

Signs of the Times





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Many in the social, political and religious world are bound by others' thoughts. This is far from the will of God, who would have all men think for themselves. The Creator, who gave to man the power of choice, calls upon him to break the shackles and to launch out into the field of independent thought and investigation.

The RENUNCIATION of THOUGHT

THE moral decline of man is evident on every hand. The prevalent lack of positive conviction and independence in regard to various aspects of life is a conspicuous sign of this decline. The growing gullibility of the general public is alarming.

We have mass production of material things. Standardization is the modern password. We also have a mass production of ideas. Let the newspapers, magazines and the radio

tell us again and again in the most intriguing manner how our health, happiness, and social success is dependent on the use of such and such a product, and millions stream to the counters where it can be purchased. It is the same with political and even religious ideas. There is altogether too little thought as to the true value of the product sold or the ideas advocated.

Albert Schweitzer, famed genius and scholar who many years ago be-

came a missionary in Africa, pondered over this situation in his jungle medical office and wrote about it in his book *Out of My Life and Thought*. Under the subject "The Renunciation of Thought" he states:

"With the spirit of the age I am in complete disagreement, because it is filled with disdain for thinking. . . . The spirit of the age never lets him [man] think for himself. Over and over again convictions are forced upon

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him. . . By means of the electric advertisements which flare in the streets of every large town, any company which has sufficient capital to get itself securely established exercises pressure on him at every step he takes to induce him to buy their boot polish or their soup tablets. . . It will ever remain incomprehensible that our generation which has shown itself so great by its achievements in discovery and invention, could fall so low spiritually as to give up thinking. Renunciation of thinking is a declaration of spiritual bankruptcy."—Quoted in *Saturday Review of Literature*, Jan. 15, 1949.

It is surprising how great masses of people even in the most enlightened lands, succumb without thought or reason to the smooth promises of some bold political leader. More and more, society is being divided into groups that are led by strong-minded persons. Group action is often used as a means for the suppression of thinking. Once a person has sworn allegiance to a certain group, he soon finds he has lost all freedom of action and must without thought go along with whatever action is decreed. All too often these days the liberties that men have held dear are sold for a mess of pottage.

There is grave danger for the world when so many are relinquishing their power of choice. To know when and how to refuse the evil and to choose the good and to do it is the highest state of manhood. The honour and moral force of a group is only as great as the sincerity and moral honesty of the people who compose it.

True democracy does not rob a man of his initiative, but, as one has said, protects the citizens "in their beliefs, their thoughts, their emotions and their right to be let alone." The surrender of the right to think for one's self is a blow at the democratic system. The growing willingness on the part of so many to-day to surrender such rights for some dubious return is a striking sign of moral decline.

Conformity, not independence, is the word of the hour. For one to stand apart in the matter of dress and not follow the mode dictated by some arbitrary czar of fashion is to be looked upon as an oddity. The same is true of automobiles, of washing machines, of radios, or of furniture in general. Once men bought household effects with an eye to their lasting qualities. Now we are driven to keep up the payments on new models which must be changed from year to year in order to "keep up with the Joneses."

And as to new political ideas, those who seize control of government by one means or another, see to it that all are made to conform to their plans. The all-powerful state, which orders

the lives of its citizens in all its aspects even to the question of what they can think, is taking over vast areas of the earth.

The idea of conformity is being extended to the religious world. Roman Catholics insist that they have the only true faith, and that it is right that they insist on universal conformity to Catholic doctrine. In those lands where Catholics have the power to do so, they suppress all activity that seeks to persuade anyone that this stand of the Roman Church is wrong. The answer they give to Protestants when invited to join them in seeking ways to Christian unity is that there is only one way and that is a return to the mother church.

Protestants, too, are seeking unity. They call the divisions of the church a sin and scandal, and they are seeking means to correct it. One conference after another is being called in the interest of church unity. Among the great Protestant bodies this is becoming a popular issue.

In regard to none of these matters should the individual surrender his right to think things through. We are not to conform in any manner merely because it is the popular trend of the moment, or perhaps even because one is forced to do so. Particularly in the matter of religion should one keep his independence of thought. Unless one is fully persuaded in his own mind by testimony that is beyond doubt, he should accept no tenet of faith, or make no move of a religious nature.

The Christian must never renounce his right to think. Christ encouraged His disciples and His hearers to think. Again and again He said to them, "What think ye?" (Matthew 18:12; 22:42; 26:66; Mark 14:64.) At one time when Christ was very popular and large groups of people began to leave Him because they could not endure His doctrine, He said to His dis-

By FREDERICK LEE

ciples: "Will ye also go away?" Good was the testimony of Peter who replied, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." John 6:66-68.

Peter did not drift with the tide of popularity. He had made his decision, and his consequent conviction was strong. This is what all Christians to-day need to learn to do. Bible prophecy refers to a time in the last days when everyone on earth will be asked to conform to a certain politico-ecclesiastical power. All who do so will receive a mark. Those who refuse will

not be permitted to buy or sell. (Read Revelation 13:11-18.)

The world is being conditioned for such a situation as this. As men refuse to take their stand on the issues of the day, elect to yield up principle rather than defend the right, surrender their liberties for the uncertain promise of security, compromise with religious truth in order to appease popular clamour, they will be weakening their moral fortitude, and thus be ready to yield complete obeisance to those forces that will be fighting against God in the last days.

Our only salvation is to keep the conscience keen, never compromise with truth, and contend for those liberties which men must have for the development of Christian character. Do not join the crowd to do evil. Study closely the Word of God and adhere to its teachings though all men should forsake them.

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve," warns the Lord. The power of choice is the most sacred trust God has given to man. Without it man is no better than the beasts. To yield up that power at any time is a dangerous precedent, for it may lead to bondage worse than death.

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong (1 Corinthians 16:13), is an admonition of God that is most applicable to-day.

JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

(Continued from page 15)

John calls Him "Lord of lords, and King of kings." Revelation 17:14. He speaks of Him also as "the bright and morning Star." Revelation 22:16. And John reports the words which he heard Christ say of Himself, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last." Revelation 22:13.

From this altogether unique record, as set forth by Galilean peasants, no serious doubt can arise regarding either the consistency of the picture or the trustworthiness of the record, notwithstanding all that unfriendly critics have endeavoured to do during the past century.

It is useless to tell an open-minded scanner of this record that a conception such as this was invented by Galilean fishermen. Credulity will not extend to the degree required to believe such a fanciful theory. That would be more of a miracle than anything recorded on their pages. No, these writers of the New Testament never created such a character as they portray in their record. The Character created the record.

By DALLAS YOUNGS

NOTE TO READER: After you have carefully read and studied Pastor Flynn's Bible lesson, turn to page 18 and see if you can answer the questions of the Bible Quiz. This is your Bible comprehension test.

THE BEGINNING and END OF SATAN

GOOD evening, Pastor and Mrs. Flynn," said Mrs. Saunders, smiling a greeting. "While we have been waiting we have been discussing a certain topic. I wonder if you could guess what."

"That's hard to say," said Pastor Flynn; "something about religion, I should suppose."

"We have been talking about Satan and where he came from. I hope that some night you will give us something authoritative on that out of the Bible."

"Well, this is a coincidence," said Mrs. Flynn. "That is the very subject Mr. Flynn planned for to-night."

"In that case, I can assure you of an interested and attentive audience," declared Mrs. Saunders, as she led the way into the living room.

"Mrs. Saunders tells me that you have unknowingly been giving the subject of the evening a prediscussion," smiled Pastor Flynn as he took his place to begin the Bible study. "I have chosen as our topic this evening the beginning and end of Satan, which is, in fact, the beginning and end of sin, for Satan or the devil was the first sinner."

"Satan was once a loyal angel in heaven itself. At that time he was pure, holy and righteous, and he enjoyed a great deal of honour and glory. At that time he was obedient to the law of God and found pleasure in doing God's will. However, the time came when he became dissatisfied with his position and began to exalt himself. He became proud and coveted the position and honour that were be-

stowed upon Christ. He became more determined as he went on in his rebellion, and persuaded other angels to join him and champion his cause. He purposed either to overthrow the government of God or, failing that, to set up a rival government. By deception and misrepresentation he succeeded in getting one third of the angels to join him in his rebellion."

"It must be, then, that Satan is primarily responsible for all sin," observed Mrs. Goldstein.

"That is right where Jesus put it, according to John 8:44," said the Bible instructor: "Ye are of your fa-

ther the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. *He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth*, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

"He that committeth sin is of the devil, for *the devil sinneth from the beginning.*" 1 John 3:8.

