

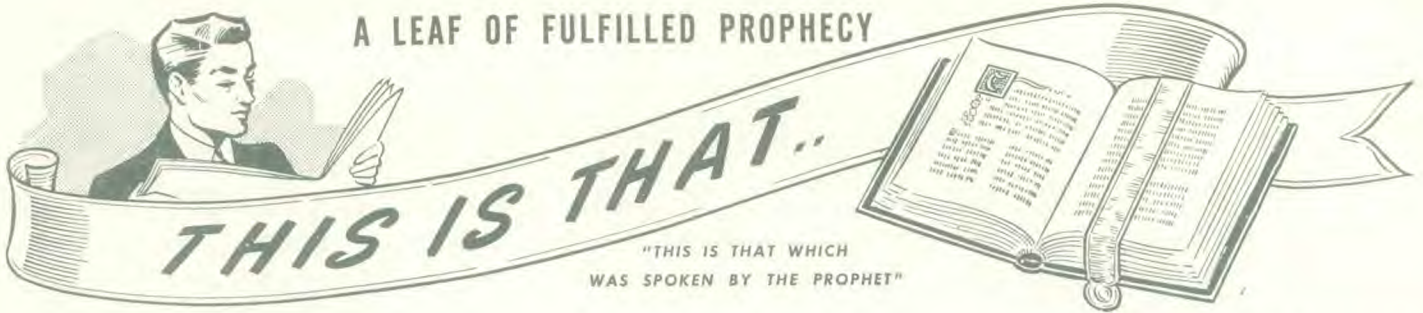
Canadian

OSHAWA, ONTARIO DECEMBER, 1945

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



 **Glad
Tidings**



Seven Still Standing

THROUGH the welter of another world war, such as never was, there have emerged seven nations that cannot be obliterated. We do not write of the "Big Five" with two added, nor of nations which have given promise of surviving for a long time to come. Some of these seven had and have little strength, and for centuries have seemed to be tottering on the brink of oblivion, but they hold their heads up still and experience no serious decay. Other stronger nations have gone down not to be revived, but these manifest remarkable persistency.

We refer to Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, France, and Great Britain. The last named power has best stood the test of war and vicissitude, though its enemies have been pleased to call it "decadent." Britain comes forth from the war battered but strong. "There'll always be an England," we sing with assurance.

However, though it may be for other reasons, there'll always be the other six—till the end. For a time it looked as if France would cease to be an independent nation; Italy and Germany are having their territories shorn away, and disintegration and weakness threaten them; the other three have had precarious footing during the war years; but all seven are still here and in Europe, and show signs of staying on indefinitely.

The old Austria-Hungary, once a mighty nation, went down. For a period Poland disappeared, and its very revival shows its strength. The "Holy Roman Empire" is no more; and the wide-spread domain of Charles V went to pieces. Seemingly, it is not national power and prestige that ensure permanency.

Why these seven still here, without having suffered marked decline or eclipse? We are not now stopping to give the internal reasons for their stability. The fact is that God had said they would be established and remain; and He has said they will continue to remain separate and distinct till one Power rules the world.

In the preview of world history recorded in the seventh chapter of the prophecy of Daniel in the Bible, a dreadful and terrible animal is depicted, which undoubtedly is a symbol of the mighty Roman Empire. The creature had ten horns. And another little horn

rose and plucked up three of the ten "by the roots." The angel interpreter told the prophet that this beast was to be the fourth universal kingdom that would rule the earth. "And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings." Daniel 7:7, 8, 23, 24.

previously named trace their beginnings to the seven that survived after three were plucked up.

We confidently believe that, according to this prophecy, Europe will never be united under one head. And, whatever else may happen, these seven nations of prophecy will withstand every effort to eliminate or merge them, and they will be intact when the coming of Christ



A surrendered U-boat arrives in London, as a symbol of that great Atlantic undersea attack which failed.

The Roman Empire was divided into just ten nations: the Anglo-Saxons, Franks, Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Vandals, Suevi, Burgundians, Heruli, Lombards and Alamanni. Three of these, the Ostrogoths, Vandals, and Heruli, disappeared entirely within a short time after the breakup of the Roman Empire. But the other seven were to remain till "the kingdom under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High;" in other words, until Christ shall come the second time and set up His universal and eternal kingdom. Though under somewhat different names, the seven modern nations

brings an end to all nations as constituted by men, and inaugurates a new, universal, and everlasting government under God as King.

Thus this world-upsetting war has but corroborated anew the absolute accuracy and reliability of divine prophecy.

War's Backwash

OUR readers have been one with us in noting, and being alarmed at, the large scale disasters in the wake of war. Huge conflagrations, appalling accidents, bold

and successful robberies, drunken riots, paralyzing strikes, lawlessness and violence of every description, are terrorizing everybody.

"Is this the peace we longed and fought for?" is the question on the lips of onlooker as well as victim. "We thought that the end of this war would bring cessation from strife of all kinds; but class wars are taking the place of international conflicts."

It is no explanation at all to say that much that was going on during the war was suppressed in the news for security's sake; and that now that the censorship has been lifted we learn more of catastrophe, but really there isn't any more. We know the testimony of our eyes and ears as to what is going on right round about us, and of what went on during war, and we are not deceived. *Peace has let something loose. What is it?*

The facts are that, while the war is finished, war is not finished. Loyalty in the greater war, together with harsh government restrictions, kept what were considered lesser animosities pent up. Now they are breaking out with unequalled fury. Does the following paint the present picture true to colour?

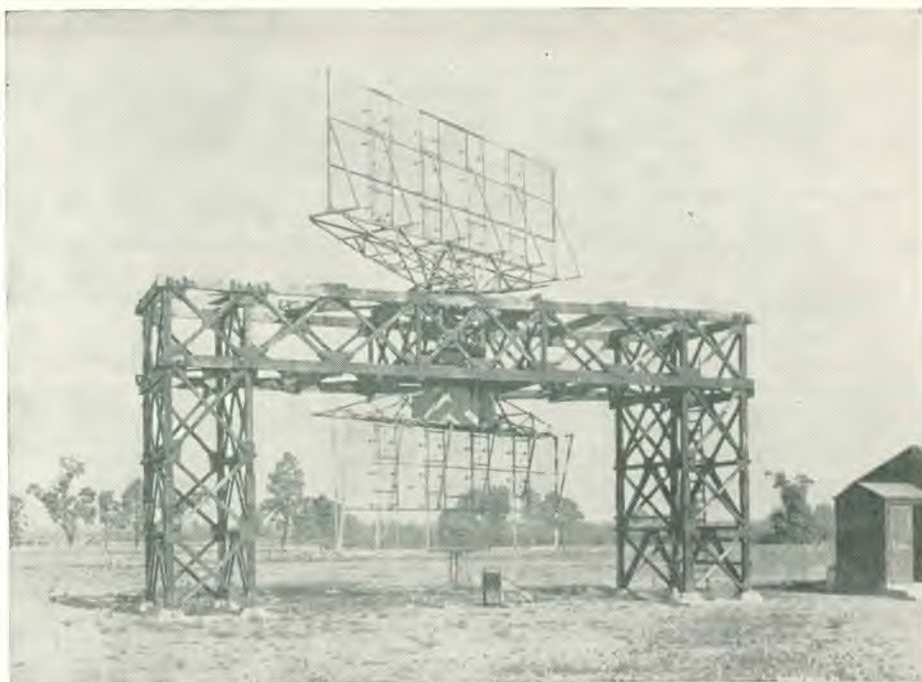
"Men will be selfish, fond of money, boastful, haughty, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, irreverent, callous, relentless, scurrilous, dissolute, and savage; they will hate goodness, they will be treacherous, reckless, and conceited, preferring pleasure to God—for though they keep up a form of religion, they will have nothing to do with it as a force." 2 Timothy 3:1-5. Moffatt's Translation.

The safe attitude to take is to follow the admonition of the same Scripture. "Avoid all such." But also grasp the significance of it. The verse which precedes this vivid and distressing portrayal of our society says: "Mark this, there are hard times coming in the *last days*. For men will be selfish—" These distressing and perplexing conditions are a warning that we are living near the end of time. And God would keep ever before our minds that great truth. Not to discourage us, but to warn us to prepare for the momentous events which portend for the near future.

