

Our TIMES

SINCE 1891

A BIBLICAL INTERPRETER OF THE NEWS



UNLOCKING THE SECRET OF CREATION

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MARCH

TEN CENTS

OVER the radio, in the pulpit, and in religious periodicals, tracts, and books it is being repeated over and over concerning the second coming of Christ, that first the Lord will come *for* His saints, and that seven years later He will come *with* His saints. It is claimed that the coming *for* His saints will be secret and unobserved by the world in general. The text cited to support this theory is 1 Thessalonians 4: 16, 17, which reads: "For 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: 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."

We do not deny that in 1 Thessalonians 4: 16, 17, Paul refers to the time and event when the Lord will come *for* His saints. But how this can be a secret coming when the prophecy plainly says that Christ will descend toward the earth with the sound of "a shout," "the voice," and "the trump" is not explained by the advocates of rapturism. Strange it is, indeed, that in order to make it secret the Lord must approach the earth with the very sounds that are used to call attention to something that is happening. To claim that it will be a noiseless, silent second advent is not scriptural.

Paul says in another place that "the trumpet shall sound." 1 Corinthians 15: 52. But the secret-coming theory denies this, and contends that the trumpet shall not sound when Christ shall come *for* His own. What is a trumpet for, if it is not to make a sound?



"With All His Saints"

By ALLEN W. WALKER

It is also contended by the rapturists that the saints will go with Christ to heaven to live and reign there with Him seven years. Is that what the Bible says? In Revelation 20: 4 the prophecy says that "they lived and reigned *with* Christ a thousand years." To claim that they are in heaven with Christ for only seven years is to contradict the word of God, which says: "They lived and reigned *with* Christ a thousand years." Revelation 20: 4.

Now what about the Bible texts which are used in an attempt to prove that Christ's advent *for* His saints and His

coming *with* His saints are two different comings. The passage most cited is 1 Thessalonians 3: 13, which reads: "To the end He may stablish your hearts unblamable in holiness before God, even the Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ *with* all His saints."

It is an easy matter to prove that this coming of Jesus *with* all His saints is the same advent spoken of in 1 Thessalonians 4: 16, 17, the one when He shall come *for* His saints. The term "saint" means "a holy one," and in the Holy Scriptures it is sometimes used in reference to the holy angels. The words "with all His saints" has reference to the holy angels who will accompany the Lord at His second coming. In 2 Thessalonians 1: 7 Paul speaks again of Christ's advent, and tells us who those "saints" are that shall accompany Him at His coming. "The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven *with* His mighty angels." One text says, "With all His saints," and the other says, "With His mighty angels."

Please note the similarity of other texts pertaining to the same event. "For the Son of man shall come . . . *with* His angels." Matthew 16: 27.

"The Son of man . . . cometh . . . *with* the holy angels." Mark 8: 38. "The Son of man shall come . . . and all the holy angels *with* Him." Matthew 25: 31.

So when Paul says that Christ shall come "with all His saints," he employs the word "saints" to refer to "the holy angels."

Are the angels called "saints" in the Bible? Let us see. In Deuteronomy 33: 2 it is recorded that when the Lord came down to proclaim the Ten Commandments on Sinai, "He came with ten thousands of saints." Turning to the Psalms we find that in speaking of the same event the

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"It Is Not Intolerance"

THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES SPEAKS PLAINLY

By CHARLES S. LONGACRE

BISHOP G. Bromley Oxnam, president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, delivered a masterly address at the Civic Auditorium in St. Louis, Missouri, on Sunday evening, October 28, 1945, in observance of the 428th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. A choir of 1,000 voices, directed by Professor H. August Smith, of Boston University, sang. The audience, according to *The Protestant Voice* (December 7, 1945) was the largest ever to assemble in the auditorium. "The auditorium manager said that 18,600 people were there, and that 5,000 were turned away. An additional 1,000 were accommodated in a small auditorium with a public address system."

Bishop Oxnam pointed out the danger of a war of the nations being followed by a war of the classes through religious strife, intolerance, and the denial of the fundamental principles of religious liberty and equality of rights before the law. Especially did he lament the political activities of Roman Catholics for selfish interests, not only in predominantly Roman Catholic countries but in the United States. It must have taken considerable courage for the bishop to speak as plainly as he did, but he tempered his address with wholesome respect for Roman Catholics and their beliefs.

We shall quote the part of the address that deals specifically with papal political activities and intolerance:

"Understanding awaits plain speech. Such speech must be respectful, friendly, and reveal Christian love; but it must be frank and deal with real issues. The polite niceties of inter-faith meetings avoid divisive problems and therefore make little contribution to unity.

"Protestants are gravely concerned over what they believe to be an attempt upon the part of the Roman Catholic Church to exercise political domination here, similar to the control exercised in many nations. Protestants will fight to preserve religious

liberty, not only for Protestants but for Roman Catholics and Jews and other faiths. I believe Protestants will labor to see that no Roman Catholic suffers dis-



Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, is shown (center) with John Foster Dulles (left) and Lumom J. Shafer (right), all of whom are noted leaders in American Protestantism. (Photo by Acme.)

ability of any kind because of his faith. Where Protestants have failed to do this and thereby have not lived up to their cherished principle of religious liberty, we ask for forgiveness. In the plain speech that is essential, the Protestant speaks to himself as well as to his Roman Catholic brother.

"The Protestant pledges himself to accept, and in humility calls upon his Roman Catholic fellow Christian to practice, a very simple principle to govern in matters of religious liberty and religious association. The principle comes from the highest authority, and is 'Do unto others as ye would be done by.'

"Protestants have been subjected to serious misrepresentation in the Roman Catholic press. When Protestants have protested against intolerance upon the part of the Roman Catholic Church, their protests have been called intolerance.

"It is not intolerance to protest against Roman Catholic activities that seek through boycott to threaten newspapers and therefore to control them in Roman Catholic interest. This is to endanger a free press and to destroy civil liberty.

"It is not intolerance to protest against actions of certain Roman Catholic leaders to deny Protestant ministers access to the

radio by threatening station owners with the loss of consumer support of products advertised.

"It is not intolerance to insist upon the separation of church and state, and therefore to object to the use of public funds for private and sectarian education.

"It is not intolerance to refuse to accept dictates that would deny Protestant churches the right to engage in missionary work in other lands, at the very moment the Roman Catholic Church affirms its right to carry on missionary work in all lands.

"It is not intolerance to protest against Roman Catholic support for the Fascist regime of Franco Spain, when our sons die to destroy Fascism everywhere and to preserve democracy for mankind.

"It is not intolerance to point out that Protestantism will oppose the clericalism that has cursed other lands whenever such clericalism manifests itself in this land. Clericalism is 'the pursuit of power, especially political power, by a religious hierarchy, carried on by secular methods, and for purposes of social domination.'

"It is not intolerance to insist that a church must be a church, that it cannot be both church and state. Protestants, therefore, oppose the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Vatican. This is no lack of respect for the distinguished, devoted, brilliant and brotherly Christian who is the present pope. It is to state that there is no reason that justifies an ambassador from the Vatican at Washington, that would not justify Mohammedans, Buddhists, Hindus, and Protestant communions in establishing token states and appointing similar ambassadors to represent them.

"It is not intolerance when Protestants repudiate Roman Catholic theories of church and state which lead logically to a subservient state dominated by an absolute church.

"It is not intolerance to point out the fundamental contradiction that lies in the

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Many bleeding hearts, grieving for loved ones lost in World War II, are inquiring about the state of the dead. Our picture shows Memorial Day services held for four American soldiers who lost their lives in Newfoundland. (Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.)

ARE OUR WAR DEAD STILL ALIVE?

I AM SURE that our war dead live on. . . . I have read messages from them." Thus Sir Hugh Dowding, spiritist leader of Great Britain's Fighter Command during the Battle of Britain, was quoted in *Liberty* not long ago.

Lord Dowding believes that men live on after the experience of death. Others urge an opposite view.

If the war dead, or any others who have died, continue in a conscious state after death, even though it be in another sphere, then man is immortal, death being only a passing from one phase of existence to another.

We have a standard of truth by which men can check their assumptions on this matter. Christ directs our minds to it in John 17: 17, where He says to His Father: "Thy word is truth." With assurance we can study the pages of the Bible, knowing that what it teaches is true.

Regarding beings that have an endless existence, the apostle Paul wrote: "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever." 1 Timothy 1: 17. So we know that God possesses immortality. In our inquiry about what other beings are immortal, we find Paul referring to "the Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto." 1 Timothy 6: 16. Thus it appears that only the Deity is immortal now.

At creation God did not endow man with immortality, but made him a mortal creature. "Shall mortal man be more just

than God?" Job 4: 17. *Mortal* means "subject to death." It means the opposite of *immortal*, which expresses unending existence. Death, then, is not the portal to another state of existence, but a cessation of life.

That man was created subject to death

Light on the Question of Immortality

By JOHN W. BOYD

is shown in Genesis. God said to Adam: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Genesis 2: 17. When Adam came forth from the hand of his Creator, he was not immortal. He was a candidate for immortality. Had man been obedient to God, he would have enjoyed an endless life. But he sinned, and by this he forfeited his hope of immortality.

In the story of Eve's temptation we read that the evil one said: "Ye shall not surely die." Genesis 3: 4.

God had said that man would die if he should sin. (Genesis 2: 16, 17.) Satan said that he would not die. Whom shall we believe? Jesus testified concerning the character of Satan, saying: "He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he

speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8: 44. Is it not safer to believe God?

We read that after Adam and Eve had disobeyed God, they were expelled from their Edenic home. The Lord said: "Lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever: therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden. . . . So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." Genesis 3: 22-24. Thus God took special precautions in order that there should be no immortal sinners among men.

Man was made perfect in the beginning, for "God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good." Genesis 1: 31. God warned man against the tempter, but he chose to disobey, and "by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Romans 5: 12.

But death is not a gate opening into a fuller existence, for when a person dies, "his breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; and in that very day his thoughts perish." Psalm 146: 4. Man sinned, and as a result his life "is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." James 4: 14.

At creation "the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 2: 7. Other

THE BIBLE—PERENNIAL BEST SELLER

creatures of this earth also possess this breath of life. It is written that in the Flood "all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: all in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died." Genesis 7: 21, 22. (See also verses 13-15.)

Solomon declares that both man and beast have the same breath. "For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no pre-eminence above a beast." Ecclesiastes 3: 19.

But there is a difference! Man has been redeemed at a great price. His life is valued above the most costly treasure, for "ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, . . . but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." 1 Peter 1: 18, 19. Christ "hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." 2 Timothy 1: 10. "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6: 23. Hence immortality is not something that men possess inherently, but it is a gift that God bestows on those who accept Christ as their Saviour. (John 3: 16.)

