

Signs of the Times





Daniel portrays to Nebuchadnezzar historical events reaching to the end of time.

DANIEL'S DARING PREDICTION

BY JULY 1, 1940, the German armies had assaulted and crushed Poland, seized Denmark and Norway, overrun Holland and Belgium, driven the British troops from Europe into their homeland, and forced France to capitulate. Italy had plunged into the fray to get what she could of the spoils. Russia had signed a nonaggression pact with Germany. The United States had not yet entered the fight. Wave after wave of enemy planes were pounding the cities of the British Isles to pieces, and an invasion fleet of three thousand barges was being prepared to take legions of Germans—armed with new weapons of destruction—across the channel to the shores of England.

The British—alone and with very few defensive weapons—were fighting for their very existence against the victorious Germans.

Most of the world thought then that Hitler had become the political master of Europe. It seemed that in just a few more weeks England would fall into the hands of the Germans. Then, perhaps, Russia would be the next victim. Hitler apparently had brought the nations of Western Europe under the complete control of one ruling power. He was actually photographed while dancing a jig of joy over the news of his military successes!

Winston Churchill, prime minister of Great Britain during World War

II, has written a series of articles giving a thrilling account of England's struggle against the enemy. Speaking of those dark days of June, 1940, the great statesman says:

"The readers of these pages in future years should realize how dense and baffling is the veil of the unknown. Now in the full light of the aftertime it is easy to see where we were ignorant or too much alarmed, where we were careless or clumsy."
— *The New York Times*, February 17, 1949.

How often men have wished that they might lift "the veil of the unknown" and get a glimpse of what lies behind it. How carefully they would plan, and how differently they

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would act, if they could know what the future holds in store for them!

About 2,500 years ago Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, was wondering "what should come to pass hereafter." Daniel 2:29. At that time he sat upon the throne of the most powerful nation on earth. His military campaigns were bringing one nation after another under his sway. Therefore, he was thinking about the future, pondering as to what the centuries would bring to his mighty empire and to this old world. And as he pondered on these things he fell asleep.

During the night "Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him." Verse 1. He probably dreamed the same dream several times, and this made a great impression upon him. It was a very strange dream, too. He saw a colossal, manlike image of great brilliancy and terrible form. Its head was of gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of brass, its legs of iron, and its feet and toes of a mixture of iron and clay.

While the monarch watched, he saw a mighty stone, cut without hands from a mountain, hurled against the feet of the great metallic image, crushing it to pieces and grinding it to dust. Then a great wind suddenly blew the whole thing away, so that not a particle of it was left. The great stone then became a mountain and filled the whole earth.

Mightily impressed by the strange nocturnal vision, the heathen king called for his wise men—the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers and the Chaldean philosophers—to explain to him the meaning of it. They soon confessed that they were unable to give him any light on the mystery. Finally, a young Hebrew

prophet was brought in to solve the enigma. He said that although the wise men could not explain mysteries of this kind, and that he himself was no wiser in the matter than other men, yet "there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar *what shall be in the latter days.*" Verse 28.

So, what really happened was that God had given to the king of Babylon a dream in which the future course of world history was revealed. That great metallic image was a symbolic prophecy of things to come, the answer to the questions that had been running through the monarch's mind before he fell asleep. God was lifting "the veil of the unknown," that men

By
Robert Leo Odom

might know in advance what to expect.

Daniel proceeded at once to interpret the dream for his royal master. And he began by making this striking statement: "Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom. . . . And whosoever the children of men dwell . . . hath He given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. *Thou art this head of gold.*" Verses 37, 38.

The great Babylonian Empire, of which Nebuchadnezzar was king, was symbolized by the golden head of the image seen in his dream. Founded in 606 B.C., it lasted until 538 B.C. Fitly represented by the head of gold, Babylon was the richest of the great powers that have ruled the civilized world. She was known as "Babylon,

the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency." Isaiah 13:19.

Would Babylon rule the world forever? That naturally was one question that king Nebuchadnezzar would like to have answered. The mighty monarch and his attendants must have listened with bated breath for the youthful seer to explain the meaning of the next part of the great image—the breast and arms of silver. "And after thee shall arise *another kingdom* inferior to thee," said Daniel. Verse 39.

In exact fulfilment of this prediction, Babylon was overthrown in 538 B.C. by the Medes and Persians, and from that time forth until 331 B.C. the Medo-Persian Empire ruled the civilized world. (Daniel 5: 28, 30, 31.) As silver is inferior to gold, so the Medo-Persian kingdom did not equal Babylon in wealth and glory.

What next? What does the next part—the belly and thighs of brass—in the great image symbolize? The prophet added: "And *another third kingdom* of brass . . . shall bear rule over all the earth." Verse 39. Medo-Persia, too, was destined to give way to another world empire. This happened as foretold. The Greeks, under Alexander the Great, routed the Persian forces of Darius in the battle of Arbela in 331 B.C., and the sceptre of world dominion passed from Asia to Europe.

Would Greece also be succeeded by another universal power? Said Daniel: "And *the fourth kingdom* shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things; and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise." Verse 40. The

(Please turn to page 15)

Where are we
living to-day?
Down in the feet
of iron and clay.
The next event
is the coming
of Christ and
the establish-
ment of His
kingdom.



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.

WE ARE studying to-night," said Pastor Flynn, "about a wonderful promise which Jesus made while He was still upon earth. It is the promise which He made to return to this earth the second time and take His faithful people to heaven with Him.

"He was here about two thousand

sions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.' Behold, I come quickly.' Surely I come quickly,' Revelation 22:7, 20.

"One of the greatest latter-day evangelists once said: 'To my mind this precious doctrine—for such I must call it—of the return of our Lord to this earth is taught in the New Testament as clearly as any

ament is the doctrine of the return of Jesus Christ to this earth. No other doctrine or teaching is so often mentioned by New Testament writers. It is said that once in every twenty-five verses of Scripture we are reminded of this great fact, and that altogether there are three hundred and eighteen mentions of it in the New Testament. It is the consummation of the Christian's hope, and the end of human history as we know it. The world is moving with lightning-like rapidity toward that event which Bible writers

A WONDERFUL PROMISE

years ago in fulfilment of divine promise, and we look for Him to come the second time and put an end to the reign of sin. This promise has been the hope of the Christians of all ages. It has inspired millions with courage and faith to pass through the valley of the shadow of death.

"By necessity a devoted husband and wife were separated for several months. During the period, the husband wrote his wife daily and often sent her gifts. One day a friend was visiting in the home and said, 'You must be very happy to receive all these letters and gifts.' 'Yes, I am happy to receive them,' the lonesome wife replied, 'but I would be more happy to see my husband himself.'

"That is the way it is with Jesus. It is wonderful that He has given us the Bible revealing the plan of salvation, and it is wonderful that He has sent the Holy Spirit as our Comforter, but we want to see Jesus Himself. The heart of the Christian yearns to see and to associate with the Son of God, who loved us so much that He became one with us in order to save us. We want to see Him who became our Elder Brother. And Jesus in His great prayer, as recorded in John, the seventeenth chapter, prayed that we may be with Him: 'Father, I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am; that they may behold My glory, which Thou hast given Me: for Thou lovedst Me before the foundation of the world.' Verse 24."

Mrs. Ryan looked at the floor in deep thought. "Did Jesus promise specifically that He would return?"

"Yes, very definitely," replied Pastor Flynn. "The promise is found in John 14: 1-3, and other texts. 'Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many man-

other doctrine in it; yet I was in the church fifteen or sixteen years before I ever heard a sermon on it. . . . Now I can see the reason for this. The devil does not want us to see this truth, for nothing would wake up the church so much. The moment a man takes hold of the truth that Jesus Christ is coming back again to receive His followers to Himself, this world loses its hold on him. . . . His heart is free, and he looks for the blessed appearing of his Lord, who, at His coming, will take him into His blessed kingdom.'—D. L. Moody, *The Second Coming of Christ*, pp. 6, 7.

"Great religious leaders have embraced the promises which Christ made of His return. Martin Luther said: 'Ah, loving God, defer not Thy coming. . . . I hope that day is not far off.'

"John Knox, the hero of Scotland, said: 'Has not the Lord Jesus, in despite of Satan's malice, carried up our

have so clearly and so often predicted.

"'Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.' Hebrews 9: 28.

"'Our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.' Philippians 3:20.

"'Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.' Titus 2:13.

"Not only do we have the direct promise of Jesus Himself to return, but we have also the witness of the angels: 'When He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men [undoubtedly angels] stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.' Acts 1:9-11."

"I am convinced that Jesus will come again, but in what manner will He return? Will it be secretly or openly, and will the people living on the earth at that time know about it?" asked Miss Clement.