"The Weak Say, 'I Am Strong'"

NOT ONLY has the discovery and control of nuclear (atomic) energy ushered in a new age in world history. It has also revolutionized methods of warfare. The atomic bomb and its possibilities make obsolete many forms of seaborne craft (including the battleship) as effective means of destruction and defense. And many other weapons will have to be scrapped. The "High Commands" will have to begin all over again in planning for or against the next war.

Another of the casualties of the atomic bomb is the standing army. If this phenomenally destructive missile can annihilate cities and vaporize scores of thousands of massed fighting men at a stroke and in an instant, why mobilize



A radar station, the remarkable invention for radio-location which proved so effective during the war.

the fighting men? Henceforth, we are told, knowledge (science) will be power, rather than aggregations of material and human potentials. A small, almost insignificant, nation with the new weapon in its sole possession, could utterly destroy any number of large and powerful nations without it.

Before this, we have often wondered about the force of a certain Biblical prediction that in the "last days" the weak nations are represented as saying, "I am strong." What good would it do for them to say they are strong when they are not strong, but weak, undoubtedly according to their own admission? In the possession and control of nuclear energy, we have the solution of the problem.

Admittedly weak because of their small populations, puny armies, unpreparedness, and unarmed condition in the modern sense, they may possess a secret weapon, even the possession of which may be unknown to their aggressors, which emboldens them to say confidently, "I am strong!"

And with this possibility of secret weapons, what nation will dare to go to war at all with another nation, with any assurance of winning it? "At last," shout the peacemakers, "we have it! This very danger and hesitancy will *scare* the world into *absolutely necessary* peace. Aha, we never dreamed it would come this way!"

But hold! The very same prophecy which reveals what the weak will say also says that this will not deter any nation in the least from going to war. Instead, there is this: "Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up; beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears; let the weak say, I am strong." Joel 3:9, 10.

The suspicion of superior weapons in the hands of the enemy has never yet

kept a virile and ambitious nation from starting a war. Perhaps each nation thinks its secret weapon is superior to all the others. Already means are being sought and found to neutralize the destructive power of the atomic bomb. War is an attitude of mind and heart; and it will not cease till the heart of the world is transformed.

The World that Didn't End on Friday

A MISGUIDED prediction enthusiast a few weeks ago set the time for the world to come to an end on Friday, September 21; or, making provision for miscalculation, "The end could be any day from the twenty-first through the thirtieth of September."

We are writing this before the momentous Friday; and we wish we could get it published before then. But we did not hear of the prediction in time. We are so sure that the world will not end on a September 1945 Friday, or on any other day in September of this year, that we have used the past tense in the title of this editorial.

This would-be prophet claims to have gotten a vision from the Lord, in which certain numbers used in the prophecy of Daniel were added together in such a way as to make 1945 the year of the advent of Christ. Then the exact day was secured from the date of the ancient Jewish Feast of Tabernacles. Or so the newspapers report concerning his method.

Denying any disposition to ridicule, we say that no one can forecast truthfully from the Bible as to the day of Christ's return, though that return is sure. For Christ Himself said of the time of it, "Of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only." Matthew 24:36. So any

exact setting of time results from a misunderstanding of Bible prophecy. For the divine forecasts do not contradict themselves.

It might be said by some, that while no one knew but God at the time when Christ spoke those words, God might reveal the time to someone now. But the whole meaning of the Scripture in Matthew 24 shows that God, down to the close of time, did not intend to reveal to men just when Christ would appear. The nearest He would come to it would be to say that when certain signs would be seen in the heavens and the earth, then the advent would be "near, even at the doors." And this was written to those who would be living just before He would come.

To those waiting for His immediate coming, He warned, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." "Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matthew 24:42, 44. It is evident from these words that people living now are to know no more than the disciples of Christ knew as to the precise time of His return.

Moreover, in the same connection Christ warned us of false predictions, "Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not." Verse 23. A careful and prayerful study of Christ's great prophecy of His second advent, as recorded in Matthew 24, Luke 21, and other texts, will reveal how, where, and approximately when He will appear.

The "signs" tell us all we are to know. And there are some signs yet to be fulfilled before the end of all things. Among them is the battle of Armageddon. The end is near; but it is not yet. And in this we are not saying, "My Lord delayeth His coming." It is being worked

watch all during that time. This is the way they escape being robbed by the thief, not by knowing beforehand the exact moment he will come.

This explains what Paul meant when he said in this connection, "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake [surprise, Moffatt's Translation] you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."

Again: to all, both righteous and wicked, Christ will come suddenly, at an hour when everyone thinks not. No one, even the most godly, can predict when He will come. Only those will be ready for Him who know from the study of the prophesied signs in God's Word that His advent is near, who watch from then onward, and who therefore are not surprised by His coming.

"Terrible Abyss"

THIS is the startling expression which reporters are using to describe the serious rift that is appearing between Russia on one side and the United States and Great Britain on the other. It is said that the Council of Foreign Ministers in London, making preliminary explorations into the settlement of world problems, has split wide open over such questions as the control of European waterways, the disposition of Italian colonies and the control of the Mediterranean, and the forms of government of the Balkan states.

The great Powers seem to be pushing one another into the formation of East-

huge. The animosities grow. The misunderstandings are abysmal.

One ray of hope shines through. The varied nations, speaking different languages, holding diverse ideals, having opposite backgrounds, do not mean the same things by the interpreted terms which they use in diplomacy. The words *democracy*, *liberty*, *security*, for instance, are not understood at all the same by East and West, by Catholic, Protestant, and non-Christian. If these commonly used words can be internationally defined and universally understood, there is a chance that compromises can be made and peace prolonged. But this hope is dim.

What is this sinister influence which is pushing the world's peoples over the edge of a "terrible abyss?" The prophetic Word, speaking of our times, says: "They are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. . . . And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." Revelation 16:14, 16.

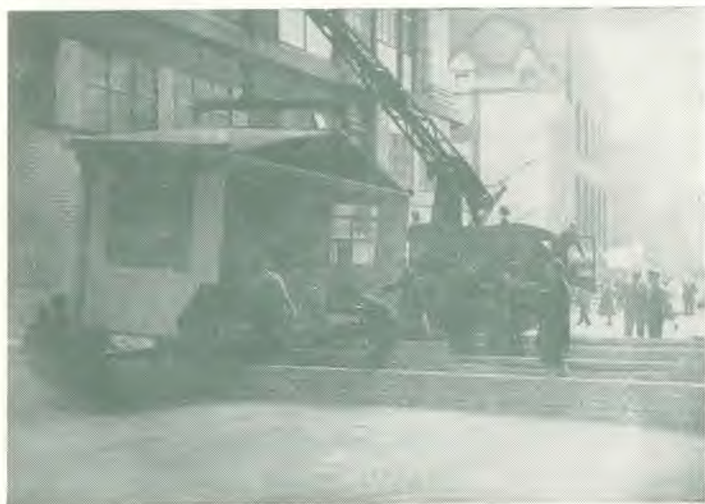
We urge our readers to ponder these words soberly; and to watch the unfolding of events which will fulfill divine prediction. The last movements will be rapid ones.

Liquor Curb. Government figures reveal that since the war began the drinking of hard liquor in Canada has increased 37%, of wine 25%, and of beer 60%. No telling now how much it has increased since the lid was removed after the war. By voice, pen, and vote; in home, school, and church; we are in the fight against the booze traffic, because we know it is a menace to every boon which good people hold dear.

Trillions for War. An estimate has been placed on the definitely known cost of World War II as \$1,030,000,000,000. But this does not include China's expenditures, nor the cost of destruction of private and public property. At this unthinkable price, we got what we paid for, the war. Now will we get what we fought for, the peace?

Religious Liberty—For Whom? Again members of the religious persuasion called Jehovah's Witnesses are being persecuted and mobbed in Quebec. They tried to meet peaceably for worship in one of their own private homes, and invited others to join them. According to the Catholic claim, religious liberty means liberty for their church only, and not for non-Catholics nor individuals.

One World—Or None. It is said that the atomic bomb has forced the world to get together, or destroy itself. We believe it will not get together; and it will destroy itself. But there is another alternative: Individuals who will get together with God first, and thereby with one another, will soon have one new world to live in.



In London, swinging into place a section of all-aluminum, prefabricated house. We are in an age of speedy construction.

out according to the divine plan.

