his own choice he has become a murderer."

To the many pondering this great quandary, "Why did God make Satan, and why doesn't He destroy him?" the little mother's reply gives a clue to the mystery.

The being now known as "the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan," was not always an adversary. Like man he was made upright. He was created a mighty angel, but, like man, he fell. And in his fall he dragged down a multitude of the heavenly host, referred to in Revelation 12:4 as "the third part of the stars of heaven."

The immediate Creator of all things was the Son of God, called in John 1:1-3, 14 "the Word." "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made . . . And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." We also read in Hebrews 1:1, 2, "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds."

These texts point out clearly that the Father and the Son, Jesus Christ, were united in purpose in creating the world, and it was over this fact that the one who is now called Satan fell. Before he fell he was Lucifer, "son of the morning", "day-star," or "light bearer."

Under the figure of the wicked king of Tyrus, we have a vivid description of

this mighty angel described in Ezekiel 28:12-19. "Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned; therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God; and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more."

Similarly the prophet Isaiah depicts Satan as personified by the sinful monarch of Babylon. "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High." Isaiah 14:12-14.

As a crowning act of creation God

created Lucifer as a covering cherub, a choir master of the hosts of heaven. Because of his great beauty, wisdom, and strength, his heart was lifted up in pride and he sought to establish himself above God.

God bore long and patiently with Lucifer, trying to show him the folly of rebellion, but his revolt had separated him so far from the love of God that he refused to repent and return. The only course left for God was to cast Lucifer out of heaven.

"And there was war in heaven: Michael (Christ) and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Revelation 12:7-9.

Thus the controversy that started in heaven was transferred to this earth, and here it is being waged with growing intensity, and will continue until the end, now not far distant.

Fallen Lucifer's plan of self exaltation and dictatorial rule in heaven was frustrated, and, having been cast to this earth, there has been no retraction of his unholy desires.

God had a definite purpose in making this world. Isaiah declares in chapter forty-five and verse eighteen, "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."

Adam was given dominion over the earth, he was to be a king to rule the earth in righteousness. Into his peaceful abode stalked Satan, bent on usurping the authority given Adam, either attaching the first parents to himself or utterly destroying them. Since the fall of Adam and Eve under the deception of Satan, it has been his studied plan to subjugate the human race to his tyrannical despotism or to inhumanly destroy all who oppose his rule.



**Divine Inspiration pictures the devil as an angel of light, not as a hoofed, horned, and tailed imp of darkness. Thus he can better deceive the unwary.**

With artful subtlety Satan seeks to undermine man's faith in God. His crafty mind was seen at work in the first home in Eden. Clothed in the garb of a beautiful creature of God's creation, he sought to plant seeds of doubt in the minds of our first parents concerning God's truthfulness and love for them. When Adam and Eve "sold out" to Satan they were driven from the garden to endure hardship, suffering and death—the sure wages of servitude to Satan.

Satan's enmity and evil designs against God's people are seen in his efforts to destroy Abel and Job because of their faithfulness to God. Under his tyrannical rule every evil is countenanced and every vestige of good must be erased.

Christ came into this world to redeem man from this Satanic slavery, to break the bonds of sin and death. If Christ could only be overcome and tempted to sin, reasoned Satan, then the whole human family will be lost to God. Arrayed as an angel of light, the Adversary met the Lord Jesus in open conflict. "And the devil, taking Him up into an high

mountain, shewed unto Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto Him, All this power will I give Thee and the glory of them: . . . If Thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be Thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind Me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." Luke 4:5-8.

In this striking experience there are two mighty truths revealed: 1. The Devil is not merely an impulse or an evil influence, but is a real tangible personality, armed with superior intelligence and millenniums of experience. 2. His studied effort is to deceive man into showing disrespect for and disobedience to the standard of Christ's righteousness.

Artfully Satan plans deception so that the human race may be unmindful of his true character and purpose, and thus causes them to fall helplessly into his deadly snares. Let us consider some of his subtle machinations.

God has established in His kingdom of love a standard of character. The life of Christ is the standard, and His character is revealed in His law. In order that the human race might be happy and eventually enjoy the abiding presence of Christ, they must live in obedience to this standard. Death is the reward of disobedience. "The wages of sin is death."

In the garden of Eden Satan said, "Thou shalt not surely die, for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof . . . ye shall be as gods." Satan testifies that there is no death, and that upon casting off the yoke of obedience to God one reaches a higher plain of living and becomes happy and holy. To break this yoke of deception Christ came to this world. "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8.

Envy, strife, and hatred are the products of the Satanic kingdom. When hatred filled the hearts of the Pharisees Christ said: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lust of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44.

If man can be convinced there are no dangers nor pitfalls he then becomes an easy prey. The most deceived person in this world is the one that does not believe there is a personal devil. That soul then becomes a helpless victim in the lair of that mighty foe.

Artfully he hides away in the soul of man that unholy lust for power, authority, fame, and wealth, and when it breaks forth it reveals itself in tyrannical oppression of his fellow men, a subjugation of all that is holy, just and good, and an exaltation of all that is debasing and soul destroying.

Tactfully Satan seeks to stir up the unholy desires and leads one to commit some heinous crime, then he magnifies this sin as being so great that God cannot forgive. Then triumphantly he claims

before God that this is one of his servants and cannot be forgiven. This is revealed in the picture of Joshua appearing before the Lord in filthy garments as portrayed in Zechariah 3:1-5.

The cross of Calvary spells the doom of Satan, for it was there that Christ wrested from his greedy grasp the world captivated by his deceptions. By living a life free from sin and becoming man's substitute, Christ has won back that which was rightfully His, and will destroy the great deceiver when he has finally revealed himself. The time has been set for his destruction; and, knowing this, Satan is working with feverish haste to devour whom he may.

"Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." "Your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." Revelation 12:12; 1 Peter 5:8.

In his final struggle against all that is good, every conceivable deception and cunningly devised snare will be used to lead men captive. It is not below his dignity to again appear as an angel of light or a champion of truth, if thus his ends may be accomplished. In the face of this constant counterattack Peter tells us to "be sober" and "be vigilant." We can keep in mind that he is a defeated foe. The Champion of Truth is more mighty than the prince of darkness.

"I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God; and I will destroy thee. O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire." Ezekiel 28:16. Here is depicted the final overthrow of Satan. He shall be burned and destroyed with fire. "When the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison 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. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city; and fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them." Revelation 20:7-9.

A last effort is made to overthrow the kingdom of God after it is established here on the earth. Like a maniac he rallies his mighty forces to the last battle, but falls a helpless victim to the consuming fire of God. The struggle is ended, the tyranny is broken. Peace and prosperity is the lot of those that have come through victoriously. The universe of God has learned its lesson. Never again will rebellion raise its ugly head to mar the tranquillity of God's universe.

"God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away." Revelation 21:4.

Our attitude toward this mighty struggle between truth and error, the champion we rally to, our faithfulness to God to-day, determine our eternal destiny, whether we fall with the foe or triumph with the victor.

# GOD'S SECRET-SE

## The Part the Angels Have Played in the Crises of World History



The angel of death passed over the homes with the blood on the doorposts.

**T**HE Bible is a book of angels. From beginning to end, the sacred volume is radiant with the beneficent ministry of these white-clad beings from beyond the sky. As inspired penmen traced the truth on parchment or scroll, angels looked over their shoulders and viewed with delight the messages written. From the time of the burning bush, where Moses wrote Genesis, to rock-ribbed Patmos, where John wrote Revelation, they have guided the pen of the authors of Holy Writ. They are better acquainted with sacred history than are the most learned savants of earth, for with undimmed eyes they behold events and wonders entirely unseen and unknown to men.

Unwearied as the swift-moving stars, pure as the wayside lily, and fresh as the morning dew, they visit the utmost bounds of God's universe. From the beginning of creation to the ending of redemption, they are continually rolling back the mystic curtains of the sky, and coming and going on the shimmering wings of light. From their far distant home they come to lift the fallen, comfort the sorrowing, and to cheer the lonely and distressed. These clergymen of heaven, radiant with majestic beauty, caught from constant communion with God, are tireless in their ministry of love. They bring pitchers of refreshments, drawn from the flowing rivers of Paradise, and pour life into countless wounded bosoms.

The number of the bright spangled host is so great that earthly arithmetic is wholly lost in counting. The "angels round about the throne" are "ten thousand, and thousands of thousands," "an innumerable company." A discouraged and frightened lad, in the days of Elisha, had his eyes divinely opened, and saw a lofty mountain full of angels and chariots of fire, and was consoled. A word from the Master of men would bring "more than twelve legions" of these armed squadrons from the strongholds of the

sky, to the defense of their loved Commander.

When the earth came fresh and new from the hands of its Creator, it was beautiful beyond description. Angels, as well as the unfallen inhabitants of other worlds, viewed it with delight, and rejoiced at the wonderful works of God. Above the newly created world, as it lay like a lovely gem on the bosom of the universe, fair and unblemished by sin, under the smile of God, and bathed in the light of heaven, "The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Job 38:7.

Angels sometimes war as well as woo, and blight as well as bless. In the far-away mystic battle of the sky, when Michael fought the dragon, angel fought angel, the good against the bad. It was the battle of light against darkness, and the fate of God's great plan was at stake. With glittering swords bathed in the splendour of heaven, pointed with power, and keener than any Damascus steel or Toledo blade, Lucifer and his followers were utterly defeated, and driven forever over the towering battlements of heaven.

When Adam and Eve fell in Eden, all heaven was filled with sorrow. There was no human way of escape for the unhappy pair, and they were doomed to misery and death. Angels ceased their songs, and laid aside their golden harps. There was bitter mourning at man's unhappy fate. But the angels were to be ministering spirits, sent from the silvery bowers above, down to this dark world,



Angels announced the birth of Christ in bursts of song.

to guard the subjects of God's grace from the power of the evil angels.

When sin's door was opened, Eden's gate was closed. And sin could not be put out of Paradise without putting man out. Therefore Adam and Eve were banished from their fair Elysian home, never again to enter it in this life. Radiant cherubim, with flaming sword which turned every way, stood at the eastern gate of the lovely Paradise of God. Angels guarded the gate to keep sinful men out, but the pearly gates of heaven are guarded by angels to let sinless men in.

With undimmed eyes and holy interest, these inmates of the skies watched the unfolding of events in the new-formed world. This "lesson book of the universe" was diligently studied. They saw the first infant ever born in the world, and watched the fond mother as she lovingly pressed him to her bosom, hoping that he might be the promised Seed. With unutterable grief they also saw this very child, Cain, now grown to manhood, slay his innocent brother one day while they two were alone in the open field.

These heavenly messengers bear the saints up in their hands, lest they dash their feet against a stone. They watched over the babe in the basket among the bulrushes on the Nile, and guided Pharaoh's daughter to the river's brink. They cursed Meroz for not helping against the mighty. The passover angel slew the first-born in every Egyptian home, upon whose doorposts the red streak was not seen. With drawn sword an angel halted Balaam, the mad prophet, on his way to curse Israel. A single celestial being slew one hundred and eighty-five thousand of Sennacherib's men, thus bringing defeat to a proud and mighty empire.

Heavenly beings witnessed the unwavering faith of Abraham, and the complete submission of Isaac on Mount Moriah. The sacrifice to be made there was not for the patriarch alone, nor was it solely for succeeding generations. It was for the instruction of all the sinless beings of heaven. Angels hovered over the lonely mount, with more than human interest. After witnessing the patriarch's supreme sacrifice, it was not so difficult for them to grasp the mystery of redeeming love, when God should give His only Son for a lost world.

