

Signs of the Times



WHEN God created the elements of the earth He made them of atoms, minute creations so small that if a drop of water were magnified to the size of the earth each atom would be considerably smaller than a baseball. When the atom was discovered a few short decades ago it was so named because it was thought to be non-divisible. However, the world has learned to its sorrow that such is not the case. The atom may be divided (split), and in the dividing of it is obtained

most incomprehensible. We are told that only a small fraction of the power of the uranium atom has to the present been released, yet the experimental blast in the New Mexico desert completely dissolved the steel tower upon which the bomb was suspended. The desert sand for a distance of four hundred yards around was melted into a jade-green, glass-like substance.

In his book "Dawn Over Zero," William Lawrence tells us something of the atomic power contained in the

and fearful, and wonderful age. Here was power that, rightly used, would do the world's work. But on the other hand, this power in the possession of selfish men and nations might well mean the destruction of the race. Men became fearful. Scientists who helped to develop the bomb became evangelists in their efforts to bring about some kind of control. Dr. Harold Urey said: "I am a frightened man myself. All the scientists I know are frightened." And again he said: "I am still a frightened man. The grav-

FEARFUL POWER

the power, the explosive force, that has brought fear and trembling to the hearts of world leaders.

The atom is composed of a nucleus or central core in which are particles called protons and neutrons. Revolving about the nucleus, as the planets of the solar system revolve around the sun, are the electrons. The proton carries a positive charge of electricity, the electron carries a negative charge which exactly balances the proton. The neutron is negative, which makes the atom itself neutral. It is seen that the elements of the earth are not as they appear. Atomic motion pervades all creation. In fact, the law of motion seems to be the first law of the universe.

There are ninety-two known elements. Their atomic construction is very simple, depending upon the number of protons in the nucleus. Hydrogen stands as the number one element, having but one proton. When God made helium He simply added another proton. Carbon has six protons in its nucleus, nitrogen has seven, oxygen eight, and so on to uranium, which has ninety-two.

The particles which compose the atom appear to be the smallest component parts of creation. God, in fulfillment of Daniel 12:4, has allowed men to delve into the mysterious force and power which He locked up in the bosom of the atom at the time when "He spake, and it was done." The power contained in the atom is al-

elements which we handle daily. Says Mr. Lawrence: "Translated into terms of pounds and kilowatt-hours, this means that one pound of matter contains the energy equivalent of 10,000,000,000 kilowatt-hours.

"If this energy could be fully utilized, it would take only twenty-two pounds of matter to supply all the electrical power requirements of the United States for a year. One third of a gram of water would yield enough heat to turn 12,000 tons of water into steam. One gram of water would raise a load of a million tons to the top of a mountain six miles high. A breath of air would operate a powerful airplane continuously for a year. A handful of snow would heat a large apartment house for a year. The pasteboard in a small railroad ticket would run a heavy passenger train several times around the world. A cup of water would supply the power of a great generating station of 100,000-kilowatt capacity for six years.

"One pound of any substance, if its atomic-energy content could be fully utilized one hundred per cent, is equivalent in power content to 3,000,000,000 pounds of coal, or 1,500,000 tons."—Page 23.

It is a little more than two years since the world became atomic conscious. As the news of the bomb bursts that dissolved the two Japanese cities came, thinking people realized the significance of the dawn of a new,

ity of the world situation is frightening beyond words to express. Civilization has been brought to the brink of the precipice."

H. G. Wells, British historian, said before his death: "The world is at the end of its tether. The end of everything we call life is close at hand and cannot be evaded. . . . There is no way out, or around, or through the impasse. It is the end. . . . A series of events has forced upon the intelligent observer the realization that the human story has come to an end."

In the past two years we have witnessed the fulfilment of Luke's prophecy of the last days: "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken." Luke 21:26. Without doubt the world has never in its history passed through a period when men faced the future with so great a degree of uncertainty. Heretofore at the close of a war people have felt more or less secure, but of course the ancients did not have the threat of atomic explosions. To-day fear haunts the hearts of every household. We are continually being told that this is the end. Robert M. Hutchins, chancellor of the University of Chicago, thinks there is not much use in sending children to school any more. Said he: "Devoting our educational efforts to infants between six and twenty-one seems futile" because "the world may



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It is said that bombs of even more "fearful power" than the ones exploded at Bikini are now extant.

'not last long enough" to give them training.

Effort after effort has been made in the two years since the close of the war, to bring the nations to agree on the terms of peace—all have failed. While in most nations we do not to-day hear the thunder of guns and the exploding of bombs, yet we are in

the midst of a war nevertheless—a political war which may certainly end in a shooting war. Two great powers occupy the stage of the world's theatre. Soviet Russia with her satellites are the actors in the eastern theatre; while the United States, with her tremendous industrial capacity and the atomic bomb, occupies the

western theatre. Russian leaders are moving along the lines of world domination and communistic indoctrination. In the light of this, conflict appears inevitable.

One Year After the Bikini Experiments

Life magazine for August 11, 1947, tells us something of what was learned in the Pacific blasts. There is much to the report, and none of it good. The last two sentences of fourteen pages of pictures and stories are gloomy indeed: "The only defence against atomic bombs still lies outside the scope of science. It is the prevention of atomic war." It is clear to the present time at least that science has presented the world with an uncontrollable agent of destruction.

For military reasons we have not been told much of what took place at Bikini. Here is a paragraph describing the under-water explosion: "Test Baker was set for 8:35 A.M. on July 25, the bomb suspended in the water below the LSM-60. At the instant of detonation a great luminous dome welled up from the lagoon, the LSM-60 perched jauntily on top of it. A pillar of water rose a mile in the air and a billowing cloud rushed out from its base, drenching all but a few of the ships with a poisonous radioactive spray. Nine ships were sunk and eight seriously damaged."

We are astounded at a power so mighty that it can hurl a shaft of water a mile into the sky in the matter of seconds. The picture shows great battleships anchored nearby as minute things in comparison with the huge column of water. We are told further that if all the ships at Bikini had been fully manned, 35,000 people would have been killed. Those not killed by the explosion itself would have been killed by the radioactive spray which deluged the ships.

"On Able Day," according to the report, "the ships bore 3,030 rats, 176 goats, 147 pigs, 109 mice and 57 guinea pigs, distributed about the decks, cabins, pilothouses, engine rooms and gun turrets. . . . As expected, some of the animals were killed outright by the heat and blast of the Able Day bomb. Others died later from the various effects of the bomb's radiation: shock, internal

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By
Dallas Youngs

GOOD MAN OR GOD



Whether in prayer or in the sterner task of cleansing the temple, Jesus revealed His divinity.



HOFFMANN

A YOUNG man, blind from birth, opened his eyes for the first time in his life. He saw perfectly.

The kind looking man who but a moment before had touched his sightless eyes confronted him with an oft-repeated question two thousand years ago, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?"

Still a bit bewildered over the miracle that had restored his sight, the young man replied, "Who is He, Lord, that I might believe on Him?"

And Jesus said unto him, "Thou

hast both seen Him, and it is He that talketh with thee." John 9:35-37.

Here Christ claims to be more than a mere man. In these words Jesus staked His claim to divinity. Since that claim was made nearly two millenniums ago, it has been confirmed and condemned, supported and supplanted. Down through the ages men have exalted Christ to the very pinnacle of glory, while others have rudely snatched the robe of divinity from His shoulders.

In Isaiah 1:18 God invites us:

"Come now, and let us reason together." We are invited to investigate in a reasonable manner the claims of the Nazarene who spoke as never man spake. The Christian religion is a reasonable religion. Faith in Christ is built upon reasonable evidence.

It is well for us to study into these things, as Luke says; "That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed." Luke 1:4.

When it comes to the staking of one's eternal destiny upon the merits

and teachings of a single individual, we need to be certain that we made no mistake. Thank God, He has not left us in darkness or uncertainty when the Lord Jesus Christ is recommended to us as our personal Saviour.

Let us turn to some of the prophecies of the Old Testament concerning the Messiah, and then trace the definite fulfilment of each of these in the experience of our Lord.

We must not confine the story of Christ to the thirty-three and one-half years from His birth in Bethlehem's manger to His ascension near Jerusalem. Far too many do this and lose much. Christ would mean much more to them if they enjoyed the larger picture of our Lord revealed in the whole Scripture.

Jesus reveals to us an existence which He enjoyed with the Father even before the creation of the world: "And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was." John 17:5. This is a clear statement of fact. Christ was before the world was.

The writers of the New Testament set forth Jesus as the Creator of the heavens and the earth. (Hebrews 1:1, 2; Colossians 1:16, 17.)

In Acts 3:20, 21 we read: "And He shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began."

From this text we learn that God has spoken of Jesus by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began, and one of the most convincing evidences that Jesus Christ is truly the Messiah, the One sent from heaven, is that He and He alone fulfils all of the multitude of Messianic prophecies uttered by the men of God who wrote the Old Testament.

Let us turn to some of these prophecies and see how our Lord fulfilled the words spoken by the holy prophets. Many of these prophecies were penned hundreds of years before the Saviour's earthly ministry. In Isaiah 7:14, speaking of the Messiah to come, Inspiration records: "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." The prophet said that the Messiah should be born of a virgin. More than seven hundred years later the gospel writer, Matthew, records the fulfilment of this prophecy in the experience of our Lord. (Matthew 1:18.)

Another prophet, over seven hundred years before the Saviour was

born, foretold the very place of His birth: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2.

One writer points out the miraculous way in which Christ fulfilled this prophecy. "Three continents—Europe, Asia, and Africa—were known to the ancient world. *Asia* is chosen. But *Asia* had many countries. One of them—little *Palestine*—was pointed out. In *Palestine* were three divisions—Galilee, Samaria, and *Judea*. *Judea* is named. But in *Judea* are many villages, and of 'the thousands of Judah' *Bethlehem* is the chosen place for His birth."

"O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night."

The rejection of Christ by His own rebellious people is foretold in Isaiah 53:3: "He is despised and rejected of men; a Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not."

The tragic fulfilment of these words is to be found in John 1:10, 11: "He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not."

"He came to His own—to the ones that He loved;
The sheep that had wandered astray:
They heard not His voice, but the Friend of mankind
Was hated and driven away."
—J. W. Van De Venter.

Several hundred years later, as the Saviour worshipped one Sabbath day in the synagogue, He announced His own fulfilment of Isaiah's words. Taking the book that was handed to Him, Jesus read: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Luke 4:18, 19.