Christ will come to all classes "as a thief in the night." 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6. No one knows absolutely when in the night a thief will come. Therefore, some sleep the whole night through without caring. Others learn from experience, and from signs such as dense darkness and neighborhood slumber and absence of the watchman on his rounds, just about when he is liable to come. So they

ern and Western blocs, thus again to bring in the dangerous balance of power scheme to keep the peace. In the past such plans have eventuated in war. Will such a one succeed now where all others have failed?

They are in a "vicious circle," say the member nations of the Big Five, and they appear to be powerless to help themselves or help one another to escape the inevitable war ahead. The stakes are

ARCHITECT of a **BETTER WORLD**

By D. Mackintosh

THIS world is not going on forever as it is now. There must be a change, and on the authority of the Word of God we can say, There will be a change. Christ Himself talked of the "end of the world." For example, note the "parable of the tares of the field." In explaining this Jesus said, "The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels." (Matthew 13:38, 39.)

The apostle Peter describes the end of this present world in his second epistle as follows, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But 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.* Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 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." 2 Peter 3:9-14.

That this present world will be replaced by a new earth is also foretold by the apostle John in the fascinating book of Revelation, as follows, "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. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God Himself shall be with

The King and the President, the leaders of two great nations committed to the building of a better world.



them, and be their God. And 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 21:1-4.

The New Testament writers are not the only ones who foretell the passing of this present world. Turning to the book of Isaiah we find these words, "For, behold, *I create new heavens and a new earth*; and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of My people, and Mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. . . . The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock; and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, saith the Lord." Isaiah 65:17, 21, 22, 25.

With this evidence before us there is no one who accepts the Holy Bible as God's Word but will agree that this world is not going on forever as it is now. In the programme of God this *New Earth* is not to be marred with sin and the results of sin. It will be a place "wherein dwelleth righteousness." There will be no sorrow, no pain, and no death. All will be happiness and joy everlasting. It will definitely be a *Better World*. However, in order to establish

this better world the Lord will find it necessary to allow only such as keep the commandments of God to live there. In the parable of the tares our Saviour says, "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." Matthew 13:40, 41.

In the book of Revelation we read, "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." Revelation 21:8.

Jesus, in the "Sermon on the Mount", has defined clearly the future citizens of this *New Earth*. He says, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Here we also read, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." And it is also here in the Sermon on the Mount that we find the Golden Rule. "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matthew 7:12-14.

In the book on the life of Christ,

called "*The Desire of Ages*," I found this statement, "Christ's rule of life, by which every one must stand or fall in the judgment, is, 'Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.' This furnishes us with the secret of the *New Earth*. The reason it will be the glorious place described in sacred writings is because only such as have learned in this life to follow the Golden Rule will find lodgment there. Sin will never mar that *New Earth*, for all things that offend have been eliminated."

If God, to make a better world, finds it necessary to eliminate all who will not

follow the Golden Rule, how can we build a better world here unless it is based upon the principle of the Golden Rule? Through every means available we need to impress upon our people the need of living the Golden Rule. We claim to be a Christian people. If we are indeed Christian we will put into practice the great principles presented by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount. We need to go back to our Bibles during this hour of crisis and learn anew the love of God, and then give our hearts and lives again to the Master whom we claim to serve.

There are two reasons why every one of us should follow the Golden Rule and the Sermon on the Mount. Those who share in the New Earth and all the glories of that better land will be those who in this life have learned to live by the teachings of Christ. The Golden Rule must find lodgment in the heart if you are to be among those who inherit the New Earth. Then too, the only way we can make this present world a better place in which to live is by living the Christian way, by following the Golden Rule.

THE crew of a Flying Fortress, which had been forced down in the South Pacific, barely had time to push off on two rubber rafts without a morsel of food or a drop of water. There seemed to be no hope. The tail gunner, however, began to pray, and he soon startled the others by announcing that he knew God had heard him, and would answer his prayer. Then they began to sing hymns.

Three days later, just before nightfall, they sighted a small island, and saw, to their amazement, three canoes filled with naked natives coming toward them. Their rescuers proved to be Australian aborigines—black, woolly-haired fishermen from the mainland several hundred miles away. They explained that on the day before they had been returning home with their catch when a strange, unaccountable urge impelled them to change their course, and to steer for this uninhabited coral atoll. Could that crew doubt that God had heard their prayers?

In times of crisis, many men get an entirely different sense of values. Confronted suddenly with death, they realize for the first time that (in the words of the Scripture) "the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:18. Spiritual values become real and worth while. Many pray who have never prayed before. The prophecy is fulfilled which says: "When Thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." Isaiah 26:9.

If ever there was a time to learn righteousness it is now. International peace has not brought cessation of trouble both national and individual. God's judgments are still in the earth. Never before has such trouble come to this old earth. The world has been turned upside down. The old order changes. This is a day of homeless and poverty-stricken and starving peoples, of devastated cities, orphaned children, widows, and maimed and crippled men. Even Britain, which escaped invasion, has had one-third of her houses destroyed or damaged, two-thirds of her pre-war shipping sunk, and one third as many civilians killed as those killed in her armed forces.

Here in North America we have suffered nothing in comparison. True, there are the bereaved, for whom our hearts go out in sympathy, whose sun seems to have set, because of the loss of a husband, a son, or possibly a daughter. We pray for them. May they find con-



A doctor examines and comforts a little Italian girl in Naples.

COMFORT

The WORLD'S GREAT NEED

By C. O. Smith

solation in Him who is touched with the feelings of our infirmities.

But is there cause for all this trouble? The Bible tells us: "The curse causeless shall not come." Proverbs 26:2. And it goes on to reveal the causes in passages like this: "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord." Jeremiah 17:5.

As a nation must we plead guilty to having trusted in men, making flesh our arm? An education that leaves God out has not prepared men to face the supreme tests of sorrow and suffering. There is small comfort for a broken heart in the theory that, after a million or more years of evolutionary development, a good world may be built by our

descendants. We need something to help us *now*, to afford us power to live our lives happily and acceptably *to-day*.

Are we guilty of the evils of which ancient Israel was reproved? Said the prophet: "My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and have hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." Jeremiah 2:13.

How many homes there are where the name of God is not heard, except, perhaps, in blasphemy! How many "Christian" homes there are where the Bible is not read, nor prayer offered! And many, many, where thanks is no longer returned to the bounteous Giver at meal-time! Surely it is high time to return to the Lord, the fountain of living waters.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

I appeal to you, parents, to get out your Bibles, re-establish your family altars, and lead your families back to God. He assures us, "Ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13.

We are still in a crisis; and it will take a long time for us to recover from the losses of war. We suffer judgments. We must reap what we have sown. The Scripture says: "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth." Isaiah 24:5, 6.

But what encouragement there is in the knowledge that God tempers judgment with mercy! Our troubles may be the means of drawing us nearer to God. We must remember, too, that not all suffering is due to the sufferer's sin. In fact, God tells us that "whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth." Hebrews 12:6. Jesus Himself, the sinless One, had to suffer much. Indeed, we are told in Hebrews 12:10 that He was made perfect through suffering. That is, He became a perfect High Priest through suffering. Hebrews 2:17, 18, makes this plain:

"Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that He himself hath suffered, being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted."

What a comfort it is to know that God understands! "In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His presence saved them; in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bare them, and carried them all the days of old." Isaiah 63:9.

We are living in great times, fearsome times, times that challenge our faith in God. *It is time to pray.* The Lord invites us in these gracious words: "Call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me." Psalm 50:15. *It is time to read the Word of God.* The Bible says, "whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4.

It is a time to trust in God. Paul in his trials could say, "I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." 2 Timothy 1:12.

A young soldier friend of mine, who was taking his basic training, was sent with his company to the great American Desert of Arizona for maneuvers. One day as he and his buddy were exploring around a little, they came across the remains of a prairie schooner; and there, to their amazement, were the skeletons of two horses, with the human skeleton behind them. Other bones were found near by. What a sad story they told. It may not have been very far to water. It is said that five miles from one well there once stood two broken-down wagons

with human skeletons strewn around them. Finally, the owner of that part of the desert erected a sign pole and hung a lantern on it as a guide to travelers in the night to find water. How many lives would have been saved if that light had been there before!

Christ is the living water. He is the well in the desert. He says: "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give Him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4:14. No one needs to die for want of the water of life. "Whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely." Revelation 22:17.