"I am happy to be able to open the Bible and give you the answer to that good question," said the minister. 'As the lightning cometh out of the east and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.' Matthew 24:27.

"Here Jesus likens His second coming to the 'lightning flash.' It will be as clearly visible to all; in fact, more so. This is one tremendous event which it will be impossible to

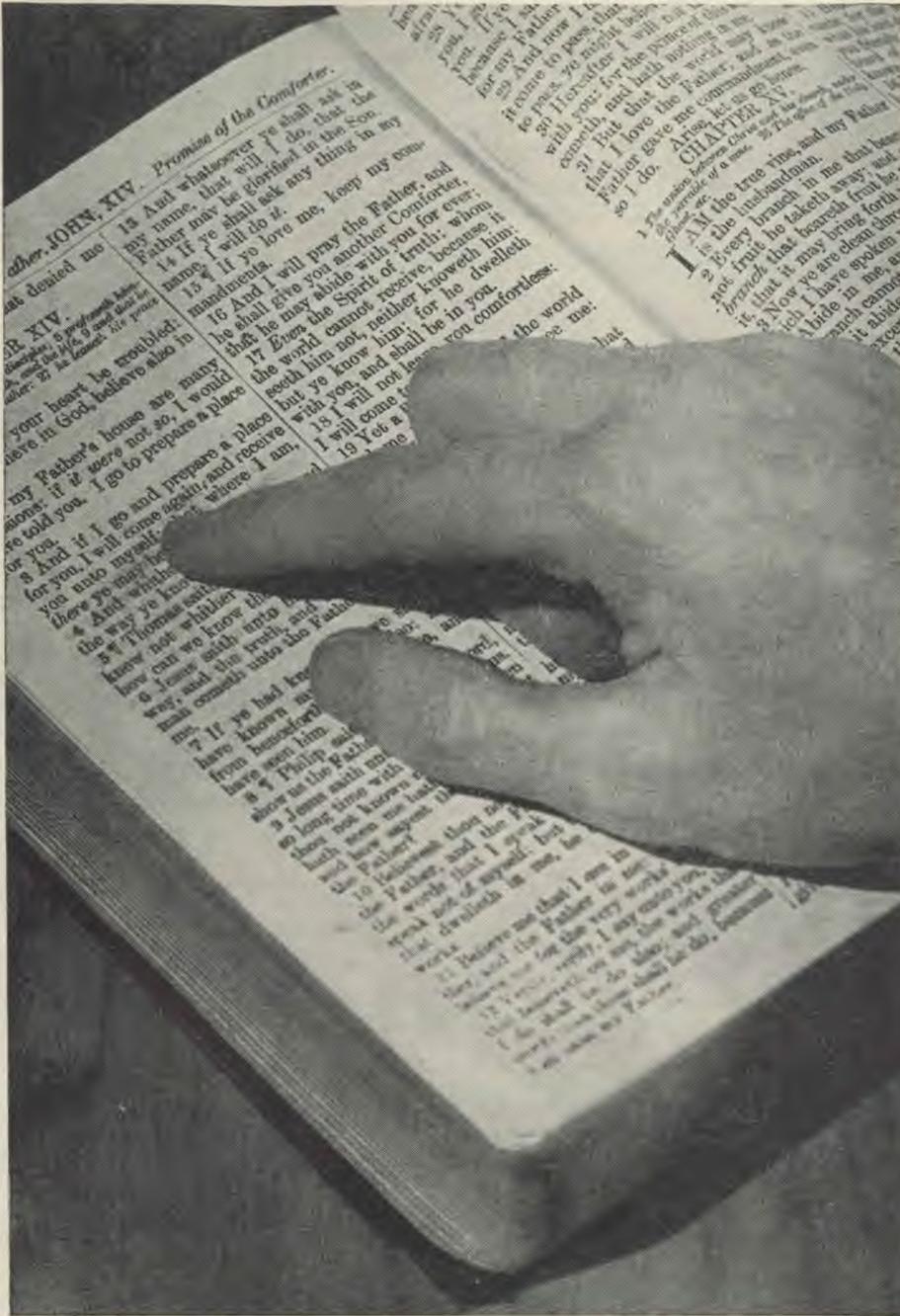
By
Dallas Youngs

flesh into heaven? And shall He not return? We know that He shall return.'

"C. H. Spurgeon, called the prince of preachers, made this statement: 'The day of our Lord's appearing is the day around which our chief hopes must centre.'"

"I have been wondering," said Mr. Hoover, "whether the writers of the New Testament placed confidence in Christ's promise to return."

"I am glad you raised that question," observed Pastor Flynn. "The paramount doctrine of the New Test-



The Bible is replete with divine promises. None, however, is more precious to the "wayfarer" than the one made by Christ, "I will come again."

conceal. 'Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him.' Revelation 1:7.

"When we remember that Jesus will come the second time in His own glory, in His Father's glory, and in the glory of all the angels, we begin to get some idea of what a glorious event it is going to be. On the morning of the resurrection the glory of just one angel caused the Roman soldiers to fall to the ground as dead men. When we multiply the glory of this one angel by that of the millions who will accompany Jesus at His coming, we can well believe that it will be as the lightning that flashes across the heavens with such blinding brilliancy.

"During John's exile on Patmos he had a vision of Jesus in His exceeding great glory. Speaking of the Saviour, he says that 'His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.' Revelation 1:16. Jesus' second coming will be far more clearly visible than is the sun on the clearest day. The apostle Paul, in speaking of that event, says: 'The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.' 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

"Peter says: 'We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,

but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.' 2 Peter 1:16.

"When Jesus came the first time, His birth was not widely heralded. Only a few shepherds, the wise men, our Lord's earthly parents, and a few others knew and believed. But in marked contrast will be His second coming. Instead of coming as a helpless babe, He will come as a ruling monarch, as King of kings and Lord of lords."

"While you have been answering Miss Clement's question, this one occurred to me," said Mr. Saunders. "What is Jesus' purpose in coming back to the earth?"

"The first thing Jesus does is to redeem His promise to the righteous dead," said Pastor Flynn. "With the voice of authority He commands the graves to open, and those who have fallen asleep in Christ come forth clothed with immortality. 'The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.' 1 Thessalonians 4:16. Here are the words of an old soul-thrilling song, 'He's Coming':

"How sweet are the tidings that greet the pilgrim's ear.

As he wanders in exile from home!
Soon, soon will the Saviour in glory appear,

And soon will the kingdom come.

"The mossy old graves where the pilgrims sleep

Shall be open as wide as before,
And the millions that sleep in the mighty deep

Shall live on this earth once more.

"There we'll meet ne'er to part in our happy Eden home,

Sweet songs of redemption we'll sing;
From the north, from the south, all the ransomed shall come,

And worship our heavenly King.

"Hallelujah, Amen! Hallelujah again!
Soon, if faithful, we all shall be there;

O, be watchful, be hopeful, be joyful till then,

And a crown of bright glory we'll wear."

"The second thing Jesus does is to translate, or to change from mortal to immortal beings, the righteous living. These do not die, but are changed in a moment of time, and are caught up with the resurrected saints to meet Jesus in the air. 'Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.' 1 Thessalonians 4:17."

"You spoke about the angels coming with Jesus when He comes the second time," said Mrs. Saunders.

"What part, if any, do they have in the resurrection?"

"Here are two verses from Matthew that answer your question, Mrs. Saunders: 'He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.' Matthew 24:31.

"The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.' Matthew 13:39."

"What happens to the living wicked when Christ comes the second time?" asked Mr. Ryan.

"That question can be answered by several verses from the Bible: 'To you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.' 2 Thessalonians 1:7, 8.

"Then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume

with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming.' 2 Thessalonians 2:8.

"The heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, *Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*' Revelation 6:14-17.

"When Jesus comes, the wheat and the tares are separated. The righteous (the wheat) are gathered into the kingdom; but the wicked (the tares) are gathered and burnt. (See Matthew 13.)"

"What is the proper attitude for Christians to maintain toward the

second coming of Christ?" inquired Mr. Pierson.

"Paul, in writing to Timothy, said that we were to love Jesus' appearing: 'Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.' 2 Timothy 4:8.

"The true follower of Jesus recognizes the fact that he is but a stranger and a pilgrim on the earth, and he looks eagerly forward to the return of His Lord and the fulfilment of the promise of a permanent abiding place. He looks for a better land, free from crime, war, trouble, sickness, pain and death. Jesus, to him, is the One altogether lovely, and the supreme ambition of his life is to see Him and be with Him."

Now that you have read and studied the lesson on *A Wonderful Promise*, turn to page 18 and fill in the answers to Pastor Flynn's Quiz.

