

JANUARY . . . FIFTEEN CENTS

# Our TIMES

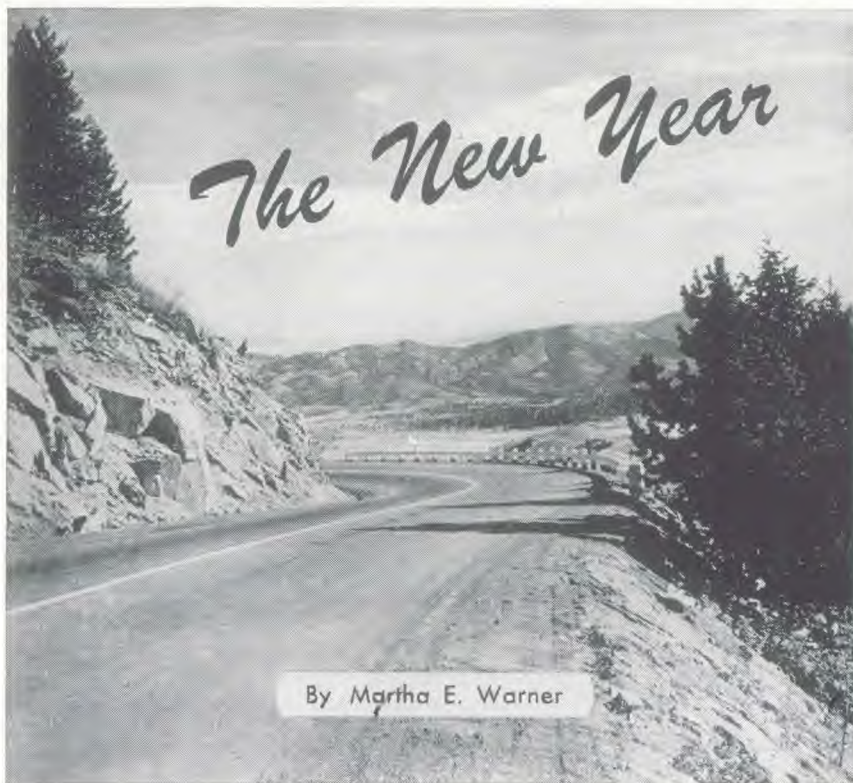
SINCE 1891

A BIBLICAL INTERPRETER OF THE NEWS



What Will the New Year Bring?





*As we face the road before us, we do so with no qualms if we know that God is directing us according to His plan for our lives.*

THE DAYS slip by so swiftly, it is hard to realize that we are standing upon the threshold of a new year. It will be a year that is bound to be filled with momentous happenings, and which carries with it the fear and dread of atomic bombs—bombs so powerful that if they were used it would mean the end of civilization. At least that is what many thinking men of radio and press are predicting. And as I read and listen, into my heart has crept a bit of fear, and I would, if I could, turn back the hands of time.

But there is no turning back; for whether we will or no, we must face the unknown future; and yet in spite of the fear and dread, I believe the year can and will be, a blessed year, if we will but remember God still rules the world, even "though the wrong seems oft so strong."

This thought was impressed upon me more fully as I read chapter eleven in the book of Deuteronomy, verses eleven and twelve.

"But the land, whither ye go to possess it, is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven: a land which the Lord thy God careth for: the eyes of the Lord thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of

the year even unto the end of the year."

As I read these verses over and over, my heart was comforted and stilled by the message they held for me, for I knew that God was watching over this world, caring for it from the beginning of the year unto the end.

In the new year which stretches out before us, we will find many hills and valleys—hills that must be climbed if we would catch a glimpse of the glory of God; and valleys where life will be smooth, unruffled, and filled with peace and quietness. There will be hills that are steep, bare, and bleak. The climbing will be hard, our hands and feet will become sore and blistered, but climb we must. Then perhaps without a word of warning we will be plunged down into the valley of the shadow of death, and our hearts will be torn and bleeding.

Yes, life is full of hills and valleys, and will be in the year ahead of us, but we need not fear to step over the threshold if our hearts are filled with trusting, for the Word says, "The eyes of the Lord are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year." This promise comforts us as we face the unknown new year.

**If God Is with Us,  
All Will Be Well.**

## Our TIMES

SINCE 1891: A BIBLICAL INTERPRETER OF THE NEWS

JANUARY, 1948

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People who know little are usually great talkers, while men who know much say little.—*Jean Jacques Rousseau.*



# The Gift of the Holy Spirit

## HIS RECEPTION AND HIS WORK



*When Christ broke the sad news of His departure to His disciples, He consoled them with the promise of "another Comforter."*

**T**HEN the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when He had so said, He showed them His hands and His side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you. And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, *receive ye the Holy Ghost.*" John 20:19-22.

There is a difference between reception and possession. They received the Holy Spirit then, but they were not possessed with it. Notice what the Holy Spirit accomplished during the forty days after receiving it.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing, mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:1-4.

What a wonderful change had been

### By Nevins Morrelle Harlan

wrought in the disciples. Before, they had been quarreling among themselves as to who would be the greatest in the earthly kingdom which they supposed Jesus would soon set up. But after the disciples had received the Holy Spirit, instead of disputing among themselves, instead of any bitterness among them, they were all "of one accord." Gone

were the hard feelings among them. The Holy Spirit had done a mighty work upon their hearts.

The first work of the Holy Spirit is to reprove of sin. And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye see Me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged." John 16:8-11.

The work of the Holy Spirit is to change our hearts. "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them." Ezekiel 36:26, 27.

Until the Holy Spirit changes our hearts, we will not be filled with His presence. We must make a full surrender to the call of the Holy Spirit before our hearts can be changed by Him. Remember also that God does not force us to serve Him.

On the day of Pentecost when God poured out His Holy Spirit upon the disciples in such a marvelous way, the hearts of the disciples were prepared for the occasion by true repentance and

*(Continued on page 17)*



Was H. G. Wells a

# FALSE PROPHET?

How Did His Predictions Turn Out?

By W. L. Emmerson



THE FAITH of a very large number of people during the past half century may be comprehended in the dictum, "Science is God, and H. G. Wells is its prophet."

Since Mr. Wells died, numerous writers have sought to estimate the influence upon the age of this self-appointed prophet, and certainly no appraisal is truer or more pertinent than an extensive review published in a recent issue of the *Times Literary Supplement*.

Therein the writer comes to the striking conclusion that "if ever a man threw away the gift of genius, Wells was the man."

Elaborating this point, he asserts that H. G. Wells was a genius "fit for the

company of Dickens," but that he "declined the potentiality" and chose rather the role of a "minor prophet," most of whose forecasts have been made ludi-

crous by events that have followed.

"Wells," says this reviewer, "is still commonly supposed to have been a shrewd forcaster of events. The fact is far otherwise. His prophecies were not only false as a rule, but their falsity was



*This powerful flying ship is a refutation of Mr. Wells' contention that aeroplanes would never be important in transportation and communication.*

★

*Mr. Wells also predicted that tank warfare would be seriously affected by the use of gas. However, monstrous tanks are still used effectively by the nations in time of war. This is a 100-ton tank with a mighty 105MM gun.*

often apparent immediately after they were made."

"Wells," he continues, "blundered often and badly in forecasting. His *Anticipations* is full of false prophecy." So also are his *War in the Air*, *The War That Will End War*, *Washington and the Hope of Peace*, and many others.

He forecast the possibility of the first World War, but he did not believe it would be "catastrophic." We now know how disastrous it really was.

Discussing the possibilities of submarine warfare, Mr. Wells said: "I must confess that my imagination, in spite even of spurring, refuses to see any sort of submarine doing anything but suffocate its crew and founder at sea." Not many years after, Britain was on the brink of starvation as a result of unrestricted U-boat warfare, and in the second World War the peril was probably even direr.



Seven years before Bleriot flew the Channel, Mr. Wells did not think that "successful aeroplanes . . . would come home safe and sound much before 1950 and perhaps even 2000." Yet just a few weeks ago, in the year 1947, a plane flew around the world in seventy-three hours.

Time and events have shown the utter fallacy of Mr. Wells' opinion that aeronautics would never "come into play as a serious modification of transport and communication."

He was quite convinced that gas was the coming weapon in warfare and wrote vividly of Japanese and Americans choking each other's babies in San Francisco and Tokyo. He believed also that gas warfare would seriously interfere with the development of tank warfare. Actually, gas was not used in the second World War and tanks increased in weight to a hundred tons and more.

How shortsighted Mr. Wells was in his estimation of the growing strength of Germany is evident when we reread this statement written before the 1914-18 war:

"The evolution of military expedients has been all in favor of the French character and intelligence, and . . . even a singlehanded war between France and Germany today might have a very different issue from that former (1870) struggle."

Having known the fanatical power of Hitler over the German masses, these words about its modern demagogue are just silly:

"It is improbable that ever again will any flushed, undignified man with a vast voice, a muscular face in incessant operation, collar crumpled, hair disordered, and arms in wild activity, talking copiously . . . rise to be the most powerful thing in any democratic state in the world. Continually the individual vocal demagogue dwindles."