I heard a missionary tell this story: With another missionary and several native teachers he was visiting believers in the Solomon Islands, travelling from island to island in a motor launch. On their return they had nearly a hundred miles of open sea to travel. They knew that the season was late and that a storm was threatening, but they thought they would have enough time before it broke. In this, they were mistaken. Adverse winds delayed their progress. The storm grew in intensity, and night closed in around them. They could hear the breakers on the coral reefs, and feared they would be dashed to pieces. At last the missionary had to admit that he did not know how to steer the boat safely.



WHAT is the present status of religious liberty in the modern world? Are the intentions of the United Nations with respect to freedom in the realm of religious activity confined merely to freedom of worship so that souls of like faith can meet together without interference by the police? Is freedom of faith, of expression, of evangelism, to be granted only to the popular majority? If universal freedom of religious expression is not given the world at the coming peace settlement, then mankind has been tragically betrayed again. Commenting on the component freedoms of religious liberty as they have been disappearing throughout much of the continent of Europe, Dr. Adolph Keller in his recent work, "Christian Europe To-day," says on page forty:

"All the totalitarian states of a Communist or Fascist type on the Continent either refuse these liberties entirely or greatly restrict them. These states allow no unrestricted public expression to the individual conscience, and try to confine religious liberty to liberty of worship."

Must the world continue in such spiritual confinement? Will not the United Nations stand for more? If this is an all-out battle for freedom, surely it must be a battle for all-out freedom for

One of the natives spoke up. He said that if they would give him charge, and obey him implicitly, he believed he could take the boat in safely. As it was their only hope, they consented. Stretching himself out at the prow, with his head down near the water, he called his orders to the man at the rudder. Closer and closer he took them to the breakers, then parallel with them. Finally, when they were so near that it seemed that they would be dashed any minute on the dangerous reef, he ordered them to steer full speed toward it.

To their astonishment, they slipped through, and soon were in quiet waters inside the barrier. "How did you do it," they asked. "How did you know where to enter?" Their saviour replied simply that he listened for the "sound of stillness." Above the roar of the tempest and the breakers he could detect the "sound of stillness."

Just so, in the storms of life, we need to listen to the sound of stillness. Remember the admonition: "In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength." Isaiah 30:15. And the Lord graciously adds this promise, "Thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." Verse 21. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10.

HISTORY'S SUPREME HOUR

By J. A. Buckwalter

all men everywhere, anywhere. If that issue is not solved, if compromise and surrender of freedom in some further appeasement move reappears, then the possible gains of the war have been lost. Then slavery looms and darkness reigns. Then tyranny in the hour of its defeat wrings from the hands of its democratic victors the very boon for which they fought. Then men's hopes of a free world for all men will have been sacrificed beyond human redemption. Then the world's agony will deepen. Then Christian comrades of minority groups will be "companions in tribulation" and will once more seek succor from the promise: "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

Yes, this is human history's greatest hour of opportunity to achieve international religious liberty as a basic requirement of international peace. And peace without liberty is impossible! Failing there, the night comes on apace and darkness impenetrable and unabating settles down until the trumpet of Gabriel announces doom's-day for all oppressors and final liberation for the oppressed. May God give the great leaders grace and wisdom to steer the ships of state away from the shoals and rocks of religious legislation.

FONDLY WE HOPED VICTORY WOULD BRING LIBERTY FOR ALL, BUT IT WAS NOT TO BE

TERRIBLE have been the war years filled with sorrow and tragedy for multitudes of all countries, races, and tongues. It may be true that some have profited by the war, but to millions it has meant the loss of all things dear to them,—home and health and loved ones. They have seen their property stolen or destroyed by invading armies, or blasted and burned by aerial bombardment. They have seen their children, their parents, their friends, maimed or killed in one of a score of horrible ways. And the terror of it can never be forgotten.

History has known longer wars than this; there were the Thirty Years' War and the Hundred Years' War; yet no conflict was ever so devastating as this. Its deep and ugly scars will remain for all time to come. Cities and villages may be rebuilt, but the beauty and charm of the great historical monuments which have vanished in the holocaust can never be restored. New houses may be erected, but the empty chairs of fathers, sons, and brothers slain in battle can never be filled. Business and trade may be revived, but the cost of the war will weigh like lead upon this generation as long as it lives. This war has done something to the hearts and souls of men and women, boys and girls. It has created a fear and hate that a generation will not remove—death alone can quench.

At the beginning of the war, leaders of the aggressor nations boastfully declared: "We will conquer Europe. We will rule the world." The most powerful war machine ever created rushed forth with lightning speed to crush most of Europe in its grip. Now that war machine lies crushed and broken; and their bold and impious schemes have ended in failure so colossal that all the world can see the overruling hand of Providence. In all their vain boasts, they had forgotten that God still rules "in the kingdom of men."

The hand of Providence has been revealed to all. The same hand that prevented the German hordes from pouring across the channel following Dunkirk and the fall of France; the same hand that brought Russia in on the side of the Allies, that prevented the weight of the German army from being poured through Iran, Iraq, and across India to join Japan; the same hand that wasted the strength of the axis in North African sands or the plains of Russia; the same hand that kept the Japs from landing after Pearl Harbour,—*is still controlling the affairs of men and nations.*

The nations have laid down their arms. What about the new problems the war has created,—millions of refugees now scattered to the ends of the earth?

Bible prophecy holds the answer. The same Bible prophecy that enabled us to predict so positively during those dark days two, three, four, and five years ago,

has a message to-day. Then we could predict with all assurance that Hitler had come face to face with Divine prophecy, and that his dream of a united Europe was doomed to failure. To-day, after years of bitter struggle, that prophecy has been fulfilled. Not a word of it has failed. It still has a message regarding the future of Europe.

The second chapter of Daniel contains that prophecy. Nebuchadnezzar was given a dream that contained the history of the nations of the world, and it is explained in verses 28, 29, and 45, in these words: "What shall be in the latter days?" "What shall come to pass hereafter?" "God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter." This is the only reason we are interested in what Nebuchadnezzar was shown.

Daniel 2, verses 31-36, gives the whole record covering 2500 years of world history. Babylon is represented by the head of gold; Medo-Persia, by the breast and arms of silver; Greece, by the thighs of brass; Rome, by the legs of iron. Of Nebuchadnezzar it is said, "Thou art this head of gold." But Daniel hastens on to tell of another kingdom that should rule the world. And, true to prophecy, in 538 B.C. Babylon was overthrown by the Medes and Persians, as recorded in Daniel 5:30, 31.

"Another third kingdom of brass" shall bear rule over all the earth. Daniel 8:21-23 describes the struggle that resulted in the downfall of Medo-Persia before the Grecian empire. "And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron." Daniel 2:40. This was the Roman empire that conquered Greece in 168 B.C. Of this fourth kingdom the prophecy does not say it was to be overthrown, but rather divided. This was fulfilled when the barbarians settled upon the territory of the Roman empire until ten kingdoms were set up.

Now this brings us to modern Europe as represented in the feet of iron and clay—partly strong and partly broken. "They shall mingle themselves with the seed of men; but they shall not cleave one to another." This mingling themselves with the seed of men—or intermarrying, as Moffatt translates the verse—describes the conditions of the European nations up to 1914, when the crowned heads of Europe were all related. And yet they failed in this way to unite the fragments of Western Rome. That which could not be done by force was attempted by marrying, and that failed.

Among repeated attempts to reunite these broken fragments was that made by Napoleon, who devoted the greater part of his spectacular career in an attempt to do what God had declared 2400 years before could never be done again. He failed, not because he lacked wisdom or shrewdness, or knowledge of military tactics,

but because he had come face to face with a prophecy that could not be broken, and all his armies combined were not sufficient to break those seven words of Daniel 2:43, "they shall not cleave one to another."

Then Kaiser Wilhelm dreamed of a world empire by welding those fragments into one nation. He could not have accomplished the ambition of a world empire in Europe even though his army had been one thousand times as strong as it was. He was bound to fail in the end because of these seven words of Scripture, "they shall not cleave one to another." These seven words meant that he spent his last days sawing wood at Doorn.

Then the League of Nations was another heroic attempt to reunite Europe. But the League of Nations failed not because it lacked brains, not because of a lack of sincerity on the part of those participating, but because God had decreed "they shall not cleave," and after fifteen years it was evident that the League of Nations was also a failure.