Angels can be as gentle as a summer breeze, or as severe as the wintry blast. They can hold the four winds back from blowing on the earth, and cast Satan into the bottomless pit for a thousand years. They can drive the untrained kine



# VICE MESSENGERS

By Charles G. Bellah

of the Philistines over hill and vale, and bring the cart bearing the sacred ark safely back to Israel in the harvest fields of Beth-shemesh; and pull the linchpins of Pharaoh's chariots, and drown his mighty men in the Red Sea. They can roll back the heavy stone from the mouth of the sepulchre, and free the entombed Saviour; and cast wicked Babylon, like a mighty millstone, into the depths of the sea. They can fling around men a wall of fire that no devil can penetrate, and break the heavy shackles off imprisoned Peter.

"There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth," for they helped to bring him to repentance. To the angels a soul is priceless, because by and by he may wear a starry crown, wave a palm branch of victory, and sing a song of experience that even the angels can never learn. These ethereal messengers, girt with golden wings, will winnow the air in every path where God bids us walk, and radiant ladders will rise above the pillows of every trusting saint.

They are "all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation." They speed on rapid wings to do God's will, and may be entertained unawares. They wrestled with Jacob on the banks of the far-away Jabbok river, came to Joshua on the battlefield, ascended in flames from Gideon's sacrifice, found Elijah while he was asleep, and came to Cornelius while he was at prayer. A star of shining angels guided the wise men to the Babe in the lowly manger at Bethlehem.

They took away a dream from Babylon's haughty king, and caused Pilate's wife to suffer "many things . . . in a dream because of" the Christ, whom her husband had unjustly failed to acquit. They have spoken aloud in the language of earth, and also whispered to a Jewish maiden of the promised Holy Child. They have trodden the dusty ways of men, and caused strains of heavenly melody to fill the air. They are mighty in power, rich in knowledge, countless in number, are nearest when most needed, and diffuse a holy calm into many troubled hearts.

They have talked with men in the temple, in dungeons, by the wayside, and in the open fields. They excel in strength, for manna is angels' food. (Psalm 78:25.) They have eaten of the humble fare of the poor, and scorned the banquets of sin. They have appeared on the lonely mountain top, and on the

wet deck of the storm-beaten ship at sea. They have been with men in the crowded streets, in the highways, and by the threshing-floor of the Jebusite.

They come with messages as pure as the dewdrop on the lily, or smite Herod with a terrible punishment from the Almighty. They bring health to God's men, or lay wasting pestilence upon the disobedient. They were sent to destroy impetent Sodom, and to rescue wavering Lot from the burning flames. They led wild beasts of the jungle into Noah's ark, and stopped the mouths of lions in Persia's royal cave. They whisper words of peace and pardon to the penitent, and caused the Roman guards to fall as dead men before the rent tomb of the Saviour.

Angels were with Christ throughout His entire ministry on earth. At the beginning, an angel told the wondering Joseph, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus." Over His birth in the manger the celestial choir sang a glory song out of the hymn books of the sky, bound in the black covers of the night. They ministered to Him in the wilderness of temptation, and sustained His fainting form in lonely Gethsemane, while the bloody sweat stained His holy brow. Clothed in garments of light, they guarded His grave in the beautiful garden, were in the empty tomb, and when He departed from Olivet they told His disciples to watch for His return.

When Jesus comes the second time in majesty, all heaven will be emptied of angels. All the radiant squadrons of the Almighty wing out from beyond the curtains of the unseen, and form a snow-



A mighty angel called forth Jesus from the tomb.

white cloud above their beloved Commander. For "the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him." Then "He shall send His angels



An angel revealed future events to the prophets.

with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

When the last trumpet sounds, and the voice of the Almighty cries, "Awake!" waiting angels make straight for the abode of the righteous and to the rent tombs of God's sleeping children. As the graves burst asunder, the guardian angels that have camped about the saints will be the first to grasp their hands and greet them in that glorious day. Then, with the living righteous, these holy ones are caught up, and wafted on feathery pinions to meet the Lord in the air. God grant that we may let angel hands lead us in God's path now, and their words explain life's mysteries by and by.

The angels are swifter than the beams of the morning light; and may come clothed in vesture of lightning, or in the humble garb of the lowly. The prophet of Chebar said that these "living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning." Gabriel came all the way from the glory land to old Babylon while Daniel offered a short prayer. Angels can ride on the wings of the storm, and keep pace with the swiftest train or airplane. They have a key that fits every dungeon and dark cell on earth. Their presence will strengthen us, their power protect us, and their influence lead us to the Saviour. These secret service messengers who hover about us now, are as youthful as when they first conversed with Adam and Eve in the far-away garden of the Lord. The passing of untold ages of time brings no age to them. No waste destroys their strength, no effort saps their forces, and they are no nearer death than when created. Time leaves no ugly hoof-marks on the fair brow, nor gives stoop to the celestial body of the angels; and the oldest are as unimpaired as the youngest. They walk without tiring, run without fainting, and speed on tireless wings to divide man's cares and double his pleasures. Their presence makes the home brighter, the life sweeter, and brings our steps nearer the over yonder. So let us, like Jacob, hold fast the angel until he blesses us.