In *The War That Will End War*, Mr. Wells asserted that the 1914-18 war was "not just another war—it is the last war," and he went further to declare that "within three months the Tricolor will be over the Rhine." He proved disastrously wrong on both counts.

He feared the possibility of a war between Japan and the United States, believing that it would be impossible to prevent the former landing on the American coast. Such a war did develop from the Japanese treachery at Pearl Harbor, but although many American ships were put out of action, the Japanese never got near the American shores.

But quite apart from these serious errors of judgment on specific issues,

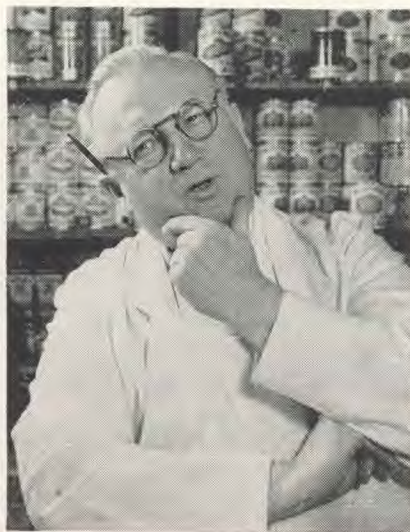
Mr. Wells was most tragically wrong on the foundation principle of his philosophy, namely that world salvation would be accomplished through man's own capacities and patient effort.

He claimed that there was enough "knowledge and imaginative material" among men to convert "the whole world into one incessantly progressive . . . world community," and so he set himself

to organize a "world brain" for the purpose of establishing his ideal "world state."

But he failed to take into account that knowledge can make for progress only when it is employed by moral agents. And because man's spiritual stature failed to grow with his increasing knowledge, all his calculations were

(Continued on page 19)



## INVENTORY TIME

By C. L. Paddock

WHEN in my teens, I worked in a large general store. We sold anything people wanted to buy, and bought anything they had to sell in the way of produce. One time of year I dreaded—inventory time. We had to weigh every nail, measure every yard of lace, list every can of beans, count every dish, in fact, make a record of every item in that store, and of course list its value.

It was a most interesting time, too; for when the inventory was added up and the statement finished, the proprietor knew if he had made a gain or loss for the business year. After twelve months of hard work, it was a satisfaction to find a gain in the operation of the store.

At the New Year we usually do a bit of checking on ourselves. It could be done, and should be done, more frequently, but January seems to be an appropriate time to take inventory of our lives.

As we look back over 1947 and take stock, we will find we have made a gain or a loss, that is, we are a better person than a year ago, or we have slipped back a bit.

As we take inventory, we ought to find a bigger stock of patience than we had a year ago. Our helpfulness rating should be higher. Our stock of kindness should have increased. In a world so much in need, our generosity should have grown. Our spiritual assets should be greater, even if our bank account is

less. Too many will count only houses and lands, bank accounts, dollars and cents, in their reckoning. If our gains are all monetary, we really have not made much progress.

Some will be disappointed at this reckoning time to find they have slipped in 1947. In the home they have not been as good a father, or mother, or companion. In the neighborhood they have slipped in neighborliness. In the community they are not as good a citizen. Some have been overcome or held back by vicious habits.

It is well to face the facts, to get our bearings, to measure our progress or our retrogression, our backslidings. I hope we all find we have made gains in 1947. If we find a loss, we must not be discouraged, but start anew this January. By God's help we can grow in 1948. We can, by His help, lay aside the things which hinder us.

Some hesitate to make resolutions. They say, "I have made so many resolutions at New Year's time and have broken them before February was past. So what is the use?"

No one ever made much progress, accomplished much, without a determination to do, without resolves and resolutions. By God's help, resolutions can be kept. It is possible to add virtue to virtue, as the days come and go in 1948. Heaven will co-operate with us. "If God be for us, who can be against us?"



THERE is an interesting picture in *Life*, August 18, 1947, showing Lord Mountbatten, Viceroy of India, and his aides seated around a table. Behind the viceroy hangs a large calendar with the following inscribed upon it: "4 August 1947—11 days left to prepare for transfer of power." Similar calendars were given to members of the staff

number of days that we have to prepare for what is coming. Of course we do not know how long it will be until the culmination of earthly history, but the sad fact is that we do not seem to want to be aroused to see its imminence. There is an utter lack of concern, and I am speaking of the dearth of concern for spiritual advancement and preparation.

cept in God—a way out, a utopian age, a golden millennium of pleasure, profit, and peace. Many are looking to science to save them, when science is fixing up the potent means to destroy everything on the face of the earth.

In the past year we have lived under a terrific strain. The military situation and the economic situation have both

## HOW MANY DAYS LEFT TO PREPARE?

*Time Is Short, But Men Still Sleep*

of Lord Mountbatten, so that every time a sheet was torn off, they knew that they had one day less to prepare for the transfer of India to the status of independence. This device was an impressive means of revealing the nearness of the deadline.

A device just as striking as the one used by Lord Mountbatten would be very appropriate for the office of each member of the United Nations Organization. The military leaders, statesmen, and scientists could profit by some such calendar. Every church, and particularly those that are saturated with worldliness and lethargy, could use one. We can go a step further and recommend a Mountbatten calendar for every home, yes, and for each individual's room.

As we enter into this new year we ought to do so with a realization that world-shaking events are likely to break upon us, that the world is in the throes of unusual crisis, and anything can happen. A recent reliable news agency gave out the report that we are "on the verge of the greatest crisis since the end of the shooting" of World War II. This same source reports that "the nation is facing a precarious military situation." It sadly concludes by stating that "the public will remain complacent and asleep." There is very little concern over the



In this hour of human history, when the world is rocking from the repercussions of very serious and decisive major events, the masses of people are more intent upon soothing their consciences and covering their fears, than in facing the facts squarely, and in seeking a preparation for what is coming. New and popular theories of the inherent goodness of man are sought. Many are seeking for what cannot be found ex-

been precarious. There has been the possibility of disaster in either or both of these fields. Another war at this time, when the nations are practically destitute, or another financial crash, would bring chaos. We are tottering on the brink of a precipice, and it is apparent that the crack-up must come sooner or later. Whether it will come in 1948 or 1950 nobody knows but God. Eventually it will come. But will we be prepared?

There is an article in *The Christian Century*, September 10, 1947, written by V. A. Demant entitled, "The Breakdown of a Civilization." I quote as follows from this writer: "I want here to interpret the crisis of our time as the breakdown of a civilization. . . . If we go on thinking and acting as

if this civilization of ours is assured of its survival, or as if its strains could be cured by better political systems or economic methods, . . . then, I con-

tend, the breakdown will deepen into complete dissolution." I concur with this author in his declaration that systems or methods will not save us in the pres-

ent situation, though it is granted that they are essential to good government. Regardless of what man makes the

By

Stanley C. Harris



plan, it cannot possibly be a cure-all. Though we may build up high hopes in various programs that are instituted to save the world, we will very likely be disappointed in the results. Naturally it is the course of least resistance to adopt someone's plan and then hope that it will solve everything, while we go on about our usual way. But it is going to take more than this. We must have a great resurgence of primitive godliness, a return to the old standards—the old paths of righteousness. But it does not look as though we are rebuilding the old landmarks of godliness.

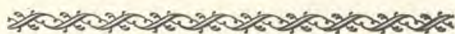
A fatal mistake that men are making today is to seek exciting pleasures to drown out fears. Rather than face the stark realities of what is happening, and what will likely happen in the future, there is a mad rush to the show places, drinking establishments, and thrilling performances. It is just as it was in the days of Noah. The masses of that day refused to consider the ominous warnings of a world-destroying flood, and consequently they were obliterated in the catastrophe. Perhaps many of them reasoned, just as we do today, that they had plenty of time to prepare for what was coming; but they became so involved in the round of business and pleasure that they were caught by the storm and engulfed in its destructive fury.

Does it not seem logical that people everywhere would be solemnly seeking God after the experiences of World War II, and in view of the storm that is hanging over our heads now? But is this the case? Have our spiritual lives been revitalized? Are the churches crowded with praying people on the Sabbath and at prayer meeting? Is there less consumption of intoxicating drinks, less gambling, less swearing? No. The devils laugh with glee as they see the world rushing on in its mad race of excitement seeking, dissipation, and selfish grasping for material things through fair means or foul.

It would be absolutely impossible for anyone to present any clearer and more comprehensive picture of present conditions than that so strikingly revealed by Paul nineteen hundred years ago: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, *lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God*; having a form of godli-

ness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." 2 Timothy 3: 1-5. Let us consider each of these briefly:

*Lovers of their own selves.*—Vain conceit and selfishness can be recognized as



## Retrospect

By George C. Hoskin

Have I been kind to all in their distress  
Who need the helpfulness that I can give;  
Or eased the burden of the cares that press  
Disheartening, severe, to help them live?

Have I been thoughtful and considerate,  
And tried in all my dealings to befriend;  
Or ill disposed to those less fortunate,  
And thoughtlessly refused to condescend?

Have I by any word or deed betrayed  
A kindly trust or failed to do but good;  
Or, in my negligence, some slight displayed  
That might be easily misunderstood?