"You have been discussing the problem of the origin of sin. Here Jesus puts His finger on it. It began with the being whom we now call Satan and the devil, but at that time he was called 'Lucifer, son of the morning.' Isaiah 14:12. One commentator puts it: 'As soon as he had obtained power over the human race, he not only prompted them to hate and slay one another, but, the more boldly to defy the authority of God, he made the violation of the sixth commandment a part of their religion. By perverted conceptions of divine attributes, heathen nations were led to believe human sacrifices necessary to secure the favour of their deities.' — *Patriarchs and Prophets*, by Ellen G. White, p. 337."

"Why did God make the devil, anyway?" asked Mr. Hoover with sudden thought.

"Many people wonder about that," said Pastor Flynn. "The answer is that God did not make the devil. The being that God made was pure and perfect — Lucifer made himself the devil. There are many drunkards, but God never in all the history of time made a man a drunkard. God made man upright, He says, but man some-

time makes himself a drunkard. I am going to read Ezekiel 28:15, which, speaking of Satan, directly answers the question: '*Thou wast perfect in thy ways, from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.*'"

"From the same author from whom I quoted a moment ago I read this: 'Sin originated with him who, next to Christ, had been most honoured of God, and who stood highest in power and glory among the inhabitants of heaven. Before his fall, Lucifer was first of the covering cherubs, holy and undefiled.' — *The Great Contro-*

versy, by Ellen G. White, pp. 493, 494.

"Sin started in heaven itself with the highest and most exalted angel. He became proud and sought to exalt himself. He wanted to be like Christ and like God. However, because of the fact that he was a created being he could not become a member of the divine Family."

"What was the result of the rebellion in heaven? Did Satan succeed in overthrowing the government of God?" inquired Miss Clement with deep interest.

"That is the next step in our study, and Revelation 12:7-9 gives us the answer: 'There was war in heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.'

"We have become accustomed to reading in our newspapers about war in Europe, or in Asia, but this is news about war in heaven, the place we all think of as one of perfect peace. Michael, that is, Christ, with the two thirds of the angels that remained loyal, made war against the devil and his followers and cast them out of heaven to this earth, and they have been confined here ever since."

"This is most interesting history," observed Mr. Pierson. "My question is this: If Satan and the rebellious



G. DORE, ARTIST

Motivated by pride and a spirit of self-exaltation, Lucifer, a high and honoured angel in heaven, introduced sin into the universe. Soon after his fall he was cast out of heaven to this earth where he, by lying deception, accomplished the fall of the human family.

angels were cast out of heaven to this earth, what have they been doing ever since?"

"That is a very good question, Mr. Pierson, and the Bible has the answer for it in Genesis 3:1-5: 'Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree in the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall

not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.'

"As soon as Satan came to this earth, he began to plan to get dominion of it. At the time of creation God had given this dominion to Adam. That is to say, God had made Adam ruler of the world. Satan, using the serpent as a medium, induced Adam and his wife to disobey the command of God; and when this tragic event occurred, the dominion changed hands. The crown of this world's rulership passed from the head of Adam to the head of Satan.

"Thus the rebellion begun in heaven

itself was transferred to this earth, and every person who has ever lived here from that time to this has been on one side or the other in the great rebellion. All of us are either on God's side against Satan, or on Satan's side against God. There can be no neutral ground. The rebellion is still going on, and it is vital to our eternal welfare that we choose the right side.

"In Job 1:7 we are told of an occasion when God asked Satan what he was doing. Satan replied in these words: 'From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.' The devil and his angels are everywhere. They are right here. They incite wars, murders, suicides and crime of every grade and degree. Peter gives us some timely admonition: 'Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.' 1 Peter 5:8.

"We see hideous pictures of the devil in which he is depicted as a monster with hoofs, a tail and a pitchfork. Some people laugh and are inclined to think this very funny. It is certain, according to the Bible, that Satan does not resemble the caricatures. The Bible describes him, in his original state, as very beautiful. Other people think that he is just a myth and not a personal being at all. However, Jesus spoke of him and treated him as a personal being. Referring to the time when Satan was cast out of heaven, Jesus said: 'I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.' Luke 10:18.

"We can easily see Satan's objective in leading people to believe that he does not exist. A favourite military strategy is to make the enemy believe that you are not around, then overcome him by surprise attack. The devil is a master strategist with some six thousand years of experience in deceiving people."

"I have a question, please, Pastor Flynn," said Mrs. Ryan. "What was there about Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden that was so serious? It doesn't look to me like a very important matter."

"It wouldn't seem to be, at first thought, Mrs. Ryan," Pastor Flynn replied, "but the fact of the matter is, it was disobedience, or sin, and it fathered every sin that has ever been committed in the world from that time to this. Suppose I read a few texts from the Bible: 'Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.' James 1:15. 'Who-soever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.' 1 John 3:4. 'The

wages of sin is death.' Romans 6:23.

"Sin is such a terrible and awful thing in the sight of God that the sinner must die. The Bible tells us that 'without shedding of blood is no remission.' Hebrews 9:22. It is so heinous that there is relief from it only through the shedding of the blood of God's only-begotten Son.

"The Westminster Confession defines sin in these words: 'Sin is any want of conformity unto or transgression of the law of God. The law of God is the Ten Commandments; therefore, lying, swearing, stealing, killing, idolatry, or in fact the breaking of any one of the commandments, is sin.' In this connection read James 2:10, 11."

"The thing I have been waiting all evening to find out is this, Pastor Flynn," said Mr. Saunders. "What is going to be the end of Satan and his followers, both angelic and human?"

"We can be assured of the fact that God is not going to allow sin to go on forever," replied the minister. "He will purge the universe of every trace of sin, and it will never recur. Speaking of Satan under the figure of the king of Tyrus, God tells us of his end: 'Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffic; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour

thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.' Ezekiel 28:18, 19.

"*The devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.'* Revelation 20:10.

"Here is a reference that tells us what happens to Satan's human followers: 'Behold the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. . . . And 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 4:1-3.

"The fire and brimstone spoken of in Revelation 20:10 that burns up Satan and his followers purifies the earth of all sin and corruption. When this is done, God recreates the earth and causes it to blossom like the rose, and restores it to its original Garden of Eden state. The promise is that He will make 'new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.' 2 Peter 3:13."

"It is commonly taught that God is a God of love; if that is true, I don't see how He can destroy people with fire and brimstone," said Mr. Hoover.

"You know how it is said, Mr. Hoover, that one rotten apple will spoil the whole barrel. It is better to throw out the one rotten apple than to have it cause the loss of all, and that is the way it is with the wicked in God's universe. We should not think that the destruction of the wicked in the lake of fire is a thing in which God has pleasure. He says in Ezekiel 18:32: 'I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.'

"Surely God has proved by the gift of Jesus that He wants people to be saved. During the reign of sin He has employed every ministering agency of heaven to save sinners. Moreover, we read in the Bible His gracious invitation: 'The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.' Revelation 22:17."

Now that you have read and studied the lesson on The Beginning and End of Satan, turn to page 18 and fill in the answers to Pastor Flynn's Quiz.

The Obedience of the Cross

By R. A. HUBLEY

THE last paragraph of the closing chapter of human history is being written. Mars is multiplying his thunderbolts for Armageddon. The doom of civilization is at the door. The global distress of nations is the signal that the mighty Potentate and King of kings is about to terminate man's futile attempt to govern himself. Then the anguished cry of millions will be, "Who shall be able to stand?" Revelation 6:17.

Those who take the one and only way by which to be transformed from a life of enmity against God and disobedience to His law, to a life of harmony with Him as manifested in true submission to His precepts, are they who are seeking a new life in Christ, through the cross. There is no other way of preparedness in response

to the divine summons, "Prepare to meet thy God."

Only the power of God can transform a life at "enmity against God" and "not subject to the law of God," into a life of obedience in word and deed, and in spirit and truth. This power is in the gospel. (Romans 1:16.) It centres in "Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God." 1 Corinthians 1:24. This omnipotent power is released to the repentant, believing sinner through the cross, for it "is the power of God." 1 Corinthians 1:18.

The cross of Christ is therefore the very core of Christianity—its vital life centre. It is the place of surpassing victory for the redeemed soul, and of decisive defeat for the devil. It is the means by which the all-conquer-

ing fulness of the life of God meets the unutterable need of the life of the sinner, restoring him to the norm of a God-centred experience.

The cross of Christ was enfolded in the first gospel message, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed." Genesis 3:15. The seed here promised was Christ, and He could fulfil it and meet the sinner's need in no other way than through the cross. Before Jesus died on the cross of Calvary, He lived the life of the cross as God "manifest in the flesh."