THE growing agitation in favour of some form of religious education in public schools, while indicative of a worthy interest in meeting the spiritual necessities so appallingly absent in this too materialistic age, is, nevertheless, a threat to religious liberty in the field of Christian education. The fifth freedom of religious liberty is freedom of education. All Christian parents should have the right to give their children a religious education conformable to their concept of truth, without any interference on the part of the state and without any suggestion that they subject their children to a synthetic religion which conforms

Complications vital to the free way of life are involved and need to be clearly faced. Since all public school children are not of the same religious persuasion any system of compulsory religious education would not only prove inadequate to meet the needs of all concerned but would in effect nullify the basic principle of the public school system "whereby children of any faith may receive regular instruction" without being subjected to denominational discrimination. The tragic tell-tale spiritual anemia of the rising generation must of necessity be met by careful Christian education in the proper manner, under the proper cir-

ported, supervised and administered proselytizing propaganda in favour of the majority group or federation? How could an instructor of religious education remain absolutely neutral amidst the maze of religious differences that gather together in a classroom? What would be the effect of the instructor's religious training upon immature minds? To ask these questions is to answer them. And the answers should provoke serious thought.

(1) *The problems of administration*, in giving religious instruction in the public schools, would involve unfavourable pressure upon minority groups thereby

# FREEDOM *of* EDUCATION

*Do we get what we pay for in the Public Schools?*

By J. A. Buckwalter

(Fourth in a Series on "The Five Freedoms of Religious Liberty")

to church-state ideas of what should be taught their children. Proscribed religious instruction not only presents tremendous difficulties but makes possible as an ultimate outcome certain terrifying possibilities of spiritual regimentation. Synthetic uniformity in religion has always been a menace to spiritual progress.

We are fully aware of the growing urgency of the need to nourish the spiritually-dwarfed children of to-day, and are fully in harmony with all commendable and worthy motives of educators and others who realize that without the needed spiritual development our youth of to-day will be ill-prepared to become the leaders of to-morrow. But can the public school system impart for the good of all concerned this needed spiritual instruction and inspiration? Will the plan of proscribed religious education in public schools achieve these worthy ends? We think not. All attempts and experiments of the past in this direction have been found wanting.

In harmony with the admonition of the sacred word to "prove all things and hold fast that which is good" let us examine some of the issues involved which are far-reaching and will greatly affect the future of our youth and our nation. It is abundantly clear that religious instruction in the public schools cannot accommodate all religions on an equal basis.

And any friction that would arise from the exercise of even a measure of compulsion through the medium of our educational institutions would greatly disrupt the student's school life and social standing and would, as a consequence thereof, bring division and discrimination into both urban and rural community life. Free choice is an inevitable essential to true Christian faith, and religious instruction to be effective and productive must be voluntary and not coercive.

circumstances and by the proper authorities in each instance. True Christian education is the highest possible training for life and its problems and therefore is the most important work of the home, the church and the church school. It does not, however, follow that it is the responsibility of the public school.

While it is true that religious education in the public schools is an easy way to reach the children of our nation, church and unchurched, Christian and unchristian, orthodox and unorthodox; we must not assume that the easy way is the best way or even a good way to attempt the solution of the problem.

It is hard to understand the reasoning of a Provincial legislature that will pass an anti-discrimination measure at one sitting and provide a basis for religious discrimination in education at another. Where there are two or more divergent faiths represented by the children in attendance at a given school, by what authority does the public school's system become a judge of what is to be religious orthodoxy for the different faiths there represented? Has the teacher a right to discriminate between these beliefs or to belittle them in favour of a state-supported synthetic religion? Has the state a right to provide a syllabus of religious instruction designed for all citizens irrespective of their beliefs, and to alter that text-book of religion as the occasion may arise, or as increased pressure from majority groups may demand? Is the state to become the agent for the settlement of differences in religion? Can such a procedure result in anything else but the establishment of a form of state theology? Is such discrimination unfair competition in the field of religious evangelism? Does it circumscribe individual faith? Is it wise to inaugurate what might well become a government sup-

porting rather than bridging the divisions and disunities of peoples of various creeds. To instruct all children in the principles of any particular religious philosophy is to obstruct or check the teachings of other religious philosophies, which may be better or worse, but none the less conscientiously adhered to. The problem increases in proportion to the number of faiths represented. In such circumstances children of adherents to the minority philosophy would be to a greater or lesser extent subjected to ostracism and ridicule.

(2) *Religious legislation in field of Education.* The growing intolerance toward minorities is already so widespread that it would be exceedingly unfortunate should religious legislation in the field of education make of our public school system an instrument for the educational ostracism of the unorthodox. Even though the Department of Education continues to grant freedom of absenteeism to those who do not conscientiously conform, how can it guarantee that no pressure whatsoever will be brought to bear upon the children to make them feel that they must be like the rest? Will not those who fail to conform be exposed to social persecution as despised dissenters both unpopular and shunned, deserving, in the minds of their playmates and adults too, the epithets of "Queer," "peculiar," "fussy," "fool," "heretic," and whatever adjective may spring to the lips of their tormentors? The psychological, social, educational and religious reaction to such a system of religious conformity in the public school system of our land challenges the principles of our democracy and calls for serious thought. Legislation on the subject of religious education is legislation in the field of religion. And all religious legislation is dangerous.



The responsibility for the kind of education they receive lies primarily with the home and the church.

(3) *Explaining the Bible.* Further to our problem. Very few children are sufficiently matured to understand without some guidance and explanation the main portions of the Bible. What explanation shall be given to the children of various faiths? Would the instructors adhere to a literal interpretation of the Bible or teach a modern form of gnosticism? Will the modernists or the fundamentalists profit from the instruction given? The Protestants or the Catholics? Just how much doctrine about the Bible and its truths is compatible with all faiths? Confronted with the differing teachings of various groups how could a public school teacher successfully weed out error from truth, speculation from revelation and traditions of men from the teachings of Christ? Would not the teacher in question be placed in a very "uncomfortable position?"

The consensus of opinion at the Ontario Educational Association convention held in April of last year was that the proposed programme of religious education in the public schools would be impractical in schools where classes contained pupils of many divergent religious views and convictions.