Next, Benito Mussolini tried to become a "modern Caesar." Mussolini's chief ambition was to revive the Roman em-

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



The people of the world will n



By
W. R. Foulston

What about those wounds? What about Rome, Berlin, or Paris? The same prophecy, "they shall not cleave one to another," that spelled failure for Charlemagne, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, Mussolini, and Hitler is just as true for Russia should she try to enforce a European new order under her own plan. The same words that foretold the failure of the League of Nations predicts failure for any British and American plan to make of Europe a New Order after their plan. No, "they shall not cleave one to another." They will remain some strong and some weak. Europe is destined to trouble. Her sores will not heal. Europe will remain the sore spot of the world till "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed."

The establishment of God's kingdom is described in Daniel 2:34, 35, 44, 45 in these words:

"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them; and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. . . . And 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 forever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold: the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."

This cannot mean a gradual reform through politics. When the image is smitten, then the entire image (the nations of Europe) will be broken to pieces together and become as chaff. A wind blows away this chaff till every reminder of present kingdoms is gone and a clear foundation remains upon which God will build His kingdom. This is the final act in the drama of human history, and the stage is being prepared.

If the mere revelation of a future history of the world brought a heathen king to his knees to worship the God of heaven, what effect should it have upon those living in this generation who have seen the fulfilment of all but the closing scenes? The dream has thus far been fulfilled to the very letter, which is proof that the one remaining event will take place as scheduled.

bound until they experience the "glorious liberty of the sons of God."

pire, and he displayed throughout Italy huge maps depicting the various stages in the growth of the Roman empire, until it embraced not only Italy, but Greece, Spain, parts of France, Britain, North Africa, and the Near East. His purpose was to kindle in the hearts of Italians not only a new respect for their famous past but also a determination to recover both the territory and the glory they once enjoyed. Shortly after the display of these maps, he made his first major attempt at conquest by over-running defenceless Ethiopia. Lybia and Eritrea were already his. Egypt seemed within reach. He sent an expedition to Spain, seized Albania, and launched the invasion of Greece. We still remember his strutting upon the palatial balcony in Piazza Venezia thundering forth his ridicule of democracy. "I will spit on Freedom" was one of his best-remembered remarks. Declaring war against Britain and France on June 10, 1940, he said: "We are going to war against the decrepit democracies. We shall win, and we shall give a long period of peace to Italy and the world." On June 11, 1941, he said, "The entry of the United States into the war

would come too late, and even if it did not come too late it would alter nothing." On July 29, 1941, he declared: "Not even the slightest doubt can arise concerning the outcome of this battle. We shall win."

Was God no longer in control? Had God been dethroned and was Mussolini in control? Was this prophecy no longer reliable? The answer is now history. The secret of the Italian failure is found in the feet of iron and clay. If Mussolini had consulted God's map, he never would have made his own. It took him twenty years to learn that those words, "they shall not cleave one to another" were stronger than all the combined armies of the continent. It took him twenty years to learn that God was still in control, that his plans were doomed from the outset, and that he was attempting the impossible. For twenty years, as it were, he had been battering his head against the brick wall of unchangeable Divine decree. He challenged God and lost. In 1943 he gave up. He knew then that God was still in control, and, like many before him, went into obscurity, discredited by his own countrymen.

What about the future of Europe?

ISRAEL and the JEWS

(Third of five articles on "Anglo-Saxondom" and the Bible)

By A. W. Anderson

IN order to clarify the issue concerning Israel and Judah, it will be necessary to glance over the history of the children of Israel, from the time of King Solomon till the apostolic period.

It will be remembered that, subsequent to the death of King Solomon, the kingdom of Israel was divided into two parts—Israel and Judah. Politically, they were two separate kingdoms, ruled over by two different dynasties, for none of Israel's kings were of the royal line of David. This is a most important point to note. Jeroboam, the first king of the rebel tribes, was one of Solomon's servants; he was not even a member of the tribe of Judah, but belonged to Ephraim.

Jeroboam ruled over Israel for about twenty-two years, and his son Nadab occupied the throne for only two years, for Baasha, of the tribe of Issachar, slew him, and took the kingdom.

One of the first acts of this rebel was to assassinate the entire household of Jeroboam. Baasha held the throne for twenty-four years. He had left the throne to his son, Elah, who reigned only two years, for one of his servants, named Zimri, killed him. This rebel only lived long enough to destroy all the house of Baasha, for in seven days after his ascension to the throne the people crowned Omri as king, and Zimri retired to his house and burnt it over himself.

And so the record goes through a long line of rebellions, seizures, and succession through violence.

From the death of Solomon, nineteen kings occupied the throne of the northern kingdom, and not one of these kings worshipped the God of heaven. They were all idolaters. Nevertheless, there were some of the people of these northern tribes who stood true to God. During the reign of that monster, Ahab, the prophet Elijah, in his discouragement over the wickedness of the children of Israel, prayed to the Lord to take away his life, for, as he said, "I only am left, and they seek my life to take it away." Yet unknown to Elijah, God still had "seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him." 1 Kings 19:18.

All through the chequered history of Israel, when idolatry was rampant, there was a remnant who held fast to the worship of Jehovah. Many of these faithful people separated themselves from their idolatrous neighbours and sought homes within the territories of the kings of Judah, where they could worship the God of their fathers.

King Asa, who ascended the throne of David in the twentieth year of Jeroboam, set his heart to destroy idolatry, not only from the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, but also "out of the cities which he had



The temple, pride of every Jewish heart.

taken from Mount Ephraim." His zeal for God was so commendable that we read that "he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the Lord his God was with him." 2 Chronicles 15:9.

When Jeroboam rebelled against Rehoboam, we are told that "the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel . . . came to Judah and Jerusalem; for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the Lord. . . . And after them out of all the tribes of Israel such as set their hearts to seek the Lord God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto the Lord God of their fathers." 2 Chronicles 11:13-16.

Over three hundred years later, a rather remarkable incident is recorded concerning King Josiah of Judah. "In the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the Lord his God. And when they came to Hilkiah the high priest, they delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites that kept the doors had gathered of the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and of all the remnant of Israel, and of all Judah and Benjamin." 2 Chronicles 34: 8, 9.

This is a most important fact for us to take note of, for this interesting incident in the history of Israel happened no less than ninety-six years after the northern tribes of Israel had been taken into captivity. It is evident, therefore, that there were members of the various northern tribes of Israel who were still living in Palestine nearly a century after their brethren were taken into captivity. Moreover, we have just seen that money for the repair of the temple at Jerusalem had been gathered by the Levites "of the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and

of all the remnant of Israel." 2 Chronicles 34:9.

Hezekiah, the grandfather of Josiah, also organized a great passover feast in Jerusalem to which he invited the people of Ephraim and Manasseh, in these striking words: "Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and He will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria." 2 Chronicles 30:6.

Although Hezekiah's invitation was scorned by many, "nevertheless divers of Asher and Manasseh and of Zebulun humbled themselves, and came to Jerusalem." Verse 11. Furthermore, it is said that "many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun," actually partook of this passover. Afterwards these same Israelites took part in destroying the idol temples and groves, not only in Judah and Benjamin, but also in Ephraim and Manasseh. 2 Chronicles 31:1.

Then Hezekiah commanded that offerings should be given to the priests and the Levites as "written in the law of the Lord." Not only did the people of Judah respond to this commandment of Hezekiah, but it is recorded that "as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all things brought they in abundantly. And concerning the children of Israel and Judah, that dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in the tithe of oxen and sheep." 2 Chronicles 31:5, 6.

Several years prior to the days of Hezekiah, Tiglath-pileser, king of Assyria, took a large portion of the northern tribes into captivity. 2 Kings 15: 29. This disaster to Israel was followed later on by a further attack by the Assyrians who, as we have already seen, terminated the career of the kingdom of Israel. Although the kingdom disappeared from history, and we read of no further kings of Israel after Hoshea, yet there remained in the land a remnant of the people, and it was to this remnant of Israel that Hezekiah and Josiah appealed.

At the time of Hezekiah's solemn passover to which he had invited all the remnant of Israel to attend, there was great rejoicing not only amongst the people of Judah, but it is recorded that "all the congregation that came out of Israel, and the strangers that came out of the land of Israel, and that dwelt in Judah, rejoiced." 2 Chronicles 30:25.