The Holy Scriptures foretold that Christ was to be betrayed by one of His own disciples. (Psalm 41:9.) Zechariah predicted the exact price for which Jesus would be sold, and also declared that this money would be cast down upon the floor of the temple and would finally be used to

purchase a potter's field. (Zechariah 11:12, 13.) In the gospel records we read the accurate fulfilment of each of these prophecies.

The tragic scenes in connection with the closing days of the Saviour's earthly ministry are clearly delineated by the writers of Old Testament prophecy. The psalmist foretold that false witnesses would be brought. Isaiah was shown the silent resignation with which the Saviour received the taunts of His accusers. That gall and vinegar would be given Him was foreseen by the psalmist, who also mentioned that not a bone of His body was to be broken.

In the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah, the ninth verse, we are given a foresight into the experience of Joseph as he sought the body of our Lord to lay Him in the tomb of the rich. But this was not the end. Satan's prison house could not hold the Lord of heaven and earth.

"Then rose from death's dark gloom
With angels standing by,
Triumphant o'er the tomb
The Lord of earth and sky."
—William W. How.

Jesus Christ is the only One who has ever claimed to have fulfilled all of these Bible prophecies. He *must* be the Messiah that God promised through the holy prophets. There are numerous other prophecies that might be mentioned if space permitted, each one finding its fulfilment in the life and the death of the Son of God. What more evidence could we ask, other than perhaps the evidence of a changed heart and a new life that have come to millions of sin-released individuals, as the result of accepting Christ as their personal Saviour? The power of the living Christ which continues to do a work in the hearts of mankind is perhaps the greatest evidence of His divine origin. He is a Christ not confined to any age, or to any locality. He is a Christ sent from God to mankind to redeem from the depths of sin those who will accept Him.

Lord Kelvin, one of the most learned scientists of his day, said the greatest discovery he ever made was the discovery that Jesus Christ was his personal Saviour.

That will be your greatest discovery too if the Son of God does not already reign in your heart.

By
Robert H. Pierson

TRICHINOSIS

The Incurable Hog's Disease

BELOVED, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." When the apostle John wrote this to his friend Gaius, he was but echoing the sentiments of God for all men. That statement belongs in the Bible. Therefore, when the Son of God was on earth and ordained twelve men to be His representatives, we are told what His orders to them were. Let us read them in Matthew 10:7, 8: "As ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give." So, you see, God is definitely interested in our state of health. He would have the children of men enjoy better health than many of them do. And if we will pay attention to what He has told us to do to safeguard this blessing, most of us will certainly enjoy much better health, too.

I was almost startled by an address that Doctor McCann, M.P., and President of the Canadian Public Health Association, gave in the Royal York Hotel in Toronto not long ago. The newspapers carried several of his most sensational statements the next day. I quote: "The fact that forty-four per cent of the young men recently called up for military service were found to be physically unfit is a crushing indictment of governmental . . . unconcern for the health of its people. . . . On any one day Canada has 50,000 wage earners idle through illness. . . . Canadian workmen lost last year 425,000 workdays due to strikes. Sickness costs fifty times more in workdays lost than do strikes." According to this government spokesman, the business world of Canada loses more time every ten days through sickness than it lost in a whole year through strikes. It is time that we give a little more careful study to the causes of sickness than most of us have given.

The most saddening thing about this doctor's address is that much of this sickness would have been avoided had Canadians known of a simply worded, plain command in the Scriptures and then obeyed it. The common violation of this command is costing the human race countless hours of unnecessary pain and many untimely deaths, according to modern medical science. And this disobedience is the only cause of a disease second only to the common cold, perhaps, in prevalence. But unlike the common

cold, doctors claim this disease is incurable. Once you contract it, it stays with you till you die. In fact, it may cause your death. But medical science also says that this particular disease has so many different symptoms which correspond to the symptoms of so many other diseases, that it can seldom be certainly diagnosed as the disease it is—trichinosis—TRICHINOSIS. It seems that only a post-mortem can definitely establish whether a person had this disease or not.

Here, for example, is what Dr. Henry Allen Stonewall wrote about it in the July, 1940, issue of the *Digest and Review* magazine: "Trichinosis is known to attack or weaken every organ in the body, including the heart, the lungs, the central nervous system, and the muscles of the eyes. . . . Many minor muscular cramps and pains that the medical profession cannot, under other than laboratory conditions, diagnose . . . are nevertheless true indications of this affliction. Because the severity of the attacks may not be sufficient to make the infected persons take to their beds, many of the less disturbing cases of trichinosis are probably never diagnosed as such. Often, when informed that they are suffering from la grippe, typhoid fever, kidney trouble, meningitis, sinusitis, or rheumatism, those more drastically attacked by trichinosis never realize that worms, not germs, are really the cause of their plague. Even reputable physicians may, in all good faith, diagnose a condition as one of the above diseases, when in truth the obscure ailment is trichinosis." And then the doctor makes this astonishing guess as to the prevalence of this disease: "In all probability fifty per cent of the people of the United States have already contracted it."

We would like to think that the findings of Doctors Hall and Collins of the National Institute of Health are closer to the truth. They actually examined 22,000 bodies of patients who died in twenty-four hospitals all

over the land, and they found evidence of trichinosis in but twelve per cent of the bodies. It is interesting to note in their report, however, that in every case the attending physician had diagnosed the ailment as something else.

The June, 1940, issue of the *Magazine Digest* carried a condensed medical report of trichinosis under the title, "Millions With Pork Worms," which claims that this disease is greatly increasing. I quote: "As long as forty years ago studies showed that an average of about five and one-half per cent of Americans who had died during the previous decade had had trichinosis. The evidence was ignored. More recently though, the case for the control of trichinosis has become so strong that it can no longer be ignored. From a number of surveys which have been made over the last few years, it appears that at least seventeen to eighteen per cent of the entire American population carry trichinae in their tissues." You will notice that this report simply averages the findings of medical science in recent years. The Journal of the American Medical Association estimated the prevalence of the disease at about twenty-five per cent, or one out of every four persons.

So while no one knows just how prevalent the disease actually is, nor how many lie suffering or dying from it, doctors do at least know how it is contracted and how it can be avoided. The article from the June, 1940, issue of the *Magazine Digest* which was just quoted, begins with these words: "Twenty-two or twenty-three million persons in the United States—not less, probably more—at one or more times in their lives have eaten raw or under-cooked pork containing the tiny live worms that cause trichinosis, and they now harbour these parasites in their muscles. Trichinosis is primarily a disease of swine . . ." The Doctor Stonewall whom we first quoted, gives this sound counsel for prevention: "You can prevent this disease from ravaging your own body and the bodies of your dear ones by adopting the simple, everyday common sense expedient of forbidding in your household, the eating of pork in any form."

This expedient is not only everyday common sense: it is a scriptural expe-

By
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You may wash and powder "Miss Piggy" as much as you please, it will not save you from trichinosis if you eat her flesh.

dient as well. It would be difficult for God or anyone else to state this truth in any plainer words than we find here in our Bibles—I am reading Deuteronomy 14:8: "And the swine . . . is unclean unto you; ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcass." Suppose Canadians, at least, had obeyed this simply worded, plain command. Think of the suffering that would have been saved; think of

the lost workingdays that might have been saved to Canadian business, if we accept the medical report that more than seventeen per cent of those who eat this creature's flesh are victims of an annoying and sometimes fatal disease.

There are many good things to eat in this fair land of ours—things that God has not forbidden—things that will build us up instead of tear

us down. No wonder a loving God took pains to turn us aside from the eating of swine's flesh, seeing that it is unclean and dangerous, too, as an article of diet.

The God who made man made the pig. And He who made both, surely knows the effect that one has inside the other. While it appears that the pig can eat the human body and suffer no direct harm thereby, it seems that man cannot eat the pig and escape harm, medical science itself arising as a belated witness thereto. And since the God who made us is a God of love who would have us prosper in body as well as in spirit, we would naturally expect that He would have something to say about matters that would bring on bodily afflictions. Yes, God has had something to say about the eating of a beast whose flesh produces such an ailment as trichinosis. And if we disregard what God has said on this matter, let us not imagine that we will prosper in our state of health.

Sometimes you may hear it said that this command about swine's flesh was given only to the Jews, that God cleansed the pig for the Christians. If that be true, then no Christian who eats pork should contract trichinosis. But medical science has noted no difference between the pork-eating Jew and the pork-eating Christian in this regard.

It is sometimes said that Christ cleansed the swine when He was on the earth. But it should be noticed that His disciples were not aware of it if He did so. According to the date in the margin of the Bible, it was about ten years after our Lord was supposed to have done this, that Peter was given a vision, in which he saw a sheet let down from heaven. In this sheet, Acts 10:12 tells us, there were "all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air." "And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat." Verse 13. Peter was shocked. He knew about this fourteenth chapter of Deuteronomy that forbade the eating of not only swine's flesh, but also many other kinds of animals and birds. "Not so, Lord"; the apostle answered, "for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." Now if Jesus had pronounced these things clean when He had been with Peter ten years before, why should Peter call them "unclean" now? While you may have heard of some Christians who take license from this vision to eat anything and everything they like, Peter himself never understood it that way.

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WORLD AS WE SEE IT!

**A Prophetic Interpretation
of Current Events!**

Who Is Smart?

Two members of a tennis club came in off the courts one hot day last summer, and the one offered the other a cigarette.

"No, thank you," refused the tennis player.

"Too hot, eh?" said the offerer of the fag.

"No, too wise," replied the other.

It is generally considered smart to smoke. In many crowds if you don't smoke you don't really belong. But just how smart is the smoker? We wondered which of these two tennis players was really the smart one; so we gleaned a few facts. To begin with, smoking admittedly costs money, in some countries a lot more than in others. A man spending only a dollar and a half a week for tobacco would in the course of fifty years spend almost \$4,000, and that amount of money is not chicken feed. It is enough, in fact, to enable most people to retain their self-respect through the declining years of life and to escape the often "not too tender" charity of friends, relatives, or the state.

What does the smoker get for his money? Does he get "value received" as when he gives it to the milkman or to the breadman? Most people have a pretty fair sense of values, and no one shies off from a bargain. We have learned by experience to examine an article before we buy it; and if we think it is not worth the price asked, we just don't buy it. We want something worth while. We demand a good value in the commodities for which we exchange our hard-earned money. But how is it with the cigarette? Do we get \$4,000 worth of benefit for our \$4,000? This is a most serious question because it involves billions of dollars and is nation wide, even world wide, in its scope.