(4) *Who's religion will be taught?* It is foolish to answer either "nobody's"

or "everybody's" since neither answer would be true, for it is self-evident that if religion is to be taught some individuals or organizations are responsible for the outline of the instruction to be given. We, therefore, ask respectfully what religion?—who's religion? The State's religion? Or the Church's religion? Which Church? Obviously a state theology must be established through the co-operation of religious and secular authorities which constitutes an affiliation of church and state in an experiment in spiritual regimentation. Of necessity a synthetic religion will develop to which all, it is doubtless expected, will in the end, more or less conform. This synthesis will naturally be made up of certain cardinal spiritual teachings of the more powerful and influential religious bodies. What churches or church federation would dominate this religious training? Certainly, to use an extreme illustration, it would not be fair to have the Seventh-day Adventist religion taught there when many who are not in accord with their Bible tenets would have their children attending. Neither would it be fair to have purely Anglican, United Church or Roman Catholic views given the ascendancy, nor even a combination of two of them, or three. Just what type of a syn-

thetic religion would they teach? Baptists should not be taught sprinkling, nor Seventh-day Adventists Sunday observance, nor Christadelphians the doctrine of the inherent immortality of the soul. And what would the school do with the ten commandments when even some clergymen contend that they have been abrogated? If they are taught, will they be merely grouped with the laws of the nations of antiquity, or be given out as the will of the Eternal? Will they be taught as they are found in the Bible or as they are found in the Catholic catechism? But, it is argued by some, no doctrine will be taught. Well, then, if there is to be no instruction in doctrine or truth to be learned, and only a code of ethics to be analyzed as a lesson in literature, how then can it be religious education? Then let it be called a course in ethics and cease the attempt to make religious instruction a part of the public school system.

(5) *Religious instruction nullifies the religious neutrality and purpose of the public schools.* Public schools exist for the equal welfare and educational advantages of all students regardless of race or creed. Religious instruction has no place in the public school's system of a democracy regardless of whether it harmonizes, minimizes, accentuates or obliterates much of the divergent views of the constituency which it serves.

(6) *Secularization of religion.* Religious instruction in public schools would further endanger a secularization of religion, as a common subject of the secular curriculum. Just another "R" added to the three of age-old standing which were discovered to be insufficient. For the religiously illiterate it is therefore proposed to add another "R" for Religion. Any disagreement between the secular interpretation of religion and the concept of faith as propounded by parental direction would lead to added confusion and consequent contempt of religion.

(7) *Contrary to the Christian principle of the separation of church and state.* The only safety for a democracy is to insist upon the separation of church and state. Every sincere Christian claims the divine right for himself and his children to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. *This right which they claim for themselves is a duty they owe to all lothers!* You, dear reader, claim that right. I claim it. It thereby becomes the duty of both of us to grant it to all others whatever our differences of opinion might be. Our fair land can enjoy the freedom of its soul just so long as it is united and agreed on this common heritage of man. The only true basis for the mutual harmony and happiness in social life and relationships of those of divergent views is that of religious liberty and separation of church and state. Religious education in public schools ignores the dictum of Christ relative to the separation of church and state. The laws of the land must preserve freedom of conscience to all and in a free country this freedom must continue to provide an educational system that maintains that freedom to all and grants

equal opportunities to all. This religious education cannot do! Because religious instruction in public schools necessarily establishes a state theology and in addition requires the compulsory support of that state theology by taxing all classes of citizens. If the Protestant culture is dominant in the educational system can we wonder if the Roman Catholic communion should demand that her separate schools be maintained by state grants on the grounds that Protestantism is being inculcated in the state's public school system? Should the instruction given merit the blessings of the Roman Catholic Church, then what would be the reaction of Protestants to the inculcating of Roman Catholic philosophy of religion in our public schools?

Surely it must be clear that the only safe position for the state to take toward

all religious bodies is that of equal protection for all, benevolent neutrality towards all, special favours toward none. Sectarian instruction or anti-sectarian instruction would involve the regimentation of religious sentiment and jeopardize our democratic foundation of government.

If religious instruction in the public schools is to result in a long-drawn-out controversy between conflicting factions; or the regimentation of religious thought under the control of an educational coalition of several religious bodies; or a compulsory, state-imposed synthetic religion; it cannot but call forth the protest of all freedom-loving peoples who believe in and support an all-out freedom for all peoples everywhere, and particularly those within the confines of our own beloved land of liberty.



## INTER-CHURCH ATTITUDES

**Proposition:** For one religious body to attack the beliefs of another is unfair, intolerant, and bigoted.

**Positive:** Anything that would engender strife between or among religions is a shame to the name of religion. Religion is supposed to hold up the very highest ideals of goodness in man, and surely the belittling of the most sacred beliefs of another is not one of them.

Every religion has some good in it; so if a man lives up to his religion he will be safe for this world and the next. Every religion has some weaknesses, we will grant; but it is better for the denominations harbouring them to deal with them from the inside, and be free from outside criticism.

The chief consideration is that each religious body, and each individual within that body, be sincere in belief; and the great Judge will pardon all shortcomings as to doctrine. Doctrine and ritual mean very little anyway. The main thing is to be honest, give your neighbour a "square deal," and let him alone in his religious belief.

Proselyting is out of place. "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." If a man wants to change his religious belief of his own free will, well and good; but he should not be urged or influenced. His religion is best for him in his situation, even as mine is the best for me in my situation.

**Negative:** It is wise to bring the broad, world-wide view, and the long, historical perspective, to bear upon every prob-

lem of life. Doing that, we discover that these are the very arguments used by the heathen world against Christian missions. And to follow this reasoning is to do away with Christian missions altogether. Are its proponents ready for that? And if some are, what about the Master's commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature?" Mahatma Gandhi proposes, if the Hindus of India ever get political power, to expel every Christian missionary from the country, unless he agrees not to do anything to win Indians to Christ. Give us schools, hospitals, and industries, he says, but let us alone in our religion.