THE BIG THREE of BIBLE PROPHECY

Are They Now Emerging?

TIME and again we have declared in these pages, on the evidence of the prophetic Word, that we are living not merely in the "last time" but in the very last hours of the last time; not merely in the "time of the end," but almost at the very end of time.

Our attention, therefore, must naturally turn again and again to the terminal events of the great lines of Bible prophecy, and our gaze ever and anon scans the momentous happenings of our time in order to glimpse the correspondences between forecast and history and to descry the approach of the climax of all prophecy—the return of our Lord and the establishment of His everlasting kingdom.

Last Act of World Drama

Turning the pages of the Revelation with this object in mind, we note in the sixteenth chapter a star-

ling prophecy which we have without doubt read many times before, but which seems to come alive as we re-read it to-day.

It is a picture of the nations in the very last hours of history just before God steps in. It depicts the actors on the stage and reveals their dispositions just before the curtain of the long world drama falls. Here are the words of the inspired penman:

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. . . . And He gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." Revelation 16:13, 14, 16.

Satan's Three "Chiefs of Staff"

It will be noticed that when Satan begins his final work of deception he selects three demonic "chiefs of staff," as it were, to superintend the final marshalling of his forces.

The reason for this is that down in the last days the world will have become divided into three great regional groups of humanity, symbolically designated as the "dragon," the "beast," and the "false prophet." Into these three vast groupings humanity will have crystallized, and to bring them each and all into line with his plan of campaign Satan sends forth three emissaries, assisted by myriads of evil angels and with deceptions appropriate to the respective—to use a modern expression—ideological outlooks of the three great world groups.

Kaleidoscope of Jostling Nations

For centuries past, the civilized

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world has presented the appearance of a patchwork quilt of many states with few bonds between them, and each endeavouring to expand its territories at the expense of the others to secure natural resources, markets and defensible frontiers.

In our historical atlases these expanding and contracting areas of diverse colours have provided an ever-changing kaleidoscope of jostling nations and peoples which, however, has had nothing in common with the picture in Revelation sixteen. Certainly this prophecy has never come anywhere near fulfilment from the time John wrote it, down to our own century.

The first world war rendered still more unlikely the fulfilment of the prophecy, for President Wilson's doctrine of "self-determination" actually added to the number of interlocking pieces in the international jig-saw by bringing into existence the new nations of Czechoslovakia and Jugoslavia, reconstituting Poland, and giving the three Baltic states, Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania, their freedom and independence.

So, as recently as the interwar years, the prophetic picture bore not the slightest resemblance to the face of the nations.

An Entirely New Situation

Then came Hitler's attempt at German world domination. His dream, like the Kaiser's, dissolved, but the situation resulting from the holocaust of the second world war provides a complete contrast to that following the conflict of 1914-18.

This time no statesman has even whispered the word "self-determination." On the contrary it has been repeatedly emphasized that the small independent state constitutes a menace to the peace of the modern world. And so, as by a miracle, the nations have suddenly begun to crystallize into a few great groups which together comprise practically the whole of the terrestrial globe.

True, the ideal was presented to the world immediately after the war, of a United Nations Organization, comprehending all peoples within its fold, but from the first, very distinct lines of cleavage and regional groupings began to manifest themselves.

From "Big Five" to "Big Two"

Immediately after the war we began to hear of the "Big Five," comprising Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union, France and China, and in anticipation of the "big" part they were expected to play in the post-war

world, they were given permanent seats on the Security Council of the United Nations.

It soon became apparent, however, that China was destined to be not a big power but a gigantic area of chaos for a long time to come, and although she still retains her place among the permanent members of the Security Council, she has ceased to be thought of as one of the great powers of the modern world.

The granting of a permanent place on the Security Council to France was also by way of anticipation that she would speedily be restored to her former eminence among the nations, but as a result of Communist intrigue France also is likely to be very tardy in recovering its "big" place in world affairs.

Regrettably, too, Britain, as a result of impoverishment through its gigantic efforts to arrest Hitler's aggression, has ceased to be the "big" power that it was before 1939.

The "Third Force"

But during the past year or so this situation has been significantly changed. From Britain, and one after the other of the states of Western Europe, the suggestion has been voiced that while neither Britain, nor France, nor any of the other nations whose territories lie between the Soviet Union and the United States of America, can any longer claim comparison with these two giants of the East and West, if all these nations would join together in a United States of Europe, linked with the British Commonwealth, such a federation would

By

W. L. Emmerson

be powerful enough to defend itself against any attempt upon its independence and territorial integrity and would be able to make its influence powerfully felt in the councils of the nations.

"When the Nazi power was broken," declared Mr. Winston Churchill, "I asked myself what was the best advice I could give to my fellow citizens here in this island and across the channel in our ravaged Continent. There was no difficulty in answering that question. My counsel to Europe can be given in a single word: Unite!"

Mr. Attlee, prime minister of Britain, has said that "Europe must federate or perish," and Mr. Bevin has asserted that "the time is ripe for consolidation."

While the Soviet Union, for obvious reasons, has looked with disfavour upon such a union and has done everything possible to prevent its consummation, the United States has actively fostered the idea.

From the countries of the Commonwealth the same urge to European Union is constantly being sounded.

"Two great poles of power face each other across the curtain," declared Field Marshal Smuts in an Empire Day broadcast, "the United States in the West, the U.S.S.R. in the East, while the Far East is still shrouded in the shadows of the future. . . . It is no longer a question of our standing alone for our security—or of counting our losses and gains in the world wars. Organization of the West becomes the one paramount issue for us in the Commonwealth also."

So to-day we see what has never been seen before in history since the collapse of the ancient world empires; namely, the crystallization of the whole of humanity into three great regional groupings: the Soviet Union, dominating Eastern Europe and a good part of Asia; the United States, which through the Pan-American Union has a controlling, if not authoritarian, voice in the affairs of the Americas and dominates the Pacific coast of Asia from Japan and Korea to the Philippines; and the emerging United States of Europe, with their dependencies, covering virtually the whole of Africa, and linked through Britain with the countries of the Commonwealth.

Earl Russell in an article in the *Sunday Pictorial* has described the three groups in politico-economic terms as "Democratic Capitalism, Democratic Socialism, and Totalitarian Socialism."

Is It a Coincidence?

Now it may be admitted that all this is very true. The world to-day is almost wholly under the control of the "Big Three"—the U.S.S.R., the U.S.A., and the emerging U.S.E.—and prophecy does clearly suggest that right down at the very close of time the earth will be dominated by three great symbolic powers—the "dragon," the "beast," and the "false prophet." But it may also very properly be asked whether this is not just a coincidence. Is there any real relation or correspondence between the "Big Three" of Revelation sixteen and the "Big Three" of the modern world?

That indeed is a momentous question, and in the articles which will follow we shall seek an answer to it.



WORLD AS WE SEE IT!

**A Prophetic Interpretation
of Current Events!**

Mass Anxiety

A ROUTINE photograph was shot in Louisville, Kentucky, by *Courier-Journal* photographer, Barney Cowherd. It is a street-corner scene, where twenty or more people are waiting for the light to change. Such a photograph might be made of any one of ten thousand street corners of the cities of North America. However, this picture has attracted unusual attention. *Life* magazine says, "It has been called the most disturbing picture since *Mona Lisa*."

The disturbing feature of the picture is the expressions of anxiety on the faces of so many of the subjects. One man, leaning against a lamp post, appears to be facing a grim future. Another bears the expression of a man on his way to the electric chair. Still another is rubbing his chin with deep perplexity. An army officer has an expression as a man would have "going over the top" at the zero hour. A woman in front of the soldier is registering anguish of unknown cause. A student appears to be late, while a woman reading a newspaper is evidently reading bad news.

The remainder of this street-corner crowd do not give facial expression to their thoughts, but who, except the great Reader of all thoughts, knows of the deep-seated problems and troubles that may lie buried in their hearts? This world, filled with utopian conveniences and luxuries, is also filled with widespread anguish and sorrow.

True, man now rides in sleek, shining, high-powered motor cars instead of the oxcart of one hundred years, or a little more, ago. But the automobile has brought with it, its share of life's perplexity. Costs of purchase, costs of operation, insurance, repairs, accidents and death are things that furrow the brows of most motorists. The "keeping up with the Joneses" in the procurement of new designs in furniture, new models in automobiles and electrical appliances, new fashions in clothing, the high cost of living due to the decreased purchasing power of the dollar, sickness, the finding of suitable living quarters, the high costs of education — all these things, and a hundred more, cause the anxiety expressed by the people caught by photographer Cowherd's camera.

