

DECEMBER . . . FIFTEEN CENTS

Our TIMES

SINCE 1891

A BIBLICAL INTERPRETER OF THE NEWS



\$120,000 for One Egg

Chinese Learn How Unreliable Money Can Be

By Elizabeth Hinton Branson

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal!"

"But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:"

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matthew 6:19-21.

HOW forcefully this admonition has been brought to our minds since returning to China. When we arrived here in December, 1946, China was in the throes of one of the world's worst inflations. One American dollar was worth approximately \$6,000.

But it did not stop there. The exchange market has continued to rise

until today one American dollar is worth the fabulous sum of eight million C.N.C. dollars. According to the United Nations' monthly bulletin of statistics, taking 1937 as the base year, the living cost in Shanghai was multiplied 547,147 times by the end of June of this year. Headlines such as, "China leads way in world-wide money inflation," appear in the newspapers of the world. This surely is true when one egg costs \$120,000; one pound of tomatoes (in the height of the season) \$160,000; fifteen pounds of rice (the allotment per person per month), \$5,000,000. Men's hearts are failing them for fear of what is happening to them.

There are those who have owned good property and, thinking to prepare for their old age, have sold at a time when it brought a good price. This money was laid aside as a nest egg.

They felt quite secure in the thought that they would be cared for financially. Then came inflation. Daily they sit by and helplessly see their money lose its value, until today the price for which they sold their home or place of business is not sufficient to purchase a loaf of bread. Several thousand dollars was considered quite a sum a few short years ago, but today the beggars on the streets would not stoop to pick up less than one hundred thousand dollars.

People are helpless in the face of the catastrophe that has befallen them. Everyone is asking, "What is the world coming to?" No one seems to have the answer. Only those who have their hearts and minds stayed on Jesus, those who have found something better and have learned to trust their loving heavenly Father and believe that if they seek first the "kingdom of God, and His righteousness; . . . all these things

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FRONT COVER PHOTO BY EWING GALLOWAY



ACME

Bundles of inflated paper money are tied up at the end of a busy day by a Chinese husband and wife who own a grocery store.

MAN has acquired more knowledge than he can assimilate for good. He has reached and passed the point where all his ideals and inventions can be put to good use as rapidly as they appear on the world scene. He is face to face with the unpredictable consequences of knowledge.

Twenty years ago man was but beginning to wonder at the age in which he was living. The first flight across the Atlantic had been made one year before and had been reported in blazing headlines for days and weeks wherever newspapers were published. The radio

Man's increase of knowledge brought about the discovery of radium. He also learned how to protect himself against its power as shown here by the leather glove and the lead container. But what will he do to protect himself from the atom bomb? And what protection has he against the wrath of God?



THREE LIONS

"KNOWLEDGE SHALL BE INCREASED"

Will Man Use It for Good or for Evil?

was a comparatively new invention still needing much perfecting. Henry Ford introduced his famous Model A car just twenty years ago. Television, radar, Diesel locomotives, and air lines were still in the future. Yet even then men were asking questions which find echoes everywhere today. "What are we going to do with our new knowledge? Are we acquiring more knowledge than we can assimilate?"

The shattering events of the past two decades have accentuated the relevancy of those questions. Knowledge and destruction have joined hands in making the history of this generation a history of penetrating horror.

Dr. Raymond Fosdick, in an address given at the dedication of the Mount Palomar 200-inch telescope, said: "All knowledge has become dangerous. Indeed, knowledge has always been dangerous; for knowledge means power, and power can be used to degrade as well as to enoble life." In this generation knowledge has been increasing so rapidly that man has learned to use most of it in alliance with destruction.

What does all this mean? Does it mean that man is going to continue toying with knowledge until he destroys civilization? Or will he soon gain control of himself and learn how to assimilate his rapidly expanding knowledge?

The Bible, the only infallible guide, has the answer to this perplexing question. The prophet Daniel, after having received prophecies concerning the future history of the world, was told to "shut up the words, and seal the book,

By Cecil R. Coffey

even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Daniel 12:4.

Those must have been mysterious words to Daniel. He probably asked himself, "What does this mean? How can knowledge be increased to make these words outstanding? What will cause many to run to and fro?" No, Daniel couldn't visualize this prophecy in its fullness.

Neither could George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, nor James Madison visualize the fulfillment of this prophecy. People in their day lived much as their forefathers had lived for centuries—even as did the people in Daniel's time. They still worked their fields with crude implements, and almost all manufacturing was done in the homes. The old tallow candle of Abraham's time was still in use. Traveling was too slow and arduous, so most people stayed home. The horse was the fastest mode of transportation. Steamships, railways, telegraphs and telephones were not yet in existence. The unhurried, matter-of-fact tempo of living was just as it had been in ages past.

Then something happened. In a few decades man's genius burst forth. Into his mind rushed an avalanche of ideas, and almost every phase of life was rapidly revolutionized. It seemed that the hunger for knowledge and the unconquerable exploring urge within the mind of man were suddenly let loose without restraint.

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AVOIDING profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called." 1 Timothy 6:20.

Apparently profane and vain babblers in Paul's day, as in ours, confused the minds of men with theories that pretended to be science. In another letter he warned the church against "philosophy and vain deceit." (Colossians 2:8.)