True, no vitriolic and malicious attack should be made upon *individuals* of other religions or denominations, in the spirit of destructive criticism. But, if it is done with the object of search for truth and for the imparting of information, in the spirit of love, then the pointing out of error is quite another thing. A legitimate and universally recognized method of establishing truth in the minds of men is to score untruth. The person who holds error is to be accorded the right to believe as he chooses; but there is a solemn obligation on the part of those who are sure he is in error, to point out his error.

Christ roundly denounced the evils and errors of the Jews and Gentiles of His time; and his apostles followed Him in this. It was a part of the build-up of Christianity. Good, in its very essence, attacks bad. This procedure may bring about strife, but it is not so intended by

the broad-minded attacker. Jesus recognized that it might cause contention, or worse, but this did not deter Him. And, recognizing the danger and inevitability of His message to men causing opposition and discord, He said, "I came not to bring peace, but a sword." In a world of sin there was no other way.

Every religious body has sprung from some other religious body; and it got its start, not alone by espousing and proclaiming what it believed to be a new system of truth, but also by attacking the old system as unworthy of its adherence; and thus giving a valid reason for the desertion from the former, as well as for adhesion to the latter.

To let a man alone in his erroneous belief is to go contrary to the principles of both Christianity and ethics. He should not be forced, but he should be informed and strongly urged to forsake his way. To say that there is some good in all religions, which is true, is not to imply that that which is not good in them should be believed in for the sake of the system. Correct the errors if possible; and if that cannot be done, then reject the system and join one that is more nearly right. Denominations in need of reform should reform; but if they will not, their adherents are duty bound before God to turn away from a semi-false system of belief. It was not the tree of the knowledge of evil that lead our forebears astray, but that of good and evil mixed.

Are all religions equally good? We do not so read Christ and the apostles. There is only one door to the sheepfold. The path to the kingdom is narrow, and the gate is strait. There is "one Lord, one faith, one baptism," and only one. There can be only one *right* way to heaven and the next world. It is everybody's business to find it; and the business of those who have found it is to tell others of the right road, and warn them against the wrong roads which lead away from it. To do this means to attack the evil with all the power at command.

Ritual may mean little, but doctrine, belief, means everything. The way of salvation through Jesus Christ is a doctrine, and if one does not have it as his *belief*, he is lost. Also there are other essential doctrines, among them obedience to the Ten Commandments, faith in the second advent of Christ, assurance of a created and not an evolutionized world, hope in a resurrection yet future.

It is not enough for a man to be sincere. Sincerity in believing a lie does not excuse one from the consequences. Every man is responsible before God for knowing the truth as well as for believing it. And it takes asking, seeking, knocking, to know the truth. How glad is the one who has been in error, and now is in the truth, that he was "plucked as a brand from the burning" by someone who attacked his error in no uncertain terms!

He is not intolerant and bigoted who is sure he is right. He is the intolerant bigot who refuses to consider and weigh other doctrines than his own, and who insists that all men should conform to his belief, regardless of their own honest convictions.

(BIBLE AUTHORITY IS TAKEN FOR GRANTED IN THESE DEBATES.)



# That TROUBLESOME FOURTH COMMANDMENT

By H. F. De'ATH



**Troubled, shall we chisel the Fourth Commandment out of the Tables of God's Law?**

**I**T IS a good thing that the imperative note in the Ten Commandments should be heard by communicants. I myself for that reason read the Decalogue at any rate once on Sunday."

So writes an Anglican clergyman. Yet he complains that the wording of the fourth commandment spoils the effect. His first point is that the words, "Sabbath Day," do not refer to Sunday. The very reason given for the observance of the Sabbath, viz., that the Lord made heaven and earth and everything else in six days and stopped working on the seventh, he says, brings about "mental confusion."

Of course it does. There is no consistency at all in trying to make the fourth commandment apply to the first day of the week. The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord, and no amount of discussion can make the commandment apply to Sunday observance. The two have no connection whatever.

"When is the church going to face the question," he asks, "and authorize some form of words which shall make it clear that the Lord's Day is to be consecrated, not by not doing something, but by doing something and that thing worship?"

Now whatever "form of words" the church may authorize to urge Sunday observance upon the people, that will not make it the "Lord's Day." The Sabbath of the Lord is the seventh day, according to the unalterable law of God. Nowhere in Scripture is the first day of the week called the "Lord's Day." This is purely an invention of the church, with no Scripture authority behind it.

Another clerical correspondent points out that the 1928 Prayer-book gives a shortened form of the Commandments, which leaves out "the reference to the creation."

It appears, therefore, that the church no longer endorses the reason given in the fourth commandment for the observance of the Sabbath. "For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: Wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Clearly, no church and no individual can sense the importance of the Sabbath who does not believe in the Scriptural reason for its observance. Sadly enough,

the church has elected to follow the so-called scientific theory of evolution, which holds that the world could not have been made in six twenty-four-hour days, but has evolved through millions of years into what it is to-day.

In other words, the church rejects the Bible account of a spontaneous creation of the universe by a divine fiat, in favour of a purely speculative theory of the origin of things; a theory that involves men in all sorts of irreconcilable complications, and therefore makes far greater demands on faith than the simple comprehensive statement of Holy Writ.

So we are told that "young communicants ought to have learned in their confirmation classes that the Lord's Day has replaced the Sabbath; that works of necessity and mercy may be done on it, as our Saviour taught us; and that we are bound to 'keep it holy' by taking part in the Holy Eucharist, and the other services of the church, because it is primarily a day, not of rest, but of worship."