Have I withheld from my abundant share  
The small necessities of sustenance;  
Or failed to do the part of my welfare  
For those who merit my benevolence?

For this New Year I will entreature more  
The tender sympathy that I should feel,  
And teach my heart to lovingly restore  
And make amends with eagerness and zeal.



an outstanding characteristic of today. A noticeable lack of regard for others, with self-seeking and self-gratification, even at the expense of others, is becoming a conspicuous human trait.

*Covetous.*—There are many who are very dissatisfied with their lot. In fact the "have-nots" are coveting what the "haves" possess just about everywhere in the world. Keeping up with the Joneses; expansionist policies of various governments; the grasping for gold, oil, and the many other natural resources that belong to somebody else, are some of the major causes of war.

*Boasters.*—How sickening to have to listen to the braggadocio! And this is on the increase also. We must listen to men who are impressed with their accomplishments; and some of these are not very commendable. Military leaders and dictators boast of their mighty powers. Some business men boast of shrewd, but very questionable, business transactions. But lowest of all is the vile one who boasts of his accomplishments in violating the virtues of others. What a pity that the swaggers are growing in number!

*Proud.*—All one needs to do is step into a modernistic and fashionable church some Sunday and witness the ostentatious display of a large number of its formal constituents. Or there is the Easter parade put on each year to show off and attract attention to self. We sometimes wonder what the lowly Nazarene, who stooped to wash men's feet, thinks of His professed followers.

*Blasphemers.*—How many times we hear the name of the Lord our God taken in vain. Swearing can be heard everywhere. Yes, and there is the desecration of holy things: bingo games, whisky raffles, dances, card playing, and carnivals in the churches.

*Disobedient to parents.*—Respect for parents and the aged is waning fast. Disobedience is increasing largely as a result of the tendency toward antinomianism. Juvenile delinquency is at its height. Criminality is the final result, and the army of lawbreakers today is over 10,000,000.

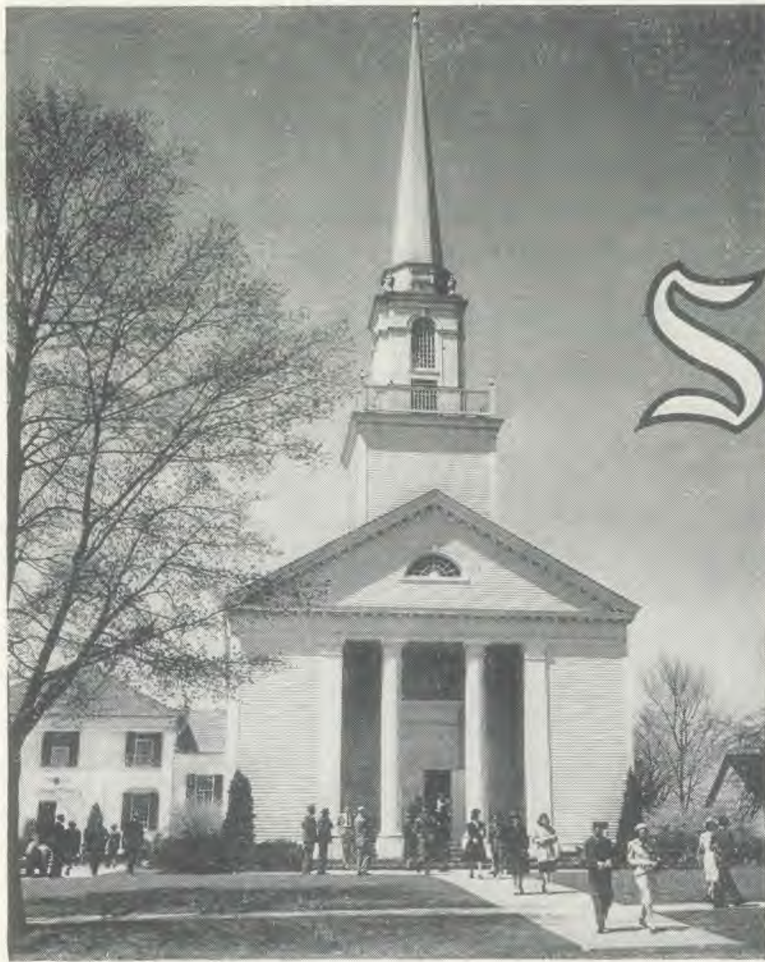
*Unthankful.*—We almost never see prayers of thanks offered over meals at public eating places any more. Even in the homes this good practice is disappearing. All about us we hear complaints, but very seldom do we hear praise and thanksgiving.

*Unholy.*—More and more the holy and good are scoffed at by the unholy. More and more the good things are desecrated or cast aside. The shady and sordid are sought in literature, night clubs, and the theater. The attendance at churches is far below the attendance at the prize fights or roadhouses.

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brated historian Neander, the writings of these men were so "counterfeited" and "adulterated" that no confidence can be placed in them. See Rose's translation of Neander's *The History of the*



# A Rival SABBATH with c

**The Change of the Sabbath**  
(Fifth in a series on the Sabbath)

By Roy F. Cottrell

*Christian Religion and Church*, p. 407.

Likewise affirms Archdeacon Farrar: "There are but few of them [the Fathers] whose pages are not rife with errors,—errors of method, errors of fact, errors of history, of grammar, and even of doctrine. This is the language of simple truth, not of slighting disparagement."—*The History of Interpretation*, pp. 162, 163.

We are told of a young minister, sorely pressed for Scriptural proof, who appealed to Dr. Francis Wayland, editor of the *National Baptist*. The reply, couched in humorous language, goes straight to the mark. "Yes, my brother," he said, "the Fathers are your stronghold. They are heaven's best gift to the man who has a cause that cannot be sustained in any other way."—*Fathers of the Catholic Church*, pp. 59, 60. Dr. Adam Clarke also remarks that the Fathers blow hot and cold, and he declares there is not "a heresy that has disgraced the Romish Church, that may not challenge them as its abettors."—*Notes on Proverbs* 8.

All along the centuries many Christians have had a subconscious impression that the New Testament somehow places its signet of approval upon Sunday observance, yet is it not most extraordinary that in civilized lands a religious fallacy, however popular, should persist for well-nigh two millenniums, when a little careful investigation would dispel error and reveal the truth!

Said Cardinal Gibbons: "You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious ob-

IN MOST of the nations of Europe during the Middle Ages, the established church sought to suppress the publication and general circulation of the Bible. It was asserted that if the Scriptures were read by the common people, there would be serious misunderstanding; hence the vast majority should be content to receive the teaching given them by cardinals, bishops, and priests.

But a time came when devout, fearless students of the Word were convinced that the Book contained a message for old and young, rich and poor, scholar and peasant. The art of printing was providentially discovered, and the publication of Bibles was multiplied. It was then observed that the teachings of the church were not altogether in accord with the truth of the Bible. As a result, in numerous countries Christian leaders arose who were determined to repudiate all tradition, and establish their belief upon the "impregnable rock of Holy Scripture."

In the famous Protest of Spires (1529), the Protestant princes of Germany issued the following clear, courageous statement:

"There is no sure doctrine but such as is conformable to the Word of God. . . . We are resolved, with the grace of

God, to maintain the pure and exclusive preaching of His only Word, such as is contained in the Biblical books of the Old and New Testament, without adding anything thereto that may be contrary to it. This Word is the only truth; it is the sure rule of all doctrine and of all life, and can never fail or deceive us."—*History of the Reformation*, by D'Aubigne, book 13, chap. 6.

In sharp contrast to this, observe these pronouncements from eminent Roman Catholic authorities:

"Like two sacred rivers flowing from Paradise, the Bible and divine tradition contain the word of God, the precious gems of revealed truths. Though these two divine streams are in themselves, on account of their divine origin, of equal sacredness, and are both full of revealed truths, still, of the two, tradition is to us more clear and safe."—*Catholic Belief*, p. 45.

"Tradition, not Scripture, is the rock on which the church of Jesus Christ is built."—*Catholic Doctrine as Defined by the Council of Trent*, p. 157.

The term "tradition," as here employed, refers to that which has been handed down through the so-called "Apostolic Fathers" of the early Christian centuries. According to the cele-



servance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify."—*The Faith of Our Fathers*, p. 111.

On numerous occasions during a period of many years, President Enright of Redemptorist College, Kansas City, Missouri, issued the famous challenge, "I have offered and still offer \$1,000 to

of professed Christians: yet here it is; and regarding its lineage we present four groups of accredited witnesses: Bible prophecy, authentic history, Protestant scholars, and Roman Catholic spokesmen.

A careful study of the four great monarchies of Daniel's prophecy con-

Human times and laws have ever been subject to change and amendment; but here is a power that would deliberately conspire to alter the times and law of the Most High. Many centuries prior to the attempt, God foretold this treasonable plot. Likewise the apostle Paul, writing by divine inspiration, predicted the same anti-Christian movement, and sounded the warning:

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. . . . For the mystery of iniquity doth already work." 2 Thessalonians 2: 3, 4, 7.