A woman once told me that there is no need of death. It is just an idea of our minds, she said. If we would think properly, she added, we could overcome death. The error in her argument is that man cannot by mere thinking bring immortality to himself.

Eternal life is not something we now possess. It comes from God, "who will render to every man according to his deeds: to them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life." Romans 2: 6, 7. We do not seek what is already ours. The fact that we seek immortality shows we do not have it yet.

Immortality will be given to us. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6: 23. The way we are to obtain this gift is also revealed: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3: 16. Apart from acceptance of Christ by faith, there is no way for any of us to have immortality.

This gift of eternal life is not bestowed upon an individual at death, but all the righteous shall receive it at the second coming of Jesus. Paul says: "Behold, I
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SOME months ago an organization of laymen whose goal it is to apply the Christian principles to everyday living asked its members to say where they looked for their greatest spiritual help. One hundred and thirty-six of the two hundred and eighty members who answered the questionnaire said it came to them from reading the Bible.

Many another group of Americans, had they been asked, might have given the same answer; for the Bible is probably the most widely read book in America. It has been a best seller in this country for 145 years and not without reason.

"It is," said the newspaper columnist Dave Boone, "the book of the month, the year, and the ages."

"You'll find more color, drama, truth, poetry, and beauty in any gospel than you'll find in all the books written before and since. Man's heart and mind," Dave Boone continued, "cry out for its comforting message. It needs no book critic's approval, no publicity stunts, no Hollywood bids, and no advertising campaign to put it over, and it never has."

Never has this been more true than during the war years just past. No sooner had our first servicemen left the security of their homes than a boom in the sale of Bibles began. Mothers, fathers, sweet-

alone, 12,172,143 Bibles, Testaments, and Gospels were distributed, the largest annual figure in all the years of its history.

Along with the rise in Bible sales came an increased interest in Bible reading itself. A Gallup poll taken shortly after the war started revealed that 48% of Americans were Bible readers. A year later, in 1943, the percentage had jumped to 64%, an increase of 16% over the year before. In 1944 the percentage was still up, 62%, and along with the high incidence of Bible reading was also noted the continued popularity of books with religious themes.

The spiritual re-awakening of America during the war years was especially notable among our servicemen and women. There is evidence of all sorts to support this observation, but the most convincing is that of Bible distribution statistics among men and women of the armed forces.

During the last five years, according to the American Bible Society, which is the agent of the churches in this work, servicemen and their chaplains have received 6,699,914 Bibles, Testaments, or Bible portions. This number is in addition to 1,193,199 supplied to prisoners of war in Allied and Axis prison camps during the same period.

These Bibles were not haphazardly handed out like leaflets on a street corner. They were given only to those men and women who wanted the Bibles enough to ask their chaplains for them.

A book could be written citing testimonials of servicemen who have leaned on the Bible during the time of their service to their countries. No tribute has been more poignantly expressed than that by war correspondent Nixon Denton on a United States Navy vessel off Okinawa:

"The book that is most widely read out here is not the latest best seller, damp from the presses," wrote Mr. Denton, "nor is it some tale more venerable, stamped with the imprimatur of acceptance and time. The book is the Bible, the good companion of men lonely and menaced; the friend of the friendless; food for those who hunger, and living water for those who thirst.

"On this ship," the newspaperman continued, "the Bible stands the wearying watches of the night; it is in the turrets, it knows the plotting room, the decoding room, the hum of the turbine and the smooth confusion of the magazine. It has felt heart-beats quicken in battle; with the dying, it has gone to death."

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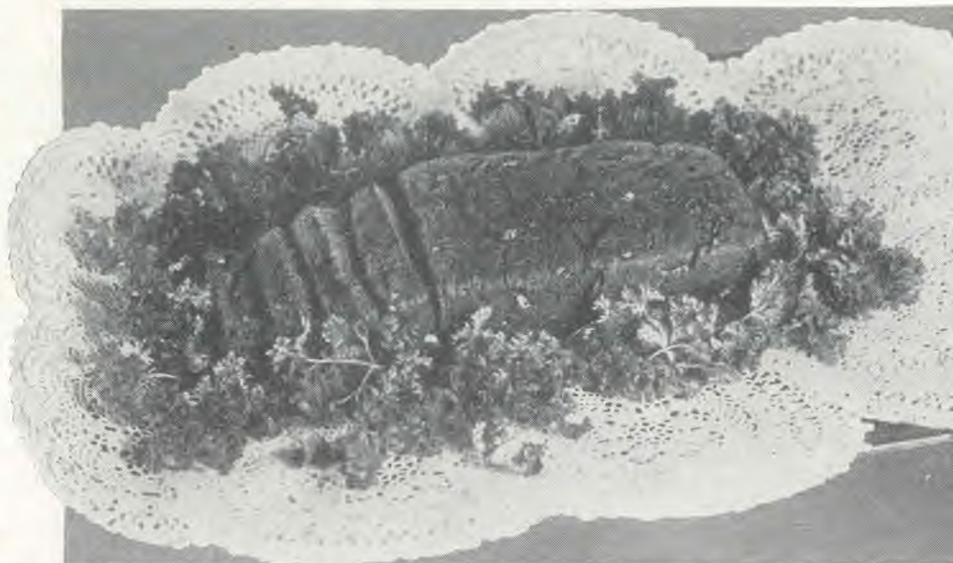


hearts, and wives turned to the Bible for the inward courage they needed to see things through. Sailors made room for a Bible in their duffel bags. Soldiers wanted something small and compact to carry around in a pocket.

So great was the demand for Bibles that with shortages of paper and manpower it looked as if Bibles would have to be rationed. The publishers could not print enough Bibles for all who wanted them. Bible circulation figures rose until, last year, through the American Bible Society

THE SIMPLEST meat alternates are milk, eggs, and cottage cheese. Of the meat alternates that are not of animal origin, soy beans head the list. Other beans are valuable, also dried peas and lentils, and some nuts such as almonds, pine nuts, and peanuts.

Most nuts have so little protein and so much fat that they do not serve well as meat alternates, but may help take the place of butter in the diet. The nut loaves made of chopped nuts, bread crumbs, milk, and eggs are, most of them, rather low in protein, and a serving of one of them will not provide enough protein in a meal. Another high protein dish should be included, such as a glass of milk. The bean loaves, pea loaves, and lentil loaves are as valuable as meat alternates as are the plain beans, peas, and lentils unless they are diluted too much with potato or bread



Appetizing protein substitutes for flesh foods can be prepared so as to please both the eye and the taste. In these days of meat shortage, cooks and housewives will appreciate these recipes.

TASTY MEAT ALTERNATES

crumbs. In addition they supply what some people like to have—a slice of something with gravy over it to constitute the meaty part of the meal.

The meat alternates that are most like flesh meat in composition are the factory-made foods, such as protose, nuttose, protena, nuttena, gluten steaks, and other similar foods with different names; and, while the price of these may seem high, their cost is not nearly so high as that of flesh meat.

Soy beans used to take a long time to cook. In fact, it was impossible to cook some kinds without a pressure cooker. But the soy beans that are on the market now will cook in as short a time as do ordinary beans. I like them just stewed and seasoned with salt. I like them better when a few shelled beans are cooked with them, as I suggested in the preceding article. But if you like the beans with a little more flavor try the following recipe:

- 1 cupful of soy beans
- 1 teaspoonful of salt
- 1-3 cupful of tomato juice
- 1-3 of a bay leaf
- 1 small onion

Wash the beans, and soak them in cold water over night. In the morning drain off the water in which they soaked, and add the remaining ingredients and water enough to cover them an inch or so. Cook them over a slow fire for four hours, watching them carefully and adding more hot water as may be necessary to prevent them from becoming dry and scorching.

By GEORGE E. CORNFORTH

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BOSTON BAKED BEANS

Boston baked beans are liked in Boston and the rest of New England, but are not so popular elsewhere.

- 1 pint pea beans
- 1 tablespoonful of salt
- 1/4 cupful of cooking oil
- 1/4 cupful of molasses
- 1 teaspoonful of sugar

Wash the beans, and allow them to soak in cold water over night. In the morning pour off the water, and put the beans in a bean pot. Add the remaining ingredients and water to cover the beans to a depth of one inch over the top of the beans. Put the cover on the bean pot, and bake the beans in a moderate oven at least six hours, keeping the beans covered with water for the first five hours. Then let the water bake out at the last, but do not permit them to become too dry and to scorch. They ought to be rather dry and with not very much juice when done.

BAKED BEANS

Baked beans as they are liked in some other parts of the country may be prepared thus:

- 1 pint of pea beans
- 1 tablespoonful of salt
- 1/4 cupful of cooking oil
- 2 teaspoonfuls of sugar
- 1 small onion

After soaking the beans over night, pour off the water, and put them in a kettle in fresh water to stew on the stove. Cook them gently till they begin to get tender, then add the remaining ingredients, and pour the beans into a baking pan. Cover with hot water, and bake three or four hours, adding boiling water as necessary, until the top is nicely browned when the beans are done.

BEAN LOAF

- 1 pint of pea beans
- 1-3 cupful of chopped onions
- 2 tablespoonfuls of oil
- 2-3 cupful of bread crumbs
- 1 small egg
- 1 teaspoonful of salt
- 1 cupful of evaporated milk

Soak the beans over night in cold water. In the morning drain them, put them to cook in fresh water, and boil till tender, allowing them to cook down dry at the last. Rub the beans through a colander. Add the other ingredients, and mix well. Pour the mixture into well oiled loaf pans. Bake it in a moderate oven (375 degrees F.) until delicately browned, about 45 minutes. Slice the loaf, and serve it hot or cold with tomato sauce.

CREAMED PEANUTS AND MUSHROOMS

Peanuts belong to the bean family, and the logical way to cook them is by stewing or baking, first removing the shells and the red skins.

- 1 tablespoonful of oil
- 1-6 cupful of chopped onion

½ pound of chopped fresh mushrooms
1 tablespoonful of flour
1 pint of milk
1 pint of stewed or baked peanuts
1 teaspoonful of salt

Put the oil, onion, and mushrooms into a small frying pan, and cook them till the onions are tender. Stir in the flour to make a smooth paste, add the milk gradually, and continue cooking the mixture until the sauce is thickened. Add the peanuts, salt, and reheat the mixture.