We would call our readers' attention to a well-known fact — the tempo of living has stepped up, and is continuing to accelerate. It has not always been

this way. The world has not always moved at this giddy pace. The time once was, in the horse-and-waggon days, when men and women had time to relax and give their nervous system opportunity to recuperate its losses, and to even store up some reserve energy. To-day, most men and women, and even some children, have overdrawn their account on the bank of Nervous Energy. The result is that they are nervous, jumpy and irritable.

What is the answer to this condition of nervousness, worry and anxiety which possesses people now-a-days? There is no answer and no solution except as each individual takes himself and his own circumstances in hand and controls them. Some people will not allow themselves to be pushed along in this giddy whirl. They have backbone enough to say "no" to the appeal to buy the latest in gadgets, appliances and automobiles. They regulate their time, devoting the needed portion to recreation and family life, both of which are imperative to the maintenance of physical and spiritual health.

Another cause of the worry and anxiety so prevalent to-day is depicted in 2 Timothy 3:1-5, where national, community and family conditions are set clearly forth in all their awful accuracy: "This know also, that in the *last days* perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

The prevailing lack of knowledge of the Bible, and of confidence in it, is a primary contributing cause of present-day anxiety. The man who knows, understands and believes the Bible reposes in the assurance that God lives, that He is interested in him as an individual, and that He is busy working out that which is best for him and his interests, and that ultimately the problem of sin will be solved and the conformer to God's will, will at last be safe in the kingdom. Such a confidence in the power, ability and interest of the great Superintendent of our lives serves to dissolve worry and anxiety and to provide assurance for the present and the future.



H. M. LAMBERT



H. M. LAMBERT

Gangs and gang warfare, automobile accidents, disastrous fires, tumults and disorders are the order of the day. These things are telling us, if we will listen, where we are living in relation to Christ's coming.

To-day's Headlines

NEWSPAPER headlines tell a story of fulfilling Bible prophecy. This morning our attention was directed to the first-page headlines of a small town newspaper. Revealing? Yes, more than revealing when considered in the light of well-known Bible predictions of "last day" events. Listen: "Three Villages Threatened by Flames." "Two Pilots Killed in Mid-air Crash." "First Polio Case Found." "Twenty-one Perished in Manitoba Air Crash." "Hurricanes in Atlantic." "Six Persons Hurt as Trams Crash." "Ex-convict Suspect in Layng Case." "Miners Return to Pits To-day." "Dan Keller Back in Penitentiary."

Hurricanes, fires, disease, accidents, crime and labour disorders! This ghastly record of tragedies is most significant to the careful Bible student, and especially to the student of Bible prophecy. Bible prophecy is history before its occurrence. That is to say that the Bible student is able to open the Bible, read and understand these things before they come to pass. "Well," you ask, "what benefit accrues from that?" Just this: the occurrence of these events locates the place where we are living on the stream of time in relation to what is coming.

Jesus, in His great prophecy of Matthew 24, after listing momentous events and conditions that would come, said: "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled."

If Jesus' second coming is at hand, it is important that people should know it. Bible writers of the New Testament spoke of this tremendous event more than three hundred times. Jesus Himself warns to watch and be ready, lest He come as a thief.

People fear the devastating effects of a third world war. They fear the atom bomb. They fear bacterial warfare. But the thing that most people should fear most — the second coming of Jesus Christ — they fear not at all. To most people it is a hazy event, which if it occurs at all is slated to take place sometime in the far distant future, and is therefore nothing that should cause any alarm at present.

It is a Biblical fact that the second coming of Christ marks the end of the age — the end of the world as far as the present order of things is concerned. For the minority, the saints, who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, it will be a glorious occasion. It marks their release from the bondage of sin and from the oppression of the world's sorrows. It is the occasion of their entrance into the eternal rewards of the righteous.

But for the majority, the wicked who know not God, it is a day of stark horror. Not knowing or realizing the imminence of the "event of the ages," they are unprepared. They have not put away sin; so they perish with it. But the regretful thing about it all is that they could have known. The Bible is replete with signs and warnings and exhortations to the wicked man to repent, that he may meet Christ in peace at His coming.

Christ's Resurrection Myth or Fact?

By Carlyle B. Haynes

CHRISTIANITY has existed in the world for many centuries. What created it? There can be only one answer. The reliable Old Book gives it: *Christ and His resurrection*.

There would have been no Christian church if the early disciples had not believed that Christ was raised. It was the belief in that resurrection which brought the Christian church into existence, established it among men, and has maintained and increased it ever since.

Were those men mistaken? Did they believe something that was not true? Did they accept something which cannot be demonstrated?

It will be said, and most truly, that it does not constitute proof of Christ's resurrection to prove that the church resulted from the *belief* in that resurrection on the part of the early Christians. They may have been deceived and mistaken. The belief may have created the church. But is the belief itself based on fact?

It is true that the very fact that the Christian church with its unsurpassed moral teachings and spiritual principles grew out of a belief in the resurrection of Christ is in itself strong evidence of the accuracy of that belief, and is in itself testimony to the fact of the resurrection. Delusions do not have the power to establish and maintain such a system as Christianity. But is there other evidence than this to the credibility of this stupendous truth?

Fact Not Theory

If the resurrection of Christ be a fable and not a fact, one question clamours for a solution. How did the apostles, who certainly must have known whether they were telling the truth, persuade such multitudes of Jews and pagans to believe their

story of the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus?

The apostles could not possibly be deceived themselves. They knew whether they were telling the truth or lying. They unitedly and solemnly and most earnestly testified that they had seen Christ after He was risen from the dead, that they ate and drank with Him, that their hands handled His body, that they conversed with Him during a period of forty days, that they saw Him go up to heaven. If these things were not true they knew they were lying when they said them. They told them for the truth.

Here is no matter of doctrine about which men may differ in opinion. Here are matters of fact—matters about what men say they saw, and heard, and felt—matters about which no man in his right mind could possibly be mistaken. John writes: "That which . . . we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, . . . that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you." 1 John 1:1-3.

Such is their language. Either it is true, or they lied. They could not have been mistaken about it. Either they did see what they said they saw, or they lied when they said they saw what they did not see. Their testimony must either be taken as the truth, or be rejected as a falsehood. It is utter and complete nonsense to talk about hallucinations and powerful impressions produced upon their minds by a fervent religious experience. Such hallucinations might come to one person, but not to a whole group. And we are not referring to impressions produced upon their minds, but impressions produced upon their eyes, ears and hands. Either these men did eat and drink and talk



H. A. ROBERTS

with Jesus after His resurrection, or they lied when they said they did.

If they lied, and these things are not true, and Jesus did not rise from the dead, then we are compelled to accept a miracle just about as great as His resurrection would be. These few despised Jews, without power or prestige, went into all the provinces of the Roman Empire, to men of other races and heathen religions, and other languages, and persuaded them to believe this lie—if lie it be—not by scores, or hundreds, or thou-



Doubters of Christ's resurrection need not remain doubters. Mr. Haynes presents proof of that tremendous event that will convince even the most skeptical.

the body. No plan could be devised more certain to arouse the fury of the pagan priesthood than to introduce the worship of another God, one Jesus, a Jew. Then, too, the most degraded criminal who dies in the electric chair could not be more contemptible to us than the crucified malefactor was in the eyes of the Roman people.

Conversion of the Heathen

And yet during these early centuries millions of pagans renounced their idolatry, gave up their heathen sacrifices and the rites of the gods, and forsook their temples, to believe this alleged lie. This is in no wise mythological or doubtful. It is an established historical fact.

And these converts from heathenism embraced this new religion at a fearful cost. It did not increase their wealth or obtain for them a higher social or political prestige. On the contrary, every one who renounced heathenism and professed the name of Christ knew very well that he must suffer for it. They were plainly told the result, and they candidly considered the cost. They were warned of the "fiery trials" they would have to endure. They knew of the torture and public execution of others, both men and women, who had embraced Christianity. Hence the terms of discipleship were well known to the whole world. Yet in the face of such dangers, "great numbers of persons, of both sexes, and of all ages, and of every rank," as Pliny wrote to the Emperor Trajan, accepted this lie, if lie it be.

It would be easy to understand how a mere theory of religion, unconnected with practice, involving no change in life, may be readily received by those who care little for any religion, provided it brings no suffering or inconvenience, and offers an avenue for

the gratification and indulgence of fleshly lusts, passions, appetites and ambitions. But this is not the case in the acceptance of Christianity. It demands clean hearts and pure lives. It denounces all indulgence of the flesh. It requires the most rigid virtue and morality.