Now these "young communicants" may be told that Sunday is the Lord's Day, and "has replaced the Sabbath," but they cannot consistently be taught that the change from Sabbath to Sunday observance has behind it any other authority than that of the Roman Church. The Lord's Day and the Sabbath are identical terms, and apply to one day of the week

only—the seventh day—on which God Himself rested when His creative work was finished, and then blessed and hallowed that day for all time. (Genesis 2:1-3.)

And as for the Saviour's teaching that works of necessity and mercy may be done on the so-called "Lord's Day," our correspondent completely overlooks the fact that Christ's teaching and example on this point were with reference not to the first day of the week, but to the ancient Sabbath, which is supposed to have been superseded by that day. In this Jesus was only confirming what had always been recognized by God's ancient people in connection with Sabbath observance. (Matthew 12: 1-13)

So, however the church may regard Sunday, it is not the Sabbath of the Lord, and can never take the place of God's holy day of rest and worship enjoined by the fourth commandment.

In view of the "mental confusion" caused by the conflict between the church's teaching and practice and the clear statements of Holy Writ, the only consistent and right thing for men to do is to go back to the ancient Sabbath of the law, which has never been abrogated by any divine authority but is still God's everlasting memorial to the fact that all mankind belong to Him by right of creation and by right of redemption.

## A CHALLENGE TO PARENTS

By Martha E. Warner

One bright sunny day, I called on my neighbour and found her all upset because of "the goings on in the school." She opined I had heard about it, but as a matter of fact, since I had no children of school age, and had been away for some time, I had heard nothing. So after we were settled in the porch swing, she told me about it.

It seemed, some weeks ago as she was putting her little Mary to bed, the child said, "Mommie, I learned a little prayer at school to-day; may I say it to you?" Permission was given and the prayer repeated.

"Really," my neighbour said, "it was a nice prayer, and I felt glad that we had a teacher religiously inclined who would teach the children to pray."

"This was kept up for some weeks, with Mary repeating new prayers. Sometimes I wondered about it, but as I was busy, and my mind so full of other things, I gave little thought to the matter, until the night Mary rattled off a prayer to the virgin Mary, and said she knew "lots of them."

"I could hardly believe my ears, I was so shocked; and when I questioned Mary as to where she learned that prayer, she

told me, 'In school.' She said the teacher wrote the prayers on the board, and the children learned them and then when Father X visited the school, which he did one day each week, they repeated the prayers to the Father."

"Father X," I exclaimed, "why, he is the Catholic priest. You don't mean to tell me that *he* visits our public school."

"Indeed, I do mean just that," my neighbour said, "but I doubt if he keeps it up, for I took the matter up with the other parents, and when they questioned their children, and learned their story was the same as my Mary's, we held an indignation meeting, and in a body descended upon the supervisor and laid the matter before him, demanding a new teacher."

"It was hard for the supervisor to

credit our story, but upon investigation he found it was true; and, to make a long story short, the old teacher has been replaced with a new one who is a Protestant. She takes over next week, and I can assure you that Father X will hereafter attend to his own schools and we will attend to ours."

After the story was ended, I thought my neighbour had good reason to be upset, even though the matter now seemed to be under control. But, on my way home, I kept thinking about the seeds which had been planted in the hearts of the children. I wondered if already they had started to grow, or would they lie dormant for years, perhaps, and then spring up and bear fruit. Time alone will tell, but it certainly is a challenge to parents to see that nothing like this ever happens again.



### A Happy Balance

Recently I read of an incident relative to a two-and-one-half-year-old child who was eating his noon meal with his mother, and two guests who were strangers to him.

The mother and her friends became engrossed in conversation, and no attention was paid to Bobby. Finally they heard a lusty cough. Looking up they saw Bobby pick up the pitcher of milk and carefully fill his glass without spilling a drop. This naturally brought smiles and words of admiration from the guests.

Apparently his desire to be noticed was then satisfied; he ate the rest of his dinner contentedly.

Children often develop a hunger for attention. I have a friend who, although she was managing a house as well as taking care of three daughters and a husband, decided she wanted to make a full-time contribution to the war effort. She reviewed her business training, and when the course was finished she accepted a position with the government. Her youngest daughter, seven-year-old Marguerite, missed her very much.

One evening as the family was sitting at the table and the conversation was proceeding along lines that challenged mature minds, Marguerite suddenly held up her hand, as the children do in school when they want attention, and said, "Daddy, let's talk about *me!*"

This passed as an amusing childish desire to be in the limelight, but in a day or two Marguerite said confidentially to her mother, "Mommie, when you get home to-night, will you talk with me first, before you talk with anyone else?" And later, "Mommie, when you come home to-night will you ask me what I did all day at camp like you did last night?"

"So then," the mother told me, "I understood. 'There is a hunger there,' I told my husband, as we discussed the problem. Because Virginia and Connie have more mature minds and are honour students at school, it's only natural to bring them to the front in our conversations. And Marguerite has been feeling overlooked."

"You're always so analytical. You look behind your children's actions," I told her.

"Well, I think that's important!" she answered. "Ray and I decided to talk this thing over with the older girls. With their co-operation we're going to fill that need of our seven-year-old."



## Perfection

We all admire perfection, but we seldom see it. We would like to see perfection in automobiles, in houses, in our pets, in music, and every field of endeavour.

Did you ever see anyone striving for perfection of body? Very few people are willing to pay the price of perfect health. It is so easy to over-work, to neglect rest, to eat incorrectly, to continue bad habits of living. Then when health is gone we wish for perfect health.

Rest Haven is operated to help you attain perfection in health. Here a combination of rest, diet, treatment, light exercise, right mental attitude and entertainment are used. Here many, under medical supervision, strive for perfection in health.

At your request complete literature of Rest Haven will be sent, and questions concerning your health answered.

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This is a need so elemental that all parents should watch for it and never permit it to get out of bounds. Children should be in charge of adults who like them, who devote time to listening to them, who help make a pretty definite routine for them.