PECAN NUT LOAF

2 cupfuls of dry bread crumbs
1 cupful chopped celery
2 cupfuls of strained tomatoes
4 tablespoonfuls of chopped parsley
1 cupful of chopped pecan nuts
2 tablespoonfuls of melted butter
2 tablespoonfuls of chopped onion
2 eggs
1 teaspoonful of salt

Beat the eggs well, and then thoroughly mix all the ingredients. Turn the mixture into an oiled bread tin, and bake it till it is set. Serve it with white sauce to which chopped pecan nuts have been added.

GLUTEN STEW OR POT PIE

To obtain the gluten, make a dough of one pint of cold water and one and three fourths quarts of sifted, good quality bread flour. Knead the dough well, and then allow it to stand in cold water one half hour. Then work the dough with the hands in the cold water, and the starch will wash out. As the water becomes milky, pour it off through a strainer so as not to lose any of the gluten. Then add fresh cold water to the dough. Continue to work the dough and pour off the water until the water remains clear. You then have left a lump of gluten.

To make the stew, cut the gluten into dice, and measure it. For one pint of gluten, use the following amounts of other ingredients. (If there should be more or less than one pint of gluten, vary the other ingredients accordingly.)

1 quart of water
1 pint of diced potatoes
1 onion
1½ teaspoonfuls of salt
2 teaspoonfuls of flour
¼ cupful of cream
1 tablespoonful of chopped parsley
2 teaspoonfuls of Vegex

Slowly stew the gluten in the water for three hours. Cook the onion in a little oil until it is tender, and then add it and the potatoes to the gluten. Cook this mixture till the potatoes are tender. While the gluten is cooking, and while the potatoes are cooking with it, add boiling water as may be necessary to maintain the right amount of liquid, so that the stew will not scorch. Stir the flour smooth with the

cream, and stir this into the stew. Add the salt, parsley, and Vegex. Any other similar product may be used in place of Vegex.

For making pot pie, turn the stew into a baking pan, cover it with pie paste, and bake till the crust is done.

GLUTEN STEAK

1 tablespoonful of Vegex or similar product
1 cupful of diced mushrooms
1 quart of water
1 small onion
2 level teaspoonfuls of salt

Dissolve the Vegex in the water, and add the mushrooms, onion, and salt. Heat the mixture to boiling.

Obtain the gluten in the same way as when making a stew. Form it into slices about 3-16 of an inch thick and 2½ inches across, and cook these slices in the broth for about three hours, adding hot water as may be necessary.

This makes one of the most meat-like flesh food alternates. It can be bought in health food stores which sell the products

Try These SUBSTITUTES for FLESH FOODS

of the various food companies, saving the work and fuel necessary to make it at home. But I think that some will wish to know how to make it at home.

SPANISH MEAT BALLS

These are among the most complimented meat alternates, and can be made as follows:

1 pound of Protose or Protena
2 ounces of Nuttose or Nuttena
1 small onion, grated
1 pimento, chopped
1 tablespoonful of parsley, chopped
1 hard-cooked egg yolk, mashed
1-3 cupful of strained tomatoes
1 raw egg
2 tablespoonfuls of melted butter
1 teaspoonful of sage
1 teaspoonful of Vegex
Salt to taste
Cornflakes

Use cornflakes to make the mixture only stiff enough to be formed into croquettes. The mass ought to be just as soft as it can be handled. Place the croquettes on an oiled pan, and heat them in the oven until done. Serve with Vegex gravy.

PROTOSE OR PROTENA A LA KING

1 tablespoonful of oil
½ cupful of diced mushrooms
¼ cupful of chopped green pepper
1 tablespoonful of flour
¼ teaspoonful of salt
1 cupful of cream
1½ cupfuls of diced Protose or Protena
2 tablespoonfuls of butter
1 raw egg yolk
¼ cupful of grated onion
½ teaspoonful of lemon juice
¼ teaspoonful of paprika

Cook the mushrooms and pepper in the oil until they become tender. Add the flour and salt, and reheat the mixture. Add the cream to it, stir till boiling begins, and set it over hot water. Add the Protose, cover the mixture, and let it stand to become hot. Cream the butter, beat in the egg yolk, onion, lemon juice, and paprika. Then stir this into the mixture, and stir until thickening begins. Then serve at once. If kept hot too long, it will curdle. Serve on slices of toast.

BAKED SPLIT PEAS

Wash well one pint of green split peas, and soak them over night. In the morning pour them into a double boiler, and cook them until tender. They will cook almost as quickly in a double boiler as when cooked directly over the stove, and there is no danger of scorching them. Add to them two and a half teaspoonfuls of salt, one half cupful of rich cream, or one fourth cupful of oil. Put them into a baking pan in which they will be about two inches deep, with water enough to cover them. Bake slowly for one hour or more, till they are thoroughly tender and dry and mealy. Serve with cream sauce or tomato sauce.

PEA CUTLETS WITH NUT CRUMBS

Allow what is left of the baked split peas to cool in the pan. When the mass becomes cold and solid, cut it into slices. Dip the slices into a mixture of one egg and one tablespoonful of water beaten together, and then roll the slices in chopped walnuts. Place the slices on an oiled pan, and bake them 15 or 20 minutes. Serve with tomato cream sauce.

Tomato cream sauce is made by stirring a little strained tomato into cream sauce or white sauce and serving it at once without reheating. Reheating curdles it.

LENTIL CUTLETS WITH NUT CRUMBS

Soak the lentils over night and then stew them till they become tender and cooked down dry. Rub them through a colander, season with cream or oil and salt, and pack them in a pan. When the mass is cold, slice it, dip the slices in egg batter, roll them in chopped nuts, and place them on an oiled pan to bake till well heated. Serve them with tomato sauce.

Because They Believed Not

HOW COULD most of the Jews fail to accept Jesus as their Messiah when He lived a perfect life and wrought so many miracles among them?" asked a friend one day when we sat together before the open Book. Yes, how could they do it, when the prophecies pointed out so clearly the time and manner of His coming, and even pictured beforehand His earthly life and character? How could they? The answer to that question may be summed up in four words: *Because they believed not.*

Unbelief is a fearful malady. Because of it the Jewish nation lost everything. They failed to fill their great mission in the world. They were to be a blessing to the surrounding nations (Genesis 12:3; 18:18), but because of unbelief they became a stumbling block. We sigh with regret when we think of the terrible loss that came to the Jewish nation in the days of Christ's earthly sojourn because of their stubborn unbelief.

Warning Unheeded

The Jewish people failed to heed the warning against unbelief given them in past history. But we must not forget the comforting fact that thousands of them as individuals brushed aside the veil of unbelief and received Jesus as their personal Saviour. Three thousand of them on the day of Pentecost made that important decision publicly. Some had taken their stand for Jesus before, and multiplied thousands did later, and among them "a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith." Acts 6:7.

However, as a nation, the Jewish people failed. Paul, deeply grieved over the blind unbelief of his countrymen, has warned us thus: "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." Hebrews 3:12. And that warning comes down to us together with the sad story of the tragic experiences that came to the professed people of God in the past when they believed not God's word or God's messengers.

Hurricane in Honduras

In 1935 my husband and I visited British Honduras. In Belize many ruins were still reminding survivors of the

For Your Own Safety Heed the Storm Signals

By MATILDA ERICKSON ANDROSS

terrible hurricane and tidal wave that so very unexpectedly had brought death and destruction to that city some time before. Unexpectedly? Yes, unexpectedly. True, weather bureaus had warned the people of an approaching hurricane. Warnings had been posted in different parts of the city, urging them to take every possible precaution against the on-sweeping storm.

Belize had never been disturbed by a hurricane, and surely it never would. So thought its inhabitants. What did those distant weather bureaus know about Belize anyway? So the carefully reckoned scientific information sent forth to help save life was unheeded. The people went on with their festivities, for they were celebrating a special holiday.

But, alas, the more sure word of the weather bureau prevailed, and thousands perished because of their unbelief. It was a sad sight. Our hearts were pained as we passed among the ruins. Here lay a large recreation hall in splinters. There were the remains of a beautiful brick church, where, we were told, 400 persons had perished who had rushed through its

doors for safety. Yonder were a few markers that identified the location of a large building that had been sucked into the seething, briny deep, with all its unfortunate inmates. I can still see some of those ruins before me, and always as I look at them my heart aches anew for the many who perished in that terrible storm

because they believed not the warnings.

Yes, my heart aches for those who believed not the weather bureau; but it aches far more for the millions who give no heed to the warnings which God has placed on His great Bulletin Board, warning the inhabitants on earth of the fearful storm soon to burst upon the world in all its fury. And with His warnings are His earnest appeals to men and women to flee to the only safe refuge for such a time as this. The Bible tells us of men and women who in the past heeded God's warnings. What glorious victories were theirs! What miraculous escapes! It also tells of men and women who failed to heed those warnings, and of the sad, tragic experiences that came to them because of their unbelief.

And these things are all written in the Bible to help us to make right decisions. "They are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." 1 Corinthians 10:11. They were "written for our learning, that we through

Twelve persons were killed when this West Texas town was wrecked by a tornado. (Photo by Acme.)



patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." Romans 15: 4. "Written for our admonition." I sometimes tremble as I read those words. Then I ask myself if I am heeding those warnings. Am I studying God's great Bulletin Board so that I may know how to heed His warnings?

Today we are the people "upon whom the ends of the world are come." We need to believe that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, that He grew in favor with God and man, that He went about doing good, healing the sick and raising the dead, that He finally gave His life on Calvary, rose from the dead, and ascended to heaven to be our Advocate with the Father. (1 John 2: 1.) And we need also to believe that He is coming again, even as He said He would. (John 14: 2, 3.) Many are the prophecies of His second coming, and they not only tell us that He is coming again, but give details regarding the signs and manner of His coming.

The first and second coming of Jesus are parts of one great plan, God's great eternal purpose for the salvation of men. A writer has said: "As the message of Christ's first advent announced the kingdom of His grace, so the message of His second advent announces the kingdom of His glory. The second message like the first is based on prophecies."

Should Jesus come in person and overhear our conversation about current events, as He did the conversation of the two disciples on the way to Emmaus the evening after His resurrection, I wonder if He would say to us as He did to them: "O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken." Luke 24: 13, 25. Perhaps He would remind us of some of the many signs of His second coming that clearly show that that great climax of all ages is very near at hand. Perhaps He would remind us that the passing millenniums have proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that "we have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place." 2 Peter 1: 19. Or, perhaps, He would cause the words of King Jehoshaphat to come echoing down through the ages, saying, "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." 2 Chronicles 20: 20.

When Jesus was here on earth, the Pharisees asked Him for a sign to prove that He was the Messiah, when, indeed, His daily-life activities were full proof of it. Every day He was demonstrating that He was the One in whom were centered the hopes of the human race. But those

who had refused to heed the light of the sure word of prophecy became blind through unbelief, and turned away from God, from the source of all their blessings, from the only Way of escape.