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For his \$4,000 worth of cigarettes the smoker gets not one particle of food value. He derives nothing from them which will nourish his body in even the slightest degree. There are no calories, vitamins, or minerals with which to build red blood, strong bone and muscle. Nor is there anything that adds to mental strength and alertness. The fact is, unbiased science tells us that there is a fifteen per cent loss of physical and mental powers resulting from the moderate use of cigarettes.

The individual who gives up smoking finds that his general health steadily grows better. His appetite improves, he gains in weight, his mental powers quicken, and the zest for living picks up. His wind will improve and he will be able to play his favourite game with greater efficiency and endurance. He will not wake up in the morning with a bad taste in his mouth, and soon he will be able to relish and enjoy the true flavours of the food he eats. His sense of smell will become more acute. He will lose that disagreeable, hacking cough, and will enjoy a joyous feeling of independence from the slavery and bondage of that little white slave master.

And so, who is smart?

Catholic Spectacle

THE Catholic Church converted the ball park at Ottawa, Ontario, into a dazzling five-day spectacle of illuminated splendour. The stadium was built to accommodate 75,000 people—65,000 attended. The dais was 515 feet long. At four points on the elevation a blue-and-white angel raised its trumpet in a salute to the statue of the virgin Mary. In the centre of the dais was the stage which was used for pageants and masses. The priests and clergy occupied positions to the right and left of the stage.

The matter of confession was not forgotten—along the bottom of the dais at field level were the confessional booths where long lines of people waited their turn to tell the priests of their misdeeds. Archbishops and cardinals were in attendance from foreign countries. The Dionne quintuplets sang hymns to the vast assembly, and it is reported that their popularity exceeded that of the church dignitaries.

Everywhere the worshippers turned they saw statues of the virgin Mary. She was paraded through the city on floats drawn by horses. Gigantic fireworks depicted her as the mother of Jesus. However, the

image in the peace chapel seemed to meet with the most favour with the people. Long lines of worshippers kissed her feet until the paint was worn off her toes.

This is but one of the festivals held throughout the world in honour of the virgin. We understand that those in honour of Mary are more numerous and more spectacular than those in honour of Jesus. The Catholic laity are taught that Mary is the dispenser of grace and mercy, while Jesus is the dispenser of justice. They are advised to fly to the merciful Mary that she may supplicate her sterner Son for favours and blessings in their behalf.

According to the standard Roman Catholic work, *The Devotions of the Sacred Heart*, Mary is given titles similar to those accorded to Christ: "The Church, assisted and instructed by the Holy Spirit, gives to Mary titles which resemble those given to her Divine Son. Jesus is our King; Mary is our Queen. Jesus is our advocate and mediator; Mary is also our advocate and mediatrix. Jesus is our hope, our refuge, our consolation; we say the same of Mary. Jesus is the way which leads to heaven; Mary is the gate of heaven."

"Jesus is our guide and our light in the way of life; Mary is the star which guides and conducts us to the harbour of salvation. Jesus is the author of grace; Mary is the mother of grace. In a word, Mary participates by grace in all the titles which Jesus enjoys by nature."

"But what is still more decisive, the Church unites Jesus and Mary in the honours which she renders them in their solemnities. So soon as there is introduced a feast, a ceremony, a practice of devotion to procure the glory of Jesus, so soon is there something of the like established in honour of Mary; and the Church which celebrates, by particular feasts, the mysteries of the Son, from His incarnation to His ascension, solemnizes, in like manner, the mysteries of the Mother, from her conception to her assumption into heaven.' Thus we find, that festivals similar to those which are appointed in honour of Christ, belong to the Virgin. . . ."—p. 43. *Dub.*, 1840. *Quoted in Blake-ney's Manual of Romish Controversy*, pp. 173, 174.

Without doubt when God chose Mary as the bearer of the human body of His Son He conferred upon her a signal honour, but she was and ever remained



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but a human vessel. John the Baptist as he preached in the wilderness was filled with the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead; yet greatly honoured as John was he claimed to be only a *voice* crying in the wilderness. We never find that he laid claim to any special honour, nor do we find that God ever set him up as one to be venerated and worshipped. Likewise we do not find that Jesus left any instructions to us to honour, venerate, or worship Mary above any other mortal.

Only divine beings may be worshipped. In fact, we do not have on record the case of even an angel that ever accepted the worship of a man. Surely if it had been in the mind of God that Mary should occupy an unique position in religious worship He would have stated it clearly as a guide to successive generations. We are reminded at this juncture of the words of Jesus in Matthew 15:9: "But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

In spite of the fact that Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel, she did not seem to possess a profound understanding of the purpose of the life and work of her Son. At the early age of twelve Jesus had occasion to rebuke her lack of comprehension when He said: "Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" Luke 2:49.

This same lack of understanding was evidenced years later at the marriage feast in Jesus' reply to her appeal that He relieve the embarrassment occasioned by the lack of wine. "Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? *Mine hour is not yet come.*"

Soon after Jesus began His ministry a committee of His relatives, among whom was Mary, came to pay Him a visit. He was preaching, and the word was sent to Him that His mother and brethren were outside and desired to see Him. His reply is most significant: "My mother and My brethren are these which hear the Word of God, and do it." Luke 8:21. Had Jesus desired to exalt Mary to a place of worship following His decease, this was a grand opportunity to do it. A few words here from the divine Jesus would have placed Mary upon the pinnacle of reverence. But He does not give them. He rates her and the rest of His relatives with those who hear and do. It was as necessary to Mary's salvation that she believe and trust and obey Jesus, as to the salvation of any other person before or after. "Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

We read in God's Word that there is "one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." I Timothy 2:5. But Catholic theology and practice has it that "Mary is also our advocate and mediatrix." Thus we have a plain violation of the declared Word. The human Mary is exalted to a position equal or superior to that of her divine Son, and the mediatorial office of Jesus is minimized.

The Marian Congress at Ottawa was a dazzling spectacle. Its richness and luxury excited the wonder and admiration of thousands. It made good newspaper copy, but we wish that Jesus had been the one glorified.



Sin originated with Lucifer, a bright and shining angel in heaven. Upon being cast out upon the earth he succeeded in alienating the loyalty of Adam and Eve, thus introducing sin into the human family.

THERE was a time in the history of God's fair universe when no chilling breath of winter nor darkening shadow of night blighted springing hope or clouded the lustre and glory of righteousness divine. The universe of God was peopled with myriads of holy, happy, guileless beings. In God's providence, His creatures were made free moral agents. This was necessary to the development of character. God chose not to be worshipped by machines, or in slavish fear, but voluntarily and of free choice.

One there was who chose to depart from the divine order, and to erect in heaven's peaceful domain the standard of revolt against God's righteous rule. He was an angel of a high order, the covering cherub, occupying a place close by the throne of God. Exclaims the prophet, "How art thou fallen

from heaven, O Lucifer ["day-star," margin], son of the morning!" Isaiah 14:12. The prophet Ezekiel declared of this angelic being, "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." Ezekiel 28:15.

The reason for Lucifer's downfall is described as pride of heart, on account of the beauty of his person and the exalted office which he occupied. That position, next to the throne of God, that beauty, made resplendent by the beams of glory radiating from the person of Divinity, should have inspired in the heart of this mighty being, deeper love and gratitude to his great Benefactor. On the contrary, it led to exaltation of self. He fell from his high and holy estate of purity, and for the first time in the history of heaven, the presence of sin was felt in this quiet and peaceful domain.

Lucifer, the light-bearer, had become Satan, the adversary.

The designs of Satan in his departure from God are brought to view in the fourteenth chapter of Isaiah, verses thirteen and fourteen. His heart led him to desire equality with God, to become ruler of his companions—"the stars of God," the angels of heaven. In thus seeking to establish an independent rule and government of his own, and in drawing away followers from the government of God, he must, in the very nature of the case, have brought charges against the Most High, representing His government as unjust, oppressive, and tyrannical, and promising to those who would accept his own leadership increased privileges and greater freedom. A division was created in the heavenly host. The issue was sharply drawn, and every intelligence took his stand for or against

SIN'S

By F. M. WILCOX

BEGINNING

the usurper of God's prerogatives. When the pleadings of love could no longer avail, Satan was expelled from the heavenly courts. He and his evil host were separated from the loyal and true. (2 Peter 2:4; Revelation 12:3, 4.)

He who had created the angelic host by the word of His mouth could have forever blotted from existence this archrebel and his wicked followers. Why did not God do this? Perhaps an answer may be found to this inquiry in the consideration that God performs all His acts, not alone with reference to Himself, but with reference to the minds of His created intelligences throughout the universe. God understood the designs and purposes of Satan. Not so, however, with many who had still remained loyal to the right. Loyalty to heaven's Commander and integrity to principle had kept them from joining forces with the one they had long delighted to honour. But while they deprecated his course, Satan's charges against the divine government had not been without effect. The minds of the loyal and true were still harrowed with the thought that possibly there was a shadow of truth in the representations of Satan. Should God destroy at once the archdeceiver, it would but strengthen this doubt in their minds. God proposed to let the revolted one run his course, to permit him to follow his own plans and policy, demonstrating to all the universe the falseness of all his charges and the integrity of the divine government. Hence God did not wholly restrain Satan, but allowed him liberty in the pursuit of his purposes.

Satanic Cunning

This earth is created in its Eden beauty and freshness. Man, made in the image of his Maker, is given it as a possession. He likewise is placed upon probation. In an evil hour he falls a prey to the wiles of the deceiver. In love the plan of salvation is revealed, and Christ, the Seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15), is promised as man's Saviour and Redeemer. He comes to the earth as a representative of the government of God. At every point He is besieged by Satan and his minions. With hellish cunning they dog His

footsteps and seek to sully His integrity. But at every point they are repulsed. Again and again Christ reiterates the statement, "I came . . . not to do Mine own will, but the will of Him that sent Me." John 6:38.