Science is cumulative human knowledge, particularly concerning the natural world. Philosophy is the interpretation we give to the facts of science. Science and philosophy are good if based on truth, but may be very pernicious if confused with half-truth and erroneous speculations. It was apparently this latter state of so-called learning of which the apostle warned.

False science began in heaven, strange as it may seem. Lucifer, the light bearer, the highest created being, became lifted up because of his beauty, and in his growing ambition thought to exalt himself above God. (Isaiah 14:12-14.) But what did this have to do with science? Simply this: He forgot that he was a created being. He thought that the uni-



WORLD WIDE PHOTO

Puffy, a hypnotic cat, is able to put his subjects into a hypnotic trance at the Seaman's Institute in New York City.

SCIENCE FALSELY SO CALLED

Satan Is the Originator of False Science

By Harold W. Clark

verse was operating under its own inherent power; that God had seized that power and was using it for His own purposes; that if he, Lucifer, could gain control of natural forces, he could do a better job of running the universe than God was doing.

How do we know this? All we have to do to verify the statements of the preceding paragraph is to look at the events of history. See the confusion of philosophic notions that have led men to believe that there is no personal God. Witness the scientific theories that have given men the impression that nature could operate independently of divine power. The record of the millenniums of earth's intellectual development shows how effectively Satan has propagated his false scientific theories among men.

The false scientific theories used by Satan to seduce the angels from their loyalty in heaven were introduced to

our first mother in Eden. To Eve the serpent declared: "Ye shall not surely die. . . . Ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:4, 5.

According to this philosophy, man possesses some inherent spiritual entity that cannot die. This "soul," or whatever it may be called, has within itself the ability to develop to a state of existence approaching divinity—"Ye shall be as gods." The basic temptation upon which Eve fell was the idea that she could of herself, by the means that the forbidden fruit placed within her grasp, rise to a divine state of existence. We could hardly suppose that Eve realized all that was involved in the serpent's words; nevertheless in these words we see the essential element of all pagan philosophy from the beginning.

As time went on, false teachings became more and more prevalent, until finally the Lord said of men, "Every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5.

The Flood, while it doubtless checked the free spread of false doctrines, failed to stop their development. One of the first records of the descendants of Noah is that they attempted to build a tower that would make them a name in the earth. They wanted to ascend into the heavens, to master nature's secrets, and to exalt themselves above God. Evidence of this is seen in the historical development of pagan philosophy and ritual in Assyria, the first great nation to be founded after the Flood.

Assyria, like other nations, worshiped the sun, the moon, and the stars, and gave homage to the forces of nature. They imagined nature to be alive. Every activity of nature, from the life of the



FRANK A. COFFIN PHOTO

Professor Day, a Psychic Reader, and his family were injured when their home was blown up by a man who claimed to be "hexed." We wonder why the professor, who is supposed to know all about the future, did not escape this calamity.

tinest insect to the most majestic forces of the storms of the sea, was supposed to spring from some innate life force that pervaded all things.

In order to place themselves in favorable relation to these natural forces, the ancient heathen developed elaborate systems of ritual. These systems and the

men who conducted them are repeatedly condemned by the Holy Scriptures. For instance, we read of Babylon: "Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me." Isaiah 47:10.

Mention is made of the "sorceries,"

the "astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators." (Verse 12, 13.) These were the magicians, the priests, and the oracles who pretended to read the future from the stars, and to understand the secrets of nature so as to predict lucky and unlucky days or the proper times to undertake enterprises. By incantations, prayers, and ceremonies they invoked the favor of the gods, who were the personification of natural forces.

Israel continually apostatized by following after the gods of the heathen nations around them. Had they remained firm in their faith in God, the great I AM, the one and only Supreme Being, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, they never could have fallen down in worship to gods which represented natural forces, the manifestations of God Himself in nature.

One of the most fundamental of all false philosophical doctrines was the idea that matter and energy were the eternal realities of existence. The heathen

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THE COMMANDER GAVE HIS LIFE

By C. L. Paddock



ONE NIGHT in February, 1943, a United States submarine was resting quietly on the surface of the Pacific off Rabaul, New Britain, keeping watch for enemy ships, which they felt sure were near by. On deck with a number of his men was the commander of the craft, Howard W. Gilmore, 40, a middle-sized man, quiet, resolute, unpretentious; a man who, as his classmates put it, "would never stand out in a crowd, but you'd like the minute you saw him."

They had not been on the surface long when the commander's keen eyes sighted a Japanese man-of-war near by. The submarine was picked up by the searchlights of the Japanese vessel at about the same moment, and as quickly as they could maneuver it, the large gunboat turned and tried to ram the submarine.

Just as quickly, Commander Gilmore swung the submarine around, dodged the attack, and counterattacked at a speed of seventeen knots an hour. His aim was good. They tore a large hole in the gunboat's hull. She slowly settled

and began to sink. As she gently slipped down into the ocean, with the American submarine in the full glare of her strong searchlights, her heavy machine guns sent round after round of shells into the midst of the group of men on the top of the under-water craft. Some of the men were killed instantly, and the commander was seriously wounded. By a fast dive beneath the water, the submarine could be saved. But the commander should be gotten down through the hatch to safety. This would take time and would endanger the lives of all the crew.