As I gaze at the pages of sacred history,



FAITH

By MARY LOUISE STETSON

I listen to the radio, I read the printed page,
And shudder at the beastliness of this enlightened age.
I watch the tiny scilla peep through chilling snow and sod,
I gaze upon the stars of night, and still believe in God.

which, with unfailing accuracy, record the life story of God's professed people, I am reminded of His goodness to us. All these experiences were preserved for our good. "They are written for our admonition" in order "that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." Yes, there is comfort in the Holy Scriptures for us today. But that comfort can be found only by those who believe, for as we read in 1 Thessalonians 2: 13 the word of God "effectually worketh also in you that believe."

Could you and I today go to Jesus in person and ask Him for additional signs to assure us that His coming is near, I think He would point us again to the sure word of prophecy and say: "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." Luke 16: 31.

Upon our pathway today shine the bright beams of the prophecies of the

second coming of our Lord. For 6,000 years the lamp of prophecy has been burning. Never has one ray of light failed. Never has one of God's prophecies failed to be fulfilled on time and exactly as foretold. And today there is focused on our pathway the prophetic light of all time. We now can say with greater emphasis than ever before: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy."

And as the Saviour looks down to our time—to these last days and to this time when He is about to come back again—upon us who have the benefit of the glorious light of approximately 6,000 years of fulfilled prophecies, there must be a stinging pain of disappointment in His heart of infinite love. For we hear Him say: "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?" Luke 18: 8.

That question comes to you and me today. We cannot answer it for the world, but we must answer it for ourselves. As thousands perished in Belize in the terrible hurricane because they believed not, so those who refuse to believe God's warnings must perish in the fearful storm about to break upon the world in all its fury. Our loving heavenly Father has posted His warnings throughout the world because He is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3: 9), that is, come to Him and be saved. His great desire is that men and women whom Christ died to redeem should enjoy the eternal bliss of the home of the saved, where "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes," and where "there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain."

Revelation 21: 4.

That is God's wonderful plan for us.

The Bible--Perennial Best Seller

(Continued from page 5)

With the guns silenced, what now? Will the spiritual quickening which the nation has experienced ebb and disappear from the American scene along with those war agencies which have outlived their usefulness?

Let us hope not. The consequences may be dire. As the columnist Dorothy Thompson says in a recent issue of the *Ladies Home Journal*, "The Bible has one recurring refrain from the mouths of its poets and prophets, and records one ever-recurring historical fact: that great civilizations perish when men turn from God and fail to walk in the paths of righteousness, justice, and mercy."—THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

THE ATOMIC bomb that exploded over Hiroshima last August did more than snuff out the lives of 100,000 or more people; it did more than usher in a new era of industrial development; it did more than create a world situation in which men's hearts fail them for fear of those things that are coming upon the earth. (Luke 21: 25, 26.)

All of these things it did, but what may prove to be immeasurably more important in the end is that it awoke men to the realization that they had been able to reach into the inner recesses of nature and discover a great secret—the nature of matter and the manner in which it obviously was put together. This does not imply that this knowledge was all released by the explosion of the bomb or by the announcements regarding its composition. On the contrary, very little has been published within the past few months that has not been known in principle for a number of years. What the atomic bomb did was to arouse popular interest in the technicalities of atomic physics.

Radioactivity

For many years it has been known that a number of substances give off radiations during the course of their natural disintegration into substances of lighter weight. The best known of these radioactive substances is uranium. The rate of disintegration, however, is so slow that any certain amount of uranium will be reduced to half its original weight in 4,500,000,000 years. "There is nothing one can do," says a popular textbook, "to change in any way the rate at which a given material disintegrates."—J. D. Stranathan, *The "Particles" of Modern Physics*, p. 317. (Blakiston, Philadelphia, Pa.: 1942.)

At the very time when this statement was made, the scientists of the United States, Canada, and England were entering upon a \$2,000,000,000 project to prove that the natural rate of disintegration could be speeded up and controlled. The atomic bomb was the result of their research.

Uranium Disintegrates

It had been learned in 1936 that uranium consists of two isotopes, or forms. U-238, as the ordinary uranium is known, comprises 99.3% of any given sample, while the remainder, 0.7% consists of another isotope known as U-235. These figures indicate the relative weights of the atoms. U-235 was found to be readily broken down when bombarded by protons, or nuclear particles, from disintegrating uranium atoms. Other particles have been observed to produce similar effects. The secret of the atomic bomb which is being so jealously guarded is simply the mode of

Unlocking the

AMAZING REVELATIONS

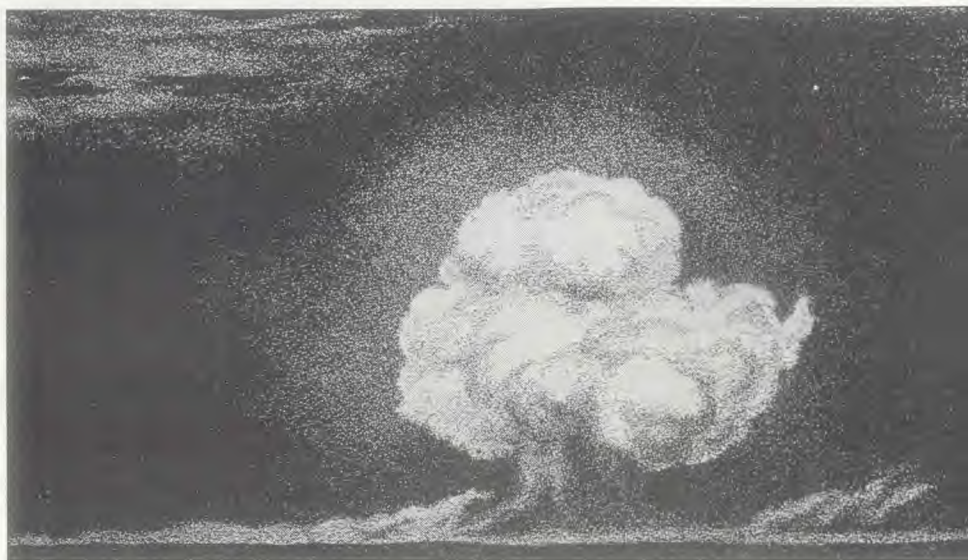
By H. A. ...

maintaining quantities of U-235 close enough together to constitute an explosive charge when set off, while at the same time preventing premature bombardment of one portion by the protons released from the disintegrating atoms of other near-by masses with the consequent release of the tremendous power wrapped in the atoms.

Let us now consider the implications of these new discoveries from the viewpoint of creation.

Uranium, in its natural disintegration,

For ages wise men have been trying to unravel the mystery of the nature of matter, for they could not understand how matter and spirit were related. Matter was thought of as being made of some tangible, ponderable substance, while spirit was believed to be intangible and



Towering above the New Mexico desert, the column of hot gases created by the first atomic explosion illuminated the ground and the clouds overhead.

eventually becomes uranium-lead, a substance similar to ordinary lead, but with a slightly different atomic weight. The artificial bombardment of the atoms of various substances has produced startling results. Here are a few of the transformations that have been brought about: Carbon to nitrogen, sodium to magnesium, aluminum to magnesium, calcium to potassium, platinum to gold, carbon to oxygen, nitrogen to oxygen, sodium to aluminum, aluminum to phosphorus, aluminum to sodium, copper to nickel, gold to mercury, and many others.

"Practically all elements can now be disintegrated in this way."—*Idem*, p. 442.

It seems as if modern science has at last discovered the magic formula which was so eagerly sought by the alchemists of the Middle Ages. This does not mean that these transformations can be accomplished in appreciable amounts, but rather that the secret of the structure of matter has been unlocked at last.

without weight or dimensions. How spirit could act on matter, they could not understand.

The Greeks imagined that if matter were to be divided into finer and finer parts, eventually particles would be reached which could no longer be divided. These particles they called *atoms* (*a-tom*—not divisible). When modern science discovered that matter was composed of atoms, it was thought that the ultimate indivisible unit of the Greeks had been reached. But it was soon found that atoms are not indivisible, but rather that each atom consists of a central nucleus and one or more electrons revolving about it. The nucleus is charged with positive electricity, and the electrons are charged with negative.

At first the assumption was made that the nucleus of an atom was a "particle" of matter carrying a positive charge as a rider, as it were, and that the electrons were "particles" carrying negative charges.

Secret of Creation

ATOMIC RESEARCH

CLARK

But the discoveries of recent years tend to discredit this concept. At present the results of atomic research indicate that the various components of the atom are energy units or multiples of such units. This idea might be termed the *dynamic concept* of matter.

If this viewpoint is correct, and there seems to be every indication that it is, then we seem to have arrived at a solution of the mystery of the ages. For it has never been satisfactorily explained how a spirit ("God is a spirit." John 4: 24) could produce material substance, or could control it. But if the atom is an energy system, without any material existence other than that provided by its activity, the relation of spirit to matter becomes clear.

The Bible says that God "spoke, and it was

done; He commanded, and it stood fast." Psalm 33: 9. These scriptural expressions referring to the voice of the Lord are human figures of speech used in an attempt to portray the power or energy that flows out from the Creator to the universe. The act of creation, accordingly, possibly might have involved the "radiation," if we may so speak, of energy waves at His command, which became concentrated at such places as He might direct, there to become organized into the whirling, dancing electrons, protons, and other parts of the atoms.

Not only does the Bible tell of the creation of matter by the voice or word of God (Psalm 33: 6; Hebrews 11: 3), but it also tells us that "by Him all things consist," or hold together. (Colossians 1: 17; Hebrews 1: 3.) It is this same creative power of God continually exerted that maintains the very existence of matter.

Furthermore, it is possible for God to destroy material substance if He should so choose. We are told that when the Lord shall judge the world, the earthly "elements shall melt with fervent heat," and "all these things shall be dissolved." 2 Peter 3: 10, 11. These statements of Holy Writ assume new meaning in the light of recent developments in atomic physics.

The essence of ancient pagan materialism was the theory of the eternalness of matter. According to this concept, material substance is the ultimate reality of the universe and can neither be created nor destroyed. All the changes taking place in earth, sea, and sky throughout endless ages were assumed to be only transformations of eternal substance.

Many modern sci-

entists have been influenced by this pagan philosophy. (2 Peter 3: 3-7.) While they may not always go so far as to assume that matter is eternal, they place its origin so far back that the line between their theories and those of the ancient pagan philosophers is exceedingly hard to detect. Furthermore, they have attempted to fortify their position by citing the supposedly unchangeable rate of disintegration of radium, uranium, and other substances that naturally undergo radioactive disintegration.