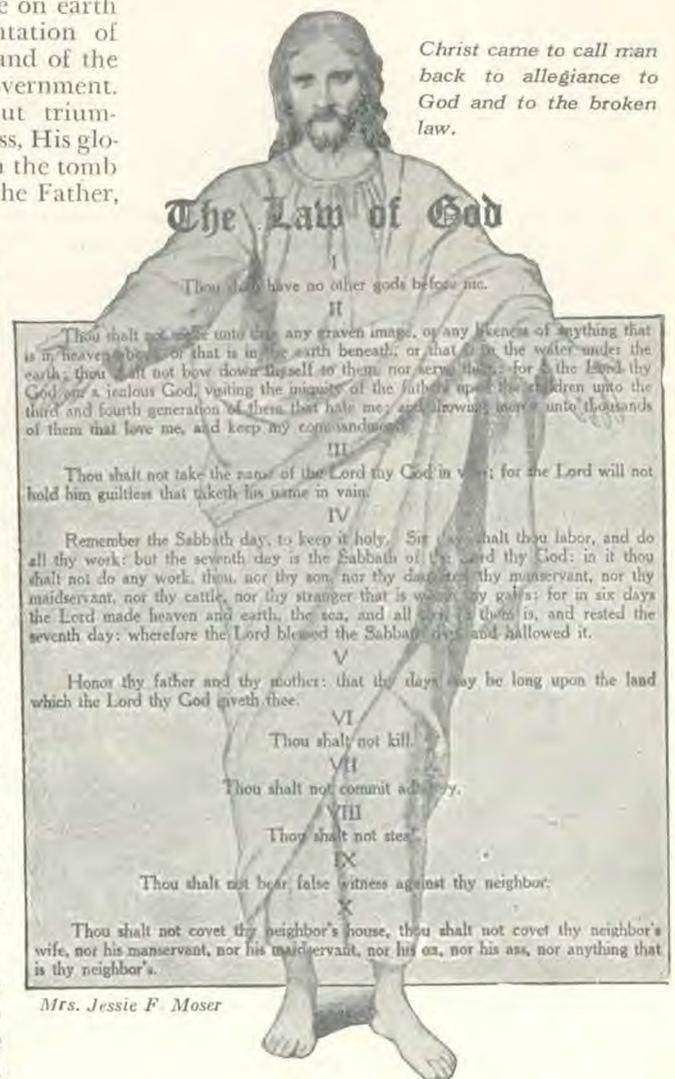
In His forbearance, His love, His patience, Christ demonstrated to the inhabitants of this earth, and to the intelligences of all the universe, that the government of God is built on principles of love and liberty. Satan accomplished His death, but that death was in itself a victory. From it He rose in glory triumphant, ascending to the Father, to stand forever as man's advocate against the charges and representations of the "accuser of our brethren." Christ's lowly life on earth was a living representation of the character of God and of the principles of His government. His ignominious but triumphant death on the cross, His glorious resurrection from the tomb and His ascension to the Father, contrasted with the spirit of malignity, hatred, and wicked design exhibited by Satan, sounded the death knell of sin, and presaged future redemption from sin's contaminating influence.

In the person of His followers, Christ is still crucified by Satanic hatred. With an intellect strengthened by exercise and sharpened by use, Satan will work with all deceivableness until the end of the world. When every soul shall have taken a stand, then will come the final visitation of divine justice. Satan and his followers will have proved themselves unworthy of further mercy. It will have been demonstrated to the entire universe that the effects of sin

are only baneful in their results, and that a further prolongation of Satan's existence would be an insult to justice, a blot upon the fair escutcheon of heaven.

Satan and his host are summoned forth to their doom. The fires of the last day consume sin and the originator of sin. God says of Satan that he shall never be any more. (Ezekiel 28:19.) He and the wicked host who have followed him in his mad career, "shall be as though they had not been." Obadiah 16. (See also Revelation 20:10-15.) Then will the earth be restored to its Edenic beauty. Then the banner of heaven will float over a clean universe.

Christ came to call man back to allegiance to God and to the broken law.



IT IS reported that the Bishop of Rochester asked his clergy, "When do you in public recite the ten commandments?" Their reply was "Never."

The good bishop was shocked. And well he might be. "He regrets," we learn from the *British Weekly*, "that the lettering of the commandments, the Lord's prayer and the creed have so widely disappeared from the east end of churches, and is even more perturbed that the three religious Christian documents have ceased to be a part of the mental furniture of the people."

And if we were in his place, we also would share his regret. It is gratifying to know that there are still bishops in the church who deplore the absence of those fundamental documents of the Christian faith from the life of the church. We hope the regret that the Bishop of Rochester feels in this matter will lead him to head up a holy campaign for the restoration to church life of the ten commandments, the Lord's prayer and the Apostles' Creed, which together summarize those Christian doctrines without which no professed Christian church can expect to live and flourish and evangelize.

Influence of Law on Israel

We could wish, too, that the *British Weekly*, from which we draw these facts, were as perturbed as the bishop. Instead, we read: "The bishop's pastoral notes raise some interesting questions. One is, how far the ten commandments do actually influence conduct. Another is, whether this ancient moral creed, *belonging so obviously to another age and world, could possibly be brought up to date.*" (Italics ours.)

As to how far the ten commandments *may* influence conduct, the experience of the ancient people to whom and when those commandments were publicly delivered, is a first-class illustration.

"And all the people saw the thunders, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off. And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die. And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and *that His fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.*" Exodus 20:18-20. (Italics ours.)

The first effect upon the Israelites, then, of the giving of that ancient law was to arouse in them feelings of awe and fear. And Moses' reassuring appeal to his people leaves us in no doubt as to the cause of that fear. It was the consciousness of sin: "Fear

The likelihood is that these young house breakers could not locate the ten commandments in the Bible. It is high time that parents of this generation learned that God's law, taught to children and youth, acts as a crime deterrent.



STAR NEWSPAPER SERVICE

not," he said, "for God is come to prove you, and that His fear may be before your faces, *that ye sin not.*"

Abjectly conscious of their sin, like our first parents after they had disobeyed God's command, the Israelites wanted to get away from the holy presence.

This, of course, was natural and human. But God's purpose was not to drive them away from Him, but to draw them to Him; not to punish their sin, but to forgive it, to take it away, and inspire in them a holy, reverent, loving fear of Him, that would lead them back into obedience to His law.

The whole history of Israel is one long story of the patient, persistent efforts of the Almighty, through His chosen prophets, to lead His people into those paths of obedience which alone guaranteed their spiritual and temporal prosperity. The law of God was kept ever before them as the perfect expression of His will for man, the infallible guide to man's conduct everywhere.

The Purpose of the Law

Nor is there any suggestion either in the Old or the New Testament writings, that the ten commandments would ever cease to be regarded by God or by His only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, as anything less than the perfect standard of conduct by which all would be judged, both here and hereafter. Always did Jesus uphold the law of Sinai as the concise verbal summary, not only of God's will, but also of His love for man. Jesus said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Matthew 22:37-40.

The precise function of the law in the divine plan of salvation is most clearly set forth in Scripture by that unrivalled expositor, the apostle Paul.

"Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them

LAWLESSNESS

Why Do Youth Turn to Crime?



who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God." Romans 3:19.

As soon as man acknowledges the guilt brought home to him by the law, and truly repents, that same law graciously witnesses to his righteousness through the merits of Christ, who alone in the flesh fulfilled its demands to the perfect satisfaction of the holy God who gave it.

What happens after this? Does the law still operate in the experience of a repentant sinner? Most assuredly. It goes on witnessing to his righteousness as long as he continues in the path of obedience. But as soon as he

departs again from the known will of God, the law pulls him up with a jerk, condemns his sin, and drives him back to Him who alone can forgive it.

So, as God's perfect standard of conduct, the law that was thundered so majestically from Sinai's mount, can never change, never be abrogated, never become out of date.

But while the law points out sin, it has no saving power to deliver from sin. God alone, through Christ, can forgive sins. And since sin is scripturally defined as "the transgression of the law," Christ came to save us from that transgression and hence to lead us back into harmony with the law.

Of course, the law cannot influence us for good unless we allow it to do so. If we ignore its claims, its condemnation of sin, and go on in disobedience, even Christ cannot save us; since the first step to salvation is the humble acknowledgment of guilt pointed out by the law. Hence, the amount of influence the law actually has on human conduct depends on our individual attitude toward it.

Why It Is Regarded As Obsolete

Now it is widely admitted, and is very evident, that the law of ten commandments is to-day influencing human conduct less and less. But that is not the fault of the law, which is still as "holy, and just, and good" as ever it was. It is still God's unfailing detector of sin.

Yet the Protestant churches in particular have openly repudiated it as having no application to present human needs. Why is this? Because those churches have accepted theories and practices contrary to its teachings and implications.

The fourth commandment gives lie to the now generally accepted idea that the universe as we know it is the product of countless ages of slow evolutionary processes. It confirms the account of the beginning of things recorded in the opening chapters of the Bible, which tells of God's creation of man as such. The Bible

knows nothing of man as a creature gradually developed by long-drawn-out stages from the lower forms of animal life. The unproved theory of man's natural development upward from the beasts is a reflection on God, on Scripture, and on man himself.

Moreover, the same commandment gives no support to the religious observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, but distinctly enjoins the observance of the seventh day (Saturday), instituted by God in the beginning, observed by Christ and His apostles, and by the early church established by them.

Hence the charge that the law is old-fashioned; that it does not rightly represent this "enlightened" age. Hence the unholy cry for its abolition, or its sacrilegious adaptation to the demands of this so-called "scientific" age.

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure. No false human theory of the origin of things, and no mere ecclesiastical observance can alter the fact that "the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul." Psalm 19:7. All the imperfection is on the side of sinful man, who in his pride would throw off the restraints of God's holy law, in order to follow the perilous paths of his own choosing.

"Blessed is the man," therefore, "that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night." Psalm 1:1, 2.

In the report of the Church of England Youth Council, a case is quoted

(Please turn to page 22)

By
H. F. De'Ath

The JUDGMENT Is COME

JUDGMENT! The very word is ominous. It speaks volumes. A case pending in an earthly court would be sufficient cause for concern, but one pending at the judgment bar of God with eternal interests at stake, should cause the stoutest heart to quake with fear. The angel having a message for all men that dwell on the earth, declares: "Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come." Revelation 14:7.

Felix, governor of Judea, when made conscious of the fact that his every act must be met in the judgment, trembled. The apostle Paul when before Felix "reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come." Acts 24:25. It is plain from this that the judgment was, at that time, in the future. Also by the apostle's word we understand that God has appointed a definite day for the work of judgment. He admonishes that God "now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world." Acts 17:30, 31.