Helpless to move from the bridge, which was fully exposed to the enemy's machine guns, Gilmore ordered the submarine to submerge. His comrades rushed to his aid, intending to carry him below. Every second meant much.

The navy record in telling of this action says, "In his final living moments he gave his last order to the officer of the deck: 'Take her down!'"

In the navy, orders must be obeyed. The man hurried below, the hatch

clanged shut, and the submarine vanished into the deep. Her wounded commander floated away in the darkness, never to be seen again.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. Gilmore gave his life that others might live. He followed in the footsteps of our Master, who was willing to die that you and I might have eternal life.

This Christmas season gives us another wonderful opportunity to put into practice the teaching and example of our Master. He taught that rich blessings are in store for those who are willing to give. He practiced what He preached, and spent all His days and many nights in unselfish service, which brought little or no monetary returns. Then He died on Calvary for us.

There are millions in our old world at this holiday time, who are in need. Some of them may live near by, some of them live in lands less favored than our own. The happiest people this Christmas season will be those who give the most.



H. M. LAMBERT PHOTO

Robbing God?

*The Bible Plan of Tithing
Should Be Practiced by
All Christians*

By John W. Boyd

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.

The plan of salvation is centered in the gift of the Son to redeem the fallen race. It was not only the Father who had a part in giving when He sent the Son; Jesus Christ also was willing to sacrifice. He gave up the glories of heaven to save us. He gave His life that we might have everlasting life.

The principle of giving does not end with the Godhead, for every individual who hears the good news of salvation is to give the gospel to another. Our Lord commanded, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." Matthew 28:19. Paul shows the necessity of proclaiming the gospel in Romans 10:14, 15: "How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?"

God has outlined a plan which enables preachers to be sent, giving the message so others may hear and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. We read in 1 Corinthians 9:14; "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel."

The God-ordained plan for carrying the gospel to "every nation, kindred, tongue, and people" is known as tithing. That this plan has been greatly neglected since early years of the Christian era does not minimize the fact that it is still the way the Lord would have His

work supported financially in our day.

Jesus Christ commended the paying of tithe. (Matthew 23:23.) The Scriptures also reveal that Abraham recognized the need of giving tithe. The writer of Hebrews tells us that Melchisedec, King of Righteousness, "received tithes of Abraham." Hebrews 7:6. Verse two tells us what portion is the tithe: "To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all." In Deuteronomy 14:22 we are told, "Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed."



H. M. LAMBERT PHOTO

God claims a tenth of all our increase as His, and calls those who do not give it to Him robbers.

The Lord promises a blessing to everyone who returns the tithe to the work of God. It is written, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:10.

I have some friends who saw this promise realized in their own lives. They were living in Denver, Colorado, during the depression years of the thirties. The husband received a salary of only thirty dollars a month, and this seemed too little to buy food for parents and three growing girls, to say nothing of rent, medical bills, and clothes. This couple had been paying tithe, but after talking things over, they decided they needed that three dollars for their own use. Weeks went by; more sickness came; bills piled higher and higher.

One night my friends took stock of their situation. They realized they were worse off than when they decided to withhold the tithe. More than that, they had a guilty feeling, for they knew the Bible says the tithe is holy and belongs to God. They determined to give God what was His. What was the result? It was just what the Scriptures promise. God blessed them with health, and they found that even after paying tithe, their portion went farther than the entire pay check had before.

My friends found the promises of God are still for us. It was only natural, too, that they should feel guilty when not giving tithe.

We are asked, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." Malachi 3:8. The tithe, then, does not belong to an individual. It is the Lord's and should be used solely for carrying on His work. God is not asking too much of us, for "Thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that

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I HAVE no inclination to try to settle the old question of debate: "Which is greater, heredity or environment?" I recently read something, however, which seems to me to have a bearing on the subject, but which is really of greater importance than either the affirmative or the negative side; of greater importance even, than the question itself. Here it is: "The Lord shall count, when He writeth up the people, that this man was born there." Psalm 87:6.

The thought of a man's birthplace being recorded is in verse four also, and again in verse five. So it must have some importance to be three times stated in three consecutive verses.

"This man was born *there*." A plain unequivocal statement. It must mean that no matter where a man was born, the great Recorder has noted the fact. It must mean that no matter what his parentage or heredity may have been the Lord is cognizant of it.

Furthermore, it clearly must mean that whether or not the man was born on the "wrong side of the tracks" the Lord knows all about it. It must also mean that He takes into His reckoning the environment of the man.

There is left on record an illuminating example, and Luke has written the story in the second chapter of his Gospel. Jesus, who came to earth to be man's Saviour and Helper was born in

By Elton A. Jones

fulfillment of prophecy in Bethlehem. But not in one of the fine homes there. Oh, no. Not even in the leading hotel, for there was no room there. In a common hostelry, in the portion assigned to the beasts of burden, Mary brought forth her first-born.

Bethlehem was not the home of Jesus' boyhood. Herod, you will recall, attempted to do away with Him, and "the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt." Matthew 2:13.