In fulfillment of these startling forecasts, consider the apostasy that ravished the church from the second to the sixth centuries of our era. Idolatry and image worship were introduced into the Christian church; the doctrine of purgatory was invented to terrify the credulous; infant baptism and sprinkling took the place of Christian baptism; a man seated upon his ecclesiastical throne by the Tiber exalted himself to the place of God; and the first day of the week was borrowed from paganism and enthroned as the counterfeit successor to the Sabbath of the Lord.

Prophecy had spoken; now listen to the confirming voice of history:

Sir Wm. Domville.—"Centuries of the Christian era passed away before Sunday was observed by the Christian church as a Sabbath. History does not furnish us with a single proof or indication that it was at any time so observed previous to the Sabbatical edict of Constantine in A. D. 321."—*The Sabbath: or an Examination of Six Texts*, p. 291.

Eminent Protestant authorities are in complete agreement that the Bible gives no support for Sunday observance:

Bishop Seymour (Episcopal).—"We have made the change, from the seventh day to the first day, from Saturday to Sunday, on the authority of the one holy catholic and apostolic church of Christ."—*Why We Keep Sunday*.

Henry Ward Beecher.—"There is no direct command on the subject. The only obligation resting upon us to observe Sunday is that which comes up through our nature."—*Bible Studies*, p. 242.

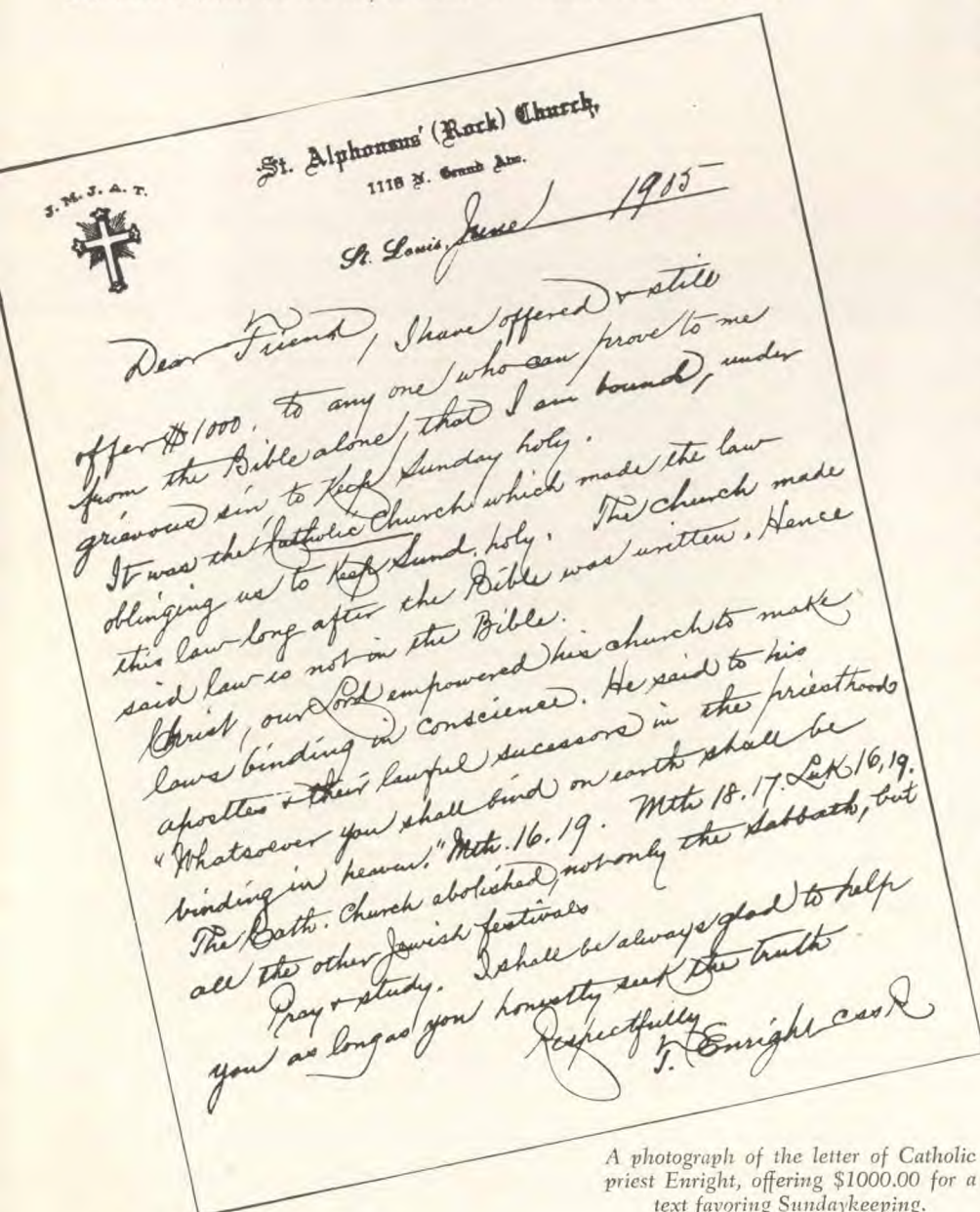
E. T. Hiscox.—"Of course, I quite well know that Sunday did come into use  
(Continued on page 18)

## Tainted Ancestry

any one who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound, under grievous sin to keep Sunday holy;" and no one ever qualified to claim the money. In the face of all known facts it seems inconceivable that Sunday should ever have become the rest day of millions

vinces the earnest Bible student that the following language designates the Papacy:

"He shall speak words against the Most High, . . . and he shall think to change the times and the law." Daniel 7: 25, A. R. V.



A photograph of the letter of Catholic priest Enright, offering \$1000.00 for a text favoring Sundaykeeping.



EVERYONE who thinks seriously about eternal things must at some time or other face the fact that not everyone will accept God's gift of eternal life. And anyone who reads the Bible seriously, searching for truth, soon discovers that there are two conclusions to which any soul may come—eternal life or everlasting destruction.

There are questions that naturally arise in the minds of some as soon as any mention is made of the fact that God plans ultimately to punish those who do not choose to become loyal subjects of His government.

The Bible teaches that God is love. It also teaches that God is the creator. Many ask, How can a God of love ever harmonize His love and His longsuffering attitude with His promise of punishment to some of the creatures of His creation? If God really is a God of love, then how can there ever be such a thing as the fires of hell, and the destruction of the wicked? Many individuals have concluded by this reasoning that God could never punish His children; that therefore there is no such thing as hell fire; that ultimately everyone will be saved. Some have devised the unbiblical doctrine that, while it may take time, and many opportunities must be given to people of the world in the form of second and third chances, all ultimately will accept of the teachings of the Bible and the love of God, and will be saved. These individuals, therefore, conclude that the whole doctrine of God's punishing the wicked is but an invention of pious men, made to frighten emotional sinners into acceptance of doctrines which otherwise they could not believe.

I am sure that in bygone days the preaching of hell fire and damnation was overdone, but I am also certain that going to the opposite extreme and dropping it out entirely is not solving the problem. Recently seven hundred clergymen in Chicago were questioned as to their beliefs on this great subject. Eighty per cent of them stated that their convictions were that there will never be a punishment of sinners in the fires of hell. They stated that they were no longer preaching this doctrine, and that they no longer believed in it.

In Ezekiel 33:11 these words are found: "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why



*These boys have found out, much to their chagrin, that there is a day of punishment for unlawful deeds.*

# Why Must God Punish

**The Bible Calls It His "Strange Act."**

will ye die, O house of Israel?" True it is that God wants everyone to be saved. He states that He has no pleasure in the death of the wicked. The great yearning of His heart is that every soul may turn from his wicked ways and live.

It is also true that God is longsuffering in His attempts to get men to accept His love. 2 Peter 3: 9, says: "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come

to repentance." Here again we are told that God is not willing that any should perish, that He desires all to come to repentance. Apparently, then, on the basis of these two texts we may assume that God is exercising all the power that Divinity can possibly bring into the fight to save men and women from themselves and from the errors of their ways; that God is doing everything short of forcing men to serve Him.

And yet Jesus Himself said in Matthew 23: 33, "Ye serpents, ye genera-



tion of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" Despite all of the Lord's workings, then, to save individuals, there will be some who apparently will not respond to the divine wooings of heaven. Of such souls Jesus has said, "How can ye escape the damnation of hell?" Without question, then, there is to be a punishment of the wicked in the fires of hell.

All of life is based upon a system of rewards and punishment. We do certain things because we find them rewarding and pleasurable. We avoid other things because we find them to be painful and unrewarding. For instance, a man goes to school and studies medicine. The way is not easy. He finds his studies difficult. Many times he sits up late at night, and then arises early in the morning to apply himself to his studies. Why does he do this? Because he is looking forward to the reward of his activities in attainment and possible position that will come. He is willing to go through almost anything because of the pot of gold which he is sure is buried at the base of his rainbow. But that same man is very careful not to pour boiling water over his arm and hand. That act in itself would not be very difficult; it could be done quite quickly. But the man sees at the end of that act pain and punishment that he wants to avoid. And after all, that is the way life is constituted. We naturally do those things that bring pleasure and avoid those that involve pain. Some

## Wicked?

thinkers have gone so far as to feel that all life is based on this principle. Such ones feel that we will do only those things that we know will be rewarding. Other thinkers have felt that this position is a little extreme. At any rate, we must all agree with the pleasure-pain principle behind it all. If God is to maintain the balance in these matters that He Himself has set up, then the pleasure-pain principle must not only be applicable to the physical life; it must also apply to the spiritual. And it does. In spiritual matters we can say, Live for God and you will be mightily rewarded in an eternal life of joy; live for self; and destruction with its eternal effects is just as sure.