In Matthew 1:23 the birth of Christ is declared to be a fulfilment of the prophecy given more than seven centuries before, by the prophet Isaiah: "Behold, a virgin shall . . . bring forth a Son, and they shall call His

name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." God is upright. We read, "Good and upright is the Lord." Psalm 25:8. Man was made in the image of God, "upright." Ecclesiastes 7:29.

But, through the transgression in Eden, man became a fallen creature. As such he is in antagonism to God. This enmity is threefold and constitutes all the wickedness in this present, evil world. "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." 1 John 2:16. It is out of these lusts that strife and war proceed. "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?" James 4:1.

Thus it is clear that the carnal nature that is not subject to the law of God, and holds man in enmity against God, is the cause of the strife and war in the human family. Man is helpless to change this condition. "Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one." Job 14:4. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." Jeremiah 13:23. There is no exception to this among the sons of men. "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." Isaiah 64:6.

When the Son of God became incarnate, He took a human body like ours and became one with us. "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil. . . . For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels; but He took on Him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." Hebrews 2:14, 16, 17.

Having taken upon Himself a body like ours, He knows our temptations by His own experience. "We have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15. In the very temptations where the first Adam failed, Christ "the last Adam" conquered. We have already pointed these out under three general heads. We shall connect 1 John 2:16 with Genesis 3:6. "When the woman saw that the tree was good for food [lust of the

flesh], and that it was pleasant to the eyes [lust of the eyes], and a tree to be desired to make one wise [pride of life], she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat."

Lucifer, as an angel of light, met Christ in the wilderness after His forty days of fasting and prayer, and sought to entice Him with these three appeals so successfully employed against the first Adam and the human family ever since. Contrast the first Adam in all the bliss of Eden, with the last Adam, pale, hungry, exhausted and emaciated. The odds were heavily against the Son of God, but He hurled the tempter back with the "Sword of the Spirit," and held steadfast His loyalty to the law of God. Note the significance of Luke 4:13. "When the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from Him for a season."

Satan had reached his uttermost in temptation, using all three appeals to the humanity of Christ, and Christ in His humanity had reached His uttermost in physical endurance, for we read that when the ordeal was over, "angels came and ministered unto Him." Matthew 4:11. Thus Christ who, as "the last Adam," had come "to seek and to save that which was lost," completely routed the adversary and won on all three phases wherein the first Adam failed and had become a sinner. Jesus could say, "The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me." John 14:30.

Having lived a sinless life in a body prone to human weakness common to man, He voluntarily took upon Him our sins, dying *to* them and *for* them. Bear in mind that it was not the wooden cross that took the life of the Son of God. He died of a broken heart.

(Please turn to page 15)



H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

The cross of Christ, its meaning and significance, is a subject of the most solemn contemplation. To obey or not to obey is a question that every person must settle for time and eternity.



WORLD AS WE SEE IT!

**A Prophetic Interpretation
of Current Events!**

Religious Freedom

THE struggle for religious freedom has been long, determined and bloody, but the goal has not yet been achieved. We have no idea how many millions of noble men and women have laid down their lives to ensure this God-given prerogative in the earth. Coercion in matters religious started very early in human history. Heathen worshippers of false gods have ever oppressed the worshippers of the true God. While the Israelites found sanctuary in Egypt for a time, yet in the passing of events there rose up a king that "knew not Joseph." Then, for the Israelites, began a period of oppression that resulted in degradation, slavery and ultimate deliverance by the God of heaven.

While Nebuchadnezzar, Babylonian emperor, sometimes made decrees favouring the worship of the true God, yet it is apparent that this ancient king never understood the principles of religious freedom. At the time Nebuchadnezzar set up the golden image on the plain of Dura, he would enforce its worship by threat of the "fiery furnace." Notwithstanding this, however, there were three men, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who were willing to die in defence of their right to worship as they saw fit. That they did not die was no fault of the king, who in unreasoning anger heated the furnace seven times hotter than usual.

It has been thus through the centuries — the religious majority has persecuted the minority and denied their rights. Jesus was driven from place to place and at last crucified because of the intolerance of His own people. The disciples enjoyed no better fate, in that all the original twelve, except John, met violent deaths at the hands of either Jews or Gentiles.

When in A.D. 538 the Catholic Church received civil power from the Emperor Justinian, a man might do one of three things if he disagreed with Catholic doctrine or practice. He might conform, die or flee. Needless to say, some did all of these. Many, too many, conformed; many died, as witness the catacombs, the stake, the rack and the dungeon; and many fled. Those who decided upon the latter course found refuge in the high towering Alps of Italy, Switzerland, Austria and France. There, hiding away for more than a thousand years in the secret valleys, caves and recesses, the Waldenses practised their religion with some little degree of security, owing to the help rendered them by "mother earth."

However, let it not be thought that they were allowed to live and worship in peace. During that long period the Church at Rome, having the armies of the civil powers under her domination, sent wave after wave of persecution back into the strongholds of the mountains in an effort to exterminate those Protestants of the Dark Ages. That Rome failed in this is attested by the fact that it was these valley dwellers who sowed the seeds that grew into the Protestant reformation of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

The Duke of Alva slew his thousands. The massacre of St. Bartholomew is said to have taken the lives of 75,000 French Huguenots. The streets of Paris ran red with blood, and the persecution extended



out into the provinces. This dastardly crime brings a chill of horror to every lover of freedom, but it brought rejoicing to the perpetrators of it. In Rome bonfires were lighted, the pope caused a medal to be struck, and the bells of the city were rung.

In spite of the fact that they had themselves been the victims of persecution, Protestants, when they came to power, attempted to coerce dissenters. The Pilgrims left old England that they might have opportunity to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience. Nevertheless, a little later, when Roger Williams came to the New World with ideas that seemed strange to those holding the established faith, he was persecuted, and in the dead of New England winter was forced to flee from the savage Christians to find refuge among the less savage Indians.

All in all, history makes a sad commentary upon the inhumanity of man to man. When will Mohammedans, heathens, Catholics and Protestants learn to practise the true principles of religious freedom? When will every man learn to respect and defend his neighbour's religious convictions, with his life if need be, though he may not agree with them?

Supersonic Research

"GRANTS totalling \$350,000 for supersonic research are to be made to the University of Toronto by the Department of National Defence through the Defence Research Board, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, and President Sidney Smith, of the University of Toronto, announced on February 24."

Turning to the United States we get the notation that scientists are doing paper work on 10,000 mile-per-hour space ships. It is said that scientists generally accept 25,000 miles per hour as the speed necessary to escape the earth's gravity. Already the rocket-powered X-1 has taken off under its own power and climbed at the rate of 13,000 feet per minute.

We wonder what the ancients would think about this fantastic speed. Yes, we wonder what our grandfathers, who died at the turn of the century, would think about it were they to be brought back and see a squadron of jet planes passing over at from five to six hundred miles per hour, and were told that this speed is believed to be just the beginning of speeds.

We wonder what the ancients would think about Daniel 12:4 in the light of present-day speed and travel: "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

Few realize that the current increase of speed and travel are a sign of the soon coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, it is a fact. The increase of knowledge that we see everywhere, the unheard of speeds and the unprecedented travel over the earth's surface are signs given us of God to show us where we are living on the stream of time. Let us look again at the words of the prophet: "Shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the *time of the end.*" The time of the end is not the very end itself, but is that little time just before Christ comes when the climaxing events of earth's history are taking place. These events, the increase of knowledge and the running to and fro, mark the imminent return of Christ to this earth.



STAR PHOTO SERVICE

Beer and Minors

IN A SMALL Canadian town a salesman, reputedly from a distant province, took two girls, one fourteen and the other fifteen years of age, to a hotel and bought beer for them. Later the girls reported the matter to the police. The salesman was arrested, tried and sentenced to one month in jail.

Before we say anything else relative to this case we want to go on record as saying that we are anti-beer and anti-alcoholic in every sense of the word. We do not think that alcoholic beverages ought to be used either by minors or by those who are legally allowed to consume the brain-distorting stuff.

No doubt the magistrate's sentence upon the salesman of a month in jail was just, and we hope that in the following thirty days he had opportunity to reflect upon the evils of taking minors to legalized drinking emporiums. However, there are some features in this case that seem unjust and seem to have escaped observation. How about the hotelkeeper and the waiter who sold and served the beer to these young girls? Have they no responsibility? How about the manufacturers of the beverage — are they guiltless? How about the respected citizen who invests his surplus in brewery stock — is he to go scot free? None of these was arrested with the salesman and sentenced to a period in jail. Why, and we ask the question with all respect, does the law fix the blame upon the salesman only and ignore completely the hotelkeeper, the hotel waiter, the manufacturer of the beer and the investor, all of whom made it possible for the drink to be served to these two minors?