Jesus also taught that men should look forward to judgment. "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Matthew 12:36. Please note carefully the words, "shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." We can be certain that with Jesus and the apostle Paul in agreement on this point, the final day of judgment referred to was still future in their day.

When, however, we come to the solemn message of Revelation 14:6-14, we are told of a judgment not to come, but one that *is come*. May we know the time when the judgment begins? If so, then we will know when the judgment-hour message is due the world.

That we may get some idea of the time of the judgment we turn to an ancient prophecy in the eighth chapter of the book of Daniel, and note the symbols brought to view. They are: 1. A ram with two horns. Verses 3, 4. 2. A he goat with a notable horn between his eyes, which was later broken and its place taken by four horns.

Verses 5-8. 3. A little horn that became exceeding great and finally stood up against the Prince of princes. Verses 9-11. 4. A period of 2300 days, as the following verse states: "And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days ["evening and morning," margin]; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed." Verse 14.

For the interpretation of these symbols, let me observe first that the Bible is its own interpreter. The ram is Media-Persia. (Verse 20.) The rough goat is Grecia. (Verses 21, 22.) The little horn that became exceeding great represents that nation which was in power at the time of Christ and which stood up against the Prince of princes. (Verses 23-25.) This could be none other than Rome, for before the Jews could carry out their purpose to crucify Christ, it was necessary to obtain the consent of Pilate, the Roman governor. It was the Roman soldiers who fastened Jesus to the cross.

We have still the fourth symbol, or 2300 days of evenings and mornings, left unexplained by the angel. "The vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true," said the angel: "wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days." Then Daniel says, "I . . . fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it." Verses 26, 27.

By
E. A. Crane

The prophet was overcome with grief by this preview of the cruel treatment to be inflicted upon Jesus. His sickness delayed the angel's explanation of the 2300 days which was to mark the beginning of the cleansing of the sanctuary. One thing he did understand, however, was that the vision would "be for many days"—in other words, it would extend far into the future.

Here is the longest time prophecy in the Bible—a period of 2300 days. Be it remembered that this is symbolic, not literal time. The twenty-three hundred literal days would extend only three and one-half years into the future. Men prepare maps with a scale of an inch representing a hundred or two hundred miles, as may be desired; so God's symbolic scale of time is a day for a year. He declares, "I have appointed thee each day for a year." Ezekiel 4:6. (See also Numbers 14:34.) Therefore this time period is 2300 literal years extending from a point as yet undetermined to the cleansing of the sanctuary.

Without detailed explanation at this point we merely state that the cleansing of the sanctuary, according to Jewish terminology, involves a work of judgment. It is called by the Hebrews, *Yom Kippur*, and is known also as the "day of atonement" (Leviticus 16:7-10, 15-22), being celebrated in the fall of each year by all Hebrew peoples as a most solemn day of judgment. We shall study this more fully at some future time.

When Daniel recovered from his sickness he sought God for a more complete understanding of that portion of the vision as yet unexplained; namely, the 2300 days. With great earnestness he confessed his sins, and the sins of Israel. He states, "And while I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel . . . even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly . . . talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. . . . Therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision." Daniel 9:20-23. In other words, the angel said, "Daniel, bring your mind back now and consider the period of 2300 years, for I have been sent from heaven to help you to understand it."

Plunging immediately into the explanation, he declared, "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting

righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy." Verse 24.

The word in the original Hebrew which is here translated "determined," actually means "to cut off." (See Gesenius Hebrew Lexicon.) It is rendered in Whiting's translation as follows: "Seventy weeks have been cut off upon thy people and upon thy city." Seventy weeks of seven days to a week equal 490 days, or literal years, which are said to be determined or cut off. We now have 2300 years with a period of 490 years cut off for the Jewish people, during which time

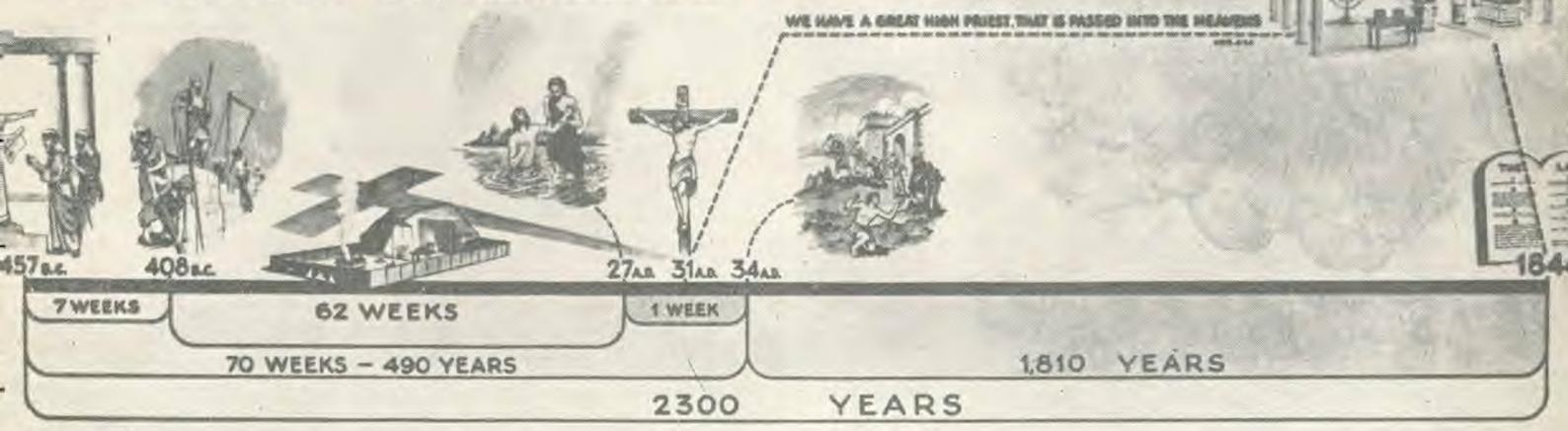
"Artaxerxes . . . unto Ezra the priest, a scribe of the law of the God of heaven." Full and complete provision is made for rebuilding the city which has during the exile been lying desolate. Authority is given for adequate civil government, even to passing the death decree upon those not found to be law abiding. (Verse 26.)

The decree went forth in the seventh year of Artaxerxes (Ezra 7:7), which was the year 457 B.C. This is a date approved by the canon of Ptolemy, the accuracy of which is established by the occurrence of more than twenty eclipses. It is one of the best established

and the oblation to cease." Daniel 9:27.

Readers will observe a week, or seven years, between the anointing of Christ, A.D. 27, and the end of the 490-year period which reached to A.D. 34. Here, then, is the week during which, "He shall confirm the covenant with many." Jesus did this by the three and one-half years of personal ministry before His crucifixion, and the three and one-half years of the ministry of His disciples. It should not be forgotten that Jesus came "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." With them He confirmed the cove-

'UNTO 2300 DAYS (YEARS): THEN SHALL THE SANCTUARY BE CLEANSED.' DANIEL 9:24



The end of the Bible's longest time prophecy, the 2300 years, marks the beginning of a notable event in heaven—the investigative judgment. This concerns every person, living or dead, because when Christ comes His reward is with Him.

they are to fill up the cup of their iniquity, to make reconciliation for sin, and to bring in everlasting righteousness. (Verse 24.)

Thus far no starting point has been established for this prophetic period. The next statement from the angel, however, gives us the point where we are to begin counting. He says, "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks." Verse 25.

Seven weeks and threescore and two weeks make a total of 69 weeks—483 days, or literal years. Begin when the decree goes forth to rebuild Jerusalem, instructed the angel, and count 483 years and it will bring you to Messiah the Prince. Provided this is the correct interpretation of the prophecy, we should have unmistakable mathematical evidence that Jesus Christ is the true Messiah.

Our next step is to find the decree and establish the date for the rebuilding of Jerusalem. It is recorded in Ezra 7:12-26, and is the decree of

dates in history, for God knew that much would hang upon it.

Beginning at 457 B.C. we count 69 weeks or 483 literal years, and, if the interpretation is correct, it will bring us to the Messiah. Thus 483 full years from the fall of 457 B.C. brings us to A.D. 27, or to the anointing of the Messiah.

The meaning of the word "Messiah" should be our next consideration. It is a Hebrew word, and its Greek equivalent is Christ. Both mean in English the "Anointed One." Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:38), and the anointing took place on the occasion of His baptism by John in Jordan, A.D. 27. (Matthew 3:13-17.)

Here is mathematical proof that Jesus is the true Messiah, and also proof that establishes beyond question the year-day principle of interpreting symbolic Bible prophecy.

Let us proceed, for there are even more striking details. Speaking of the Messiah, the angel continues, "And He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice

nant for one week, or until A.D. 34, when the gospel was to go to the Gentiles.

"In the midst of the week" He was to "cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease." At this time, said the angel, "shall Messiah be cut off." Verse 26. Is it not strange that the world could bear with the sinless Son of God only a few short years before branding Him as worthy of death? In the spring of A.D. 31—just three and one-half years after He began His public ministry—"in the midst of the week" He was crucified. When this occurred the sacrifices and oblations of the Levitical system which prefigured His death were to cease. Type had met Anti-type. Henceforth there could be no significance in the temple service. This was indicated at the time of Jesus' death, by the rending of the temple veil from top to bottom. (Matthew 27:51.)

Please note that after A.D. 34 there yet remained 1810 years of the 2300-year prophecy. Adding this to A.D. 34 we arrive at the time when the cleans-

(Please turn to page 23)



BIBLE ANSWERS

by your Bible Answerman

Send your Bible and religious questions to "The Bible Answerman"
Box 398, Oshawa, Ontario

Dear Bible Answerman: I hear considerable discussion as to which day is the Lord's day. Will you please give me the Bible answer?

I will certainly try to give a Bible answer—any other would be of questionable value. In Mark 2:28 Christ says, "The Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath." Clearly, then, the Lord's day is the day that Christ claims to be Lord of—that day is the Sabbath day. Isaiah also gives us something on this: "If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father." Isaiah 58:13, 14.

Some take from Revelation 1:10 that the Lord's day is Sunday. But as we read it we see that the prophet does not name any particular day: "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet." As far as this verse is concerned the Lord's day could be Tuesday or Thursday, but when we compare it with other passages we discover that the Lord claims the Sabbath as His day.

Dear Mr. Answerman: Inasmuch as God commanded man to multiply, I should like to know if polygamy is sin.