I am a volunteer assistant in a nursery school where there are a number whom the uninitiated might call *problem* children. Particularly difficult when I first entered the school were two boys who

were almost continually doing something to attract attention. They were lads nobody seemed to want, the head of the school explained. The showing off, he told me, was caused by a desire to be noticed.

After hearing this, I made it a point to discover something for which I could praise them, so as to bolster their deflated egos and to help satisfy that hunger and need of being wanted and loved.

Of course, we have to be careful not to overdo attention. One of the most important balances to be maintained is the balance between too much attention and too little. Each child requires individual study, for each has lived in a different environment and developed different tendencies. Before we can safely attempt to help we must know not only the need but also the wisest way of filling it.—*National Kindergarten Association, New York.*

What to do when you are

# "Billious"

By W. H. Roberts, M.D.

THE liver is the largest organ in the human body. The portal vein carries to it partially digested proteins, fats, and carbohydrates for their final disposal and assimilation. Proteins are broken down to their constituent amino acids, fats are metabolized, and carbohydrates (sugars) are stored for the purpose of maintaining a fairly constant blood level. Waste products are excreted in the urine.

One of the by-products of this complex process is the bile, which is essential for life, and is an important aid in digestion itself (particularly in the preliminary digestive processes of fats). This bile is emptied by way of the common bile duct into the duodenum (the first part of the small intestine). Part of the bile is concentrated and stored in the gall bladder.

Should a person have gall stones (more likely to occur in one who is overweight) there is a distinct possibility of a small stone blocking the bile duct (temporarily at least) and causing a backing up in the blood of the bile pigment (Bilirubin). In addition to the localized, excruciating pain, there are other disagreeable associated symptoms, including jaundice, itchiness of the skin, and mental dullness.

There are occasional individuals who normally have a high blood level of bilirubin. They suffer from intermittent or chronic jaundice. It has been through a study of these individuals that new light has been obtained on the function of the liver. These studies have only confirmed what many have long suspected.

In these individuals the jaundice was characteristically brought on or aggravated by fatigue, nervousness, worry, premenstrual tension, migraine, dizziness and intoxication. It was also much worse after a bout with constipation or indigestion. Interestingly, anger made it more pronounced. This was reported by Drs. Comfort and Hoyne of Rochester in the *Digest of Treatment*, February, 1945.

Moderation in diet is one of the safeguards of a good liver.



Dr. Paul Gyorky, of Cleveland, in the same publication, stressed the inclusion of an adequate amount of protein in the diet, and of the vitamin B complex group. He noted that alcoholics, who as a rule do not eat properly, are particularly susceptible to such severe liver disease as cirrhosis, which in some cases represents a more or less permanent damage.

The liver is the great detoxifier of the body. In health, for instance, the liver is perfectly capable of handling fatigue poisons. However, should a person get exhausted, eat too large a quantity of an unaccustomed food, or too large a variety at one meal, or partake of such notoriously indigestible foods as pork, goose, shellfish and crab, then a protein incompletely digested likely gets into the circulation and causes such allergic disorders as hives and swelling of the lips and hands.

Shapiro of New York University, reporting in the *Year Book of Medicine* for 1944, states that salicylates (including aspirin) delay clotting time, an indication of liver damage. In this connection it is interesting to note that Dr. Davies, reporting in the *British Medical Journal*, stated that in England it was found upon investigation that 78% of the women and 72% of the men were taking some self-prescribed patent medicine. Aspirin was used by 44.5% of the females and 21.5% of the males. Most persons taking aspirin frequently did so to ward off headaches rather than because of present symptoms.

Dr. Sam Roberts of Kansas City was astonished to find among the patients coming to him for "sinus trouble" that fatigue was present to some degree in 87% and complete exhaustion in 50% of the cases. Most of his patients got less than seven hours sleep, many only four or five. Thirty-one percent took cathartics regularly, which he considered interfered with the assimilation of food. He particularly objected to the use of mineral oil, which by the way is absorbed, contrary to former opinion. It winds up in the liver, where it remains to act as a foreign body. The body does not seem capable of transporting it further.

Accordingly when the invalid with the slightly yellowish skin is accused of being "liverish", and the person with the headache and associated nausea complains of being "billious"; both diagnoses are reasonably accurate, notwithstanding that some of the symptoms can be explained on the basis of associated, deranged physiological processes.

Adequate rest, freedom from worry and anxiety, moderation in diet, avoidance of drugs, even the mild stimulants (tea, coffee, spices, tobacco, alcohol), are essential for the best of health. You say, "How can one be free from worry and anxiety under present circumstances?" The answer is, "Trust in divine power."

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## The GOOD NEWS of HEALTH

BY ELLEN GOULD WHITE

When the gospel is received in its purity and power, it is a cure for the maladies that originated in sin. The Sun of Righteousness arises, "with healing in His wings." Not all that this world bestows can heal a broken heart, or implant peace of mind, or remove care, or banish disease. Fame, genius, talent,—all are powerless to gladden the sorrowful heart or to restore the wasted life. The life of God in the soul is man's only hope.

The love which Christ diffuses through the whole being is a vitalizing power. Every vital part—the brain, the heart, the nerves—it touches with healing. By it the highest energies of the being are roused to activity.

It frees the soul from the guilt and sorrow, the anxiety and care, that crush the life forces. With it come serenity and composure. It implants in the soul joy that nothing earthly can destroy,—joy in the Holy Spirit,—health-giving, life-giving joy.

Our Saviour's words, "Come unto Me, . . . and I will give you rest," are a prescription for the healing of physical, mental, and spiritual ills. Though many have brought suffering upon themselves by their own wrong-doing, He regards them with pity. In Him they may find help. He will do great things for those who trust in Him.