On returning from Egypt Joseph did not make his home in Bethlehem, but in Nazareth. And Nazareth was not looked upon in those days as a favorable place to raise a family. Nathaniel, a native of the region, indicated its reputation: "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" John 1:46.

Jesus Christ, the Saviour of all men, knows just what it is like to be scorned because his environment was not "approved" by society. He knows by experience

just what it is like to be called in question about his background; even his parentage.

Since His experience encompasses all such experiences, He is able to help those who today are in similar circumstances. "For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succor them that are tempted." Hebrews 2:18.

Which is stronger, heredity or environment? It does not matter. Christ is strong enough to help man overcome either or both. He has *all* power, and He has the disposition to help all who

call upon Him. Even strong inherited tendencies can be overcome by the help of the Lord.

To every one, great or small, rich or poor, He offers a "new birth," of royal line, making him a child of the King. This disposes of the "heredity" problem. And then He promises to enable him, who is now an heir of the Crown, to live above his surroundings and perfect a character which is worthy of everlasting perpetuity. This takes care of the "environment" difficulty. To accept the provision made, and apply it to everyday life—that is the important thing.

"This Man Was Born..."

God Knows All About Our Heredity and Environment



PHOTO BY U. S. ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

The knowledge that the army has of the servicemen's backgrounds, and the help it tries to give, does not begin to compare with God's understanding and care.

The Sealing of the Church

Angels Are Now Holding the Winds of Strife Until the Sealing Is Finished

WE HAVE STUDIED the first six of the seven seals of Revelation. We turn now to the seventh. Before the closing events of the sixth seal occur, however, and before the seventh seal is opened, there are other experiences to take place during the time of the sixth seal. These are covered in the seventh chapter of Revelation.

Inasmuch as there is no reference to the opening of the seventh seal until the eighth chapter of Revelation is reached, it is clear that the events of the seventh chapter take place in connection with the sixth seal.

These events are thus described: "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the

them." Jeremiah 49:36, 37. Again Jeremiah uses a destroying wind as a symbol of destructive war, when he writes: "Thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, and against them that dwell in the midst of them that rise up against Me, a destroying wind; and will send unto Babylon fan-ners that shall fan her, and shall empty her land: for in the day of trouble they

shall be against her round about." Jeremiah 51:1, 2.

With this in mind, the prophecy we are studying can be readily understood so far as the meaning of the symbols used is concerned. During the time of the sixth seal, before the seventh seal is opened, there would arise a state of affairs such as is here represented by rising tempests and storms, which, if

By Carlyle B. Haynes

sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." Revelation 7:1-3.

Four angels are here represented as holding the winds in restraint as they are about to sweep over the earth. Winds in Bible prophecy, are used to represent wars, commotions, turmoils, and political upheavals. Jeremiah both used the symbol and explained it. "And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come. For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies, and before them that seek their life: and I will bring evil upon them, even My fierce anger, saith the Lord; and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed



The Bible is the great guidebook for young and old, and should be studied with more intense interest in these crucial days when God is sealing His saints for eternity.

they are not held in leash, will result in widespread desolation and ruin. This impending desolation is suspended, the ruin is delayed, the destroying tempests are held in control, the calamities are restrained, not by any natural causes, but by a restraining power over them, by the definite agency of God.

This restraint is exercised in order that a special work may be carried forward and completed before desolation and ruin sweep over the earth. This work is obviously of such supreme importance that heaven itself interposes to hold in restraint the destructive agencies which otherwise would prevent such a work taking place. More important, indeed, than even the closing events of human history is this final work of God; so important, indeed, that He interposes His Almighty power to suspend natural forces. He exerts His strength to hold in check the agencies of Satan in order that this particular thing shall not be unaccomplished.

This important work is described as sealing "the servants of God in their foreheads." A special angel, not one of the four holding the winds, is commissioned to accomplish this sealing work. He bears in his hands "the seal of the living God," which he is to place on the servants of God, thus marking them so they will be known to belong to God, and so that they will be safe during the impending calamities, and afterward.

This striking prophecy creates a thrill of eager inquiry as to its application and meaning. We catch an impression of movements of gigantic scope; the swiftly moving events of the close of human history; the concentration of the forces of evil upon the work of bringing to an end the world and its inhabitants; the distant, menacing tornado of wrath; the straining of all the agencies of destruction; the impending crash of civilization; the clouds of evil presage which hang low over the world; the devastating tempest about to sweep the human race to destruction.

Then God interposes. Angels of God are quickly sent out to "hold" these evil agencies in check. God's people are in the world. They are unprepared for the destruction which is coming. They are not sealed; therefore they are not safe. The closing scenes must wait, the destruction must be delayed, the forces of evil must be restrained, until God's people are sealed and safe. Then the whirlwind may rage and tear and destroy, and the world of wicked men go down to rise no more. But not until then, God looks after His own.

So an angel is commissioned to take

the seal of God and place it on the foreheads of the people of God. While this work is going forward, the winds of destruction are held, the dogs of war are held on leash.

It is not possible to read this prophecy without recalling the similar prophecy of Ezekiel, which reads: "And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others He said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house." Ezekiel 9:4-6.