It is true that God commanded man to be fruitful and multiply and to fill the earth; but it would seem, if He intended him to have more than one wife, that He would have made more than one for Adam. The fact is that He did not—He made them male and female. And then, too, why not put it the other way around: why does a woman not have as much right to two or more husbands?

We find that some good men in olden time fell into the error of taking

more than one wife, but this was never with the approval of God. Abraham at the suggestion of Sarah took Hagar also to wife, but it created a serious problem for his household. He had many sorrows and heartaches—heartaches which he would have avoided had he believed God and waited in patience for the promised heir. Jacob had more than one wife in accordance with the custom of the time, but his life was made miserable with their bickering and jealousy. David was another who fell into that same error to his sorrow; while Solomon, his son, multiplied wives more than all his predecessors. He married the idolatrous princesses of the surrounding nations, and they turned his heart away from the worship of the God of his fathers to the worship of Baal. He built groves and erected altars for the worship of the sun—he laid the foundation of the national apostasy that developed soon after his death.

Jesus in His teachings brought us back to the garden of Eden plan: "For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife [singular]." Matthew 19:5.

Dear Bible Answerman: If Adam and Eve were the first parents on earth, as the Bible states, and they begat Cain and Abel, where did Cain get his wife? G. A. T., Nova Scotia.

This does not really present much of a problem when we study it a bit. First, we should read Genesis 5:3, 4: "Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth: and the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters." I think most people overlook the last word of that verse—"daughters." We think that Adam and Eve had only sons. Without doubt Cain in due process of time married one of his beautiful and lovely sisters. That was the divine plan at that time of populating the earth. When we remember the great ages of the people then we can see that it was possible for Cain to have married a younger sister and still they could have lived together for hundreds of years.

Another verse that ought to be read in this same connection is Genesis 3:20: "Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living." Therefore Eve, being the mother of all living, must of necessity have been the mother of Cain's wife. In the New Testament we read that God has made of one blood all nations for to dwell on the face of the earth. While there may be different national and racial characteristics, still all peoples have one blood, for they have one ancestry.

Dear Bible Answerman: The Bible gives the names of the seven churches of Asia. What are these churches called to-day? Do they represent the different religions? W. H.

These churches as such do not exist to-day. As given in Revelation they represent church periods covering the entire Christian dispensation. The first, Ephesus, covers the period from the time of Christ to A. D. 100. The date of the next church period,



Smyrna, would be from A.D. 100-323. Pergamos extends from A.D. 323 to A.D. 538, at the establishment of the papacy. The Thyatiran period reaches from A.D. 538 to A.D. 1798. Sardis, the Church of the Reformation, dates from 1798 to 1833. Philadelphia from 1833 to 1844. And Laodicea from 1844 until Jesus comes.

Dear Answerman: Where does the soul stay while the body is in the grave? If the Bible gives information on this I would very much appreciate having it.

The Bible gives us the answer to this question, but we must start at the beginning. The first thing to ascertain is, "What is the soul?" Many entertain the idea that the soul is a little being, a little man, which lives within every human being, awaiting the opportunity of escape at the time of death. Then, having escaped from the prison house of the body, it soars away to regions unknown. Some think it goes to the specific places of purgatory or paradise. Others believe it leads an ethereal existence and flits from cloud to cloud. However, all are agreed that the soul is conscious, and many believe that it has the ability to know what is going on here on earth, and to communicate with friends and loved ones.

This is a very serious matter, and the troublesome part of it is, no living person has had any experimental knowledge; that is, no one has ever died and come back to tell us just how things are on the other side.

We do have, though, that which is better and more trustworthy even than experimental knowledge. We have the Word of God. It must surely be conceded that the God who created man in the beginning knows what becomes of him when he dies.

Genesis 2:7 gives us some information on this: "The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Man is the crowning work of God's creation as far as this earth is concerned. He may be said to be a machine—a living machine, possessing intelligence. In the construction of this first machine, Adam, God made it of the dust of the ground—rather of the elements of the earth. But it was lifeless. It did not have physical life, and no thought processes coursed through the mind of Adam—no emotions of love, hatred, or anger filled his heart. God desired to have a living machine, not a dead one, so He "breathed into his [Adam's] nostrils the breath of life" and Adam "became a living soul." That is, he became a living, conscious, intelligent entity. But it should be noted that his life was the product of the joining together

of the "dust of the ground" and the "breath of life."

The story of the rich man and Lazarus is generally given in support of the conscious state of the dead; but it should be observed that this is but a parable, and it was far from the intention of Jesus to teach that the rich man went to hell because he was rich and that the beggar went to heaven because he was poor and full of sores.

Likewise Jesus' words to the thief on the cross are misunderstood, owing to a superficial reading. The story is that the good thief asked Jesus to remember him when He came into His kingdom. Jesus responded: "Verily I say unto thee, To-day shalt thou be with Me in paradise." Paradise is the place where God is, but let it be noted that the thief did not ask to go to paradise. He asked to be remembered when Jesus came into His kingdom. The fact is that Jesus has not yet come into His kingdom; nor will He come into it until He comes the second time.

Jesus did not promise to take him to paradise that day, the day He hung upon the cross. He did, however, make him the promise that day in His apparent helplessness that He would remember him in His kingdom. We know, too, that Jesus did not take the good thief to paradise that day because the thief did not die that day.

The crucifixions occurred on Friday, the day before the Sabbath. Now it was the custom of the Jews that no criminal might hang on the cross over the Sabbath day; so they broke their legs that they might not escape. Here is the record of it in John 19:31-33: "The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the Sabbath day, (for that Sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that He was dead already, they brake not His legs."

Signs of the Times

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The Editor
SIGNS OF THE TIMES
Oshawa, Ontario

Dear Bible Answerman: Do I understand correctly that we have everlasting life in this life when we believe in Christ?

The Bible teaches us that we have it by faith. When we accept Christ by faith then we have the righteousness of God: "Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference." Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24. "He that hath the Son hath the life; he that hath not the Son of God hath not the life: These things have I written unto you, that ye may know that ye have eternal life, even unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God." 1 John 5: 12, 13, A.R.V.

The apostle Paul sets this great truth forth very clearly in Galatians 2:20: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in Me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."

It is very true that all are conceived in sin. "There is none righteous, no, not one." Romans 3:10. Isaiah depicts the true condition of the heart when he says: "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 the sinner recognizes his sinful condition and realizes that there is not one thing that he can do about it himself, and when he comes to Christ, confesses his sins and obtains forgiveness, then the Lord works that miracle of transformation called "conversion" or the "new birth," and from that moment that individual possesses eternal life. He possesses it by faith, and he will possess it by actuality when Jesus comes if he is faithful until that time.

Dear Bible Answerman: Will you please give me the name of the mother of the virgin Mary. Mrs. W. H.

I am very sorry that I am unable to do this. The genealogies of both Matthew and Luke demonstrate the descent of Joseph, not Mary, from David. However, her descent from the priestly tribe of Levi may be supported by the fact that Elizabeth, the wife of the priest Zacharias, is called her cousin in Luke 1:36.

AN UNBROKEN chain of Christian Sabbath-keepers extends from the apostolic church through the Middle Ages."—*History of the Sabbath*, J. N. Andrews and L. R. Conradi, p. 632. After Martin Luther began leading out in the Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century, both the Reformers and the Catholic leaders had about a generation in which to take their stand fully for Bible truth, in harmony with the Protestant platform, *the Scriptures alone* to be the foundation of their faith. By failing to return to the keeping of the fourth commandment, however, which was observed and advocated by some in Reformation times, the general body of the Reformers failed to live up to their great Protestant standard, and so lost their golden opportunity to win the world back to complete obedience to God through faith in Christ. The Reformation was never completed. As Dr. Philip Schaff says, "The Reformation of the sixteenth century is not a finale, but a movement still in progress."—*German Reformation*, I, pp. 7, 8.

Having waited as long as He can, until the very last generation of mankind, God is finally bringing the Reformation to its full and grand completion. The whole world is being enlightened; loyal companies and churches of Sabbath-keepers have already been gathered out in hundreds of languages and dialects as the message speeds onward.

Owing to the fact that Protestant Reformers in general clung to the keeping of Sunday, a day founded on Catholic tradition alone, Catholic leaders were finally emboldened at the Council of Trent to reject the Reformation. The following is a matter of history:

"Finally, at the last opening on the eighteenth of January, 1562, their last scruple was set aside; the Archbishop of Reggio made a speech in which he openly declared that tradition stood above Scripture. The authority of the church could therefore not be bound to the authority of the Scriptures, because the church had changed Sabbath into Sunday, not by the command of Christ, but by its own authority."—*Canon and Tradition*, Dr. H. J. Holtzman, p. 263.

Rome's Challenge to Protestants

"You will tell me that Saturday was the Jewish Sabbath, but that the Christian Sabbath has been changed to Sunday. Changed! but by whom? Who has authority to change an express commandment of Almighty God? When God has spoken and said,



The sinner bound with the chains of sin can never know the rest, peace and comfort of an obedient life.

H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

Thou shalt keep holy the seventh day, who shall dare to say, Nay, thou mayest work and do all manner of worldly business on the seventh day; but thou shalt keep holy the first day in its stead? This is a most important question, which I know not how you can answer.

"You are a Protestant, and you profess to go by the Bible and the Bible only; and yet in so important a matter as the observance of one day in seven as a holy day, you go against the plain letter of the Bible, and put another day in the place of that day which the Bible has commanded. The command to keep holy the seventh day is one of the ten commandments; you believe that the other nine are still binding; who gave you authority to tamper with the fourth? If you are consistent with your own principles, if you really follow the Bible and the Bible only, you ought to be able to produce some portion of the New Testament in which this fourth commandment is expressly altered."—*Library of Christian Doctrine: Why Don't You Keep Holy the Sabbath Day?* pp. 3, 4.

The Remnant Church Divinely Described

The description of the remnant church, the last state of the Christian church on earth, is as follows: "The remnant . . . which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17. "Here are they that keep the *commandments of God*, and the *faith of Jesus*. . . . And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. . . . And the earth was reaped." Revelation 14:12-16. "The harvest is the end of the world." Matthew 13:39. Who are the people described in these verses? They are those who are to-day teaching the keeping of all the commandments and the faith of Jesus. They are preparing the world for Christ's second coming. The distinguishing difference between them and the general body of professed Christians, is that they keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, "the seventh day" of the week. They look for the soon coming of Jesus.