Thus their new worship required of the heathen a great departure from the religion they had been reared in, and demanded a still greater departure from their former mode of life. The moral codes of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle permitted lying, thieving, adultery, and murder. To those who were raised under such codes it is scarcely possible even to imagine how unattractive and unpopular would be such teaching as the apostles laid down. Read it, and see. (I Peter 4:1-5; 2:1; 1 John 3:6-8.)

There is nothing desirable to the fleshly nature, nothing that would make any appeal to the natural ambitions of men, in these sharp, stern, strict virtues which Christianity demands of its converts. Here is upheld a standard of morality unknown to the ancient world, and repellent to all the natural passions and lusts of men.

Has a Lie Spiritual Power?

And again, in this connection, we must raise the question, Is there such power in a lie that, if it be well told, it can transform human lives into the semblance of the divine? Does it seem credible that a small group of Galilean fishermen, without wealth, arms, power or worldly education, could convert millions of lying, thieving, lustful, murdering idolaters, and change them into honest, peaceable, virtuous men, just by telling them an enormous lie?

Does it appear possible that men can concoct such a fraud, and then lie so well, while at the same time they are teaching their converts to "lie not one to another," and warning them that all liars will find their places at last in the lake of fire and brimstone; that these very men, while they were so teaching, lied themselves, lied publicly, lied privately, lied repeatedly, lied while life lasted, lied in the very face of death; that the very business of their lives was to propagate a lie, and they died with that lie on their lips; that such men as a consequence of such lying turned immense multitudes of wicked men to a life of virtue and purity and honesty and truthfulness? Does it, I say, seem credible?

Can we believe that it was the belief of a lie which produced such

(Please turn to page 15)

sands, but literally and ultimately by millions, and of all ranks, of both sexes, young and old, natives of the provinces and Roman citizens, even some in the very entourage of the Emperor.

They persuaded Roman citizens to believe this lie when to believe it was to suffer persecution, ridicule and death. The whole power of the empire was against them. Nothing could be more absurd in the eyes of the philosophical Greeks and Romans than to speak of the resurrection of



War Without Guns

Military experts agree that the next war in the air will largely be fought without the use of guns. The range of guns is too short and planes will fly so fast that they will pass each other at speeds too high for the effective use of guns. What will be used will probably be rockets. These missiles will be guided by radar waves, will travel at supersonic speeds, and will explode through the use of the deadly proximity fuse which will tell them when they are in effective range of the enemy. Experts agree that such weapons are possible within the immediate future. It is possible that they will also outdate anti-aircraft guns, for it will be possible to steer them from the ground by movable radar beams. In that case, the aircraft's defence might be to get out of range of the radar beam by fast flight or to jam the radar beam's reception by the missile so as to cause it to lose its way.

And Pestilences

By the middle of August, polio cases had reached a total of 11,000 in the United States—a record for that date. Beginning earlier than usual and probably intensified by exceptionally hot weather in much of the U.S., the epidemic has been watched with intense interest by medical science and the general public alike. Experts point out, however, that figures on polio to-day are not to be compared with such figures of years past. The intensified fight against polio, and vastly superior diagnostic techniques, make such comparison impossible. For instance in 1916, 30,000 cases were reported for the whole year; actually there were probably at least two to three times that number.

Rumours of Wars

As reported in the *United States News and World Report* of August 5, the fourteen-billion-dollar defence budget of the United States is not all spent for purely military purposes. In fact, only about six and a third billions are to be spent in that way, it is claimed. The Army is to spend \$3 on non-combat expense for every \$1.60 spent on actual fighting units. The Navy spends \$2.15 on land overhead for every \$2.50 spent on the water. Even the Air Force, with its enormously expensive aircraft, spends \$2 on overhead for every \$3 invested in fighting strength.

On past spending, the controller general of the United States, Lindsay C. Warren, has had considerable to say lately. He charges that in contracts amounting to \$1,165,000,000 fraud and waste ate up \$11,500,000. If he is right, and these figures are to be taken as a typical sample, then at least \$25,000,000,000 was lost through fraud and waste in World War II expenditures.

Atlantic Security Pact

The first transatlantic alliance ever entered into by the United States was ratified by the Senate on July 21. It has been pointed out that a shift of twenty votes would have defeated ratification.

WHERE IS "OLD NED"?

By George Russell

N OBODY esteemed "Old Ned" while he lived—nor, for that matter, when he died. In fact, there was little about the old fellow that one could esteem. You see, "Old Ned" was a character—one of those persons who are outstanding for their eccentricities. Ned's specialty was profanity. To that he added drunkenness, selfishness, cruelty. Some of the older residents of Fairview remembered his wife and daughter, and told how Ned, by making their lives so miserable, had contributed to their early decease. That, however, was long ago. Since the time of his bereavement, Old Ned had manifested, for the most part, an attitude of surly isolationism.

Nobody saw the old man die. But after a while neighbours missed seeing the smoke of his chimney, and investigated. They found that "finis" had been written to a useless and miserable life.

Yet, strange as it may seem, the day Old Ned was buried, the church was packed. Many were there, candidly speaking, to see whether Pastor Wilson thought Old Ned had "made it." Evidently he did, for somewhere in his discourse the good man said, "Our brother is resting from his labours, his trials, and is now in a better land where he is receiving just recompense for all he suffered down here."

As Pastor Wilson walked home he asked himself, "Did I say the right thing to-day? The occasion of death gives a wonderful opportunity to exhort the living concerning the un-

certainty of life and the need of constant readiness for judgment. Did I use it well?"

He did not have to wait long for one person's reaction to the sermon. That dear lady, Mrs. Wilson herself, whose prerogative it was to criticize her husband's discourses, remarked, "So Old Ned has gone to the better land, eh?"

The pastor, smiling slowly, asked, "Did I say that?"

"That is just what you said. It has me terribly puzzled. Last Sunday you preached a powerful sermon in which you emphasized the fact that only those who give themselves to God in this life can hope for a home in heaven. Now you have reversed yourself and have assigned to the better land a man who never gave any evidence of conversion, and as far as we know never repented of his hatred to God and man."

The pastor commented dryly, "I simply did not have the heart to assign him anywhere else."

"I know you have a kind heart," said his wife. "You would like to open the gates of heaven wide enough to include everyone. But God has not made them that wide. As I understand the Bible, God will by means of the judgment sift the inhabitants of earth to determine who among them are worthy of a place in His kingdom. One of the first verses I ever memorized was this: 'We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.' 2 Corinthians 5:10. And Jesus has told us, 'Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.' Matthew 7:14. I do not dare judge Old Ned. We must leave his case to the merciful Judge of all. Whether we understand it or not, God will do what is best, not only for Old Ned, but for all of us."

The pastor mused audibly, "True, I should like to make the gates of heaven wide enough to include all. But God, who is infinite in wisdom, has made the gate so narrow that only few, comparatively, will enter. Yet God is far more merciful, more loving, and more gracious than I—and is, of course, omniscient. In all my preaching, except in funeral sermons, I have emphasized the narrowness of the gate. I have never explained why it is so narrow, and cannot at this moment give a clear explanation. I must study and meditate on this."

"I shall be interested to hear the results of your study and meditation," declared Mrs. Wilson as she left to prepare the evening meal.

For several days Pastor Wilson was very little company in the home. He went around in deep thought, doing absent-minded things that tried his wife's patience, and that only an understanding developed through years of living together made tolerable. Ideas were forming; however, as yet they were like a nebulous haze that had not taken definite shape. But the consolidating process went on until one day he shouted "Eureka!" (I have found it.)

"Found what, pray tell?" asked Mrs. Wilson.

"I have found the Bible answer to my question, Why will God admit to His kingdom only those who have met a prescribed standard? I have always preached it is so; this Sunday I am going to preach *why* it is so."

"Must I wait until then?"

"No, my dear," said the minister earnestly. "My ideas are pretty well disorganized at present. Suppose we work together on this."

"All right, then," replied Mrs. Wilson. "Where do we begin?"

"Let us start with Revelation 21:27."

Mrs. Wilson read: "There shall in no wise enter into it anything that

defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.' What do you see in that," she asked, "besides a reiteration of the fact that God will admit some into the holy city and exclude others?"

"Those words, 'There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth' imply more than a casual refusal," declared Pastor Wilson. "They show utter determination to keep out of heaven anything that it would be disastrous to let in. They are a divinely enforced quarantine—a divine resolve not to let certain things enter under any consideration whatsoever. The quarantine is enforced against 'anything that defileth,' or 'whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie.' God has prepared a city, holy, harmless, undefiled, and is determined to keep it so by admitting into it only those whose characters are in keeping with the kind of kingdom He has planned."