Four things stand out in these descriptions. First, there is to be a distinguishing mark, sign, token, or seal upon the people of God in the last days by which they are to be so conspicuous that it will effectually set them apart from all others equally as much as though a brand had been placed on their foreheads. This will, of course, not be a literal mark, but some religious rite, or doctrine, or practice, or manner of life, which will make a difference between them and all others, thus making them a peculiar people, a people for His sole possession.

Second, this mark will not be merely an *internal* sealing alone known only to themselves and God, but will be something others can see, something *external*, something apparent, as if an emblem were etched on the forehead.

Third, this mark will be something appointed by God Himself, not of human origin. It is "the seal of the living God." An angel *from heaven* impresses it on the forehead. If it is a religious rite it will be of God's own creating; if it is some doctrine, it will not be of human origin, but divine; if it is a manner of life, there will be a divine life prompting it; if it is some religious practice, it will be conformity to a divine command, so that it will be manifestly from God.

Fourth, this mark will be an assurance of safety. As the blood sprinkled upon the doorposts saved the first-born in Egypt from the destroying angel, so the purpose of this mark is to secure the safety of those on whose foreheads it is placed in the calamities which are impending, the breaking up of the world. The destroying winds are restrained until

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TERSE TOPICS

WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING—"Committee on evangelism of the Congregational Association of Chicago sent out a questionnaire to fifty of their ministry and, according to *Moody Monthly*, learned the following facts: Only eight believe the Bible is authoritative in matters of faith; majority think redemption through Christ's blood unnecessary; thirty deny total depravity of man; about the only thing they agreed on was possession of a belief in God."—*The Kablegram* No. 1, 1948.

"HOME SWEET HOME"—"Henry Trefflich would like to see more people use monkeys as pets. He believes it would be a good idea to use them as substitutes for children. 'When a boy or girl goes away to college,' he says, 'is a good time to get a monkey to take his place.'"—*This Week*.

SWEET SMELLING DOGS—"Pet-Metics Products Company will soon start national distribution of a line of cosmetics for dogs, called dogmetics. The set, at \$1.98, consists of shampoo, flea powder, and a perfumed coat dressing."—*Christian Victory*, February, 1948.

KEEP EDGE ON ENEMIES—"To obtain an essential edge on our potential enemy, in addition to increasing our naval force and ground force divisions, we must intensify our applied research and develop a program in aerodynamics, power plants, and electronics that will make available the most modern piloted aircraft and guided missiles. We must also have an effective warning system and an adequate defense system of interceptor planes and ground weapons. We must have ready for immediate retaliation a force of combat planes with a range and altitude and speed which will enable them to impose heavy punishment upon any nation that attacks us."—W. J. Donovan, *The Atlantic*, May, 1948.



H. M. LAMBERT PHOTO

The prophecy of the millennium gives us a look into the future 1000 years beyond our day.

A THOUSAND years is a long time. It is a longer period of time than any human being ever lived. Less than a thousand years ago America was unknown to the people of Europe. Civilization had advanced but little in five thousand years.

But what a marvelous change has taken place in the past millennium! Art, printing, science, invention, atomic energy—what an array of wonders has been crowded into the past few hundred years!

But what will the next thousand years bring? Only the Author of the Bible knows the answer. He has placed within its pages the prophecy of the most wonderful thousand years which is soon to begin.

Probably no word in the religious language of our times has so captivated the minds of men as has the one word, millennium. It is not found in the Bible, but the thousand-year period to which it refers is a subject of Bible prophecy. The Bible speaks of a thousand years in which the devil will be chained and cast

into a bottomless pit and shut up and sealed. (Revelation 20:3.)

If the devil is really guilty of all the things he gets blamed for, and if his work would really stop when he is chained, then the millennium ought to be a grand vacation from trouble. All the armies could be disbanded and all the policemen could be laid off. We would not need banks or jails. Vice and crime would disappear forever. This is

By Leonard C. Lee

a beautiful picture, but it tells only *half* of the truth: and there is one fault with it, the devil would be chained only a thousand years, then he would be let out again. (Verses 3, 7.)

Since the thousand-year period is prophesied in God's Word, it must be a part of God's plan, and should be studied by His children.

The thousand years of Revelation 20

fits into the pattern of sevens which runs all through the sacred Scripture. God worked six days in creation, then rested the seventh. Man was given six days to work and was commanded to keep the seventh day as a day of rest. When God set up Israel as a nation, planted them in Palestine, and claimed them as His holy people, He told them to let their land rest every seventh year. (Exodus 23:11; Leviticus 25:1-5.)

Every fiftieth year was to be a year of jubilee commemorating the end of seven times seven years. The land was to rest and the slaves were freed. All possessions of land were to be restored to their original owners, or their descendants. There were to be no ninety-nine-year leases. In the year of jubilee all debts were cancelled and everybody started over. This was God's plan for the health, blessing, and prosperity of His people.

But because of greed and selfishness, men failed to see the advantages of such

1000

a program. They did not rest on the seventh day, and the land was not allowed to rest on the seventh year. Neither was all property restored each year of jubilee. The whole world has been going on for six thousand years without a rest. Its inhabitants have kept none of the rests God so lovingly commanded. The millennium will be a time to make amends for this neglect. It will be a time of rest. It will be the millennial Sabbath, the time of jubilee when the land should rest.