Christians keep the commandments of God because they are saved by grace. They keep them through faith in the blood of the Lamb, in harmony with the statements of Paul: "By grace are ye saved through *faith*." "We have redemption through His blood." Ephesians 2:8; 1:7. They bring their lives into harmony with these scriptures: "He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked." 1 John 2:6. "I have

There is special comfort for all who are willing and obedient. They are following in the footsteps of Jesus, who foretold of Himself in prophecy, "I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. . . . I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with Me." Isaiah 63:1-3. Jesus is ever close to them with divine comfort, holy cheer, heavenly blessing, and continual victory, ever mighty to

the pillar of cloud by day and in the pillar of fire by night, keeping watch over His own. "The children of Israel did eat manna forty years," which tasted like "wafers made with honey" and "fresh oil." Exodus 16:35, 31; Numbers 11:8. Their water was brought miraculously out of "the rock of flint." Deuteronomy 8:15. Moses said, "I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not

Comfort in Obedience

kept My Father's commandments." John 15:10. To follow Jesus we must keep, as He did, His Father's commandments. Such a people must be recognized by others to be faithful to the great foundational doctrines of the Bible. Thus a president of the International Federation of Christian Workers, representing the great Protestant bodies, in a book on various beliefs, wrote:

"There are no fundamental grounds of disagreement between the organized church of Jesus Christ and the Seventh-day Adventist. . . . On all the cardinal doctrines of the Bible—the miraculous conception, the virgin birth, the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, the deity of Christ, the atonement of Christ, the second coming, the personality of the Holy Spirit, and the infallible Bible—the Seventh-day Adventist rings true as steel."—*In the Kingdom*, Dr. J. E. Brown, pp. 5, 6.

Speaking of the widespread work of this people, a leading organ of one of the large denominations said: "Their missionaries are found in every quarter of the earth." This is true. Missionary work is being carried on in over eight hundred languages and dialects. They have thousands of churches, schools and evangelists, a great medical work, and a vast literature work. Their various world-wide activities prove convincingly that Sabbath-keepers are richly sustained through Jesus in all languages and circumstances all around the earth, even in the most darkened heathen lands. The aim of this people is to prepare as many as possible for the Saviour's soon return.

save them to the uttermost under all circumstances.

There is joy for them in the precious promises of God: "Hearken to Me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Look unto Abraham . . . for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him. For the Lord shall comfort Zion: He will comfort all her waste places; and He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody." Isaiah 51:1-3. God provides abundant joy and blessing to sustain the one who takes his stand on the proposition of obedience. The Lord says, "I, even I, am He that *comforteth* you: who art thou, that thou shouldst be afraid of a man that shall die?" Verse 12.

Jesus Cares for His Followers

Let us now consider one of the most marvellous examples of God's care. He provided for the Israelites, a vast host of itinerant Sabbath-keepers, during their forty years of wandering in the wilderness. This extraordinary care was exercised through Christ, for we read, "They drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." 1 Corinthians 10:4. It was Christ who was enshrined in

waxen old upon thy foot." Deuteronomy 29:5. "He spread a cloud for a covering; and fire to give light in the night." Psalm 105:39. All this was done by God through Christ that "they might observe His statutes, and keep His laws." Verse 45. Those mighty miracles show that God will sustain every loyal, obedient soul to-day.

Says Jesus in counselling those who are worried that they will not get along all right when they begin to serve and obey Him: "Take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? . . . But seek ye *first* the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be *added* unto you." Matthew 6:31-33. "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. . . . Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:18-20.

The comfort and blessing of the shepherd psalm may be claimed particularly by those who choose to follow wholly in the footsteps of Jesus: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." Psalm 23.

By
John W. Halliday



HAROLD M. LAMBERT

Although the farmer cannot understand the mystery of plant growth, yet by faith he casts his seed into the bosom of the earth, and God gives a bountiful harvest.

FAITH is one of the most vital and important of all Christian virtues. It is one of the three graces which will abide the ravages of time and reach into the eternity of the future. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." 1 Corinthians 13:13.

How important is faith? "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:6. Without faith, good works and sacrifice are of no avail. There is no other way to gain the favour of God and be saved except by faith. At the baptism of Jesus, the voice of the Father was heard from heaven saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." This was because of His great faith, the greatest this world has ever known.

But why is faith so important? Because of its conquering power. " whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4. Only a few men have become world conquerors through military power. Among these were Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, Alexander the Great, and Julius Caesar. But their triumph was short lived. Many others attempted to become world rulers and failed. Such was the fate of Charlemagne, Louis XIV, Charles V, Napoleon Bonaparte, and Adolph Hitler.

Human glory is transitory. "All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away: but the Word of the Lord endureth forever." 1 Peter 1:24, 25.

When Xerxes was leading his great army on his ill-fated campaign into Greece, after crossing the Hellespont he had a marble throne erected from whence he could view his vast army and great fleet. Suddenly he began to weep. A surprised officer asked him why he wept. He answered, "Because my vast army, as numerous as it is, in a hundred years will all be in their graves." Within a few months, thousands of his soldiers were slain on the field of battle. The brevity and uncertainty of life should cause serious contemplation on the part of every human being.

The Worthy Conqueror

There has been only one conqueror worthy of the name. Speaking of the second advent of Christ, the apostle Paul wrote: "Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign, till He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." 1 Corinthians 15:24-26.

On the island of St. Helena, the banished Napoleon said to his attending officer: "Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne and I founded great empires. But upon what did the creations of our genius depend? Upon force. Jesus Christ alone founded His empire upon love, and thousands will die for Him to-day." In the Scriptures we read concerning the permanency of the kingdom of Christ: "Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end." "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteous-

ness is the sceptre of Thy kingdom." Isaiah 9:7; Hebrews 1:8.

Irvin Cobb, the humourist, said many amusing things. But he also had some sober thoughts. He said: "Out of all history, you'll find but one world conqueror who came with clean hands—and those hands the soldiers pierced with iron spikes as they nailed the Nazarene to the cross." Julian, the emperor of Rome, attempted to break the Word of God in the rebuilding of the temple at Jerusalem, but he failed. Standing on the heights of Antioch, he cried out, "Thou hast conquered, O pale Galilean."

Under the leadership of Christ, the apostolic church is seen by the revelator under the symbol of a white horse with his rider going forth "conquering and to conquer." In a later vision the forces of righteousness under the same divine leadership are seen going forth in the final charge against the hosts of evil, pictured as a great army riding upon white horses. Their leader is called "The Word of God" and "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." (See Revelation 6:1, 2; 19:11-16.)

Ever Victorious

Jesus has never known defeat. He has never lost a battle. During His earthly visit He often unsheathed the sword of the Spirit and put to flight the prince of devils. He fought over and won the victory on every battlefield where man has met the enemy. While we belong to a defeated race, Satan is a defeated foe. He conquered man, but Christ conquered him. Christ was a world conqueror, and by faith we can appropriate His victories and be world conquerors. "In all

A VITAL VIRTUE

By Taylor G. Bunch

these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us." Romans 8:37.

For this reason we can say with the apostle Paul: "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57. Victory is a gift obtained only by faith. Not an occasional triumph, but a continual triumphal procession. "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place." 2 Corinthians 2:14. "Always" and "in every place" make defeat at any time or under any circumstances unnecessary.

When we appropriate Christ's victory through faith, it then becomes "the good fight of faith." It is no longer our fight, but faith does the fighting for us and always wins. This is the only kind of fighting that is called "good." Just before his martyrdom Paul said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." "I have gone through the glorious contest," is another translation. Fighting with the weapon of faith is a glorious experience. Defeating the prince of this world by faith in Christ makes us world conquerors.

The Shield of Faith

The great warfare between the soldiers of the cross and the hosts of evil is pictured in Ephesians 6:11-17. The secret of victory is clearly set forth. Christians must be clothed with the complete armour of God if they would emerge victorious from the struggle. Their battles are not with human beings but with supernatural forces,

"spiritual wickedness ["wicked spirits," margin] in high places." They must be able to meet all the stratagems of the devil and his trained warriors; "the forces that control and govern this dark world." "Therefore put on the complete armour of God, so that you may be able to stand your ground in the evil day, and, having fought to the end, to remain victors on the field." Weymouth.

What is most important is not which side is in possession of the battlefield at the beginning of the war or even during it, but who is in control when the war is over. The axis powers were in possession of many lands in the earlier days of the recent war but lost them all in the end. The forces of darkness may control and govern this dark world now, but when the struggle is over the saints of the Most High will possess the battlefield through all eternity. The divine promise to the Christian conqueror is, "Ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 4:3. "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5.

The part of the Christian armour that is declared to be "above all" in importance is the "shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." In ancient warfare, the shield was of greater protection than any other part of the armour. It could be swung about to protect any part of the body, thus providing a double protection to the place endangered by sword strokes, spear thrusts, or flying arrows. While the complete armour is necessary, it is

the shield of faith that protects from "all the flaming darts of the wicked one." Weymouth. The Christian warrior should therefore learn how to use this shield skilfully.

What Is Faith?

In the epistle to the Hebrews, the writer declares that "the just shall live by faith," and that the Lord finds no pleasure in those who lose their faith in Him and His Word. He said that such persons "draw back unto perdition." The apostle then proceeds to define faith and give illustrations of its saving and conquering power. (See Hebrews 10:38, 39; 11.) "Faith," he said, "is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen," or as rendered by Doctor Weymouth, "Now faith is a confident assurance of that for which we hope, a conviction of the reality of things which we do not see."

Practically everything the Christian hopes for is out of sight, except as it is seen through the eye of faith. Paul declared that Christians "look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:18. Faith becomes the title-deed or evidence of property that is real but has never been seen by the purchaser. Faith, therefore, is evidence with no evidence in sight except confidence in the Word of God. Faith is taking God at His word, it is depending on the Word of God with no evidence visible to the physical sight or senses. A "thus saith the Lord" is sufficient evidence to the child of faith.

The writer then proves his definition by a series of illustrations taken from the experience of the heroes of faith in the previous ages. Since the creation took place so long ago that there are no living human witnesses, faith accepts the biblical account that God through His word made every visible thing out of nothing. It was because of his faith in the word of God that Noah, with no evidence in sight, told of a coming deluge and prepared an ark to save those who believed. He believed when "warned of God of things not seen as yet." Abraham accepted God's word as sufficient evidence of an unseen inheritance, "and he went out, not knowing whither he went," and found that God's word was dependable.