New Light

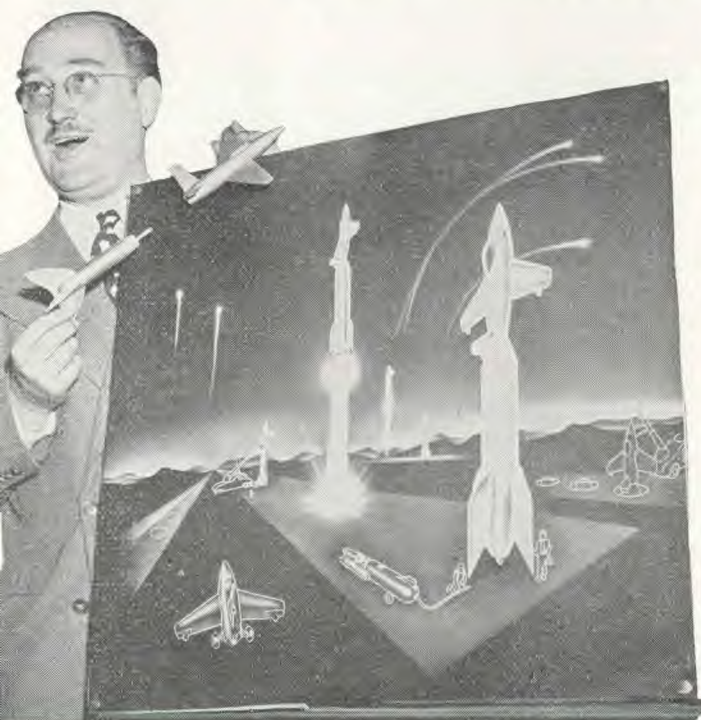
These scientists date the lowest rocks of the earth, called the pre-Cambrian, by the uranium-lead ratio as being about 1,400,000,000 years old. Other rocks in the geological series are assigned supposed ages on the basis of the proportion of their content of lead to uranium. These conclusions are drawn because of the theory that the rate of uranium disintegration can never be altered.

But now the world has seen it demonstrated that the rate of uranium disintegration can be changed in a fraction of a second. By man's cunning devices the change of disintegration has been speeded up to an inconceivably rapid rate, thus releasing in a moment explosive energy that under ordinary circumstances would require billions of years to be loosed.

An Erroneous Theory

In the light of these facts, who can longer maintain that the normal rate of uranium break-down requires that we believe the earth to be billions of years old? If man can alter the rate of disintegration as we have seen recently, surely there is a possibility that God could have set up in the past the conditions that may have been responsible for the uranium-lead ratio we find in the rocks. If the Genesis record is true, then this earth has undergone a cataclysmic disturbance that destroyed its original surface by producing profound changes in the crust. Just how such a catastrophe could have affected the radioactive substances in our earth, we may not understand now; but, on the other hand, there is absolutely no justification for the theory that the present rate of change has always been unalterable.

Many more startling truths may yet come from this ultra-modern scientific discovery. Just what turn research may take, we cannot predict. But one thing is apparent—the wrath of man is being made to praise God. (Psalm 76: 10.) Heaven and earth are vindicating the simple truths of creation. The Christian has no reason for letting his faith in God and in His Word waver before the speculations of theorists.



Testifying before the Military Affairs and Commerce subcommittee, Representative Chet Holifield of California produced a chart showing a projected plan for a new rocket-propelled, radar-controlled atomic missile. (Photo by Acme.)



The Status of Myron C. Taylor

MANY of the readers of OUR TIMES have inquired about the present status of Myron C. Taylor since the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt, who appointed him as ambassador from the White House to the Vatican in December of 1939. In reply to our request to President Truman for information on this matter for the readers of our magazine, Charles G. Ross, secretary to the President, sent us the following communication on December 18, 1945:

"There has been no change in the status of Mr. Myron C. Taylor, who was appointed by President Roosevelt as the personal representative of the President at the Vatican.

"Mr. Taylor is now in this country—I believe in Florida."

Reports had been rumoring that Mr. Taylor's services were discontinued when President Truman took office. But this official communication from the White House makes it clear that diplomatic relations between our government and the Roman pontiff have not been suspended by Mr. Truman.

President Truman is a member of the First Baptist church at Grandview, Missouri. General conventions of the Baptists in Georgia, Kentucky, and North Carolina have officially protested to the White House against the continuance of our government's diplomatic relations with the papacy. In fact, most Baptists appear to regard such relations as unconstitutional and a violation of the historic principle of the separation of church and state in this country.

According to *The Protestant Voice* (December 21, 1945), Religious News Service reported from Rome that Myron C. Taylor was expected to return to Rome in January.



Toast Them by Radio!

YES, SIR! Americans can now toast their sandwiches by radio! So says the General Electric Company, manufacturer of an electronic vending machine that grills and serves hot-dogs, hamburgers, and cheese sandwiches.

"A customer walks up to the machine, drops in a dime, and pushes a selection button," reports *The New York Times*, December 24, 1945. "This trips a tray, and down into an electronic oscillator coil,

visible to the customer, falls a wrapped sandwich. As it falls into place, high frequency radio waves are brought into play, heat the item to proper temperature, whereupon it falls into a glass-door compartment, ready for the customer to unwrap and eat."

Ours is an age of wonders without parallel in history. Things that are commonplace to us would make our ancestors gape with astonishment and believe that they had come to another world, if they should be resurrected today and permitted to visit an American city.

How would you like to be whipped across the continent in 317 minutes? Well, you put that down as something belonging to the past. On December 9, 1945, the XB-42, nicknamed "The Mixmaster," made a non-stop flight from Long Beach, California, to Washington, D.C., a distance of 2,295 miles, in five hours and 17 minutes. Its average speed was 432 miles an hour. Officials announce that planes of newer design are already preparing to break this record.

The significance of all this is seen in this ancient prophecy: "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." Daniel 12: 4. This prediction pointed out that in the last days—"the time of the end"—there would be a speeding up of travel and communications, and that it would be accompanied by an increase of knowledge of the Divine Word, particularly of those prophecies that pertain to the last days.

The Saviour, speaking of the signs that would harbinger His second coming and the end of the world, said: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24: 3, 14.

The improvement and speeding up of the facilities for publishing have done much toward fulfilling that forecast. The Honorable Charles A. Eaton in a broadcast over the National Broadcasting Company's network, from Washington, D.C., on December 9, 1945, remarked: "Either as a complete volume or in selected portions, the Bible is now being printed and read in 1,068 languages. And the publishing of the Bible has become far and away the greatest publishing business in the world."—*Congressional Record*, December 11, 1935, p. A5838.

And Dr. Gilbert Darlington, treasurer of the American Bible Society, recently informed the nation that that organization alone, during the 130 years of its existence, has published 50,000,000 copies of Holy Scripture—3,000,000 whole Bibles, 11,000,000 New Testaments, and 36,000,000 separate books of the Bible. Add to this the labors of all other groups engaged in publishing the Sacred Word, and the significance of it all is amazing.



The Head of the World

THE APPOINTMENT of 32 new cardinals of many nationalities by Pius XII last December was big religious news. For the first time the United States is to have five cardinals. For the first time a Chinese prelate is to don the red hat of the cardinalate. "For the first time all continents will be represented with cardinals," remarks the editor of *The New York Times*.

The Roman pontiff, in the allocution which he addressed to the College of Cardinals on Christmas Eve, stated what his objective is in widening the non-Italian membership of the college:

"Rome will thus be seen in its true light as the Eternal City, the universal city, the Caput Mundi [Head of the World], the city par excellence, the city of which all are citizens, the city which is the see of the vicar of Christ, on which the gaze of the whole [Roman] Catholic world is fixed."

Sacred prophecy has foretold the healing of the deadly wound which the papacy received by the sword of the French military in 1798, when ended the Vatican's 1,260 years of religio-political supremacy over Christendom since the year 538. (Revelation 13.) Furthermore, the Divine Word has predicted that the City of Seven Hills again will reign as a spiritual queen over the nations. (Revelation 17.) But it will not be for long, because the Most High will intervene then to save His own from complete extermination by the revival of the church-and-state tyranny that plagued the world during the Dark Ages. (Revelation 16 and 18.)



Which Is the Better Way?

WITH the coming of the spring, some cities of the nation may adopt the plan of daylight-saving time for the duration of

the summer, which they were wont to do before the war. During the war the whole nation followed it by order of the government.

It is surprising how few professed Christians are aware of the fact that this juggling of time affects Sunday observance. The Sunday keeper observes the first day of the week from midnight to midnight. This practice has no support whatever in Holy Writ, but finds its precedent in Roman law, which reckoned the civil day from midnight to midnight.

Most Sundaykeepers go by the hands of the clock, starting their holiday at 12:00 of the night regardless of the fact that true midnight seldom comes at this hour. This

presidents, the acts of Congress, and the customs of the people—as witness the recent return to standard peacetime from wartime here in the United States, when the nation set back its clock one hour on Sunday, September 30.

“The wisdom of God in giving to man a Sabbath gauged by the setting of the sun stands forth in undeviating contrast. It is a boundary that all can recognize and understand—child as well as adult, untutored as well as civilized, with or without a timepiece. Time zones, daylight-saving provisions, wartime or peacetime notwithstanding, the sun continues to rise and set with its divinely ordained fidelity and regularity beyond the manipulations

in such territories. Indeed, the Roman Catholic press professes to be highly incensed at the thought of Protestants conducting religious work among a people already professing to be Christians.

Of course, it has been well known that at the same time the Roman Church was pressing forward with her missionary work into all lands regardless of the religious profession of the inhabitants thereof. For example, the Southern states have been known as “the Bible belt of America,” because the people of the South are mostly members of Protestant churches long known for their loyalty to the Holy Scriptures. Nevertheless, in its campaign to “make America Catholic,” Rome has been and still is invading the Southland. This is not a Protestant report, but one published by *Our Sunday Visitor* (October 28, 1945), the most widely circulated Roman Catholic periodical in the United States, as follows:

“This country of ours is divided into 3,070 counties. Scattered around throughout the country, in 39 states, there are about 1,000 of these counties where there are no priests. Most of these priestless counties are in the South, very many in the West. But regardless of their location on the map, they have a combined area of some 757,000 square miles, real mission territory.