No one will work during the millennium. No fields will be plowed, no grain will be harvested, no factory wheels will turn, no workmen will report for duty. There will be no trains on the rails, no automobiles on the roads, no ships on the sea, for the millennium will be a time of peace and rest.

There are just four classes of people on the earth, the righteous living and the righteous dead, the unrighteous living and the unrighteous dead. If we can find out where these four classes will be during the millennium, it will help us to complete the picture.

OUR TIMES, DECEMBER, 1948

When Jesus comes He will raise to life the righteous dead and translate the righteous living and take them together to His heavenly home. Notice these scriptures: "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." 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17. Notice that they are caught up, they meet the Lord in the air in the clouds, and not on the earth. They are to be with the Lord, at His home. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; . . . and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Revelation 20:4.

While the righteous dead will be raised at the second coming of Christ, the unrighteous dead will not be raised

at that time. The Bible speaks of the first and second resurrections. They will be a thousand years apart. "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection." Verse 6. Those who are not Christ's will not be raised for another thousand years. "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished." Verse 5.

But where will the living ones who are not righteous, spend eternity? They will be struck down by the brightness and glory of the coming of Jesus. "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of

the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Revelation 6:14-17. Those who do not love righteousness would never be happy in the heavenly kingdom. They have never enjoyed the fellowship of God's children. It would be torture to them to have to live where only pure and holy thoughts are expressed. Thus it is only natural that at the coming of Jesus for His saints, the unrighteous should pray for destruction. "Then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming." 2 Thessalonians 2:8.

Their prayers will be answered, and the earth during the thousand years will be left littered with the bodies of those who are slain. "And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried;

Years Into the Future

The Great Millennial Age About to Dawn



N. A. NISWONGER, ARTIST

Satan, that old serpent, is soon to be chained in the bottomless pit as a prisoner for 1000 years. This event will bring peace to the earth but not the kind of peace that the masses look for.

they shall be dung upon the ground." Jeremiah 25:33.

Those who fall at the second coming of Christ will be numbered among those who are called the "rest of the dead" and who "lived not again until the thousand years should be fulfilled." Revelation 20:5. Beginning with the second coming of Christ, the world will become an uninhabited wilderness for a thousand years. It will have the peace and quiet of absolute loneliness. The prophet Jeremiah brings us a picture of it "I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by His fierce anger." Jeremiah 4:23-26.

It is a rule of law that the punishment should fit the crime. Since Satan and
(Continued on page 19)



"Catholic 'Comic' Freed from Ban"

"THE CATHOLIC-sponsored comic book, *Is This Tomorrow?* banned by [Detroit] police in May, is now on sale as a part of the July issue of the *Catholic Digest*." (See *The Christian Century*, August 11, 1948.)

The city of Detroit banned thirty-five other comic books because they were considered unfit for children to read, and parents were raising an outcry against them. The Catholic-sponsored book was outlawed because it was "devoted in the main to scenes of violence."

Prosecutor McNally said that he had "no choice but to arrest those selling the book," though it would involve the arrest of twenty or thirty priests. Police Commissioner Toy said: "We certainly don't want to arrest any priests."

We wonder why priests should not be arrested when they are breaking the law? Immunity is not promised to clergymen who break laws. We also wonder why this Catholic-sponsored, "blood and thunder," so-called comic book should be freed of the ban when the others were not. And then we wonder why a

Christian church which is supposed to represent Christ on the earth would publish a book that is filled with violence and crime. By what possible stretch of the imagination can we conceive of Christ endorsing such a work on the part of a church that claims to be His true institution on earth? Is the publication of fictitious crime books a part of the work of spreading the gospel? If we are going to ban books that are harmful to youth, why not ban them all? Why permit one to be sold because it is sponsored by a church.



"The Big Lift"

THE UNITED STATES and Great Britain have been supplying Berlin with food and fuel for a number of months by way of the air lanes. The uncommunistic world has applauded the successful way in which the difficult situation in this trouble spot has been handled. In *Life*, August 23, 1948, it says: "Today the Air Force in Germany is swinging a continuous air lift bigger than any ever before undertaken by anybody, in peace or war. It has armed

our diplomacy and earned among Germans a respect which is new to them and useful to us. Americans should take pride in their Air Force and in the men who are doing the job."

We are glad that the Germans respect us for our ability to handle this difficult situation, and we are proud of our Air Force for the capable way that it has carried on. But we wonder how long the air lift is going to be necessary. We wonder if the land blockade of Berlin by the Russians is going to be lifted. We certainly cannot continue the present program indefinitely.

Will it take a war to settle the controversy over this spot? America is arming for war and so is Russia. We are in the process of building a new, faster, and more potent air force. We are again drafting an army for combat. The diplomatic situation is unimproved. The United Nations organization seems to be paralyzed. All roads seem to lead to war.

We shudder to think of another major conflict in this generation. Economists tell us that the financial costs would leave the world bankrupt. Scientists inform us that the new weapons of recent invention would destroy vast areas and entire populations of cities and nations. Statesmen tell us that another major conflict would bring about a radical change in the political setup of our nation; that liberties would be lost, and stringent controls enforced upon us. We face the possibility of such a future with fear and trembling.