But someone says, "That still does not explain how a God of love can punish His creatures. That still does not harmonize love with punishment." Let us see if we can arrive at a satisfactory conclusion in this matter. Parents have had placed within their hearts by an all-

wise Creator a very strong love for their children. Happy is the home that is knit together and bound with unbreakable ties of

By

William A. Fagal

love. Does your love for them prevent you from punishing your children? Have you ever had to reprimand them; chasten them? An old proverb says, "Spare the rod and spoil the child." How can you as a parent harmonize your love for your children with your chastisement of them? "Ah," you say, "That is no problem. It is through these methods that I hope to aid my children to live aright. I do not enjoy punishing my children. As a matter of fact, it is a very hard thing for me to do. But I force myself to do it for their own good, and for the good of those whose lives will be affected by the lives of my children." Punishment, then is easily understandable if there is an end in view; if through it some good is to come. Punishment is a loathsome thing if it only has to do with a spirit of revenge and hot anger on the part of the one punishing.

Recently a mother came to me with a story of a wayward boy whose life had actually become a menace to society. For long years she had labored for him, attempting to teach him the principles of justice and truth and to bring him to the side of right. All her labors seemed to have been of no avail. His life seemed to be a negative influence in society that would bring his mother down in grief to the grave. Finally through her tears she said to me, "Although I love him dearly, I would rather he be dead than to be living as he is." Although her words may sound to you a bit strong, as you give them some consideration you can thoroughly understand what she meant. She loved her boy, but she realized that death for him would be preferable to the type of life he was living.

And God is like that, with judgment more keen and more discerning than that of any earthly parent. There comes a time when in His perfect judgment it becomes plain that the lives of some of His children have been irrevocably dedicated to sin and evil. Their lives constitute a menace to others of God's family who have chosen righteousness. In fact when God arrives at His ultimate de-

(Continued on page 18)

## TERSE TOPICS

**INFLATION**—"In Evanston, Illinois, Northwestern University chemists announced that the value of the basic chemical elements in the human body, once estimated at ninety-eight cents, has soared to thirty-one dollars and four cents."—*Time*, August 18, 1947.

**THE UN IN JERUSALEM**—"The United Nations committee has attempted to solve the tough Palestine problem by handing something to everybody concerned. Under this plan the Arabs and Jews would get the territory where they are in the majority, the UN would get Jerusalem and the British would get out."—Howard Brubaker.

**NEWS BLACKOUT ON U. S. GERM WEAPONS**—"Acting on orders from high policy-making officials, the army has wrapped a cloak of absolute secrecy around its experiments with biological warfare. The news blackout rivaling the war-time 'conspiracy of silence' about radar and atomic energy, has been imposed on all information about the germ weapons which many scientists consider more horrible than atom bombs."—*The Nashville Tennessean*, September 15, 1947.

**THREE CHURCHES POSSESS 3.2 BEER LICENSES**—"At least three churches in Ohio have D-1 permits for sale of 3.2 beer. State Liquor Department officials reported that one church in Cleveland and one in Akron previously have held the permits. Latest to acquire the \$100.00 license is the St. Margaret Mary church of north College Hill, Cincinnati suburb. Father Bernard J. Wellman, pastor of the north College Hill church, said that beer will be sold in a social center in the basement of its parochial school."—*INS*, August 9, 1947.





## Evolution in the Public Schools

A PETITION was recently received by the Rapid City, South Dakota, school board bearing 500 signatures of people who object to some of the science books

fornia scientists to solve "the case of the missing thigh bone." It is somewhat amusing to Bible believers to hear these reports of repeated efforts to find something that does not exist. The same article says that "man's origin [is being] sought in caves of Africa." It also de-

clares that the African Bushmen are to be studied. The scientists are doing all this in an attempt to prove that man lived 1,000,000 years ago. They are also still trying to prove that man originated from a small cell, and later became a polywog, later a monkey.

It is much simpler to accept the Bible story of creation. However, these speculations would not be dangerous if they did not get into the school books to deceive the young and inexperienced. Students of the word of God are not misled by the teachings of those who do not believe in the creation story, for the Bible has long revealed that there would be such people. "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts. . . . For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water." 2 Peter 3: 3, 5.



One of the strangest ceremonies ever performed took place in the Jewish cemetery in Bucharest recently when a large quantity of soap was solemnly buried with the full Jewish burial ritual. The soap was symbolic of the thousands of Jews who were murdered by Nazis in "horror camps" and their bodies rendered down to produce the fats for soap.



that are being used in the public schools. The petition charged that the books contain the teachings of evolution, and are in disagreement with the Bible. The petition was handed to the board by Mrs. Frieda Overton, a teacher, who contended that it is wrong to teach children that "the world is millions of years old and that life on earth started as a small cell."

This is a worthy petition. It is time that Christian parents were rebelling against the anti-religious theories appearing in the books that their boys and girls must study. Many parents are greatly concerned as they see their children losing confidence in the word of God. Because of the evolutionary teachings, many youth are becoming cynical of the old fundamental truths of the Bible. They think it quite clever to be doubters. If this continues, there is bound to be a great increase in the number of educated infidels.

It may be all right for the evolutionists to speculate and investigate, but there ought to be a law against propagating their fantastic ideas among the young and impressionable minds of our youngsters.

It is sad to see the lengths that men will go to disprove God's truth. What foolish things are done to try to uphold error! In *The New York Times*, September 15, 1947, there appeared an article telling about the efforts of Cali-

## Animal Diseases on the Increase

A REPORT in *The New York Times*, September 21, 1947, written by Howard A. Rusk, M. D., discloses the fact that the spread of disease by cattle is becoming a major health problem. He refers in particular to "brucellosis, the human counterpart of the dreaded Bang's disease found in cattle."

Doctor Rusk reports that the first human case of brucellosis was discovered in the United States in 1904. At the present time there is an average of 4,000 cases annually. The Doctor states that

A hurricane scene in West Palm Beach, Florida, showing some of the results of the recent terrifying storm as it ripped across the state.





"brucellosis is caused by direct contact with, or by eating meat from, infected cattle, goats, swine, sheep, or horses, or by use of milk or milk products from infected animals."

In this same issue of *The New York Times*, there appears an article telling us that the U. S. is sending 100,000,000 pounds of horsemeat to the hungry people of Europe. It states that many slaughterhouses are now in operation to provide horsemeat for the people. "Today, more than 275,000 horses are slaughtered yearly for human consumption."

With the increasing problem presented by food shortages and high prices, many are reaching out for inferior and cheaper products. There is a real danger of disease in these products. Diseases are increasing among animals, and consequently are on the increase among the human beings who consume these infected creatures. In Mexico, Bang's disease has recently spread among the herds of cattle to an extent that reached epidemic proportions.

Christians should be careful about what they eat, for their bodies are the temple of God wherein His Spirit dwells. (1 Corinthians 3:16, 17.) Furthermore, God wants His children to be in good health, for He has said: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John 2.



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"GENOCIDE" is a new word that has been recently coined to describe a situation that has developed in recent years. Genocide is the crime of destroying, or attempting to destroy, an entire nation or race or religious group. Attempts have been made to do this very thing in the most brutal and savage ways known to man.

In World War II the bestial, sadistic, and destructive passions

to stand most of the way. Many died on the trains, but were not taken off until the destination was reached. Those who arrived still alive soon found that they faced a living death in a place where filth, stench, starvation, disease, and hard labor abounded. Those who were unable to hold up physically

## A Fearful New Word!

of men were loosed without restraint in some of the horror camps in Europe. It is reported that at the Auschwitz concentration camp and the Birkenau camp the destruction of human life reached a total of 17,280 gassed and burned in the ovens every twenty-four hours. There was also another 8,000 destroyed in the death pits each day, making, in round numbers, a grand total of 24,000 corpses every day.

In a recently published book entitled *Five Chimneys*, by Olga Lengyel, who was a slave laborer at Auschwitz, the story is told of whole freight trainloads of victims brought to the camp daily for slave labor or extermination. The writer of the book witnessed her children and parents being led off to the gas chambers for extermination. The children were under twelve and of no use for labor, and the parents were too old to do hard work, so they were exterminated with many others. This author states that the ovens were kept burning twenty-four hours a day cremating the thousands of bodies of the poor, helpless victims.

The writer of *Five Chimneys* graphically describes the sad condition of the people who were brought to these camps. Some of the trains that arrived had brought their doomed ones long distances that required days of travel in great congestion. They received no water or food en route. Some had

were finally sent to the gas chambers. There was no regard for human life. Thousands of the prisoners were used as guinea pigs in experiments of the most painful type. Many of these were physically maimed, or driven to insanity by the horrors of the experiments. When the butchers were finished, the victims were taken to the gas chambers and then burned in the ovens.