Then, too, how about the girls themselves? Of course they were only fourteen and fifteen, but girls of that age now-a-days are not exactly ignoramuses. They knew that it was wrong for the salesman to buy them beer, because they reported it to the police afterward. If they knew that much, did they not know that it was wrong for them, as minors, to accept the salesman's invitation to drink the beer? Further, we cannot help wondering about the propriety of two small-town girls of this tender age "picking-up" with a stranger from a far-distant province and going, evidently of their own free will, to a hotel drinking establishment.

JESUS in the New Testament

By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

WHEN we come to examine the New Testament there are several outstanding things by which its trustworthiness may be tested. There is first the record of a Character, embodied in a person, unique in all literature, unknown and unimagined anywhere else; the fact of the Christian church which can be accounted for in no other way than the one the Divine Record sets forth; the conversion and ministry of Paul the apostle; the amazing agreement of the New Testament with the Old; the unique claim of this Book to set forth the only true religion in the world; and the singular spiritual power which flows forth from these writings.

Observing these tests in their order, we are first struck by the singularity of the person of Christ. Nowhere else in the world's literature is there a trace of human effort to depict a perfect character. Wonderful as some of the characters have been which have been portrayed for us by novelists, philosophers, dramatists, essayists and poets, not one of them sets forth, or attempts to set forth, the perfect man or woman.

The Perfect Character

With that fact in mind, consider how amazing it is that some Galilean fishermen, not accomplished writers, not literary geniuses, just ordinary men, have done what no others have ever done—depicted the perfect character.

How can that be explained? Did their record create the Person, or did the Person create the record? If these men invented this character—the perfect man, Christ Jesus—then we are confronted with a miracle before which other miracles sink into insignificance. It is easier, much easier, to believe the only other explana-

tion of their delineation of Christ: their presentation of His character is true.

We can come to no other conclusion when we analyze the record of His character in detail, as it is set forth by these simple fishermen. One man of all the sons of men has been found to be sinless! How could these unlettered peasants ever come to conceive of such a character? How could they possibly, without divine aid, ever imagine a person having the amazing combination and marvellous balance of qualities which they describe as being possessed by Jesus Christ, which had never been found or even imagined before or since in anyone else? The answer is, They did not create this Character; they knew this Man, and wrote of Him just as He was.

The stupendous claims which Christ made for Himself bear on this same point. No one can believe in His morality, His ethics, His teachings, and refuse to believe in the record and the claim of His deity. He said He was God. Either He told the truth, or He was an impostor. And no one can believe in the morality of an impostor, or desire to be counted as his disciple. There is no middle ground that can be taken here. It is ridiculous to take the position that Jesus was a good man and then refuse to believe what He says.

There are those who say they accept the teachings of Jesus, His great moral teachings and His wonderful ethics, and who look upon Him as a great moral leader, but who do not accept His deity. But we will not permit them to hide under such a flimsy pretense. One of the chief teachings of Jesus was that He was the divine Son of God, and all His other teachings have value only as they are viewed in the light of His divine authority.

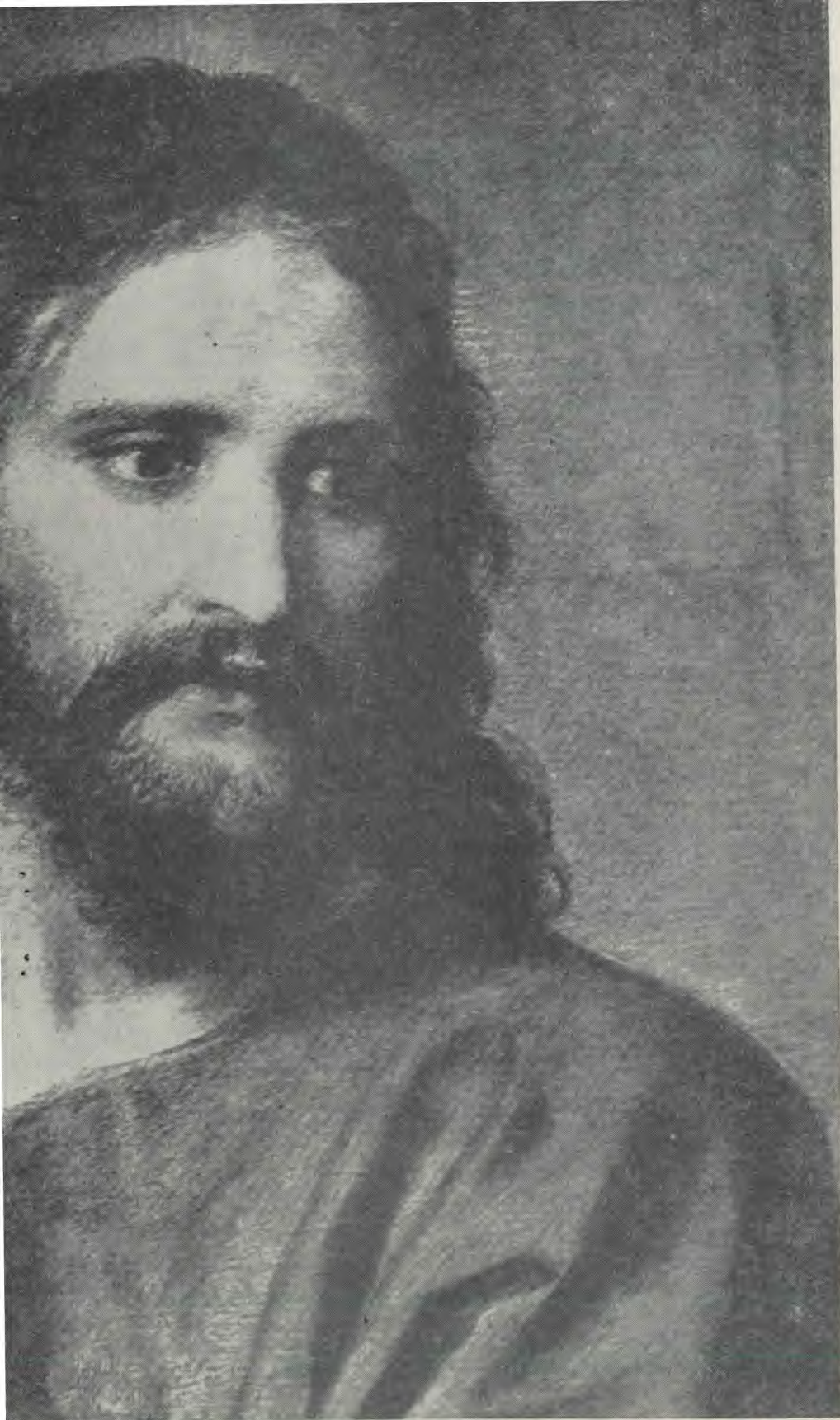


H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

"Son of the Living God"

Jesus claimed to be the Messiah, the Son of God. When Peter said unto Him, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus admitted the accuracy of the statement, accepted it as referring to Himself, and

SIGNS of the TIMES



The fact that Jesus lived is better attested than any other fact of history. His perfect life and character have been witnessed to by the lives of millions of His followers through the centuries.

declared that on this truth He would build His church. (Matthew 16:13-18.) And it is upon this rock of the divine Sonship of Jesus Christ that the church is built, and it is because of this fact that "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Jesus healed a man who was born blind, who was later cast out by the Pharisees because he professed to believe in Jesus. Later Jesus found him, and said, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, 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. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped Him." John 9:35-38.

When the high priest at His trial demanded that He tell them plainly whether He was the Christ, the Son of God, Jesus once more claimed to be the Son of God. (Matthew 26:63, 64.)

God the Father also testified to the truth of the deity of His Son. At His baptism there came "a voice from heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17. On the mount of transfiguration there came "a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him." Matthew 17:5. And we have the further record of the Father that "unto the Son He saith, Thy throne, *O God*, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of Thy kingdom." Hebrews 1:8. Here the Father speaks to His Son, and calls Him "God."

Not only did Jesus make these tremendous claims, but He also did mighty works to support them. He performed miracles, healed sickness, cured leprosy, opened blind eyes, unstopped deaf ears, made lame men walk and brought the dead to life.

The Living Words of Christ

He not only did mighty works; He also spoke miraculous words—words that live to this day. Ordinarily there is nothing so evanescent as words. People use them all the time. There are millions who have talked from childhood to the grave and no single word they ever uttered is remembered. There are millions who are talking now, and everything they say is forgotten within five minutes after they have spoken it.

But Jesus said of His own words, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My *words* shall not pass away." He wrote no books. He did not put His words down. His speeches did not appear in public journals. Yet His words have lived, and they live to-day. They live in the records of His apostles. They live in the literature of the ages. They live in the hearts of His people. And they live because the power of life is within them.