This text furnishes infallible evidence that during the reign of Hezekiah there were large numbers of people living in Judah who genealogically belonged to the northern tribes. Nearly one hundred years later, as we have already

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noted, there were still large numbers of people from those northern tribes who were living in Judah and other provinces of Palestine. Hence it is clearly evident that when the Assyrians took Israel into captivity they did not denude the land of Palestine entirely of its Israelitish inhabitants.

There is unimpeachable evidence also that when Nebuchadnezzar took the Israelitish people of the kingdom of Judah into captivity, the whole population was not carried away into Babylon. In the Second Book of Kings it is recorded that Nebuzar-adan, the captain of Nebuchadnezzar's guard, left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen. (2 Kings 25:12.) The prophet Jeremiah, who was an eye-witness of the doings of Nebuchadnezzar, offers this testimony: "But Nebuzar-adan, the captain of the guard, left of the poor of the people, which had nothing, in the land of Judah, and gave them vineyards and fields at the same time." Jeremiah 39:10.

In the fortieth chapter of Jeremiah's prophecy, we read further concerning "them that were not carried away captive to Babylon." Jeremiah 40:7. We also are informed that "when all the Jews that were in Moab, and among the Ammonites, and in Edom, and that were in all the countries, heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant of Judah, . . . even all the Jews returned out of all places whither they were driven, and came to the land of Judah . . . and gathered wine and summer fruits very much." Jeremiah 40:11, 12.

This condition of affairs did not last long, for a rebellion against the Babylonian governor broke out, and he was slain. Fearing the wrath of the king for this insurrection, the people fled to Egypt, where they felt they would be safe. This was done contrary to the express message from the Lord through the prophet Jeremiah, who warned them that they would be consumed by the sword and by famine, and become "an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach." Jeremiah 44:12. He also told them that none should ever return to Palestine "but such as shall escape." Verse 14. Jeremiah also declared that "all the men of Judah that are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until there be an end of them. Yet a small number that escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah." Verses 27, 28.

Although Jeremiah was used of God to deliver warning of terrible judgments upon His ancient people for their sins, yet we must not overlook the fact that the Lord also instructed Jeremiah to make some wonderful promises of deliverance. For instance, after prophesying the overthrow of Egypt by Nebuchadnezzar, the prophecy concludes with this promise: "Fear not thou, O My servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, O Israel: for behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid. Fear thou not, O Jacob My servant, saith the Lord:

for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all nations whither I have driven thee: but I will not make a full end of thee, but correct thee in measure; yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished." Jeremiah 46:27, 28.

In their captivity, the children of Israel remembered their beloved city.

"By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof. For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let

my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy." Psalm 137:1-6.

When the time came for the captives to return to their homeland, their joy was expressed in Psalm 126.

"When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing; then said they among the heathen, The Lord hath done great things for them. The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad. Turn again our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south. They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

MARCHING ORDERS FOR A NEW DAY



Bible readings which contain a special, personal message for each day, as selected by members of the armed forces. Passages are in the order of the tabulated votes, except the first and the last. It is suggested that you begin with November 22, and close with Christmas Day.

Thursday, Nov. 22	Joshua 1; Psalm 121	Saturday	Psalm 91
Friday	Psalm 23	Sunday	Galatians 6
	John 10: 1 - 18	Monday	Colossians 3
Saturday	John 14	Tuesday	Ephesians 4
Sunday	John 3	Wednesday	Philippians 3
Monday	Matthew 5	Thursday	1 Corinthians 3
Tuesday	Romans 12	Friday	Philippians 4
Wednesday	John 1: 1 - 14	Saturday	John 15
Thursday	Exodus 20: 1 - 17	Sunday	Psalm 1
	1 Timothy 2: 1 - 8	Monday	Psalm 27
Friday	James 1	Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15
Saturday	Ephesians 6	Wednesday	Psalm 46
Sunday	1 Corinthians 13	Thursday	Matthew 28
Monday	Psalm 24	Friday	2 Timothy 2
Tuesday	Hebrews 11 and 12: 1, 2	Saturday	John 17
Wednesday	Matthew 6	Sunday	Revelation 21
Thursday	Romans 8	Monday	Revelation 22
Friday	Matthew 7	Christmas, Dec. 25	Luke 2



The UNREPENTABLE SIN

WHAT IS IT?

By Dallas Youngs

Is the unrepentable and unpardonable sin the scandal that is gossiped from lip to ear?

WHEREFORE I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto man: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come." Matthew 12:31,32.

These words are among the most solemn of all the Bible. It is imperative that we give careful and prayerful consideration to them. First we are told that "all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men." That is to say, there is no sin, no matter how dreadful, horrible and heinous in the sight of God that, if repented and confessed, God will not pardon. Murder, idolatry, adultery, stealing, or the violation of any of the ten are forgivable sins. The Lord has assured us definitely of forgiveness: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. So therefore the unpardonable sin can be no single act of transgression.

God will forgive the sins that man commits against his fellow man. He will forgive sin against His Son, Jesus; and even against Himself; but the sin against the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit, will not be forgiven. What is this sin—the sin that is so bad that even God with His abundance of mercy cannot forgive? The unforgivable sin is the unrepentable sin. It cannot be forgiven because it cannot be repented of. Every sin that man repents of and confesses God will forgive. But man comes to the place in his experience

where he will not repent and will not acknowledge his iniquity; therefore God cannot forgive it. The fault lies in man's unwillingness to repent of and confess his sins, and not in God's unwillingness to forgive them.

We must remember that since the fall of Adam and Eve every person born into the world has been born with inherited tendencies toward sin. And not only has he inherited sinful tendencies, but the likelihood is that he has cultivated them as well. The Bible assures us in positive tones that there is not a righteous person. "There is none righteous, no, not one. . . . For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:10, 23. The true condition of the human heart is not known or recognized. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9.

Isaiah, the gospel prophet, painfully depicts man's unseen spiritual condition. "Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment." Isaiah 1:5, 6.

When man sinned he became spiritually bankrupt. It was impossible for him to recover himself from his lost, sinful condition. He had fallen into the slimy pit of sin and he could not climb out by himself. His condition was utterly hopeless. He was lost—irrevocably lost. He was unrighteous and he had no ability within himself to obtain righteousness. What he needs is a new heart and a

right mind, but he has no more chance of being able to change his own heart than the Ethiopian has his skin or the leopard his spots.

God knows this. He understands the impossibility of man transforming his own life. He knows that unless man receives help from outside of himself he cannot qualify for heaven. God therefore has made all provision that man might be changed in heart and transformed in mind. And having delegated transforming power to the Holy Spirit, God issues an all-inclusive invitation to come and be changed, to be washed, to be cleansed:

"Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before Mine eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:16-18.

The Holy Spirit is the one and only agency in the universe by which a man may be caused to repent. Before repentance must come conviction of sin. The sinner must see his true spiritually undone condition. He must see the heinous nature of his sin and abhor it. He must see himself as God sees him. Only the Holy Spirit can give conviction; therefore, repentance is impossible without the operation of the Spirit. Repentance is as truly a gift from God as is forgiveness. We see this by reading Acts 5:31: "Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins."

Genuine repentance is something that you cannot produce by your own efforts. True, a reformation may be made in the habits of the life. Evil habits might be broken off because of their harmful nature; but this might not indicate "godly sorrow" for sins. Neither is repentance something that you can command of God at any time or any place according to your will and pleasure. God gives repentance according to the dictates of His good will and wisdom. And if you ever get repentance you must accept it at the time and in the place God is pleased to give it. Jesus said:

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"No man can come to me, except the Father . . . draw him." John 6:44.

Spiritual birth is a must. No man can enter into the world without physical birth—just so, no person can enter into heaven without being born of the spirit. One night one of the most conscientious men among the Jewish leaders, Nicodemus, came to Jesus seeking information about salvation. Jesus didn't beat about the bush—He came directly to the point. He put His finger on the great human need. "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. . . . Except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Born again—born of the Spirit! How can this be accomplished: By what agency? This is a miracle of transformation of character—an act of re-creation. It is a re-making of man in the spiritual image of God. And there is but one power—only one—in the universe of God that is able to do this—the power of the Holy Spirit.