"Genocide,"—what a fearful word! And yet it aptly applies to a sad condition in our day. And to think that there are those who want to repeat the genocidal acts of the past war; that there are those who would destroy entire nations in a catastrophic debacle. We have not learned our lesson yet.

It is feared that another conflict would unleash a greater fury than anything the world has experienced thus far. It is very likely that the basest passions of men would be loosed, and that the devilish forces would drive them to acts of unprecedented moral degeneracy. Human life would have no consideration. Torture and destruction would prevail.

It is quite possible that genocide will become a term that will loom as a fearful specter. Prophecy reveals that the devil will lead the world on to its final destruction in an attempt to destroy everything, both good and evil. As men refuse to submit to the will of God, they automatically fall under the controlling power of unclean spirits. Satan leads them on to certain

(Continued on page 19)



# Germs in the Air!



## Bird Fever Attacks Lungs of Humans

By George A. Skinner, M.D.

**P**STITTACOSIS, or bird (parrot) fever, was thought until recently to be a very rare disease, found only occasionally in parrots and parakeets and imported with other tropical pet birds. It got its name from a Greek word, *psittakos*, meaning parrot, and was so named in 1906.<sup>1</sup> Later, however, it was discovered that the disease was very common among parrots and other birds bred in southern California. It was found to be widespread among not only birds of the parrot family, but among common pigeons, barnyard fowls, and practically all pet birds known.

Not long after the first discovery of the disease it was found to be readily spread to human beings. It seemed odd that, while in birds it was largely an intestinal disease, in man it mostly attacked the lungs. Psittacosis was found to be highly contagious, spreading not only by direct contact with parrots, parakeets, pigeons, and chickens, but indirectly to those who clean cages or sweep up chicken houses or pigeon lofts. It passes readily through the air to the lungs of people, and hence the attacks on the lungs. Even a very short contact with contaminated air may cause this infection. It spreads not only from birds to man, but from man to man. As it is not confined to the parrot family, it is now called ornithosis when it comes from other than parrots, and psittacosis when the parrot-family birds are the source.<sup>2</sup>

Not only psittacosis but a number of closely related virus diseases are now thought to be spread by birds, chickens, etc., and it seems that a fair percentage of the so-called virus pneumonias may be unsuspected forms of ornithosis or psittacosis.

The droppings from birds quickly dry into dust, and this dust is spread into

the air by movements of the birds, cleaning of the cages, and direct handling of the birds. Secretions from mouths and noses of birds may be, and often are, highly infective and the younger the birds the more likely this infection.

Birds sick with psittacosis (or ornithosis) usually appear sleepy, and sit motionless, with ruffled feathers and closed eyes. Often they shiver, lose weight, and the breast muscles waste away. It seems difficult for them to breathe. Diarrhea is often present. Then convulsions and paralysis follow, and after several days either sudden death or the start on slow recovery.

Often infection is quite slow in taking

*Medical science reveals that even the air in a chicken yard can be polluted with the germs of bird fever.*



effect—from a few days to as many as 106 have been observed.<sup>3</sup>

Psittacosis is now known to be a very highly contagious disease that must be reported at once, both when it occurs in people or birds. All pet birds are usually put through a long quarantine and carefully examined before they are allowed to be sold or shipped. Most large breeding establishments have been closely watched for some years and are now largely free from infected birds. However, pet birds are only one source.

In human beings the average period for psittacosis to develop after exposure is ten days, but it may be much longer, even up to a month, or as quick as five days.<sup>4</sup> The disease greatly resembles influenza or typhoid fever, and it is generally associated early with unusual forms of pneumonia. This has been noted so many times, and it is so much like a rather common form of pneumonia much spoken of lately, virus pneumonia, that many observers think a large number of such cases are psittacosis or ornithosis. One recent observer writes:

"Pigeons in this part of Illinois are infected with ornithosis virus. These birds roam at large over the country and may infect other pigeon flocks, poultry, and possibly other farm livestock. In any acute lung infection, which proves to be of non-bacterial origin (atypical or virus pneumonia) psittacosis or ornithosis should be considered.<sup>5</sup>

A second writer makes the following remarks (reduced to ordinary English):



"Comparison of the development period, symptoms, clinical course, and the results of laboratory examinations in ornithosis (psittacosis) with those in the human unusual pneumonia group, reveals a very striking similarity. The results of virus studies and blood tests in these diseases also indicates the close relationship."<sup>6</sup>

Another writer said essentially the same thing more than two years later.<sup>7</sup>

The results of an infection with psittacosis in man is likely to be serious and the death rate is quite high. It is much more common in adults, especially the older ones, but quite rare in children. It is not a rare disease nor confined to any one locality, though at first it was thought to be almost entirely in the tropics. It has been found from Iceland to Southern Africa, in Australia, and even on isolated islands such as the Faeroes, where sea birds have been found to be infected.<sup>8</sup>

#### *Danger to Laboratory Workers*

On account of the very easy and rapid spread of psittacosis or ornithosis to human beings through dust, even after a very short exposure, great care must be exercised by all persons in contact with sick birds of any kind, and by laboratory workers in particular. Even cleaning the cages or sweeping the floors may transmit the infection and severe pneumonia follow.

To illustrate how careful laboratory workers are, they do all their work in special boxes with strong air currents to carry the dust away from them, and this dust passes through a red-hot chimney to be sure that it does not escape from the laboratory. They use masks that stop practically all dust, put on gowns and rubber gloves, which are discarded and sterilized before they are used again.

This work is mostly done with small birds and animals, without which the diagnosis would be impossible, and these animals are then kept in a specially isolated room. Canaries and mice are used mostly, and the virus develops in them and then can be found, whereas it is often impossible to find in the blood of a human case. This laboratory work is very important and becoming more so all the time, for, as mentioned, many unusual forms of pneumonia are now found to be from the virus of psittacosis, or closely similar forms, and many of them yield promptly to treatment when the cause of the disease is known.

Some of the milder forms of virus pneumonia, whether from birds or from some of the still unknown sources, are comparatively mild. But the viruses vary

much in strength, and some cases are so serious from the beginning that they do not yield to any treatment known at present. Some seem to respond promptly to the sulpha drugs or penicillin. However, there is no certainty in the use of these drugs, and the prevention of the infection is very important.

Birds should never be allowed to pick food from the mouth, as is sometimes done with pet birds as a stunt. Such birds may appear perfectly well, yet carry the infection in nose or mouth and thus transmit it to the owner. Great care should always be used in cleaning cages to raise the least dust possible and it is best to take them into the open air.

Any bird with the least sign of sickness should be examined at once and isolated to prevent contact with other birds or people. Those found to be infected should be handled with all the care mentioned above in order to avoid possible infection. As the danger from sick birds is great, it is much safer to destroy the possibly infected bird at once and carefully burn the remains as a protective measure.



## *What Is Your HEALTH PROBLEM?*

The answers to health questions are supplied to the readers of OUR TIMES by Owen S. Parrett, M.D. Address your queries to him in care of this magazine.

*I have repeated headaches and have had my eyes checked for glasses but do not need them. Can you suggest a cause and relief?*  
—J.M.

Headache is about the most common and has more causes than any other symptom in the whole health field. Besides eye strain some of the other causes are: impacted wisdom teeth, supersensitive nerve ganglion in the nose, sinus infection, constipation, so-called migraine headache, nervous exhaustion, trigeminal neuralgia, and many other causes. Such an array might seem to baffle at times the most astute physician. However, some of these conditions can be ruled out by the patient himself as in the case of impacted wisdom teeth, which should be X-rayed. The sensitive nerve ganglion can be diagnosed by a specialist in nose and throat, who will test by anesthetizing this area to see if headache disappears. Constipation can be treated with mechanical laxatives, diet, and enemas for a time as a test. Lastly, see what happens after a two weeks' vacation with rest of the eyes and nervous system. In any case, endeavor to build up your body to a high point of health by careful observation of good hygienic laws and rules. If you fail in all this, consult a good diagnostician who might find the obscure cause. Give the doctor a careful history of your experience to help him in finding a

satisfactory lead in the solution of your case.

*What do you think of the merits of lemon and soda as an alkalinizing agent for the prevention of colds?—S.T.G.*

The general idea of an alkalinizing agent in the case of sodium citrate is quite good, and it is one of the best alkalinizing agents that we have. By the free use of straight fruit juices and plenty of fresh fruits the body can be kept in a constant state of rather high alkalinity, and thus colds can be prevented largely, because there are large amounts of valuable vitamins such as A and C in orange juice, both of which protect against colds, in addition to the alkalinizing factor. However, when soda bicarbonate is added to lemon juice to the point of neutralizing the citric acid the vitamins are destroyed, and thus some of the value of the juice is lost. It is possible to produce a chemical salt of sodium citrate in which vitamin C is preserved by using very mild salts of sodium, but it cannot be done when baking soda is used. If soda is used for this purpose, care should be taken that not quite all of the acid is neutralized, lest there be an excess of soda which is not good for the lining of the stomach. If the acid foods such as tea, coffee, and meats are largely avoided and free use is made of all the fruits and vegetables possible, colds should be very rare.