The Stupendous Claims of Jesus

Now, sum it all up. Jesus said He came from God. He said He was God. He claimed to be the Messiah, the Son of the living God. He said God sent
(Please turn to page 15)



Missions on the March

Most heartening gains in world missions are reported by the International Missionary Council in the first report issued by the Council since 1936. The gains reported amount to about 19,000,000 in church membership in 120 countries commonly designated as mission countries. During the past twenty-three years the percentage of gain stands at about 300%, or an increase, in round numbers of from six and a half millions to twenty-five and a half millions. Protestantism showed the largest gains in South Africa; and only one country, Turkey, showed a loss.

Outstanding gains were made in South Africa, from 714,013 to 5,467,281, and in India, from 580,212 to 4,100,224. Protestants now have 192,987 workers in mission countries and 141,169 places of worship. Protestants who have been discouraged by the seemingly slow progress of mission work should take courage from these figures, especially remembering that it takes a long time to lay the ground work for effective mission endeavour. With institutions established and native training schools flourishing, the rate of increase may be stepped up in coming decades.

Baby Mammoth

The American Museum of Natural History now has in its possession a quick-frozen baby mammoth. Discovered in Alaska by a gold-mining company, the little fellow, who weighed about two hundred pounds, was preserved temporarily in formaldehyde, glycerin and alum, flown to Manhattan and there quick-frozen. Finding frozen pre-historic animals is nothing new in the arctic, but this is the first time that one has ever been brought out intact to the United States.

Reorganization in Germany

Dissolution of Germany's cartel system has finally begun. Long a source of controversy among the Allies, the dissolution of the giant combines has been postponed until the present. About 1,100 cartel agreements are involved. First plant offered for sale was a unit of the I. G. Farben Company.

Preacher from the Islands

Robert Salau is a Seventh-day Adventist missionary among his own people in the Solomon Islands. At the present time he is providing newspapers in North America with lively copy about his fine figure, bushy black hair and cultured, serious bearing. He is about forty-two years old, the son of a head hunting father and a mother captured on a raid on a neighbouring island. Robert ran away from his heathen home to go to a newly established Seventh-day Adventist mission school on the island of Vella Lavella, 200 miles north of Guadalcanal. He estimates that at the present time he has had a part in the conversion of two thousand natives in the islands. Brought to the United States to help promote giving for missions among Seventh-day Adventist congregations, Salau will visit summer conventions of Adventists throughout the country.

A VAST assembly gathered on a Sunday evening a few months ago in the Albert Hall, London, at the instigation of the "Christian Action" Movement, and under the chairmanship of Lord Halifax, to listen to the urgent pleas of politicians and leaders of profound religious conviction to make Christianity effective in political, economic and social affairs.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Catholic Cardinal-Archbishop of Westminster and the Moderator of the Free Church Council were on the platform, and the speakers included Sir Stafford Cripps, Miss Florence Hancock, Congregationalist chairman of the T.U.C., Mr. Richard Sullivan, K.C., chairman of the Catholic Social Guild, and eight distinguished politicians—four Catholic and four Protestant—from France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Sweden.

Certainly no true Christian could fail to respond to the appeal, in an increasingly secular age, to give the trumpet of our faith a certain sound in daily life and witness. Indeed, a great burst of applause was evoked by Sir Stafford Cripps' fine confession:

"I have been privileged over the past nine years to play some small part in national and international affairs, and every experience that I have had has added to my conviction that the one hope for the future of world civilization lies in the way of life that Christ has taught us. No inventiveness or ingenuity of man, no power of arms or force of wealth, no material gain or economic advance, can save the world if it turns its back on the love of God. If man neglects the things of the Spirit and puts aside the full armour of God, he will seal the doom of the future generations."

But Sir Stafford, as well as Lord Halifax and other speakers, made it clear that he had in mind not only the witness of personal Christian living, but also definite political action by Christians of all denominations and creeds, for the defence of specific Christian standards in the life of the Western nations.

Here, however, many Christian people may well pause and ponder, for when the church begins to fight not only with its proper spiritual weapons, but with the material weapons of political pressure and power, the victory may go to entrenched spiritual error rather than to the faithful followers of the truth.

As an illustration of effective action by a church it was startling indeed to listen to Signor Igino

By W. L. EMMERSON

Giodani, straight from the recent elections in Italy:

"The elections," he declared, "almost assumed the character of a religious conflict. Christianity and Communism were struggling for supremacy. . . . This was not simply a political struggle between the Christian Democrats and the Communists. It was a struggle between the church and her avowed enemies."

But when he had finished, one could not but wonder whether the lot of the minority of Protestants in Italy will be so very much easier now than it would have been had the Communists triumphed. No doubt the government felt that all available support should be rallied in order to keep Italy in the western groups of nations. But having been securely seated by the Roman Catholic Church, the Christian Democrats will certainly now have to play the tune which that church calls. And we may be sure that it will not be to encourage Protestant witness in Italy.

The advocates of united Christian action will, of course, reply that while such a course of events might not be easy to control in a land like Italy it would not work out like that in predominantly Protestant lands. There the Protestant tradition would prevail and religious as well as civil liberty would be the reward of Christian political actionists whatever their faith.

The facts, however, do not support this optimistic hope, for where Catholics have associated themselves in religio-political movements for Christian action in lands where Catholicism is not the principal religion, they have, by virtue of their close-knit organization and hierarchical discipline, quickly attained a dominating position, and the Protestants have had to accept a position of spiritual "fellow travellers" in a predominantly Catholic political party.

In France many Protestants have supported the M.R.P. in achieving the breakup of the growing power of the Communists, but now that the party is in power it is becoming very clear that where there is any difference of opinion between Catholics and Protestants, the Catholic viewpoint is going to prevail.

In Belgium, Holland and Germany Protestants have been encouraged to lend their support to Christian Democratic parties, and now that they are

BEWARE!

Christian Travellers

In clasping hands with the Papacy, Protestants subject themselves to perils that they know not of.



in power the leadership is passing into the hands of Catholics.

George Glasgow, commenting in the *Catholic Times* on the price now being paid for calling in the help of Russia against the Nazis, said:

"Fear bade us beat the Nazis at all costs. Among the costs was the boosting of Russia. We called in, or accepted with too great an alacrity the help of the devil in our cause; and the devil has sent in his bill, so to speak."

There is danger that the new fear in the hearts of the nation may result in their calling in the devil in another guise, and if they do, there will be an even more fearful bill to pay.

The same writer spoke more truly than he knew when in an earlier article in the same paper, he said:

"We defeated the Kaiser and produced Hitler; defeated Hitler and produced Stalin; if we defeat Stalin—by war—we shall produce something worse."

That the fears of "fellow travelling" with Rome in the present crisis of the nations are not just alarmist becomes even more clear when we note the definite warning in the Scriptures that the Papacy which suffered a "deadly wound" (Revelation 13:3) in the liberal revolutions of the nineteenth century will, before the end, "ascend out of the bottomless pit" (Revelation 17:8) of world chaos, and that the ten kings, or powers, occupying the territory of the Old Roman Empire will once again "have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast." Revelation 17:13.

Those who compare prophecy with the events of our day cannot but see that the Western nations are even now preparing to fulfil this divine forecast in the face of the present menace from the East.



BIBLE ANSWERS

by your Bible Answerman

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

Dear Bible Answerman: If an angel became the devil by sinning, was Adam's the original sin?

Adam's sin was the original sin as far as the human family is concerned, but not the original sin as far as the universe is concerned. Lucifer, the archangel of heaven, became dissatisfied with the position to which he had been appointed by his Creator, rebelled and led in rebellion one third of his fellow beings.

This exalted and highly favoured angel sinned and fell from grace in that he coveted honour and position to which he could not attain. He wanted divine status, and that, owing to the fact that he was a created being, could not be given him. Isaiah depicts the situation: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High." Isaiah 14: 12-14.

Lucifer, by dark insinuations of divine injustice, succeeded in spreading his dissatisfaction throughout all heaven. His position, that of covering cherub, archangel and leader of the angelic choir, enabled him to exercise great influence among the angels—so great in fact, that he succeeded in deceiving millions of these high and holy beings. As we would expect, God could not permit these rebellious beings to remain in heaven, thus polluting His celestial paradise, nor could He permit these fallen angels the range of all the universe. Like a terrible plague they must be isolated—placed in quarantine until the solution of the sin problem could be worked out.

The archrebel and his followers would not of their own volition leave the glory of heaven, but at last there

was open warfare between Lucifer at the head of the one-third part of rebellious angels, and Michael (Christ) at the head of the two-thirds part of the loyal angels. The revelator delineates the battle and its results: "There was war in heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Revelation 12:7-9.