“To meet this challenge to our faith and missionary zeal right here in our own America, the Home Missioners of America have been organized. They are a society of secular priests and brothers [friars] who are already working in priestless sections of southern Ohio, Kentucky, and Georgia. They aim to do for our country the same kind of service that foreign missionary societies have been doing for so long in China, India, and Africa. As their numbers increase they will be ready to accept territory in other parts of the United States. A society of sisters [nuns] who will assist in this missionary work is now preparing for the mission field.”—*Our Sunday Visitor* (Roman Catholic), October 28, 1945.

In the United States the Roman Church has full freedom to propagate its religion wherever it pleases—even among the Protestant people of the Southern States. This is as it ought to be, religious liberty for all sects, including the papacy. Our object in referring to this is not to oppose Rome’s invasion of the Southland, but to oppose her denial to others the same freedom of propaganda that she claims for herself.

“The [Roman] Catholic, convinced that the [Roman] Catholic religion is the only true religion, is intolerant toward other
(Continued on page 18)



Among the American cities vying with each other to become the site of the United Nations Organization headquarters was Chicago, although latest reports indicate that an eastern city has been selected for that purpose.
(Photo by Acme.)

they do even when the hands of the clock are set ahead one hour in the adoption of the daylight-saving plan. For example, let us suppose that in a given city true midnight does coincide with 12:00 o'clock Central Standard Time. When daylight-saving time is adopted there, the hands of the clock are set forward one hour, so that 12:00 at night will correspond thereafter to 11:00 p.m. Central Standard Time. Hence, the Sunday keeper, going by the hands of the clock, begins and ends his holiday one hour before true midnight.

“The Sunday keeper,” observes *The Ministry* (December, 1945), “with his holyday scheduled from midnight to midnight, has the beginning and closing edges of his ‘sabbath’ considerably manhandled by the heads of state, the directives of

of man. God’s way is always the best way.”—Page 2.

In the Holy Scriptures the day is reckoned from even to even, that is, from sunset to sunset. (See Genesis 1: 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31; Leviticus 23: 32; Nehemiah 13: 19; Matthew 8: 16; Mark 1: 32; Luke 4: 40; Mark 15: 42.)



Invading the Southland

FOR SEVERAL years the papal press has been insistent in its demand that Protestant missionary activities in countries where the papacy has a dominant influence, particularly in Latin America, be stopped. Pressure has been brought to bear upon the civil authorities both at home and abroad to hinder or stop Protestant work

MANY entertain the idea that divine grace gives them the right to live as they please. In some mysterious way, so they think, God's grace makes obedience unnecessary, and gives the Christian license to violate the Ten Commandments. By a strange process of thought they would make the God who condemns sin in the unrepentant sinner, approve of it in the professing Christian.

Now grace is defined as "unmerited divine favor" or "pardon." That is to say, the sinner merits nothing from God. He has sinned, and is worthy of death. And the reason why he is worthy of death is that he has violated God's law by disobedience. "Whosoever 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.

When, in his journey of life the sinner comes to the place where he recognizes his wrong course, repents of his disobedience, and is sorry for it, then he accepts Christ as his Saviour, obtains forgiveness of his sin, and is said to be "under grace." Thus the sinner, in accepting Christ as his Saviour, has come under God's favor or pardon. He does not merit this divine grace. But out of His love and mercy God extends it to him because he has repented, turned away from his sins, and accepted Christ. Yet some Christians would use this "unmerited favor" as an excuse for continuing in a life of disobedience to the divine law.

Evangelist J. L. Shuler tells the story of the thief who could not steal \$500 when

there was nobody around to stop him. A coal dealer in Denver was hurriedly called out of his office to answer a long-distance telephone call. When he finished the call, he reached into his hip pocket for his wallet, and it was gone. He remembered he had left that wallet containing \$500 on the counter in open sight in his office. While he was out telephoning, a man who had served five years in the penitentiary for robbery came into the office. In fact, he had stolen \$40,000 just two blocks from this place some six years before. This man saw the wallet. It was lying there in open sight. There was nobody in the office to stop him from grabbing it and running off. But he didn't make any effort to take it. He was not even tempted to do it. Why? The answer was given in three words: "Saved by grace."

The saving grace of Christ in this thief's life kept him from stealing, that is, from breaking the eighth commandment of the Decalogue. In other days he would have called it good fortune, would have grabbed the wallet, and would have fled away with it. He would have violated the divine law which says: "Thou shalt not steal." Exodus 20: 15. But now all is changed; he is under divine grace, and this grace has brought him under obedience to God's law. The wallet is safe in his presence. And this same grace is operative in his life to keep him from the breaking of any or all of the other nine commandments. If a man's be-

setting sin has been immorality, God's grace can make him pure. If his weakness has been lying, divine grace can make him truthful.

In giving consideration to the matter of grace and obedience, let us keep in mind the original state of Adam and Eve. Prior to their disobedience, Adam and Eve had no trouble at all. They were perfectly provided for. They enjoyed perfect health of mind and body. Not a shadow darkened their lives. Their environment was so favorable that the angels rejoiced over their state, and God Himself pronounced it "very good." (Genesis 1: 31; Job 38: 7.)

As soon as the act of sin or disobedience was committed, the situation was changed. Instead of having the privilege of eternity in the beautiful environment of Eden, sinful man was driven out and told that he must earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. Instead of enjoying an endless life, now he must die. And communication face to face with their Maker was no longer possible. Sin had separated the hitherto happy pair from their Creator. Disobedience had brought man into enmity with God.

Grace Needed to Obey

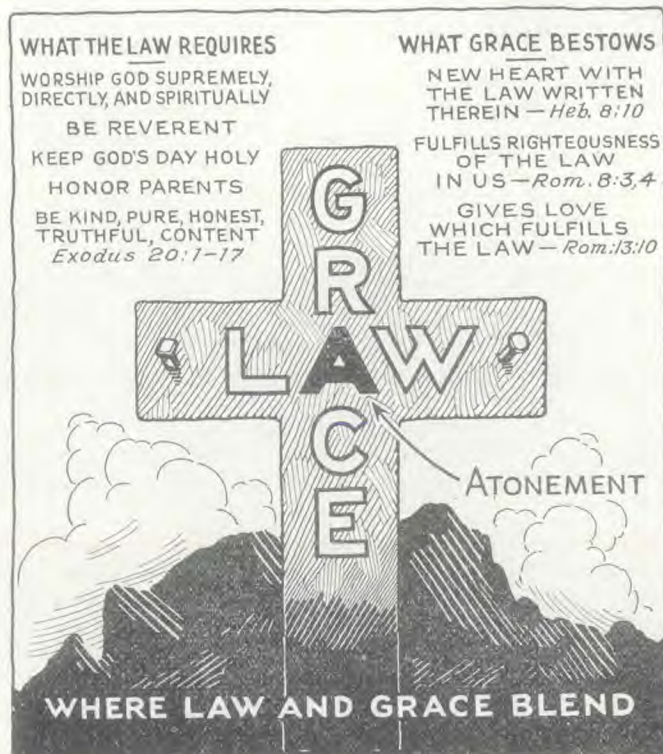
It is impossible for the unconverted man to obey God's law. For this reason the Lord performs the miracle of miracles—He gives a repentant man a new heart that he may obey Him. Paul says: "The carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Romans 8: 7. The purpose of conversion is to bring us to obedience. We are saved by divine grace in order that we may keep the commandments of God.

Contrary to the opinion of some, God's grace is not opposed to His law. It is in complete harmony with it. Law and grace are associated together in God's plan for the salvation of man. They have come down through both the Old and New Testaments to the present day. There

Does Grace Make Obedience Unnecessary?

A Study on the Relationship of Divine Law to Human Conduct

By DALLAS YOUNGS



never has been such a thing as a dispensation of salvation by law, and another dispensation of redemption by grace. Grace is unmerited favor, and there has never been a time when sinful man could not obtain favor with God by repentance and confession of sin. Neither has there ever been a time when man's conduct was not to be regulated by God's law.

A New Attitude

David understood that conversion was necessary to obedience when he said: "Save me, and I shall keep Thy testimonies." Psalm 119: 146.

Conversion gives a man a new attitude toward the law of God. It gives him a disposition to obey it. When a man is converted and under divine grace, he desires to bring his life into conformity to the will of God. And that is what God is talking about in Ezekiel 11: 19, 20, when He says: "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: that they may walk in My statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be My people, and I will be their God."

Note that God takes away the stony heart of transgression, and gives the sinner a heart of flesh for one purpose—that he may obey His statutes and commandments, and do them.

A Tragic Mistake

It is a tragic mistake on the part of any Christian to suppose that he is saved by his good works. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2: 8. Salvation is not something that a man can earn. God gives it as a gift to every person who will accept it. As the prophet puts it: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Isaiah 55: 1.

Any individual who depends upon his obedience to the law, or on his good works of charity, to gain him admittance into the kingdom of God's glory will be disappointed. That is not God's way of saving the lost. Redeeming grace on God's part and obedient faith on our part are required to save us. In other words, man reaches up with the hand of obedient faith and takes hold of God's hand of redeeming grace; and God reaches down with His hand of redeeming grace and takes hold of man's hand of obedient faith. As long as a man keeps his hand in the hand of God,

(Continued on page 17)



Replies to Health Queries

This information for the readers of OUR TIMES is supplied by Owen S. Parrett, M. D., a physician and writer of wide experience. Address questions to the doctor in care of this magazine.

My affliction is lipoma. What is the cause of this condition? Does medical science have any successful treatment for it?—F.N.T.

Lipoma is a harmless fatty tumor that only causes trouble by pressure, or by its unsightly appearance, and rarely may cause a little pain. The cause is unknown, but like some other non-malignant tumors may be caused by a filterable virus. Lipomae are easily removed by injecting with a local anesthetic and shelling out the mass which separates easily from surrounding normal tissue. No means of prevention is at present known.

A press report states that disease, particularly trichinosis, among hogs is widespread, and that thousands of Americans have been infected from eating pork. How does the condition of beef, fowls, fish, etc., compare with that of swine in the matter of using them for food?—G.P.

The bodies of hogs are loaded with waste poisons due to their filthy habits. Trichinosis runs from four per cent to figures much higher for garbage-fed hogs. Hogs readily contract tuberculosis when in contact with cattle having this disease. Two San Francisco doctors examined 200 dead bodies, none of which had given any history of trichinae infection preceding death. They found 48 of those 200 bodies harboring living trichinae worms that would coil and uncoil under the microscope. Thus it would seem that 25% of Americans are carrying around in their muscles, especially in the diaphragm, these living parasites without knowing it; for it takes over 1,000 parasites to cause any symptoms. The symptoms are often mistaken for rheumatic pains or other mild disorders.