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# The Transforming Love of Christ

## "By Beholding We Become Changed"

By John W. Halliday

HAPPY we would be to look upon the face of Christ and behold His heavenly attributes, His beauty of holiness, His compassionate tenderness, His reflection of the Father's face, His self-sacrificing love that saves to the uttermost. While we may not behold Christ outwardly, it is possible for us to behold Him inwardly, with the eyes of the mind and heart. Even as the astronomer, who points his mighty telescope toward some great star or island universe, can fix its beauty indelibly upon the photographic plate, so also may the eyes of faith and love be so fixed upon Christ that there is imprinted upon mind and heart the heavenly beauty of His saving love.

As the astronomer must carefully adjust his great telescope to face the star and remain fixed long enough for the prized photograph to be made, so those who are without a saving knowledge of Christ must fix their attention upon Him and His wondrous power to save. When this is done, what a flood of heavenly light fills the mind and heart, leading its possessors to live victorious and happy Christian lives! Here is the turning point in the lives of thousands. Will they do this?

Forgiveness of sins is found in Jesus, who said to the palsied man who longed to be saved and healed, "Thy sins are forgiven thee." Luke 5: 20. Christ's measureless sacrifice on the cross of Calvary purchased full pardon for all who accept it.

Cleansing from sin is found in Jesus, for to the appealing, hideous leper He spoke the wondrous words, "I will; be thou clean." Mark 1: 41. What encouragement for the vilest of the vile to come to Him for cleansing from the worst of sins!



*When we find Jesus we also find joy and abundant peace.*

Keeping power is found in Jesus from all the power of the enemy. How sure is His unfailing promise to His followers: "Neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand"! John 10: 28. Here is the keeping power so longed for to the very uttermost.

Abundance of peace is found in Jesus, for He said before He ascended the cross, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you." John 14: 27. What wonderful peace Jesus gives to His followers,—His own wonderful, heavenly, perfect peace!

Fullness of joy is found in Jesus, for He thus declared His purpose regarding

His followers: "That My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." John 15: 11. Fullness of His joy—the very limit—Jesus freely promises.

A happy eternal home is found in Jesus. He assuringly promises His followers, "Where I am, there ye may be also." John 14: 3. How unspeakably glorious and refreshing will be His heavenly home, reflecting His outshining glory and joy!

A most beautiful pen picture of the transforming love of Jesus is the following:

"There stood the Son of God, wearing the robe of mockery and the crown of thorns. Stripped to the waist, His back showed the long, cruel stripes, from which the blood flowed freely. His face was stained with blood, and bore the marks of exhaustion and pain; but never had it appeared more beautiful than now.

The Saviour's visage was not marred before His enemies. Every feature expressed gentleness and resignation and the tenderest pity for His cruel foes. . . . Some of the spectators were weeping. As they looked upon Jesus, their hearts were full of sympathy."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 735.

With the same transforming love, by His tender Spirit, Jesus is striving to win every wandering one to a life of holiness. With tenderest entreaty He pleads for the surrender of all known sin. Most assuringly He promises His forgiveness and cleansing and keeping, and His peace and joy and an eternal home of happiness with Him at last. Most compassionately He speaks to the inmost heart as He draws near to awaken the same longing desire in them that arose in the woman that suffered so long and

*(Continued on page 19)*



## How Many Days Left to Prepare?

(Continued from page 7)

*Without natural affection.*—Immorality abounds, the brothels are thriving. One out of every three marriages is ending in the divorce courts. Real love is hardly understood by the present generation. There is a warped conception of it. Many homes are permeated by an atmosphere of animosity and dissension. Some husbands are untrue to their wives, and some wives are untrue to their husbands. In many cases little children are suffering the sad effects of broken homes.

*Trucebreakers.*—How many are willing to accept the word of another in this age? How often have claims been made for used automobiles and other durable goods that were entirely unreliable. What man is there of you who depends on the so-called word of honor without having a notary seal or a number of witnesses to make sure that the promise is binding? But even then a large number of the strictly legal contracts are broken. The courts' agenda are overcrowded with lawsuits that involve breach of contract.

*False accusers.*—Slandering gossiping is a popular pastime. Accusations are sometimes made that result in serious consequences. In some cases deliberate false charges are made for possible monetary gain and publicity.

*Incontinent.*—Rape and lesser sex crimes are an increasingly serious menace. The incontinence of youth is resulting in weak characters and the lack of will to do right.

*Fierce.*—The fury of the present-day wars plus the current crime wave bring this great sign to complete fulfillment. There are also the race riots and bloody revolutions. The new weapons under development are the fiercest instruments for slaughter known to the human race. In the realm of crime, we hear of the most brutal murders in history. Bludgeonings, knifings, body dismemberments are everyday occurrences.

*Despisers of those that are good.*—The good have always been persecuted by the bad since the time of Abel. In this modern age those who refuse to drink, smoke, or swear are scoffed at. If one does not dance, gamble, and habituate the theater, he is thought to be queer.

*Heady.*—Many hold their opinions above the word of God. Conceit is characteristic of the age. But we must remember that the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.

*Highminded.*—Class distinction is everywhere. Even some of the professed Christians refuse to associate with

those who are their social inferiors. We even have churches for the rich and for the poor. We must never forget that Christ associated with, and ministered unto, the needs of the poorest of men.

*Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.*—Pleasure seeking has existed in the past, and it seems that it will be more true in 1948. The resorts of pleasure are filled to overflowing. Night clubs, football games, prize fights, and wrestling matches are crowded with noisy people. The arenas, bowls, auditoriums, and



## Prayer

By

Gwynnith Gibson

*Prayer can be as quiet  
As a falling petal,  
Fragrant as a flower,  
But strong as metal.*

*Prayer can be a crying,  
As in Gethsemane.  
And He who heard His Son,  
the Christ.  
Will He not hear me?*

*Prayer can be the music  
Of His song divine,  
The miracle of harmony,  
His counterpoint with mine.  
And always to the Spirit-fed,  
Prayer can be the living bread.*



stadiums are jammed with the teeming millions of screaming human beings, crying for more action, blood, and victory. Such words as: "Hit him harder!" "Break that line!" and "Knock him out!" are the order of the day. And yet we talk about the Romans and their gatherings in the arena to witness and shout at the bloody combats of the gladiators!

*Having a form of godliness.*—Religion has become nothing more than a formality to a large number of professed Christians. Many of these frequent the drinking establishments on Saturday night and barely manage to get out of bed on Sunday morning to attend

church. It is believed by these form-of-godliness people that if they maintain membership in a church, and go through its formal requisites, they will manage to gain entrance into the kingdom of God.

*But denying the power thereof.*—There is a marked lack of faith in the power of God to save. Many of those who are participating in the world's last carnival of death really do not believe that victory can be attained even by the help of the Lord. However, if we expect to be prepared for what is coming, we must turn to the Saviour of men for strength to stand in the conflict. We do not know what the year 1948 will bring forth, but we do know that it is appropriate to admonish all to prepare for any eventuality. It is important to counsel all to turn from the mad rush down the broad way that leads to eternal destruction and to seek God with all the heart. Let us face the facts squarely and prepare to meet the coming King.

"For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: . . . but the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer." 1 Peter 4: 3, 7.

## The Gift of the Holy Spirit

(Continued from page 3)

full surrender to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The cloven tongues of fire which settled upon their heads were the reappearance of the Holy Shekinah over the mercy seat above the ark of the covenant. This had disappeared at the time of the Babylonian captivity and the destruction of the temple.

"And they are all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they begin to speak in different languages, according as the Spirit gave them to declaim." Acts 2: 4, Concordant Version. God worked a miracle that the many nationalities in Jerusalem might hear the gospel story in their own tongue. There was a very definite purpose behind this gift of the Spirit which in modern times has been counterfeited and serves no definite purpose.

The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, but we are not possessed with it until we accept it. The power of a changed life is evidence of the Spirit-filled life. To be filled with the Spirit we must surrender fully to its guidance. The Holy Spirit will never lead us contrary to the teachings of the Bible, for the Bible was written by holy men of old time who were filled with, and led by, the Holy Spirit.



What significance is attached to the Holy Spirit? We read that "we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory." Ephesians 1:12-14. "Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." 2 Corinthians 1:22.

"Sealed" and "earnest" mean a pledge. When we have the witness of the Spirit in our hearts we have the pledge of eternal life. "Now He which establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest [pledge] of the Spirit." Verses 21, 22.

"Those who see Christ in His true character, and receive Him into the heart, have everlasting life. It is through the Spirit that Christ dwells in us; and the Spirit of God, received into the heart by faith, is the beginning of the life eternal."—*Desire of Ages*, p. 388.

The gift of the Holy Spirit is the seal of acceptance with God. The gift of the Holy Spirit is the pledge of eternal life. Eternal life begins here. Will you, by full surrender of your heart and life to the Holy Spirit, allow Him to change you and remake you so that you may be a fit citizen of the heavenly kingdom?

## A Rival Sabbath with a Tainted Ancestry

(Continued from page 9)

in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of paganism, and christened with the name of the sun god, when adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!" (Italics ours.)—Paper presented at Baptist Ministers' Convention, Nov. 16, 1893.