We are glad that God's Word promises a better future for all true Christians. Beyond the darkness of the present day lies the dawn of a new day that will be ushered in by God Himself—the day of His return to this world to establish His kingdom of glory. In that day there will be a big lift that will make the present operations of our Air Force seem puny in comparison. The myriads of angels who will come with Christ will gather the redeemed and lift them up into the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. We read in Matthew 24:31: "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

Jesus promised in John 14:1-3 that He would come again to receive us unto



INTERNATIONAL NEWS PHOTO

This church of the nativity in Bethlehem was built by the Emperor Constantine in A. D. 330. It is said to be located on the spot where the manger of Christ's birth once stood.

Himself, and take us back to the mansions that He has gone to prepare for us. Paul describes this marvelous event of the lifting up of the saints into the clouds: "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." 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17. "We can plainly see that the biggest air lift of all time will occur when Jesus comes. Literally hundreds of thousands will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord.

In view of the present critical world situation, and the none-too-pleasant picture of the future that is painted before us by scientists, statesmen, and militarists, we cannot help but yearn for the air operation that will be carried out by Christ and the angels in the end. Our prayer is: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Revelation 22:20.

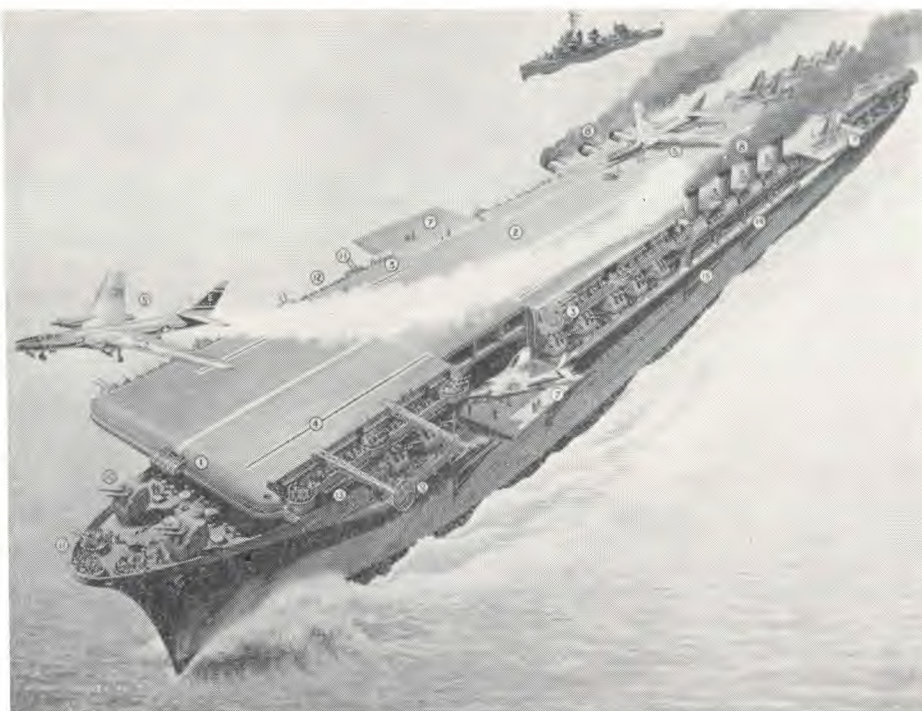


Networks Refuse to Sell Time to Sam Morris

MR. SAM MORRIS is considered to be an outstanding opponent of liquor in America. He travels far and wide in his crusade against intemperance. The liquor industry of America considers him to be enemy number one of the liquor traffic. He is an effective platform speaker. He lashes out fearlessly in his attacks against the producers and dispensers of booze. He usually speaks to large audiences, and his facts are accurate. His barrages of facts wither the fables and deceptions that the liquor interests have built up as bulwarks of protection. He is feared by them as no other single individual.

I had the privilege of listening to Mr. Morris in a mass meeting in a city where he had been called to stem the tide of incoming liquor stores. He was powerful in his arguments against liquor. I can well understand why he is feared. The Christian people of America owe him a debt of gratitude for his battle for temperance.

The greatest contribution that this worthy opponent of intemperance is making to the United States is his radio program called the "Voice of Temperance." But what pity it is that the networks of America refuse to sell him time for his crusade against intemperance. He finds it necessary to go south of the border to broadcast his messages. *The*



MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE PHOTO—ACME

Here is an artist's conception of the navy's proposed giant flattop which is designed to launch a task force of jet atom bombers! It would weigh 65,000 tons and have 10,000 feet of runway.

Christian Statesman, July, 1948, reveals this deplorable situation in a straightforward manner as follows: "Be it said to the shame of our country that the most of his messages on temperance have to be given from a radio station located outside this country, just across the line in Mexico. None of the big radio companies in this country and only a few stations of the smaller companies in the U.S. will sell Mr. Morris time to present the case against the liquor traffic and for total abstinence, although they sell time and obtain a vast revenue from the advocates of liquor for presenting their side over the radio. This is un-American. It shows the power of the liquor industry—the grip it has upon the political and economic leaders of our country.