Chickens are prone to have cancer in five different forms, so that recently there died in 10 states in one year 42,000,000 chickens from cancer alone. Fish from the hatcheries may run as high as 50% with cancer of the thyroid glands; and 15 to 20% of all American cattle have undulant fever, for which the Federal Government pays the farmer a bonus of \$20 a head for grade stock and \$50 a head for thoroughbred stock if he will sign a contract to sell them to the butcher for meat.

While pork is wholly unfit for food, all meat has such a high incidence of disease, the larger part of which is passed by the inspector, that the eating of flesh has become a hazardous thing. One inspector has stated that if all the known diseased meat were rejected, it would run the price up so high that none but the rich could afford to eat flesh foods.

Why is it that I can eat ripe uncooked apples with no unpleasant effects, but when I eat applesauce, I suffer from diarrhea?—N.A.S.

Yours is a rather unusual reaction to a diet that for most people is highly satisfactory. It may be the sugar in the applesauce. Try sweetening the apple-

sauce with Beta-Lactose sugar, and you will probably have no trouble. Raw apples are an excellent food, and are especially good as a bowel disinfectant, much like sour milk and saur kraut juice. Powdered apples are used to correct overactive bowels in babies when it is due to an infection.

Please recommend some wholesome foodstuffs that contain much vitamin A, which I am required by my doctor to use freely.—R.L.O.

In general, yellow and green foods are rich in vitamin A. Thus yellow corn has considerable amounts while white corn and meal have none. Carrots, yellow squash, green leafy vegetables, persimmons, orange juice, and green and yellow vegetable juices are good sources of vitamin A. Parsley is especially rich in this vitamin. Both vitamins and minerals vary a great deal with soil conditions. Recently at the California Institute of Technology carrots were grown experimentally with 40 times as much vitamin A as the average carrot carries. Perhaps before long we will grow fruits and vegetables for higher vitamin and mineral content.

Does the use of alcohol and tobacco by the mother really affect the fetus during the period of pregnancy?—A.I.

As a result of much research work done on alcoholic beverages and their effect on the offspring, mental retardation, epilepsy, non viability, and much insanity and nervous instability have been traced to alcoholism in the parents as far as back to the fourth generation, as the Bible says. A great German scientist discovered that when a mother failed to be able to nurse her child, and the grandmother had been successful, it was most often due to alcoholic liquor drinking on the part of the ancestors. The medical director of one of California's large insane asylums has stated that in his opinion 95% of the inmates were brought to the institution as the direct or indirect result of using alcohol.

In the case of tobacco we do not have as much statistical material as we do on alcoholic beverages, but Dr. Raymond Pearl of Johns Hopkins University stated in the *Scientific Monthly* for May, 1938, that up to the age of 60 tobacco killed faster than alcohol. Since two cigarettes may contain enough poison to kill one man, and one cigar may contain enough poison to kill two men, an expectant or nursing mother cannot afford to poison the infant at a time when it is most delicate and susceptible to such violent poisons. The alarming increase in heart disease and deaths therefrom is an index to what is happening to the hearts and blood vessels of Americans, who last year smoked 233,000,000,000 cigarettes besides the cigars, chewing, pipe, and snuff tobacco. It would seem to be a race between the Siamese twin killers, Alcohol and Tobacco, and the atomic bomb as to which will finish killing off the human race first.

THE NAME "Beatitudes" is the title popularly given to that portion of Christ's Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 5: 1-12, for in these sayings He tells what deeds bring special blessings to men. The Beatitudes are loved and quoted by Christians and non-Christians alike.

One dictionary definition of the term "beatitude" is "consummate bliss; blessedness." Another defines it as "supreme happiness."

When the Master said: "Blessed are the merciful," He stated in effect that supremely happy are men who are kind and

Notable Prophecies and Promises about the Lord's Day

doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord." Isaiah 58: 13, 14.

knowledge of His truth, in participating in His worship, in relying on His promises, and in doing His commands.

Down through the ages the Sabbath has done more than any other festival to preserve the knowledge of the Creator among men, elevating the human mind and promoting right living on earth. The Lord designed that the Sabbath should break the routine duties of the week and afford us time to meditate on nobler subjects than the purely mundane affairs which press themselves into our daily existence. The observance of the Sabbath is essential to the worship of God, for which reason it

The Gospel Prophet Spoke of the Sabbath

By HOWARD J. CAPMAN

considerate. When He declared that "blessed are the peacemakers," He meant that those who help their fellow men to live in love and harmony with one another find great joy in it. Genuinely happy are those who respect God and man, for it brings them joyful satisfaction.

Christ is not the first person mentioned in the Bible as speaking of the blessedness that comes to men characterized by right living. David, centuries before, had said in sacred poetry: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, . . . but his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night." Psalm 1: 1, 2. Such a person can truly say: "I delight to do Thy will, O my God: yea, Thy law is within my heart." Psalm 40: 8.

About seven centuries before the birth of Jesus, the gospel prophet wrote: "Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil." Isaiah 56: 2. This beatitude is especially pronounced upon those who keep the Sabbath.

The blessing of our Creator has been permanently placed upon the Sabbath day. "The Sabbath was made for man," said Jesus. Mark 2: 27. Our Maker "blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it" (Genesis 2: 3), for the whole human race to observe, and we are admonished to remember that its sacred hours belong to God. (Exodus 20: 8-11.)

In chapter 58 of his prophecies, Isaiah presents the Lord's instructions concerning the use of His holy day. "If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from



The beautiful Memorial Chapel of Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, has been erected as a monument to the worship of God. Older still is the seventh-day Sabbath, which was sanctified by God as a day of worship at the time of man's creation. (Photo by Elizabeth H. Hibbs.)

All who truly love God will delight in rightly observing His holy day, esteeming it worthy of the highest regard. The Sabbath ought not to be spent in business, frivolity, or worldliness. Respect for God is to be shown by refraining from the ordinary pursuits of work and pleasure on His holy day.

Today it is as proper and needful to keep the Sabbath as it was in Isaiah's time. It is as true now as it was then that those who keep the Lord's day in the proper manner find happiness in God—in the

has been divinely declared to be a sign of man's allegiance to his Maker, and a memorial of His creative and sanctifying power. (Ezekiel 20: 12, 20.)

Albert Barnes, the noted Presbyterian commentator, makes the following remarks about Isaiah 58: 14, 15:

"The happiness of every Christian is indissolubly connected with the proper observance of the Sabbath. The perpetuity of true religion, and its extension throughout the earth, is identified with the observance of the Sabbath. Every true

Isaiah, the Gospel Prophet

"Of all Israel's celebrated prophets, Isaiah is the king. The writings which bear his name are among the profoundest in all literature. One great theme—salvation by faith—stamps them all. Isaiah is the Saint Paul of the Old Testament."—**The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia**, Vol. 3, p. 1495, art. "Isaiah." (Howard-Severance Co., Chicago, Ill., 1915.)

friend of God the Saviour, as he values his own peace, and as he prizes the religion which he professes to love, is bound to restrain his foot on the Sabbath; to cease to find his own pleasure and to speak his own words on that holy day; and to show that the Sabbath is to him a delight, and that he esteems the holy day of Jehovah a day to be honored and to be loved."—*Notes on Isaiah*, Vol. 3, p. 575. (Crocker and Brewster, Boston, Mass.: 1840.)

For the Jew Only

It is taught by some religionists that the seventh-day Sabbath was instituted for the Jew only. This is incorrect. According to Isaiah, God intended that all men—the Gentile too—should observe the Sabbath, and share in its blessings. "Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants, every one that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of My covenant; even them will I bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon Mine altar; for Mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people." Isaiah 56: 6, 7.

God offers the same salvation and the same heaven to every man, regardless of his race or his color. In days of old He said to Israel: "Ye shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as for one of your own country: for I am the Lord your God." Leviticus 24: 22. (See also Exodus 12: 49; Leviticus 19: 34; Numbers 9: 14; 15: 15, 16; Galatians 3: 28, 29.)

The apostle Paul writes that God "spoke in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all His works." Hebrews 4: 4. That day on which God rested in the beginning, and which was blessed and hallowed by Him (Genesis 2: 2, 3; Exodus 20: 11), remains in its appointed place in the divine plan for mankind, and cannot be removed from it. "There remaineth therefore a keeping of a Sabbath to the people of God." Hebrews 4: 9, margin.

The Sabbath will remain forever the holy day of the Lord. In that better world to come it will be universally observed as the divinely appointed day of worship, just as God intended that it should be in the beginning. So writes Isaiah: "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before Me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the Lord." Isaiah 66: 22, 23.

Thus we learn that the holy Sabbath institution will bring its divinely appointed blessing to mankind in the home of the saved, for it will be kept by the redeemed throughout the ceaseless ages that shall come after the scars and mars of sin have been completely removed from this earth. Therefore, let every true worshiper of the Lord love and respect the day which is thus honored and exalted in the Sacred Word.

Does Grace Make Obedience Unnecessary?

(Continued from page 15)

just so long does he have eternal security.

If men were saved by works, heaven would be full of boasters. The man who has done penance would boast of his humility. The man who has made pilgrimages would boast of his sacrifices. The man who has given his millions to charity would boast of his liberality. And if God would accept pay for our salvation, even the poor beggar, when taken to heaven, would boast of the penny that he had paid. But God will not open heaven's doors on that basis. All the saved are saved in one and the same way—by coming to Jesus as spiritual bankrupts, having absolutely nothing with which to pay Him, but relying solely on being saved by the unmerited grace of God.

And let us not imagine that because we are not saved by obedience to God's law,

that obedience to His law has nothing to do with our salvation. To suppose this would be as tragic as to suppose that we are saved by works. While we are not saved by keeping the Ten Commandments, we certainly can be lost by breaking them. The Christian does not keep the law of God *in order to be saved*, but he keeps it *because he is saved*. There is a vast difference here.

Faith and Works

The second chapter of James makes clear to us the true relationship that exists between faith and works. Christian faith and Christian works go together, the latter being the result of the former. Works is the evidence of faith. James gives two illustrations to show this. "Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." Verses 21-26.

The great object of grace is to make lawbreakers obedient to the law. Paul, in Romans 3: 31, asks this very pertinent question: "Do we then make void the law through faith?" Then he answers his question thus: "God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Faith in Jesus Christ upholds, or establishes, the divine law by leading us to obey the Ten Commandments. Therefore obedience becomes the evidence of faith, and conversely the absence of obedience proves the absence of faith. (1 John 2: 3-5.)

The statement in Revelation 14: 12 is so clear on this point that it ought to suffice to settle the matter once and for all: "Here is the patience of the saints; here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."