Upon being cast to the earth, Lucifer began at once to lay plans to usurp the dominion that God had given to Adam.

Using deception, lies and the mediumship of the serpent, Lucifer deceived Eve, the mother of the human race, and she in turn became a medium through which Lucifer deceived Adam: "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat." Genesis 3:1-6.

Dear Mr. Answerman: If God would save all men, but cannot, is He infinite in His power? J. H. L.

God cannot save all men, yet He is infinite in power. The Creator proceeded along the line of certain well-defined principles in the establishment of his vast and unending universe. One of these principles is freedom of choice. Not one of God's intelligent created creatures but what has been given the great boon of liberty—freedom to serve God or not to serve Him. God has all power—He could have made man without this power of choice. He could have made him as an automaton, as a mechanical puppet with no choice but to obey his master.

This, however, is not God's way. He does not desire a forced or mechanical worship, but rather a service that springs from the depths of man's being, a service that is motivated by love and appreciation of the character of his Creator. God is infinite. He has all power. But there are some ways in which He does not care to exercise His power.

Dear Bible Answerman: Does the Bible tell us that at some time in the future seven women will marry one man? J. L. British Columbia.

You probably have Isaiah 4:1 in mind: "In that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach."

Opinion on this verse is divided. Some think it has reference to the time of war when many men are killed and there is a shortage of men, and seven women associate themselves with one man, to be called by his name, but not in the normal marriage relationship, because they eat their own bread and wear their own apparel. Some think this prophecy has to do with the latter days of earth when seven churches (in symbolic prophecy a woman represents a church) will bear Christ's name, but that is all. They will not have His bread (doctrine), or His apparel (righteousness).

THE OBEDIENCE OF THE CROSS

(Continued from page 7)

His life was crushed under the grief of becoming sin for us that He might pay its penalty—death, and then burst its fetters. As the conqueror of death He ascended to the right hand of the Father to mediate His life of victory to all who accept Him as Lord and Saviour.

But He can do this in no other way than through the experience of the cross. He says, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." Luke 9:23. The Christian is IN the world, but not OF the world. His language is, "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." Galatians 6:14. The Christian is a man whose life is according to Christ, for Christianity is Christ.

Now let us notice three laws and how they stand related to the sinner and to the Christian. First, the Decalogue, which is "holy, and just, and good," and "spiritual." Romans 7:12, 14. "Sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:4. Sin operates by a law that holds the sinner in its power. This is called "the law of sin." Romans 7:23. As the sinner beholds the law of God and realizes his bondage to the law of sin which holds him in transgression of the law of God, he cries out, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" To his despairing soul Christ appears, and the gratitude of the sinner for deliverance is ascribed to "Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 7:24, 25. Being delivered from the law of sin through Christ, his prompt decision is, "So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God."

Now let us come to the third law, by which the power of the law of sin in the life of the sinner is destroyed, and obedience to the law of God is established. We read: "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death . . . that the righteousness of the law [the Decalogue] might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Romans 8:2, 4.

He who could say, "I delight to do Thy will, O My God: yea, Thy law is within My heart," comes to every soul who will receive Him, and writes that eternal law in the heart. This is the new covenant promise and relationship that Christ establishes. (See

Hebrews 8:10.) Through the "law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" operating in the soul, the redeemed are empowered to live in obedience to the "holy, and just, and good" law of God.

Those who partake of this experience in Christ Jesus, like Him, live the life of the cross. Like Paul they say, "I die daily." Nothing in their human nature can gain the ascendancy while Christ is living in them His life of victory. In this definite, real experience of the cross, through Jesus Christ, the life becomes Christ-centred, and emancipated from the self-centred experience. Thus through Christ, the soul is restored to the true norm of a God-centred life.

Such can truly pray, "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Of the angels we read, "Bless the Lord, ye His angels, that excel in strength, that do His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His Word." Psalm 103:20. And again, "Forever, O Lord, Thy Word is settled in heaven." Psalm 119:89. There came a time when that was not so, but the rebel angel who turned aside from the law of God and became a warmonger, was cast out. He has led this world into sin and disobedience, but the Christ who cast him out of heaven will soon terminate his rule of sin and strife here on earth. Would you be prepared for that mighty hour so near at hand? Then accept Christ, take up your cross, be made obedient to the precepts of Jehovah and be prepared to meet the Prince of Peace with His peace governing your soul. Shrink not at the cross that makes you obedient, but "Prepare to meet thy God."

JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

(Continued from page 11)

Him, that He came forth from God. He claimed to be God's messenger, to speak God's words. He said He and God were one. He claimed pre-existence, omnipresence, creative power, omnipotence, infallibility, sinlessness, exclusive dominion over the souls of men, exclusive knowledge of God, to have and to give eternal life, power to raise the dead, power to forgive sins, power to judge the world.

He wrought great signs and wonders and miracles to support His claims, ruling the winds and waves, controlling the fishes of the sea, healing the sick, casting out devils. And then He claimed that the words He spoke were given Him of God, that

they would outlast the world, and would judge men at the last day.

These things are true. They have been proved true. Their truthfulness has been demonstrated. The words of Christ have endured. They are here to-day. They will continue to endure until heaven and earth are no more. Not one of them has failed.

The Prophecies of Christ

Some of the words which Christ spoke dealt with things to come. He stood upon the Mount of Olives and wept over Jerusalem, declaring that the time would soon come when her enemies would lay her "even with the ground." Luke 19:41-44. He said there would not be left one stone upon another in Jerusalem. (Matthew 24:1, 2.) He predicted the coming of false christs and false prophets, and said that "the desolation thereof [Jerusalem] is nigh." Luke 21:20. He declared the inhabitants of Jerusalem should fall by the sword; and "be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles." He spoke of nation rising against nation, kingdom against kingdom. He spoke of famines, earthquakes and pestilences to take place. He told of the abounding iniquity, the waxing cold of the love of many, the afflictions which should come upon the faithful, and of their final deliverance from the enemy when the city should fall.

The Testimony of the Apostles

Not only the testimony of Christ Himself, the testimony of His Father, the evidence of His works and His words, witness to the deity of Christ, but the other writers of the Bible unite in giving Him a pre-eminent place.

Paul declared that "in Him dwell eth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Colossians 2:9. He also declared that God declares it to be His purpose in the fulness of time to "gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him." Ephesians 1:10. He tells us that God has "set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: and hath put all things under His feet." Ephesians 1:20-22.

Peter writes that Jesus "is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto Him." 1 Peter 3:22.

(Please turn to page 3)



The DOCTOR'S VOICE

Send your health queries to the Doctor's Voice, Box 398, Oshawa, Ont.



Coronary Sclerosis

Question: What is the cause of coronary sclerosis, and its treatment?

ANSWER: Coronary sclerosis is thought to be due in part to inclusion of too much fat in the diet. Hereditary factors, ageing, the use of tobacco, hypertension and diabetes all play a part.

Treatment calls for restriction of activity, especially the climbing of stairs and other strenuous exertion. Tobacco is best omitted, as it causes a spasm of the coronary arteries. Eggs and animal fats, including butter, are cut down to minimum. For relief of anginal pains, nitroglycerine and nicotinic acid are often used under medical supervision. Weight reduction is advisable if one is overweight. Overeating at any time, particularly in the evening, is to be avoided. Hot baths should not be taken. The advent of substernal pain calls for immediate cessation of any activity on the part of the patient at any time, and rest in whatever position circumstances allow. The usefulness of vitamin E is questioned. On this account and because of its expense it is not routinely used.

Nerve Exhaustion

Question: Please outline treatment for nerve exhaustion (neurasthenia).

ANSWER: Prolonged worry and anxiety are usually considered the main contributory factors in the development of nerve exhaustion. Another destructive emotion is indecision, also fear. It is said that everyone normally has some fear. It is important to recognize this fact and not to become too concerned, if, as the result of some emotional strain, there is a sense of fatigue, palpitation and dryness of the mouth. Certain stimulants, such as the caffeine of tea and coffee and the nicotine of tobacco, first stimulate then depress the nervous energies. The final result is a depletion of nervous energy. The nerv-

ous system is dependent for its normal function upon an adequate supply of oxygen, hence the importance of proper breathing and outdoor exercise. Calcium as found in milk is necessary, also vitamin D to assure its absorption. Finally, vitamin B as found in whole-grain cereals, wheat germ, molasses, legumes and nuts is important.

Dizziness

Question: Could you tell me what causes a terrible dizziness in the head? As soon as I raise my head from the pillow the whole room and everything in it goes around with me. I feel as if I were in a whirlpool, and this feeling lasts quite a while. I have to steady myself to keep from falling to the floor. Would liver extract or vitamins be beneficial to me? I am seventy-four years of age.