"I begin to see what you mean," said Mrs. Wilson. "God must, for the future peace and harmony of His kingdom, exclude all who would do anything to disturb its peace and holiness."

"Yes," answered the minister. "He has had one bitter experience with sin in His universe, and that is enough. It all started with one great angel who threatened to destroy the very kingdom of God itself. Lucifer and his angels were cast out to this earth. (Revelation 12:9.) Thus heaven was cleared of their defiling presence. But sin abounded among the inhabitants of this beautiful world which God created until every inhabitant has at some time been in conscious or unconscious rebellion against his Creator. 'There is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.' Ecclesiastes 7:20.

(Please turn to page 17)

The question of where man goes at death has occasioned a vast amount of speculation. There is but one accurate answer; namely, that found in the Bible.

REVIEW & HERALD





BIBLE ANSWERS

by your Bible Answerman

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

Dear Mr. Answerman: Do you believe there is such a being as the devil?

One day hundreds of people were startled by seeing an automobile going down the street, in and out of traffic, stopping and starting, without a driver back of the wheel. But not one of those who saw the demonstration of the radio-controlled auto thought for a moment that there was not an intelligence somewhere that was making the car stop at red lights, to dodge pedestrians and to make right-and left-hand turns. They knew that someone whom they could not see was manoeuvring the car. And they were right.

It is no different in this world of sin. Sin is an intruder into the universe of God, and has brought in problems and difficulties that are tremendous in their scope. When we witness the war, crime and evil that plague this world we can know that all these things are directed by a super-intelligence. The Bible calls this super-intelligence the devil. It tells us the story of how in the long ago a mighty angel who stood close to the very throne of God became dissatisfied with his position and sought to exalt himself to an equality with the divine Family.

Isaiah, one of the Old Testament Bible writers, gives us a little glimpse of that time: "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, the pre-sin name of this mighty angel, was created with many outstanding talents. He was a leader of the heavenly choir. He was one of the covering cherubs. He was beautiful and glorious in his appearance. He occupied a commanding position over the other angels of heaven. We might well ask, "How could such a favoured being become dissatisfied? How could

he desire more than he already possessed?" But the fact is, he became proud. He observed that he was very beautiful and talented, and with this came the unchecked desire for self-exaltation. He aspired to a higher position than that ascribed to him by his Creator, and it was not long until he had spread his dissatisfaction among the other angels of heaven. Then there was a full-scale rebellion against the very throne of God.

How did this end? We are told in Revelation 12:7-9: "There was war in heaven: Michael [Christ] and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the

great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

The great rebel has since been confined to this planet together with the many millions of his followers. It was he that led Adam and Eve into sin. It was he that tempted Christ in the wilderness, and at last led wicked men to put the Son of God to death. It is he who behind the scenes causes wars, crimes, violent storms and every evil that plagues this poor old earth.

Yes, I believe there is such a being as the devil. Although I have never seen him, I see his work in every part of the world. Jesus, when He was here, believed that the devil was a personal being. In Luke 10:18 He said: "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven." Well, indeed, could He say those words, because it was He who at the head of the loyal angels of heaven had cast Satan out of his age-old habitation to this earth, where he has been confined ever since.

Dear Bible Answerman: Please tell me where in the Bible I will find the proverb, "Never cross a bridge until you come to it." D. E. L.

There is no such proverb in the Bible. However, the thought of it is found in the following words of Jesus: "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matthew 6:34.

Dear Bible Answerman: God made a covenant with David, as recorded in Jeremiah 33:17-21. Can you tell me where the throne of David was after Zedekiah was killed and up to the time of Christ? W. E. G.

Christ is the successor to David's throne. He is the heir to it that is set forth in all the Scriptures. However, there are commentators who claim that this covenant also had a literal fulfilment in that there was never a time when there was not at least a semblance of civil government.

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CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

(Continued from page 11)

blessed results? If so, then there is no such thing as truth in the world, nor any use for it. And, besides, those who can believe such a thing reveal a mental credulity far surpassing that of those who believe in the literal resurrection of Christ.

Predicted His Own Resurrection

The very fact, therefore, of the past history and the present existence of the Christian church is a strong evidence, not alone of the belief in the resurrection on the part of the early disciples, but of the fact of the resurrection.

But is there other evidence, direct evidence, of the fact of the resurrection? We believe there is.

First, there is the fact that, before His death, Christ predicted His resurrection. He plainly foretold His death, but declared He would not remain in the grave. He did this to encourage His disciples, and He did it also to confound His enemies. Both His followers and His enemies plainly understood that He was predicting His own resurrection from death.

On one occasion the scribes and Pharisees came to Him and demanded a sign that He was the Messiah. His reply was that He would remain but three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. (Matthew 12:39, 40.)

He told His disciples that He would be killed and "be raised again the third day." Matthew 16:21. Another time He foretold His death and added, "the third day He shall be raised again." Matthew 17:22, 23.

On their way to Jerusalem He again told them of His approaching death, and again added, "And the third day He shall rise again." Matthew 20:17-19.

On the night of His betrayal, after He had eaten the last supper with them, Jesus once more told them of His resurrection, and their desertion of Him. He said, "After I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee." Matthew 26:31, 32.

He told the Jews that they might destroy the temple of His body, and in three days He would raise it up. (John 2:19-22.)

So the enemies of Jesus were fully aware of the predictions which He had made regarding His resurrection from the dead. And after they had put Him to death they recalled His words, and were afraid of them. They went to Pilate and called his attention to these predictions, and asked

him to set a special watch to see that Christ's disciples did not steal His body and make it appear that these predictions were fulfilled. (Matthew 27:62-65.)

The statements of Jesus before He arose that He would arise do not necessarily prove that He did rise. Yet they do have a decided bearing on the fact, and for this reason are introduced here.

DANIEL'S DARING PREDICTION

(Continued from page 3)

iron power of Rome overcame the Greeks in the battle of Pydna in 168 B.C. More than six centuries, until A.D. 476, Rome bruised, crushed and ruled the civilized world by its ruthless power.

After Rome what? Would she be followed by another world power ruling over men? No. Rome would be the last universal kingdom set up by man. God told men more than one thousand years in advance that when Rome should come to her end, there would be a decided change in the course of world history. Instead of another world empire arising, as had happened when Babylon, Medo-Persia and Greece fell, several smaller kingdoms would arise in Europe. Here is the prophecy:

"Whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, *the kingdom shall be divided*; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay." Verse 41.

In A.D. 476 the Roman government collapsed under the assaults of various tribes which invaded the empire. Among them were the Anglo-Saxons, the Alamanni, the Franks, the Burgundians, the Lombards, the Visigoths, the Suevi — which founded the modern nations of Western Europe — England, Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal.

The prophecy said further that attempts would be made to unite these nations of Europe, and that such efforts would fail. "Whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but *they shall not cleave one to another*, even as iron is not mixed with clay." Verse 43.

Every effort made since A.D. 476 to unite the peoples of Europe under a single political master has failed. Charlemagne (768-814), Louis XIV (1643-1715), Napoleon Bonaparte (1804-1815), Wilhelm II of Germany (1888-1918), and Adolph Hitler

(1934-1945) all tried in vain to accomplish this feat. By diplomacy, intermarriage of persons of royal blood, and military might men have tried to break the prophetic statement, "They shall not cleave one to another." But the nations of Europe are still divided. The League of Nations organized after World War I could not lead them, and the United Nations organized after World War II has failed thus far to persuade them, to live unitedly under the banner of peace and good will.

What now of the nations of Western Europe, those which succeeded the Roman Empire? Will they continue forever in their divided state, fighting one war after another? These questions are of great concern to us. Here is the answer as God has given it:

"In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever." Verse 44.

That coming kingdom of God is symbolized by the stone cut without hands from a mountain, which smote the image on its feet and destroyed it, and then filled the entire world. Note these several facts concerning it:

(1) God Himself will set up this kingdom. (2) It is to be cut out without hands, a system of government not devised by men. (3) It is to be set up "in the days of these kings" — the nations of Europe as represented by the feet and toes of the image, which were struck by the great stone. (4) It will completely destroy the kingdoms of men, so that no place will be found for them. (5) It will be a world-wide kingdom, for it shall "fill the whole earth." (6) It shall be an eternal kingdom, for it "shall never be destroyed," and "it shall stand for ever." (7) Its citizens shall enjoy it for all eternity, for "the kingdom shall not be left to other people."

That, friend, is the next great world-shaking event — the establishment of God's everlasting kingdom on earth. We are living in the last days, and we are on the threshold of a tremendous change in world affairs. The Ruler of the universe is to intervene soon and bring the present world order, with the nations fighting one destructive war after another, to an everlasting end. Then will be answered that petition which Christian people through the centuries have prayed to their heavenly Father, saying: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10.