"WHEN the principle of love is implanted in the heart, when man is renewed after the image of Him that created him, the new covenant promise is fulfilled, 'I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them.' Hebrews 10: 16. And if the law is written in the heart, will it not shape the life? Obedience—the service and allegiance of love—is the true sign of discipleship." —E. G. WHITE.

Scripture Problems Solved

This department of OUR TIMES is a service for answering questions concerning the Holy Scriptures and the Christian religion. Send your queries, accompanied by your full name and address, to the editor. Only the initials will be used in publication.



In Isaiah 7:14 the Lord said that He would give King Ahaz a sign, which would be a case of a virgin giving birth to a son. But Jesus was not born until about 700 years after the death of Ahaz. How do you explain this?—E.R.

It is obvious, as the inquiry itself suggests, that the Lord did not mean that Ahaz himself would personally see the fulfillment of the promise of the sign. It would be fulfilled in the future, but not immediately. Note that the tense of the verb is future. "A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and she shall call His name Immanuel."

The prophetic message was given all the people of God, being addressed to them through the king, the head of the Jewish nation. The spiritually minded among them understood it to refer to the coming of the long-expected Messiah.

Two outstanding things in this prophecy ought to be noted. The sign promised was indeed a very marvelous one.

First, the promised son would be born of a virgin, that is, of a human mother but without a human father. In all recorded history there have been only three persons in all mankind who had no human father. Adam and Eve were miraculously created by God, and had neither human father nor human mother. Jesus was miraculously begotten in the womb of Mary by the Holy Spirit. (Luke 1:34, 35; Matthew 1:18.)

Second, the promised son would be called Immanuel, which name means "God with us," indicating that the child would be God born in human flesh. (Matthew 1:23; John 1:1-3, 14.) Thus the sign which was promised in Isaiah 7:14 would be so wonderful that no man could comprehend all of its significance.

Please explain 1 Peter 3:19, 20.—J.M.P.

The key to the passage is found in verse 18, for verses 19 and 20 contain only the last part of the sentence. The complete sentence reads:

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened [made alive] by the Spirit: by which [the Spirit] also He went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water."

Some people have erroneously interpreted 1 Peter 3:19, 20 as meaning that during the time between his burial on Friday and His resurrection on Sunday, Christ went in the form of a ghost to preach to dead people in the mythological hell or purgatory of tradition. Such a notion is without foundation in the Bible. Note that the nineteenth verse begins thus: "by which He went and preached." Christ did not go personally and preach to the antediluvians, but He went by means of another person, the one referred to by the term "which." In this case the word "which" is a relative pronoun, and

its antecedent must be found in the preceding part of the sentence. Looking there, we find that "the Spirit" is that antecedent.

The Son of God existed before His birth among men. (John 1:1-3, 10, 14; 17:5, 24; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4; John 8:58; Colossians 1:13-17.) By means of the Holy Spirit the Saviour strove with wicked hearts in the days of Noah (Genesis 6:3), who was "a preacher of righteousness" (2 Peter 2:5). The sinners of Noah's day were souls imprisoned in sin, "the bondage of corruption" (Romans 8:21; Genesis 6:11). The message was preached to them that they also might "recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will." 2 Timothy 2:26.

Please explain the phrase "seek My face" in 2 Chronicles 7:14.—G.S.

The passage apparently is self-explanatory. God says: "If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." It is simply the Oriental mode of saying: "Turn to Me." The people of God at times turned to the gods of the heathen, and even worshiped idols as well as the sun, the moon, and the other heavenly bodies. God promised that when they should turn from their wicked ways, and turn to Him in humility, He would forgive them and heal their sin-sick souls. This is one of the most precious passages of the Old Testament.

Is it true that God will not hear the prayer of a sinner?—O. T.

God does not hear the prayer of an unrepentant sinner who is determined to continue in rebellion against the word of the Lord. David declared: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Psalm 66:18. And Solomon wrote: "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination." Proverbs 28:9.

On the other hand, God does hear the prayer of the repentant sinner. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Proverbs 28:13. In the case of the two men who "went up into the temple to pray," the publican "smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner." Christ declared that this man "went down to his house justified." Luke 18:9-14. God had heard his prayer.

If God would not hear the prayer of people who have sinned, then nobody would have hope, "for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23. "For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not." Ecclesiastes 7:20. "There is no man that sinneth not." 1 Kings 8:46. "Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?" Proverbs 20:9. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive our-

selves, and the truth is not in us." 1 John 1:8.

Therefore "the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." Galatians 3:23.

If a sinner desires to be heard by the Lord, he must confess his sins and forsake them, and serve God with a sincere heart. (Psalm 32:5; 1 John 1:9.) It is not reasonable to suppose that God would grant the petitions of a person who is bent on fighting against truth and righteousness, for that would be to aid the devil in his work of rebellion.

"With All His Saints"

(Continued from page 2)

inspired writer refers to those "thousands of saints" as "thousands of angels." Here is the statement: "The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels; the Lord is among them as in Sinai." Psalm 68:17. There will be one glorious, visible, second coming of Christ with His mighty angels, and not two advents seven years apart. On this point Jesus has warned, "Take heed that no man deceive you." Matthew 24:4.

Invading the Southland

(Continued from page 13)

creeds," writes Francis J. Connell in *The Catholic Digest* of January, 1944.

We are not surprised, then, that this Roman Catholic apologist should set forth the papal position thus: "If the country is distinctively [Roman] Catholic, if the population is almost entirely [Roman] Catholic, and the national life and institutions are permeated with the spirit of [Roman] Catholicity, the civil rulers can consider themselves justified in restricting or preventing any denominational activity hostile to that religion. They may not punish or persecute those who do not accept the faith. But they are justified in repressing written or spoken attacks on the [Roman] Church, the use of the press or the mails to weaken the allegiance of [Roman] Catholics toward their church, and similar anti-Catholic efforts. For, by such activities, the faith of some [Roman] Catholic citizens, particularly the less educated, might be unsettled and their loyalty to the [Roman] Church destroyed. A [Roman] Catholic government naturally looks on these happenings as grave evils of the spiritual order, from which the citizens must be protected."—*Idem*, pp. 85-86.

OUR COVER

THE PICTURE of the scientist working in his laboratory, unlocking the secrets of nature, as shown on the cover of this issue of OUR TIMES, is a sample of the fine photography of H. Armstrong Roberts, who has supplied us many of the photographs used from time to time in our magazine.

"It Is Not Intolerance"

(Continued from page 3)

Roman Catholic position on religious liberty that, in effect, means a demand for religious liberty where the Roman Catholic is in the minority but denies it in practice where the Roman Catholic is in the majority.

"The very statement of these concerns is apt to evoke bitter response. I trust this may not be so. It is made in the friendliest of spirit and with but a single purpose, namely, to make it clear to Roman Catholic leaders that Protestants in this nation are gravely concerned with certain practices that we believe are leading to religious strife. How much better to state our views in Christian love, listen to counter-statements, and together seek to create so much of the spirit of our Lord that we may remove the causes of dissension, demonstrate the meaning of Christian unity, and lead mankind to a better day."

A Wholesome Thing

Constructive criticism is a very wholesome thing when offered in the spirit of love and helpfulness, and when it is received in the same spirit. Unfortunately this address has stirred up resentment among the Roman Catholic hierarchy, although it was intended for that hierarchy to evaluate some of their mistakes in the political realm where they have used unchristian methods for the purpose of political, social, and religious domination, and to retreat from the political arena by manifesting the spirit of tolerance and Christian brotherhood and co-operative fellowship toward other Christian churches distinctive from their own organization. But tolerance and co-operation are terms not found in the papal creed, because it holds that the Roman religion is the only true religion, that all other religious professions and persuasions are false and heretical, and that heresy, so called, must not be tolerated.

The Fundamental Principle

The Roman Catholic hierarchy has lost sight of the great fundamental principle that persuasion, and not coercion, is the only power and method the Christian can lawfully use in the propagation of Christianity. It has lost sight of the important factor that the church and the state must function separately and independently of each other, and that a union of church and state is detrimental to the interests of both. It is a trait of carnal human nature to try to force all men to be good and to do good, but that is neither God's way nor

Christ's plan of saving men. The Bible says: "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Revelation 22: 17. It is voluntary service that is acceptable with God. The power of love is greater than the might of force. God grants every one the privilege of choosing good or evil, right or wrong, but He holds each responsible to Him for the choice he makes. Every person is the architect of his own fate or fortune, for woe or for weal, and for time and for eternity. God merely ratifies in the final judgment day the choice we made in this world in the matter of the world to come. Only those who choose to serve God and go to heaven will be there. To whichever place we finally go is our own choice.

This individual freedom and independence which God grants to all mankind, the



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papal hierarchy, in its creed formulated for the Roman Catholic Church and its adherents, nullifies by the "clericalism of that church which seeks both political and spiritual supremacy by resorting to secular and carnal methods to gain influence and prestige in the world and over all peoples, nations, and religions. It is that spirit of intolerance toward all dissidents and non-conformists that is endangering the peace of the world in the spiritual as well as the political domains more than any other detrimental factor.

No American citizen imbued by the

spirit of justice and freedom is in favor of the inauguration of an anti-Roman Catholic movement in America, but if such an un-American movement should be started again, it will come as the inevitable consequences of the Roman Catholic hierarchy's widespread intolerance toward all Protestant sects, and as a result of its resistance and opposition to the fundamental principles and ideals of democracy and religious freedom for all men irrespective of creeds. As the Holy Scriptures say: "The curse causeless shall not come." Proverbs 26: 2.

Are Our War Dead Still Alive?

(Continued from page 5)

show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep [die], but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Corinthians 15: 51-53.

"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." Verse 26. Death is an enemy of mankind, not a friendly portal to regions of bliss. For six millenniums mankind has been under the sentence of death. But Christ has broken the bars of the tomb. He has risen, and is the surety for all who trust in Him. We look in hope to His return. "For 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: 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. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4: 16-18.

"THE NEED for increased effectiveness and the marshaling of whole communities on the crime-prevention front becomes more important each day. Lawlessness has taken on such proportions as to even startle the imagination. The crime waves proclaimed in the daily press are not imaginary. They are real. They are bloody. If anything, the press is guilty of understatement rather than overstatement. Let me be specific. In October of this year serious crime increased 19 per cent over the same month last year. Of the more serious crimes, the increases reflect 32 per cent more murders, 38 per cent more auto thefts, 38 per cent more robberies, 11 per cent more larcenies, and 26 per cent more burglaries. Crime rates are continuing to rise rapidly throughout the entire Nation." —J. Edgar Hoover, *Congressional Record*, December 11, 1945, p. A5810.

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