ANSWER: The dizziness you describe is due to a disturbance of the balancing mechanism of the inner ear. This can be due to anemia, edema as in association with a cold, or hardening of the arteries, and is sometimes present with high blood pressure. It can also be due to vitamin B deficiency or toxicity. Drugs capable of causing this disturbance are quinine (as in cold tablets), caffeine (as in tea or coffee), aspirin and nicotine of tobacco. Excess salt in the diet is sometimes a contributing factor. Treatment calls for the elimination of any of the above harmful drugs and inclusion in the diet of adequate amounts of vitamin B complex. Food sources are wheat germ, legumes, nuts, molasses, etc. Liver extract and iron might be indicated if anemia were present. It would also be well to restrict the use of salt.

Heavy Cold

Question: What can be done for a man nearly thirty years of age who is suffering from a heavy cold, backache, worries, weakness, etc.?

ANSWER: A medical examination would seem to be called for, and probably should include an X ray of the chest and spine if such facilities are available.

THE best article I ever read on ways of inducing sleep was written by a preacher who suffered from insomnia. The subject is a broad one and must be dealt with from the following angles: the physical, the intellectual, the social and the spiritual.

As the old proverb states, "The rest of the labouring man is sweet." Three or four hours daily of physical exercise are necessary for optimal health. As Fosdick has written, "One cannot shirk off his biological inheritance." The digestive organs must not be overworked. The diet should be restricted, but it is of course important that it be adequate. In other words, eat essentials. Travel at the "economical" speed. For some sedentary workers two meals a day are better than three. In the latter instance, hours of meals would be from 7 to 7:30 A.M. and from 12 M. to 1 P.M. Three meals a day ordinarily are the maximum that should be eaten. Fluid intake should be adequate.

On the intellectual level it is important that one choose the best. "Of making many books there is no end." As Benjamin Franklin says, if one studies hard at his chosen profession he may gain the reputation or the satisfaction of becoming learned. A basic general education is essential. Its purpose is not to permit the learner to shun life's burdens but to learn how to do them efficiently and well. The subject matter is not as important as the method of study and the development of an orderly mind. Some subjects that are worthy of study might be mentioned, such as biographies of great men, and history. Probably the most fruitful period of the history of the world when real progress was made, was the Reformation period. D'Aubigne's *History of the Reformation* is a classic. Another period characterized by phenomenal advance in every field of learning was between 1798 and 1844.

In the realms of science there is one science that excels all others, and that is astronomy. Nature study, archaeology and music might also be mentioned. As opposed to these great fields of thought, other literary pursuits are mentioned to be condemned—the Classics (even though Baldwin was their greatest defender), novels and detective stories. The latter create a desire for unreality and lessen one's desires to meet courageously the problems of everyday life. They heighten the imagination of the introvert; they accentuate the strong tendency to overconfidence on the part of the extrovert.

In the social realm it is important

HOW TO SLEEP WELL

By W. H. ROBERTS, M.D.

to distinguish between recreation and entertainment. Mealtimes should be social occasions, and, as has been said, the work of the day should not be prolonged into the evening hours.

Religion teaches and brings, 1. Inward peace. 2. Patience in adversity. 3. Perseverance and endurance. 4. Tolerance. A study of the Scriptures is best suited for mental development and culture. Prayer gives heightened spiritual strength and increased physical vigour. Gladstone was a religious man. He is quoted by the historian D. C. Somervell as follows: "I have no recollection of early love for the house of God and for divine service," but, "after my father had built the church at Seaforth I remember cherishing a hope that he would bequeath it to me, and that I might live in it."

Churchill's literary success is attributed in part by his biographers Manning and Bronner as follows: "To the Bible and Shakespeare were added a perfect knowledge of the swelling periods of Gibbon and Macaulay." Gibbon wrote *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. While he was an avowed atheist, he unconsciously set forth in a remarkable way the impact of early Christianity upon civili-

zation and its rejection by the powers that then were. Macaulay was a very religious man and was so intimately acquainted with the Bible that he learned new languages by reading the Scriptures in the new tongue. Lincoln is spoken of by his biographer Lord Charnwood as follows: "He loved the Bible and knew it intimately. In the year before his death he wrote to Speed: 'I am profitably engaged in reading the Bible. Take all of this Book upon reason that you can and the balance upon faith and you will live and die a better man.'"

Little has been said thus far about one's work, which of course is also, as a rule, on the physical level. Repetitive work such as in an assembly line is much more fatiguing than varied activities on a farm or in a smaller machine shop. Six days a week and eight to ten hours a day are all the average person can stand. Man needs one day in seven to contemplate the works of his Creator and to study His written Word. In intellectual work it is often best to do easy things first before fatigue sets in. When scolded recently for being intemperate by keeping late hours, one man

defended himself as follows: "I am temperate; I eat three meals a day, get my work done no matter how long it takes, and then I don't worry about it."

While it is realized that many conscientious people work too hard and do not take off sufficient time for recreation, there are probably more who do not live up to their capabilities. To them "life is but a dream." Nevertheless there is much to be said for cultivating the art of relaxation. An American Air-Force officer once told me of the boys relaxing in their bunks between missions during the "Battle for Britain." They relaxed arms, legs, abdomen and chest muscles and facial muscles. The latter necessitated a slight smile and pleasant thoughts. They repeated over and over 2 Timothy 1:7: "God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

It is a good idea to relax half an hour before going to sleep. If necessary concentrate on monotony, the click of the rails as you travel on a train, or the rustling of leaves in the breeze. When cares keep haunting, sometimes it is necessary to make the mind blank each time an unwanted thought intrudes. Posture in sleep is not too important. It is suggested by some that the original posture assumed on retiring should be maintained. Stimulants, including tea, coffee, cola drinks and tobacco, should be avoided. Use no sedatives. If one is so unfortunate as to be faced with the necessity of tapering off sedatives, take one a week.

As previously stated, the rest of the labouring man is sweet. There is nothing like a good conscience. Do your work well! Make no mistakes, if possible. Do not forget. "Forgetting is a sin." Do not worry over consequences. Be not over-ambitious. Have a goal in life.

Physical aids are: a neutral bath, a hot foot bath or a hot-water bottle to the feet, a walk in the evening. Strangely enough, most insomnia is due to overfatigue in the physical, the intellectual, the social or the spiritual realm. Therefore, be temperate in all things.

Good food and right eating are correlated to good sleep. To avoid insomnia, watch your diet, especially overeating and the eating of late meals.

STAR PHOTO SERVICE



The Beginning and End of Satan

(This is Pastor Flynn's "Bible Quiz." After you have carefully studied the lesson, see if you can answer the questions.)

1. What subject was under discussion before the arrival of Pastor and Mrs. Flynn?
.....
2. What was Satan's name before he sinned?
3. What did Satan start in heaven?
4. What did he determine to do?
5. How many angels joined him?
6. Who fought the war in heaven and what was the result?
7. Write false or true after the following statements:
 - a. Satan exalted Christ above himself.
 - b. God made the devil, therefore God is responsible for sin.
 - c. Satan influences people to love and obedience.
 - d. Satan got the dominion of the earth from Adam.
8. To what place was the rebellion in heaven transferred?
9. Where is the neutral ground to be found?
10. On which side do you personally determine to place yourself?
11. Fill in the blanks: ".....; because your adversary the devil,walketh about,"
....."
12. What is the devil's favourite strategy?
13. What is sin?
14. What is the wages of sin?
15. In what manner will God destroy Satan and the fallen angels?
16. How will the proud and wicked be destroyed?
17. What will God do for the earth after it is purified?
18. Give two root sins:
19. Do you think God has done everything possible to save sinners?
20. What is the invitation of Revelation 22: 17?

NARVIK, a seaport on the west coast of Norway, was often in the news during the German invasion of that country early in World War II. The city was seized by the Germans and bombarded by the British. It was half destroyed during the aerial battles. The mayor of the city, standing amid the ruins in conference with newspaper men, uttered these significant words: "The mountains are still ours."

To one who has seen the rugged mountains of Norway, the words of the mayor speak volumes. Even in times of peace the inhabitants of the country know the value of their mountains. The fisherman, after he has been struggling against the rough waters of the North Sea, rejoices when his boat finally moves into the peaceful fiords. When modern war brought devastation to the beautiful towns nestled between the hills, the Norwegians fled into the higher mountains. Some of these children of the North spent months, even years, in the shelter of these mighty hills. Narvik was one of many centres where men despaired of life and hope during the war, except for the mountains. In times of disaster they mean refuge and help. They symbolize courage, hope and love.