The DOCTOR'S VOICE

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



Cracks in Hands and Feet

Question: What can be done for persistent cracks in the hands and soles of the feet, also redness, scaling and swelling of the skin of the arms and legs?

ANSWER: For cracks in the hands and soles of the feet lanolin ointment rubbed well into the skin several times daily is helpful. It might be well to wear light cotton socks (white) under your regular socks and change them daily. If a fungus infection were present on the feet it would require specific treatment.

Regarding the redness and swelling of the skin of the arms and legs, it is difficult to say. A blood count, urinalysis, and N.P.N. (to determine the level of waste products in the blood) would be indicated. These tests have probably been carried out by your local physician. Taking two tablespoonfuls daily of corn oil (Mazola) instead of butter is often helpful. It can also to advantage be applied to the skin several times a day. Where facilities are available, steam baths are often helpful. Diet should be simple. Tea, coffee, tobacco, spices, cocoa, and chocolate are best avoided, also sweets. Drink plenty of water and get regular outdoor exercise, as much as your condition will permit.

Headache

Question: I am forty-six years old and have had terrible headaches all my life, especially just before my period. On one occasion my left arm and left leg were paralyzed, but I went to the hospital and the use of them came back again. I also have dizzy spells. What can be done to help me?

ANSWER: Spasm of the blood vessels of the scalp, the meninges, or the brain itself is the usual cause of the headaches you describe, which are called migraine. Precipitating causes are usually fatigue, worry, anxiety. Adequate rest during the week before the period is important. Sometimes supplementary doses of vi-

tamin B complex at this time modify the attacks. If thyroid deficiency is present, administration of thyroid is indicated. This might be confirmed by a metabolism test. Spasm of the blood vessels of the brain can cause partial paralysis. If inadequate rest is taken at this time and another severe headache immediately follows the first, then permanent paralysis can occur.

Sinusitis

Question: What is the treatment for sinusitis?

ANSWER: Most colds are followed by involvement of all the sinuses by a mixed secondary infection (pan-sinusitis). It is the complications of the common cold that make it dangerous. Where possible bed rest for the first day or so is recommended. Steam inhalations, breathing in hot air in front of an infrared lamp (an ordinary electric heater will do), electric toaster, or over the radiator helps. It is not a bad idea to have the infrared going beside the bed all through the night. Impaired drainage of the sinuses is evidenced by extreme pain and a sense of fullness. Nose drops sometimes facilitate drainage. Occasionally surgical drainage is necessary, preferably through the natural sinus openings. This is a job for the specialist.

Acute involvement of the frontal sinuses (in the forehead) is a serious complication and usually calls for vigorous treatment with penicillin or allied drugs under medical supervision. Steam baths and short-wave treatments are sometimes used to advantage. Chronic sinusitis is a difficult problem and each case must be assessed by itself. Allergy is often a factor, sometimes it is glandular deficiency or other constitutional defect. Mere mucoid postnasal discharge may be only an evidence of over-fatigue. Cases most amenable to treatment are those dragging on after a recent acute infection. In these cases the treatment is very similar.

The World's Best Doctor Book

By

C. M. Cadwallader

NO ONE in his right mind would dispute the fact that good health is one of the greatest blessings of life. Be we wealthy as Croesus but lacking the ability to "eat and sleep" well, or racked with divers ills that reduce us to the point where "there is no health in us," we are, of all men, most miserable, and wealth, honour, social position or what-have-you is reduced to a mockery and delusion.

From World War I, I emerged a "burnt out" case, irritable, nervous and decidedly feeble in concentration. True, I was able to work at an office desk at considerably reduced efficiency for nearly a score of years afterwards, but the time came when physical support failed me. I was no longer able to think fast enough or accurately enough. I was outstripped by the rising generation and, as some remarked, was ready for the scrap heap. Of course the inevitable happened—I was fired.

In the middle fifties, broken in health, and with a family of four dependents, I faced the most disquieting prospect of my life. It was a situation which might aptly have caused Sir W. S. Gilbert of comic opera fame to remark, "Here's a pretty grim how-do-you-do." Yes, indeed!

The fact that there were multitudes whose plight was far worse than mine did not escape me, and I recalled particularly an incident in the life of the great Handel when, impoverished in health and fortune even to the very threshold of the debtor's prison, he had plumbed the depths of misery and despair. Apparently the worst had happened. It was in this extremity that his exceptional knowledge of the Scriptures gave to the world its mightiest oratorio—"The Messiah."

In my extremity I reached for that volume, designated at the British Coronation Ceremony as "the most precious thing that this world affords,"

SIGNS of the TIMES

which is none other than God's Word written—the Bible, and fastened upon this passage: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27: 1), and many another exhortation such as, "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:29-31.

That was a challenge to my faith and fighting spirit. Handel's experience was a convincing confirmation of Isaiah's words, and it cemented my trust in the dependability of the Scriptures as a guide to follow unswervingly. That spirit was sustained and strengthened by a regime of daily prayer and Bible study, supplemented by exercise of the "good neighbour" policy of mowing lawns and other physical chores. Rigid adherence to this programme for a year restored my strength and confidence in marvellous measure, and it was on the occasion of a visit to a fuel dealer of long business acquaintance that I jokingly asked for a job. Reciprocating the jocular mood, he countered, "What can you do?" accenting the personal pronoun and surveying with critical appraisal my five feet, three and one-half inches that carried one hundred and thirty pounds.

"I don't know until I try, but I'll tackle anything within reason," I replied.

Being well endowed with the milk of human kindness and a generous sense of humour, and saying to himself, as he afterwards told me, "He won't last long," he led the way to a sizeable hill of sawdust and instructed me in the simple manual art of filling sacks to the weight of about fifty pounds of this by-product with a scoop shovel, the lightest job on the premises.

Slow, awkward and crude? Of course I was. A day or two after my debut I saw him coming toward me stifling a laugh. The sure premonition seized me that I was to be fired then and there, but I quickly forestalled him with some mirthful remark, and he changed his mind.

That was eight years ago. By process of trial and error and giving my best effort I was allowed to stay. Today I glory in my cherished goal of excellent health, with such extraordinary stamina for a man of my years that some of the help have been

known to remark, "I don't know how you do it." Not only that, but mutual trust and confidence between employer and employee have made me very happy and contented, and the erstwhile bungling misfit has become the head of his department.

Yes, "The Great Physician" is no idle term, but one of tremendous significance, and gloriously true. His written Word—the Bible—besides being the world's best seller, is also the world's best doctor book, and pays huge dividends in health and satisfaction.

WHERE IS "OLD NED"?

(Continued from page 13)

The Lord succeeded in isolating the rebellion on this earth. Having confined the plague to one comparatively small portion of His universe, the next task is to eradicate it altogether.

"It seems to me," said Mrs. Wilson, "that the easiest way to do that would be to destroy the earth entirely with the rebellious people in it, and then to create a new earth in which there is no sin. That would leave the whole universe pure again."

"That is just what He is going to do, I believe," said the minister. "Some of those thoughts are new to me, and I find it difficult to express them clearly. I have studied and thought much lately. Now I begin to get a glimpse of God's larger plan. He has sin cornered in this world, and He is going to make a complete end of it here. But in His great love and mercy He has made provision whereby the inhabitants of earth may be cleansed from sin and have part in the earth He will create."

There was silence. Mr. Wilson had stopped talking. Mrs. Wilson sat with her chin resting in her hand. She was in deep meditation. Finally she spoke. "I wonder how much ground we have really gained in this discussion. You have wound up with the conclusion we began with—that God will admit some and exclude others."

"True," replied her husband. "The conclusion so far is the same, but it is more solidly placed. We begin to understand better why. God, it would seem, is taking a big chance when He admits into the thoroughly cleansed new earth any who have taken part in the rebellion against Him. Especially is that so when we realize that God never has forced, and never will force, men to love and serve Him. In the kingdom to come the children of God will serve Him because it is their own free choice to

do so. Yet He is so confident that everyone in the kingdom will do just that, He has positively stated that sin will never rise up again. 'What do ye imagine against the Lord? He will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.' Nahum 1:9."

"It is clear," said Mrs. Wilson, "that He can admit only those who hate sin and love righteousness. It is also clear that they must attain that attitude in this life. All the misery and sorrow we experience here will not be entirely in vain if it teaches us to hate sin. Then if we accept the essential truth of the gospel that God loves us so thoroughly that every requirement He makes of us is for our own eternal good; if we avail ourselves of the wonderful provision He has made for our cleansing from sin—then, I believe, and then only, can He safely admit us into His everlasting kingdom."