Who, then, changed the Sabbath? Let the Church of Rome reply:—*The Catholic Mirror*.—"The Catholic Church for over one thousand years before the existence of a Protestant, by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday. . . . The Christian Sabbath [Sunday] is therefore to this day the acknowledged offspring of the Catholic Church."—Editorial, September 23, 1893.

A *Doctrinal Catechism*, by Stephen Keenan.—"Ques. Have you any other way of proving that the church has power to institute festivals of precept?"

"Ans. Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her,—she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority."—Page 174.

A volume of similar evidence could be presented. All authoritative churchmen and historians testify in full accord that under the leadership of Roman bishops and so-called Christian emperors, the change from Saturday to Sunday was gradually effected.

But no matter if error is believed for two thousand years, that does not make it right. And with the disclosure of these undeniable facts, the corrupt, pagan ancestry of Sunday observance is fully revealed. The times of ignorance and darkness are now past. Clear light shines upon the pages of the great Book, and God now calls upon all men everywhere to obey His precepts.

For long centuries many professed Christians have trampled upon the true Sabbath, but a divine appeal now comes to every individual:

"If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, 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; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." Isaiah 58:13, 14.

Whatever the cost, or sacrifice, let us firmly resolve with the fearless apostles who declared, "we ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29.

## Why Must God Punish the Wicked?

(Continued from page 11)

cision, these wicked ones will have made attempts upon the lives of the faithful. Then God, like any earthly parent, torn between the emotion of His love for His children, and the reality of His duty toward His entire family, sees His course marked plainly before Him, and destruction is the result.

And yet while I am pointing out the fact that God does have to chasten, I also want to spare God some of the unjust accusations that so often are heaped upon Him. Frequently when an individual is ill or misfortune has descended upon him, he wonders what he has done to deserve this punishment from God. He immediately feels that God is the one who is responsible for his hard experiences. Such is not the case, by any means. The people in Christ's day had the idea that all sickness, tragedy, and hardship were punishments from God. Pilate slew some Galileans one time, and the disciples immediately thought that those Galileans must have been great sinners because they suffered such things. There was a tower in Siloam that fell one day upon eighteen people, and they died. The disciples felt that these must have been "sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem." Luke 13:4. Jesus repudiated this idea and a little while later, when talking about a woman that had a deformity for eighteen years, He called her "a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years." Verse 16.

Satan may bring calamities into our lives. He is the one that binds us. God, we are told in Job 21:30, is reserving the wicked to the day of destruction to be punished. His punishments are to be poured out at the last day. Much of what we suffer in this life we bring upon ourselves as a consequence of sin. "His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate." Psalm 7:16. God does chasten us at times. He causes our plans to go awry. He permits us to be disappointed. But He is not the author of human suffering and affliction. His chastening is the gentle, longsuffering type that is meant to bring us back to His service, and even in this He engages reluctantly.

"For the Lord will not cast off forever: but though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies. For He doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men." Lamentations 3:31-33.

Sometimes, as in the case of Job, he only removes His protection, and then Satan takes over and brings evil results into our lives.

Our God is a God of love. He wants to see everyone of us saved. His punishments will only come when all else has failed. Let us then bring our lives into harmony with His divine plan and will for us, and ultimately we may have a place in His everlasting kingdom.



## Was H. G. Wells a False Prophet?

(Continued from page 5)

viated; and humanity, instead of rising to ever greater heights, has slid tragically downward toward the abyss of world destruction.

The titles of his publications on the future of mankind from the beginning of the present century reveal his progressive disillusionment and culminate in the book written a few months before his death, with the significant title, *Mind at the End of Its Tether*. There, in utter despair, he admits:

"The end of everything we call life is close at hand and cannot be evaded. . . . Our universe is not merely bankrupt; there remains no dividend at all; it is going clean out of existence, leaving not a wrack behind."

Some have tried to suggest that Mr. Wells' last book is indicative of a loss of grip on life in his old age, but its forthrightness gives the lie to this explanation. On the contrary it is a tribute to his intellectual honesty in that he was willing to confess himself completely wrong about human nature and human destiny.

Now why do we draw attention to the failure of H. G. Wells as a prophet? We do it in order to point the contrast between this man, who could not rightly discern the course of civilization and history a few decades ahead of his time, and the Bible prophets like Daniel, Paul, and John the revelator, who set down an outline of world history millenniums beyond their day which has been confirmed by events down to the very smallest detail.

Why the difference? Simply because Mr. Wells looked into the future with no more than human wisdom and vision, whereas the Bible prophets were "holy men of God" who "spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Peter 1: 21.

Surely the manifest fallibility of the foremost of the self-appointed prophets of progress should confirm our faith in the "sure word" of Bible prophecy and lead us to take it alone as our guide to the destiny of the world and humanity.

## The Transforming Love of Christ

(Continued from page 16)

at last drew near to Him, saying in her heart, "If I may but touch His garment, I shall be whole." Matthew 9: 21. Many do respond to the Saviour's touching entreaties and, stretching every nerve, reach out toward Him with their plea to be saved, as Peter, sinking beneath the waves, cried out, "Lord, save me." Mat-

thew 14: 30. Quick and full is the response of Jesus, awakening the deep and joyful conviction:

"Just one touch and He turns to me,  
O the love in His eyes I see!  
I am His, for He hears my plea,  
Cured by the Healer divine."

Then a marvelous transformation takes place as the soul is instantly cured of the leprosy of sin, and Jesus takes possession of the soul temple:

"Just one touch and He makes me whole,  
Speaks sweet peace to my sin-sick soul,  
At His feet all my burdens roll,—  
Cured by the Healer divine."

## A Fearful New Word!

(Continued from page 13)

destruction. He does with them as he wills. They are his tools. He is the root of all genocide. The Revelator says: "I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Revelation 16: 13, 14. The unclean spirits of devils are at this moment leading men into greater troubles, and will cause a more fearful genocide.

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Would you please explain the following scriptures: "Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the Lord thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the Lord thy God." Deuteronomy 23:18. "They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord." Isaiah 66:17.—E.B.C.

The first text simply means that money derived from the business of prostitution and sodomy was not to be used for the payment of vows. God hates impurity. Both those who practice it (verse 17) and the money derived from immorality are loathsome to Him. No one has a right to think that he can pay for his sins by making large donations to the church.

The word "dog" used in this text does not refer to the animal. Notice that verse 17 speaks of the whore and the sodomite—or female and male professionally immoral persons. These are "dogs." In Revelation 22:15 "dogs" are listed among the classes of people who will be lost. Webster's dictionary gives as one of the meanings of "dog," "a mean, worthless fellow; a wretch."

Isaiah 66:17 is in the midst of a passage that describes the destruction of the wicked by fire when Jesus comes the second time. This verse names certain classes that will be consumed by the fire. The heathen, who perform horrible and vile ceremonies among and under trees and in gardens and groves, are mentioned. Also those who are eating swine's flesh and other unclean things will suffer God's fiery wrath at His coming. The natural conclusion to be drawn is that people will be doing these things when the Lord comes, and will be considered as sinful for so doing right down to the end of time.

Do the dead know what the living are doing?—S.G.

"His sons come to honor, and he knoweth it not; and they are brought low [disgraced, or in trouble], but he perceiveth it not of them." Job 14: 21. The dead do not know what the living are doing, and it is better that they do not know. They would be miserable if they knew of the suffering and hardship of loved ones. The Bible plainly says: "the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything." Ecclesiastes 9: 5.





# Be Strong!



## Build a Calm Strength to Face Harder Things

**I**N THESE days of adjustment to what all were so sure would be better times, the going gets rough. Not much is left of what were happy dreams. Shall we, then, drop the guidon?

It is, rather, for us to build during these troubled days a calm strength to meet each issue. We are to work for it, not wearing ourselves out in needless expenditure of nervous energy, for there will be rough ways ahead. We shall need calm strength and fortitude which do not waver.

The hard things we face today with shoulders squared and chin up build that strength to face harder things. Every time we smile instead of frowning or crying, every time we work instead of wasting energy in useless fretting, we are building for the future. Every time we face something stronger than the strength we have, the Saviour is there to rebuke the angry waves, the wild storm. No more will come to us than we can meet in the strength of His unshaken power. "He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are

they glad because they be quiet." Psalm 107: 29, 30.

There was a wonderful stained-glass window in a great cathedral of southern Europe. Many came, even from far places, to see it. In a terrible storm this window was shattered into hundreds of pieces on the marble floor. A stranger came one day to see the fragments of this window which were stored away, and asked if he might be allowed to take them away. The request was granted.

Months later, the custodians of the great cathedral were invited to visit the studio of a famous artist. When they arrived, they were ushered into a room across which hung a heavy canvas. The artist pulled a cord, allowing the canvas to drop. There was the stained-glass window, more beautiful than before it had been shattered into fragments by the storm.

So with us. Storms may shatter our dreams and unnerve us for a time, but from the seeming ruin we may, if we choose, build stronger, finer characters than we could had life been made smooth and easy for us.

By INEZ BRASIER