If a man will allow God's Spirit to have his way with him, the Spirit will come in, change his heart and life and make him a new creature—a new creation. This is indicated in Revelation 3:20 where Jesus is represented as standing at the door (of the heart) knocking. Now Jesus comes knocking at the heart's door in the presence of the Holy Spirit. This is clear from John 14: 16, 17, 23. "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love Me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him."

We have shown man's undone spiritual and moral state. We have seen the necessity of his transformation, which comprehends conviction of sin, repentance and conversion—new birth. We have seen that but one agency has been provided to accomplish this miracle—that there is but one power able to engender spiritual life in the human heart. The Holy Spirit, which comes quietly, unseen and with no ostentatious display, will accomplish for man—if permitted—that which he cannot accomplish for himself.

Now suppose when the Holy Spirit comes knocking at the door of your heart, bent upon His heart-changing mission; suppose then that you will not open the door and invite in the divine Visitor. Suppose you turn a deaf ear to the Spirit's pleadings. The Spirit lingers and pleads but to no avail. What then? Well, the Spirit goes away for the present, but He will return again and again under different circumstances with other appeals. But every time the Spirit is denied admittance, the heart is not left the same—it becomes a little more calloused and indifferent, until at last the strongest appeals of the Spirit make no impression whatsoever. Then and then only has

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the unpardonable sin been committed.

It may be illustrated this way: Suppose you set your alarm clock to ring at 5:00 A.M. When it rings at five o'clock you jump out of bed and shut it off. As long as you do this you will continue to hear the alarm, and it will serve you well. However, suppose the time comes when instead of jumping out of bed you just roll over and turn off the alarm and then lie still. The next morning you do the same thing, and the next and the next. Soon you will be able to sleep through the loudest ringings of the alarm. It will have no power at all to arouse you because you have not obeyed its voice—you have been careless, indifferent and heedless. The alarm cannot accomplish its designed purpose.

And that is just the way it is with the Holy Spirit as He comes to you with His appeals and warnings. If you will hear His voice and obey it, then all is well. You hear it when He comes again, and the Spirit will lead you on and up even to the throne of God. He will cleanse, purge and purify your heart and make you a new creature in Christ the Lord. He will sanctify you and make you pure. He will recreate you in the Divine image and qualify you for heaven. However on the other hand, if you fail to heed the voice of the Spirit's pleadings, the Spirit is grieved away and your heart becomes more unresponsive to the Spirit's appeal. As this continues, the heart becomes harder and harder, until the Spirit cannot arouse to conviction of sin and repentance. In this the sinner has cut himself off from God by refusing the only agency by which he may be saved. It is like a drowning man refusing to take hold of the life preserver thrown him. He refuses that which will save his life, and in so doing commits the un-

pardonable sin and must be lost.

With repeated rejection of the Holy Spirit the conscience becomes seared as it were. The sinner is now able to go forward in his wrong course with a perfectly clear conscience. He can do wrong and it does not worry him at all. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 16:25. It is not needful to break every commandment to sear the conscience and commit the unpardonable sin—the persistent breaking of just one is all it takes. Sometimes you hear someone say when some sin is being discussed, "O, I used to be all stirred up over that but, now it does not bother me any more." Depend upon it—that is the unpardonable sin for which there is no forgiveness.

That is why we see so many professed Christians going forward in a course of sin with no apparent conviction that their course is wrong. This is true of religious leaders as well as of laymen—there is no class exemption here. But what a heart-breaking day that will be when they meet Jesus thinking they are prepared and find that they are not. Then will come to pass the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:22, 23: "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity."

Here is a class of people brought to light who have rejected the true Spirit of God, and when they did, a false spirit took possession of them. But yet in the sight of the world they seem to have a genuine gift of the Holy Spirit and perform miracles of healing, prophecy and tongues.

On a certain occasion a man was caught in the mountains in a raging blizzard. He became lost. Finally he found some sheltering rocks, and as the thermometer dropped he realized that he must build a fire or freeze to death. He gathered some sticks and wood. Then he searched his pockets and found that he had but one match—just one. This was the most critical moment of his life—his very life depended upon that one match. If the match burnt and lighted the fire his life would be saved—if it failed his life would be lost.

There may be some who read this who have said "No" to the Holy Spirit so long that they have but one more "no" between them and everlasting death. You may be on the verge of committing the unpardonable sin. Never say "No" to the Spirit's pleadings—say YES, YES—it will mean everlasting life.

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MAN'S original diet, as recorded in Genesis 1:29, was as follows, "I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed: to you it shall be for meat." The Creator thus specified the highest grade of fuel for the human machine, which is fearfully and wonderfully made.

Permission to use animal flesh for food was not given until after the Flood, when all vegetation had been destroyed. The days of man were thereafter shortened. The ancient Israelites inspected with great care every animal to be eaten, as they do to this day. The animal was killed by slitting the great blood vessels of the neck. The heart kept pumping until the last blood was drained. Search was made over the intestines for blisters which might indicate disease, and the liver was inspected for parasites. In modern packing plants the animal is killed by slugging the struggling animal on the head. The carcass is hung up in a refrigerated room to "mature" for about two weeks, before being placed on the market.

The hog and man are two of the few truly omnivorous animals. Hunters have sometimes taught their horses to eat broiled venison, and cow's have been taught to eat fish with avidity. Du Chailu found in the island of Magero, the most northern land of Europe, that sheep and goats were fed daily on fish, both raw and cooked. But man stops at nothing in the form of flesh food. Speaking of the siege of Paris in 1870, Victor Hugo is reported to have said, "Our stomach is a Noah's ark into which every beast enters—dog and cat, horse and rat, mouse and elephant—they all meet there."

Two hundred million Hindus in India, most of the four hundred millions of China, and teeming millions of Central Africa, represent probably more than half the whole human race who never eat meat, or eat it in quantities so small that it cannot be considered an essential part of their bill-of-fare. We have heard of the sour curds, leafy vegetables, and chapaties (tough, unleavened, whole-wheat pancakes) of the Punjabis and Sikhs of North India. The Kaffir eats mealie meal (cornmeal mush), meat rarely.

The Japanese peasant of the interior is almost an exclusive vegetarian. Of necessity there is in his country a larger proportion of arable land under cultivation than in any other country of the world. The traveller who has gone up the Inland Sea and has seen the cultivated slopes of precipitous hills, even on small islands, does not question this fact. Fish is eaten once or twice a month; meat once or twice a year. Throughout the island Empire rice is largely used, together with buckwheat, barley, wheat, and millet. Turnips, radishes, yams, and sweet potatoes are used freely; also cucumbers, pumpkins, and squashes. The soy bean is held in high esteem. The Chinese peasant lives on essentially the



It can look and taste good, and afford necessary strength and health, without having flesh in it.

MEAT RATIONING ISN'T SO BAD

By W. H. Roberts, M.D.

same diet, as do also the Siamese, the Koreans, and most other Oriental peoples.

The Arab labourers who constructed the Suez Canal lived largely on wheat and dates. De Lesseps was so impressed with their superiority over Englishmen that he became a flesh-abstainer. The late J. H. Kellogg visited the market square of Biskra, Arabia, in 1926 and in his journal "Good Health" wrote of the great sacks of wheat and dates. The vegetables and fruits at the market included new potatoes, turnips (white or yellow flat ones), radishes, cucumbers, lettuce, peppers, squashes, pumpkins, watermelons, muskmelons, citrons, excellent oranges, wonderful lemons, most delicious mandarins. Japanese persimmons, prunes, figs, and dried apricots.

Before their adoption of civilized habits and foods, the natives of the South Pacific islands were unsurpassed physically. The same is true even to-day of the Hunzas of Northern India, whom Sir Robert McCarrison found to be unusually perfect of physique and free from disease in general. During seven years

practice among these latter people, he found appendicitis unknown, as well as cancer, colitis, gallstones, and peptic ulcers. George M. Lamsa B.A. one of the Hunzas, who are the few survivors of the great Assyrian nation that once dominated the world, states that among them obesity is practically unknown.

Their's is a simple pastoral life, with few conveniences, and primitive sanitary conditions. Bread is baked in earthen ovens from day to day. Two women sit around a little stone mill grinding wheat. Milk is carried in sheepskins, and butter churned in goat skins. Clothes and shoes are made by hand, each family providing for its own needs. Men and women carry burdens on their backs. This would be good treatment for anyone verging on a nervous breakdown. Diet consists of bread, butter, buttermilk, and a variety of wild vegetables gathered from mountainsides and valleys. Meat is seldom eaten and fruit is considered a luxury. The food supply is so restricted that the people as a rule do not keep dogs.