Mount Sinai, God's own pulpit, from whence He spoke the words of the law, is one of the most difficult mountains to see. The traveller must cover many roadless miles of rock and sand before he comes within seeing range of Sinai. He must follow the general direction without signposts to guide him, pass point after point along the foothills until at last the hallowed height comes into view. Effort and hope are finally satisfied. Faith becomes reality when one, weary and travel-worn, looks upon that majestic mountain.

Whether within visual range or far removed from sight, Sinai is there. It has been the peak of the Sinaitic range for thousands of years. Through the ages it has been known as the Mountain of the Lord. God, amidst lightning and thunder, spoke from its height. Moses climbed up its rugged side. Elijah sought refuge in one of its caves. Sinai is mute witness to the majesty and power of God. It is a symbol of the faith by which the saints have lived through the ages.

Christian faith is the mountain of hope for our disconsolate world. Now that man's powers and genius have left him face to face with utter self-destruction, faith once more rises above the ruins of time. W. M. Horton has fittingly said: "Like some of my premillenarian friends, I face the

HIGHER GROUND

By H. L. RUDY

new decade with hope, not because I see things getting better, but because I see things getting worse. For at every ultimate crisis evil collapses, and God raises up crucified truth and goodness." And Hendrick Kraemer adds: "We are exploring again the simple but revolutionary meaning of faith."

One of the amazing results of the present world tempest is the existence of living Christian faith, even there where every possible effort has been made to stamp it out. Bernard Pares, noted authority on Russian history, records his observations of the struggle of Christian faith in that land of the atheists. Regarding persecution he states: "The best medicine which the Russian church could have had after the terrible corruption of the last years of Tzardom was a very strong dose of persecution; in such matters the energy of the persecutor over-reaches itself. . . . It was in fact to plain Bible Christianity that the church was brought back."—*Russia*, p. 171.

Of the outcome of the continued Communist fight against Christ, Pares affirms: "They can no more destroy Christ than He was destroyed at the crucifixion. Without the crucifixion there could have been no resurrection. For that, Russian Christianity had to go into the grave and 'taste' death to the full. Christ is being crucified over again in Russia, and He is rising again there now."—*Id.*, p. 178.

Despite multiplied brutality and external destruction inflicted upon the Russian religious structure, the real spiritual church has continued to live. The flame of faith could not be extinguished. It has continued to burn in secret. Christian faith has been enriched with a new spiritual experience. It is now purer and more spiritual in Russia than ever before. The real content of the gospel, the life of the proletarian Jesus, has remained unscathed by all the anti-religious propaganda.

Lunacharsky, commissar of education in Soviet Russia during the earlier five-year plans, once admitted, "Religion is like a nail, the harder you hit it the deeper it goes into the wood."

No amount of propaganda or persecution can destroy true faith from the heart of one who has experienced its sustaining power. The life of Jenny E. de Mayer, self-supporting missionary in Russian Central Asia, is a living example of the keeping power of faith in God. From 1900 to 1935 she served almost constantly in places far removed from the shelter of civilization. First as director of an asylum for children of banished criminals on the island of Sakhalin, then supervising industrial workshops employing Russian prisoners who had completed their sentences in the famous Sakhalin prison, and later as self-supporting distributor of the Bible in the neglected Mohammedan areas of Russian Central Asia and Arabia, Jenny E. de Mayer rendered a service of Christian love and devotion far beyond the ordinary achievements of the missionary for Christ.

Finally during the last eight years of her stay in Russia she languished in Soviet prisons because of her continued witness as a Christian in the land of godlessness. At the age of seventy she was ultimately released and allowed to travel to Canada where, since 1935, she lives in retirement from perhaps the most dangerous and taxing service for God in modern times. In her recent book, *Adventures for God*, she gives three texts of Scripture to describe her experience and faith:

First, Isaiah 6:8: "I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall

I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." Second, 2 Corinthians 11:26, 27: "In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness." And third, Romans 8:37-39: "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jenny E. de Mayer came from a well-to-do and socially high ranking family of St. Petersburg, Russia. She was a graduate physician, had many offers of lucrative positions in both Europe and America. But she answered the call of her Lord to whom she dedicated her life for loving service in a part of the world where little or no Christian mission work had been done. Like other noble souls who have held the torch of faith and truth high in a darkened, sin-sick world, she pursued a life of isolation and sacrifice that Christ might receive glory and honour in the very citadel of the godless. Living as she did on a high level of faith and devotion, she survived all the dangers, hardships, and threats, even the awful grueling of eight different Soviet prisons, and the death sentence itself.

Such an example of faith and devotion to God comes as a most refreshing assurance to all followers of Christ in this world of easy-going religion and mass psychology.

It must ever be the goal of the Christian to seek the mountain peaks of experience. Anything short of this is a failure of God's purpose for him.



RELIGIOUS NEWS SERVICE PHOTO

ABOUT GOING to CHURCH

FROM time to time I have heard radio speakers close an interesting talk with the admonition to their listeners to "go to church"—any church, but go to church. That set me to thinking—thinking about the how and why of it.

If these speakers have in mind the spiritual food one receives by going, then that is good. But if what they have in mind is merely to increase the church membership, then that is not good. The mere act of going to church will not provide the goer with a passport to heaven. In fact it may in the judgment be revealed as a self-satisfying, deceptive snare.

Not so long ago, Mrs. Blank called at "The Little House." It was her first call since her return from a stay at the hospital. She said, in the course of her visit, "One day the — minister stopped to talk with me and asked to what church I belonged. I told him I did not belong to any church although in my younger days I had thought of joining the Baptist Church. But they were so *strict*, so strait-laced, I could not dance or play cards, so I never joined.

"I thought he was very nice, for he told me he would baptize me, and I could join his church. Maybe I will some day, for churches are not so strict as they used to be."

That Mrs. Blank spoke the truth, I very well knew. This fact had been recently impressed upon me by Mary Lou, who with her mother had appeared before a mediation board to have a troublesome matter adjusted.

Mary Lou wanted to give a party. That was all right with mother until the entertainment part of it was being discussed. Mary Lou said there must be dancing, card playing, cocktails and cigarettes. But mother objected. In fact, she put her foot down, and put it down hard. "Not in my house," she said. This made Mary Lou furious and was the reason for their consulting the mediation board.

In Mary Lou's story, she admitted she knew her mother's reason for taking such a stand. "Mother is a Christian and thinks such things are wrong. But mother is just old-fashioned. I'm a Christian too, and go to church, but being a Christian does not interfere with anything I want to do."

I admit I was shocked at Mary Lou's admission, and I wondered

By

MARTHA E. WARNER

much about her pastor. Could it be possible that he was akin to one I saw in the little town we visited?

Our friends had taken us to several interesting places, among them the place where the first battleship was made. Then on to the centre of the town. There we found a little store which was open, so the men went in to see what the prospects were for ice cream.

As we women waited in the car, two men passed us, strolling leisurely along, for it was a beautiful Sunday afternoon. My friend said, "Why, that is the — minister!" "Which one?" I queried, for one of them had a cigar in his hand and occasionally took a puff. "The one with the cigar," she answered.

My friend laughed at the surprise that was evidently registered on my face. She told me I needed to get out more and see how people lived. Well, maybe so. I guess I, too, am old-fashioned about such things, but I only know that into my heart came the conviction that no pastor could tell the young people in his church that smoking is a filthy habit, and injurious to both physical and spiritual life, when he himself was addicted to the use of the weed.

Then there is the woman who has attended church for fifty years, and yet not so long ago told me she did not believe the Bible. And the young man who recently had been elected deacon of a small church. On occasions he would go off on a drunken spree, but managed to sleep off the effects before church time. One of the members of that church told me that the young deacon would learn, and, anyway, Christ forgave the thief on the cross. But when I asked if the young man should not have shown evidence that his life had been changed before he assumed the office of deacon there was no reply, just a shrug of the shoulders and an abrupt change of subject.

But why go on? This condition is widespread, and there is much truth in Mary Lou's statement that being a Christian does not interfere with

anything one wants to do. The truth of the matter is, there is a class of people whose names remain on the church books who are Christians in name only, and are not followers of the meek and lowly Jesus.

I was interested in a letter which a minister of the Evangelical United Brethren Church sent to the *Christian Herald*. He wrote: "It is hard to interest the people who dance and play cards in something which is vitally spiritual or aggressively Christian. I don't care to pass judgment to the point that going to dances would send anyone to hell, but I believe that dancing and card-playing both destroy the spiritual atmosphere needed within a church and a community to get people vitally interested in the salvation of their fellow men, the major task and only real purpose of the church."—The Reverend Gordon Care, *Christian Herald*, December, 1948, p. 87.

Going to church is good, but it is not good enough.