"Right," said the minister. "Others shall in no wise enter. We can easily imagine what would happen should God admit into His kingdom the multitudes who love sin—drunkards, murderers, robbers, the immoral and the impure. How soon would the peace and harmony of heaven be broken! How soon would sin and all its appalling results—sorrow, sickness and death—be widespread in all the earth again!

"There is nothing about the death of a sinner that makes him righteous. His death in no way atones for any sin he has committed. Only the death of Christ can do that. Every man is given the freedom of choice. If he dies without making God his choice he will be shut out of the kingdom. God cannot give way to foolish sentiment and admit the rebellious into His kingdom any more than the father of a large family that he loves can take into his home one who has voluntarily and foolishly exposed himself to some contagious, deadly plague. His great heart of love yearns for all. He has written, 'Whosoever will' across the door, but it means whosoever is willing to comply with the conditions.

"When we make the way so wide that we admit the great actress simply because she has entertained well, and the humourist because he has amused well, and the athlete because he has been a good sport, we are showing our ignorance concerning God's plan and His problem."

Mrs. Wilson had the last word, but certainly a solemn one: "What manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness?" 2 Peter 3:11."

A Wonderful Promise

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

1. What has been the "hope" of Christians in all ages?
2. Where are the following quotations found in the Bible: 1. "Behold, I come quickly." 2. "I will come again and receive you unto Myself." 3. "Surely I come quickly." 4. "Father, I will that they also, . . . be with Me where I am."
3. What did Martin Luther say about the second coming?
4. Fill in the blanks: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven?, which is taken up from you into heaven,"
5. Draw a circle around the correct number:
 - a. The second coming of Christ is mentioned 25, 125, 218, 318 times in the New Testament.
 - b. It is mentioned once every 9, 23, 25, 37, 52 verses in the New Testament.
6. Write false or true after the following:
 - a. Jesus will come again "in like manner" as He went to heaven.
 - b. When Jesus comes He will come in His own glory only.
 - c. When He comes only those living at Jerusalem will see Him.
 - d. He will come secretly.
 - e. He will come visibly.
7. To what does John liken Jesus' countenance?
8. What caused the Roman soldiers to fall as dead men?
9. What is the first thing Jesus does when He comes?
10. What is the second thing that He does?
11. According to the hymn "He's Coming," what is going to open?
12. When is the harvest? Who are the reapers?
13. What happens to the living wicked when Jesus comes?
14. What should be the Christian's attitude toward Christ's coming?
15. Are you eagerly awaiting the Lord's return?

IN A Swedish Sabbath School recently, the teacher was talking to the boys and girls about missions. "Perhaps," said she, "there is some boy or girl here who is thinking about being a missionary someday." One little boy immediately replied, "Of course, teacher, it is perfectly clear that one should be a missionary. What else could one be?"

This little lad's question, "What else could one be?" led me to do some thinking. In his childish mind, however, it was not a question. Rather, his statement was a positive affirmation: "There is nothing so important in the world as being a missionary. Therefore, one must be a missionary." Was the little boy right or wrong?

In the first place, who or what is a missionary? The word itself leads to the conclusion that a missionary is a person who goes on a mission. The word is used to denote an individual who proclaims the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. The most common understanding of the term is that of someone who leaves his homeland for a foreign field, in response to the Master's commission, "Go ye into all the world." To be an acceptable missionary, however, one does not necessarily have to leave his native land; he does not have to leave his home city or town; he does not have to leave his immediate surroundings.

What is the keynote of this gospel, the gospel of Jesus Christ, which missionaries proclaim in various parts of the world? In general terms, it is found in numerous nearly identical statements, one of which appears in Matthew 10:39: "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for My sake shall find it." In the words of the apostle Paul, "It is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." Salvation from what? From sin, which brings in its train eternal death. What does the gospel bring in addition to salvation from sin and death? It brings eternal life.

The most valuable gift in this world is life, and only God can give it. Great as this gift is, however, the prolongation of this life throughout the unending years of eternity is infinitely greater. This the gospel brings to all who accept it.

Not so far from where I live in Stocksund, Sweden, is a large, grotesque building which bears some resemblance to an ancient castle. It differs from a castle, however, in that all rules of architecture and symmetry have apparently been disregarded in its construction. This fact leads to questioning wonder and amazement

What Else?

By
C. A. Edwards

on the part of those who view it. When I asked the neighbours why this building came to be constructed in this way, I was informed that an eccentric gentleman lived there, who was under the impression that as long as he did not completely finish the structure, he would not die. Consequently, he was always adding verandas, porches, rooms, and what not, until the building became ridiculous in its appearance. "And where is the gentleman now?" I asked. "He's dead," was the reply.

The greatest missionary known was the Saviour. Why did He leave the heavenly courts for one of His created, lost planets? In His own words, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10. The most important quest in this life is the search for this fuller and more abundant life. It has been so from the beginning of time; it will continue so until the end of time.

Going back more than nineteen centuries, we see a rich young man approaching the Saviour with a question, "Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" Matthew 19:16. In His reply, the Master said, "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Verse 17. When the young man assured Him that he had kept the commandments from his youth, the Lord continued, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow Me." Verse 21.

This young man had the opportunity to make the greatest investment of his life. Of this investment, Jesus spoke in His sermon on the mount, when He said, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor

steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart [life] be also." Matthew 6:19-21.

The ending of this interview might have been a happy one, both for the Saviour and for the rich young man. The Master might have rejoiced in the addition of another citizen to His kingdom, where "a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." Luke 12:15. The youth might have rejoiced in the finding of eternal life. "The young man," we read, "went away sorrowful." Why? "For he had great possessions." Matthew 19:22.

Unless this young man later reconsidered his decision, we have reasons to believe that he will someday find himself with a most unhappy group, referred to by two prophets, one in the Old Testament and one in the New. The Old Testament reference is found in Isaiah 2:20, "In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats." In Revelation 6:14-17, the Seer of Patmos writes, "The heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on

us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb." A failure to adjudge proper values will then bring its dire consequence.

In seemingly paradoxical language, the Saviour said, "Whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it." Mark 8:35. To live for the material things in this world, for the things that may be purchased with silver and gold, is to lose eternal life; to be willing to give of our strength, life, efforts and means for the things which money cannot buy, is to find the fuller and more abundant life. In the final analysis, paradoxical as it may seem, we gain by losing; we live by dying.

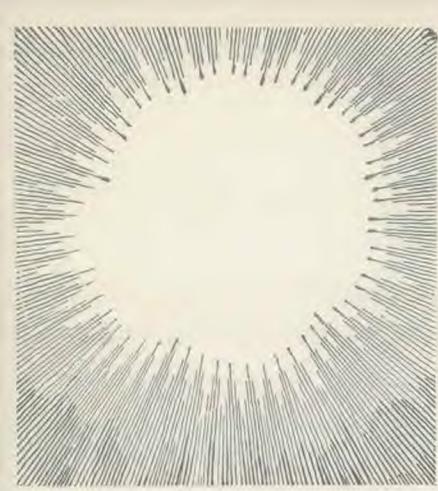
The law of living is the law of giving. The missionary directs the thinking of individuals from the transitory things of earth to the eternal verities of heaven. By precept and example he demonstrates the fuller and more abundant life during this our present existence, which culminates in eternal life beyond the tomb. Into the ears of a pleasure-loving humanity, pursuing gold and the things which gold can buy, he repeats the soul-searching question of his Master, "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36.

Are you a missionary? Let our little friend in Sweden answer the question: "What else can one be?"

H. A. ROBERTS

At every hand men and women are seeking for salvation. In hospitals—even penal institutions—are those susceptible to the moving influences of the Holy Spirit. What else can we be but missionaries?





Sunshine

How soon the darkness leaves the earth and flees away,
When Mother Sun sheds forth her light at break of day.
She floods the valley, fields, and plains,
The mountain ridges, hills, and lanes,
Till not a shade of night remains,
Through her bright ray.

As day wears on to noontide hour, she mounts the sky,
And trav'ling on amid the clouds as they pass by,
Her warmth gives life to grass and flower,
To bush and tree with leafy bower,
And as she shines in all her power,
Their needs supply.

How soon the darkness leaves the heart, when we are sad,
As Christ the Son reveals Himself in brightness clad.
He floods the soul with saving light
And to our blinded eyes gives sight,
Then turns to day our darkest night—
And we are glad.

As life wears on to evening hour, and we're alone,
The Sun of Righteousness abides upon His throne.
Till silver hairs He'll carry thee,
And thy companion He will be
Now and through all eternity—
For ever known.

—Stanley Combridge.