They have in addition to grains—wheat, barley and maize—abundant crops

MEN CAN STAND HARD WORK WITHOUT MEAT

of apricots. These they dry in the sun and use largely in their food. When bread is lacking they eat large quantities of vegetables such as wild celery, wild green peas, and many other plants which are unknown in the west. These are eaten either raw or cooked.

They eat when they are hungry. Members of the family suggest things they like. Some ask for buttermilk with bread, others select bushala (wild celery) cooked in buttermilk; still others call for girdool (rice cooked in buttermilk with drawn butter). They eat only one thing at a time and plenty of it. Water, milk, and buttermilk, are used instead of tea and coffee. Intoxicants are scarcely known among them, and smoking is rare. Canned food, pies, and sweet preserves are unknown. It is not surprising that their span of life is extraordinarily long.

Meat is deficient in most vitamins, and in calcium. It has an acid ash due to excess of phosphoric acid content. Meat extracts are almost of the same chemical analysis as urine, representing waste products which were on their way to the kidneys at the time of the animal's demise.

An excess of protein in the diet, as is so common among meat-eaters throws an extra load on the liver and kidneys. It is of further interest to note that of all meats, liver is the hardest to digest. This is not surprising, as it is so much like the human liver, whose structure is exceedingly complex. Persons suffering from anemia find it most economical in every way to take their liver in the form of the various liver concentrates and extracts.

There are 25 common vegetable foods which contain as much iron as beef-steak, and in many cases more. Whole grain cereals are richer; eggs are equal to meat, the yolk of egg, and lima beans contain three times as much; avocados twice as much.

Meat eating does not promote strength. The strongest animals in the world are the elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, and camel. Milo, disciple of Pythagoras, whose mighty prowess was remembered for twenty centuries, was a flesh abstainer. It is said that the athletes of ancient Greece and gladiators of ancient Rome were trained on barley cakes and wheat. Vegetarians have more endurance than meat-eaters, as proved conclusively by experiments conducted at Yale University under the direction of Irving Fisher.

There are other no less important reasons for discarding flesh foods. Those who eat flesh are but eating grains and vegetables at second hand. This costs something, as illustrated casually in "Mathematics for the Millions". One thousand calories of bread cost 9 cents, potatoes, 15 cents, beef, 20 cents, and halibut, 61 cents. This is a very important consideration in densely populated countries, when it is realized that land properly cultivated is far more pro-

ductive than when used for pasturing.

Disease in animals is rapidly increasing. While tuberculosis in most herds has been cut to about 1%, the incidence of Bang's disease (infectious abortions in cattle—undulant fever in humans) remains in the vicinity of 20% generally, 25% in the Fraser valley, and 13% in the Edmonton district. Cancer in all forms is seen in cattle. Since the cattle are killed off before the cancer age, as a rule, cancer is present would be in its early stages and in most cases would be unrecognized. Pork, of course, swarms with parasites.

It is common knowledge that animals are often taken to market and sold for food when they are so diseased that their owners fear to keep them longer. Animals are often transported long distances and subjected to great suffering in reaching a market. Taken from the green pastures, and travelling for weary miles over the hot, dusty roads, or crowded into filthy cars, feverish and exhausted, often for many hours deprived

of food and water, the poor creatures are driven to their death.

The moral evils of a flesh diet are not less marked than are the physical ills. Flesh food is injurious to health, and whatever affects the body has a corresponding effect on the mind and the soul. The cruelty to animals that meat-eating involves has nothing but an adverse effect on those who inflict and those who behold it. As one writer has said, "The intelligence displayed by many dumb animals approaches so closely to human intelligence that it is a mystery. The animals see and hear and love and fear and suffer. They manifest sympathy and tenderness to their companions in suffering. They form attachments for man which are not broken without great suffering to them."

The vegetarian diet is not monotonous. Nature's varied menu includes 600 edible fruits, 100 cereals, 200 nuts, and 300 vegetables, not including dairy products.



THE BIBLE ON PORK EATING

Question: Is it a sin to eat pork? If so, why does Romans 14:14 say that there is nothing unclean of itself? In Leviticus 11:7 it says the swine is unclean to eat, yet in view of this, such texts as Romans 14:20, 1 Corinthians 10:25-33, and 1 Timothy 4:1-4, puzzle me.

Answer: For a start, take the diet God gave to man in the beginning (Genesis 1:29)—grains, fruits, nuts, vegetables—and admit that God knew what was best for man to eat. If it was best then, it is always best. And notice that God calls these foods *meats*, showing that the word *meats*, when used in the Bible, refers to all foods that men eat. All revised translations use *food* instead of *meat*. Unless flesh is plainly indicated, *meat* in the Bible does not mean flesh. After the flood God gave man *permission* (not a command) to eat flesh because the waters had destroyed the proper foods. (Genesis 9:3, 4.) Then in Leviticus 11, He told them that swine and some other animals were unclean, and not to touch them. It was a health measure, not a matter of morals. After that, God's people never thought of hogs as food at all, any more than we think of snakes as food. When they said *meats* (food), they meant all that they as a people ate. Paul was a Jew writing to the Jews, some of whom were fanatical and commanding the people to eat no food (or, to fast) and not to marry, and were troubling the churches with this ungodly doctrine. Paul laid down the principle: "Whether therefore ye

eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God"; and eating swine's flesh could not be to God's glory, for God had told them not to eat it. "Every creature [creation] of God is good," but not necessarily good to eat.

The Jerusalem church council (Acts 15) had decided that of all foods the Jews usually ate (swine was not included, of course), they should be careful not to eat foods that had been offered to idols. (Verse 29) The fanatical Jews, we understand, were insisting that all ceremonial laws of Moses concerning foods were to be observed, but the apostle drew the line only at foods offered to idols. So Paul said, "Nothing is unclean of itself." Bread is not unclean of itself, but if it has been offered to idols, let it alone. The fanatics were saying that some foods were ceremonially unclean, but this Paul denied; and he urged all not to let this matter of foods deprive them of spiritual blessings. "For meat [food] destroy not the work of God."

All experts on diet agree that pork is not good food, for the pig is a scavenger, and is likely to be diseased. We may say, indirectly, that pork-eating is a sin. It is not good for health, and anything which destroys the body God has made desecrates His temple (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20) and breaks the command, "Thou shalt not kill." Let us remember above all that "the kingdom of God is not meat [food] and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

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“GOOD TIDINGS of GREAT JOY!”

NO matter the day or the year of the advent of the Christ-child in the manger of Bethlehem. That He came from heaven about nineteen centuries ago, to save you and me from sin and death, is the glorious fact.

At this season, while we are about our business, as the Judean shepherds were, we hear the glad cry, “On earth peace, good will toward men;” and our released hearts answer as they found it impossible to do before.

For the war has passed into history. The very magnitude of its losses and horrors and anguish make larger the swell of gratitude at its passing. So long has been the tenseness of it that we cannot quickly relax and let our joy be unconfined.

Never before has there been such world-wide rejoicing as there will be at this Christmas. Not for victory—for there has been much defeat—but for peace. Even the vanquished are relieved. We are persuaded that the majority of the world’s people do not want war, ever, at any cost.

That “On earth peace, good will toward men” was not the description of a condition, then nor since, but the expression of a hope. For there has been no

real peace of the heart for the masses of men. The angel’s proclamation announced an outstanding event in the love-inspired task of God to bring peace to earth—the sacrifice of His Son.

With the birth of Jesus, peace was extended toward men, not to men. Unfortunately for themselves, most men have not accepted the divine gift thus extended, the most precious Christmas gift ever offered. For a gift is not a gift until it is accepted. Hence no peace as yet, but a sword.

Do we want assured, permanent peace? It will not be ours by way of the peace table, the atomic bomb, the allied nations, nor the disgust with war. All these may help, but perfect peace comes only with the acceptance of the gift of life from the Prince of peace.

Before peace can come on earth, and good will can come to men, God in the highest must be glorified; and He is glorified in the lives of those who accept the gift of His Son and who keep His commandments.

We peer into the future for the time when the angels can sing, God in the highest is glorified, for on earth peace and good will have come to men.