A Gentile centurion came to Jesus and told Him of the apparently fatal sickness of his servant. Jesus told him He would come and heal him. The Roman officer said he was not worthy that Jesus should enter his house, but

(Please turn to page 23)

LAWLESSNESS

(Continued from page 13)

of a large engineering firm in London where every newcomer is expected to dodge as much work as possible, criticize the management, and run down the foreman. Otherwise, a youth is in for a hard time from his fellow employees.

The Council naturally is much perturbed that youth must begin life in such an atmosphere, which, we understand, is all too common in industry.

It looks very much as if industry is in for serious trouble unless something is done to restore the manhood of workers who appear to have lost it.

FEARFUL POWER

(Continued from page 3)

hemorrhage and infections following the destruction of white blood cells. About half of the animals survived to be brought back to the U. S. laboratories for further study." However, many of those brought back have now died from the effects of radioactivity. The ships that survived, we are told, will be radioactive for years.

The Elements Dissolve

The God who created the atom-composed elements which make up this earth has foretold their dissolution when Christ comes the second time: "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?" 2 Peter 3:10-12.

It appears from this that the God who made the atoms in the beginning will, when the time comes, do some "atom splitting" Himself. We are living in times that are unparalleled in their gravity. Jesus, looking down the centuries, saw these days and foretold that men's hearts would fail them for fear.

The outlook, however, is not wholly dark. Jesus gave us the bright side in the next verses: "Then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:27, 28.

The present condition of fear is a

signpost showing us where we are living in relation to the second coming of our Lord. We are told to "look up" when these things begin to occur—the Lord's coming is near. "Your redemption draweth nigh." Jesus will fulfil the promise He made to His followers so long ago—the promise that He would come again and receive them unto Himself. It is time now to make immediate preparation to meet Jesus in peace when He comes. A moment of time, as it were, remains—why not use it wisely in making ready to meet the inevitable?

TRICHINOSIS

(Continued from page 7)

Do you know what he later said God had shown him by this vision? Suppose we read that. It is in the same chapter that records the vision, Acts 10:28: "Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean." "Common or unclean"—the very words that the apostle used in the vision when he said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." So Peter never applied that vision to the pig at all, you see. And I am sure that if we Christians would stand by the interpretation that Peter says God gave him through this vision, some of us would enjoy a better degree of health and vitality than we do.

Several years ago I bought a new car. It was the first new car I ever had, and I was pretty sure it would be some years before I could afford another. So I read the directions put out by the company that manufactured that car, and I was pretty careful about following them too. There were certain instructions I could have ignored and yet my car would have run all right for a while, anyway. I might have reasoned, Why bother to keep this car down to thirty-five miles an hour for the first five hundred miles, just because the manufacturers say I should? After all, this is my car and I have the right to do as I please about it. I might have stepped it up to forty, forty-five, fifty miles an hour, and I am pretty sure the mechanism would have held together all right. I might have reasoned, Why trouble to change the oil in the engine at the end of the first five hundred miles? I might have run it a thousand, possibly ten thousand miles without changing the oil, and without breaking down the new car, then and there. All very true, no doubt; but you and I both know that later I would have paid for my disobedience to those

rules. I would have had a prematurely old car on my hands, and one that was sick a good deal of the time.

My friends, shall we show more confidence in the Chrysler Corporation, the Ford Motor Company, or General Motors, than we do in the Creator of a far more wonderful and delicate organism, the human body? Is it good sense to say, No one is going to tell me what to eat or what not to eat, when it is our Creator who has told us these things for our own good? Shall we take the matter in our own hands and reason that just because the indulgence of some forbidden practice does not lay us flat on our backs or put us immediately into the hospital, therefore the prohibition is needless or Jewish or something else that is not very complimentary to the God of heaven? God forbid. Let us use at least as sound reasoning about the Bible as we do about business matters.

And let none imagine that the only health rule in the Bible is the one about swine's flesh. We have simply chosen that one as an example, that is all. Neither would we like anyone to suppose that we think that all God had in mind in prohibiting the use of that creature's flesh was to keep men from contracting trichinosis. He who made the beast, said it was unclean, unfit for food in any way, shape, or form. He said nothing about its being diseased. That is something that science says about it; and we have quoted science because it seems that many people have more confidence in their doctor than they have in their God.

According to the testimony of medical science, no doubt some who read these words are suffering as the result of eating pork in some form. You have heard how prevalent trichinosis is said to be. But if you will resolve to quit eating what God has said we shall not eat, the experience of John 5:14 may be your experience, too. We read there that our Lord said to a certain man, "Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." This man's sickness was the direct result of his disobedience to God in something, you see. "Now you are made whole, you are well," Jesus said; "sin no more lest something worse than what you had come upon you."

Yes, Jesus wants His children to be well. He wants us to follow these rules of healthful living that He has laid down in His Book, because He wants us to enjoy health. And so anxious is He, my dear friends, that His followers shall be well that when He was on earth He went about healing people who had brought on their diseases by disobedience to God. And He is still the same Jesus.

THE JUDGMENT IS COME

(Continued from page 15)

ing of the sanctuary is to begin. The date is 1844.

Reader, we have come to the close of this astounding time prophecy. We have reached one of the most important dates in the history of man. All other dates of this prophecy, important as they may be, serve only as steppingstones to 1844. Here is a date so important that the God of heaven saw fit to point it out twenty-five hundred years ago.

That which began in 1844 and is continuing to-day concerns our eternal salvation. Ought not we to accept anew, with all our heart, the proffered salvation of the One whose life was in the midst of the week "cut off, but not for Himself," and then prayerfully seek to understand the meaning of the work begun for us in 1844?

A VITAL VIRTUE

(Continued from page 21)

that if He would "speak the word only" his servant would be made well. Jesus spoke the word, and the officer went home rejoicing with no visible evidence except the word of Christ. Jesus declared that He had never seen such faith, "no, not in Israel." When Peter asked for an invitation to come to Jesus on the water, Jesus said "Come," and Peter, taking Jesus at His word, walked on the water. His faith in the word of Christ was the "substance" that held him up on the very waters into which he had as a fisherman often sunk. Things invisible become real, and things impossible become facts through faith.

There are two kinds of faith: one living, and the other dead. Living faith is the kind that acts and moves to obedience. The evidence of its existence is demonstrated by what it does, for "faith without works is dead." Dead faith is the mere acknowledgment of truth without walking in its counsel. The apostle declared that "the devils also believe, and tremble" but do not obey. Their faith is dead and therefore has no saving grace or conquering power. The world is filled with people with dead faith. They know the truth but do not obey it. We are told that Noah not only believed that a flood was coming, but he "moved with fear, and prepared an ark to the saving of his house." Living faith is an active, moving principle that walks in every ray of light that comes. This is the kind of faith that goes forth "conquering and to conquer," that "overcomes the world." We need to pray the prayer of the disciples of old, "Lord, increase our faith."

NOVEMBER, 1947



The DOCTOR'S VOICE



Stomach Gas

Question: Does stomach gas indicate the non-digestion of food?

ANSWER: Stomach gas can be caused by swallowing air as a result of nervousness, or by fermentation when coarse vegetables and fruits are eaten at the same meal. In the latter instance fruits digest first but are held up from leaving the stomach by slower digesting vegetables, e.g., beans. Where a low gastric acidity is present (hypochlorhydria), digestion of protein foods is impaired and gas is often complained of, though not always.

Two-Meal Schedule

Question: Should as many calories be eaten on a two-meal-a-day schedule as when three meals are eaten?

ANSWER: On a two-meal-a-day schedule it is not necessary to eat as many calories as at three regular meals, but more calories are required than would be eaten at two. Until one gets adjusted to two meals a day there is usually a loss of weight. Calories have to be added until weight is maintained.

Sweets

Question: What is the best kind of sweets to eat, and when is the best time to eat them?

ANSWER: The best sweets are those that nature provides in fruits, especially dates and figs. Honey is about one tenth as concentrated as jam, hence is less irritating to the stomach. Honey should, however, be used in moderation, especially if one is getting older and there is any tendency to diabetes.

Nasal Discharge

Question: I have noticed that I sometimes have a mucous discharge from my nose after eating ice cream or after eating a meal of bread and milk. What is the cause of this?

ANSWER: As far as is known, milk is not actually "mucus-forming," except where there is a definite allergy to milk. In such a case allergy might be evidenced by hives, hay fever, or asthma, or gastro-intestinal disturbances.

Cramps

Question: Please tell me what causes cramps of the leg muscles between the knee and the ankle.

ANSWER: Cramps in the calf muscles are usually due to impaired circulation to the extremities, as occurs in Buerger's disease (usually attributable to use of tobacco); or arteriosclerosis of advanced degree in elderly patients. In both instances cramps come on after exercise. Night cramps are due to a relative impairment of circulation and can often be relieved by elevating the head of the bed about six inches. In both instances tobacco is best omitted.

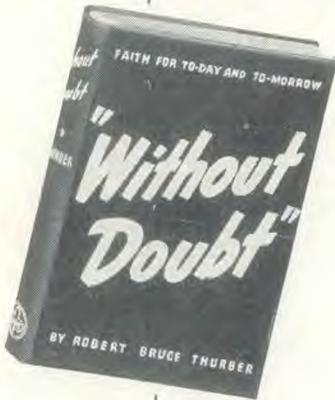
Eczema

Question: Can you tell me the cause of eczema, and suggest a cure? I am troubled only in the hot weather.

ANSWER: Allergy is the accepted cause of eczema. It may be due to direct contact as, e.g., nylons, synthetic dyes, and various chemicals. Allergy to food is common. Most frequent offenders are shellfish, pork, meats, milk, eggs, wheat. Overfatigue may tip the scales and precipitate an attack. The remedy is to eliminate the offending food entirely for from three to six months and then gradually go onto it again. To discover the offender, scratch tests are helpful or elimination diets. Starting with a very simple diet, one food is added daily until the condition is aggravated. Deficiency of vitamin F, one of the best sources of which is corn oil (Mazola), may be relieved by substituting corn oil for butter. Corn oil or olive oil may be applied to the skin during the day and an ointment at night. Tar ointments or Lassar's paste are often employed. Steam baths or real hot tub baths may shorten an attack. In elderly people kidney impairment may be a causative factor and may be demonstrated by determination of level of waste products in the blood. Time and expense usually are saved by consulting a physician in order to determine the exact cause.

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