"Mr. Morris has instituted a suit in the Federal Courts against the Columbia Broadcasting System for refusing to sell him time, after repeated efforts to present the case against alcoholic beverages while they are selling choice time and receiving a revenue of millions of dollars from the brewers for using the facilities of their radio system to inform the people that beer belongs in the home and be sure to order a case. The suit is for damages and to require this company to sell time for the advancing of temperance if they are to continue to sell time for the advocacy of the sale and use of alcoholic beverages. We wish him success in this fight.

But whatever the outcome of this suit, Mr. Morris says he expects before long—due to some new mechanism which will extend the reaching distance of voices over radio stations—to be able to reach the people throughout the United States with his message over the radio even though they have to be given from the station just across the line in Mexico."

It seems that the Christian people of America ought to exert their influence in behalf of the cause of temperance. If enough people would register their opinion against the present position of the networks in their determination to withhold temperance information, perhaps it would register. Possibly it would help to break down the barriers that have been built up against truth—barriers that have been built up by the rich liquor interests.

Can we afford to sit back and permit our youth to be perverted by liquor advertising over the radio? Is America to become a nation of drunkards? Remember that God says that "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Proverbs 20:1. He also says that "drunkards . . . [shall not] inherit the kingdom of God." 1 Corinthians 6:10.

WORDS OF WISDOM

O thou invisible spirit of wine! If thou hast no name to be known by, let us call thee devil!—*William Shakespeare.*

That Infirmary of Mine

Why Does God Permit Christians to Suffer Physical Afflictions?

By Daniel H. Kress, M. D.

PAUL very much desired to be rid of an infirmity he had. He no doubt regarded it a handicap to his work and probably felt the Lord would be glorified in its removal. Three times he asked for the prayers of his associates, but their prayers were unanswered. We know that Paul was not a robust man for the Corinthians said of him, "His bodily presence is weak." 2 Corinthians 10:10.

In reading carefully his letter to the Galatian believers, we would be led to believe that the infirmity he felt especially concerned about was an affliction of his eyes. He said, "Ye know how through *infirmity of the flesh* I preached unto you at the first. . . . I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me." Galatians 4:13, 15.

We may recall that while on his way to Damascus to persecute the saints of God, Paul was smitten with blindness. Perhaps his sight was never completely restored. Instead of removing this infirmity, which Paul termed a "thorn in the flesh," God revealed to him that it would be a constant reminder of his natural impulsive nature and tendency, and not a handicap.

The assurance came, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Paul then said, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for *when I am weak, then am I strong.*" 2 Corinthians 12:9, 10. Later, he could say, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Philippians 4:11. He recognized this infirmity as a blessing and never again did he pray for its removal.

Timothy, too, had an infirmity. His, it seems, was a chronic digestive disturbance. Although associated with Paul,

the miracle worker, he was not healed of this infirmity. Paul gave him no assurance or encouragement of ever being healed miraculously, but admonished him to recognize the infirmity and exercise care in his diet. "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities," was the advice he gave Timothy. 1 Timothy 5:23. The wine referred to

here was the "new wine" as found in the cluster and not the fermented product. Timothy could not eat as could some of his associates. He found it necessary to exercise special care in the selection of his food and drink. This very carefulness, however, may have enabled him to outlive some of his more robust and less careful associates. He was better able to emphasize the need of carefulness in the selection of food by those who were inclined to pay little attention to what they ate and drank. Generally those who are conscious of having some chronic ailment and take care of it live longer than do those who are more robust but who are careless in their habits of eating and drinking.

Referring to another one of his associates and fellow workers in the gospel, Paul said, "Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick." 2 Timothy 4:20. Strange, is it not, that Paul, through whose ministry so many were healed miraculously, should leave an associate worker



H. A. ROBERTS PHOTO

God permits Christians to suffer physical infirmities for reasons that we will some day understand.

in a physically disabled condition? This sickness God undoubtedly overruled for the good of Trophimus and for the furtherance of the gospel. There was a divine purpose in it, that finite minds were not then able to explain.

It was not owing to a lack of faith on the part of Trophimus that he was left at Miletum sick. It was not through a lack of faith on the part of Timothy that his infirmity was not removed, for in addressing Timothy, Paul said: "When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also." 2 Timothy 1:5. It was evident that Timothy was a man of faith, but he possessed a feeble constitution. No doubt at times he wondered why he should be afflicted with this infirmity.

There is a practical lesson in these examples for those who possess some infirmity of which they would gladly be rid. They should not complain or find fault with a kind Providence if it is not removed in answer to prayer. It may not be because of a lack of faith. They should relate themselves to such an infirmity in a way that God may be able to convert it into a blessing, both to them and through them to others.

It is possible to have a *prosperous* soul in an infirm body. Gaius was evidently one of God's saints who was physically weak, who was in possession of a prosperous soul. To him John said, "I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, *even as thy soul prospereth.*" 3 John 2. There was a period in the experience of the Son of God Himself when His suffering seemed more than His human nature could bear, and He cried, "Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me." Matthew 26:39. Fortunately for us, the cup was *not* removed. We thank God that Jesus did not end His prayer at this point, but added, "Nevertheless not My will, but Thine, be done." Luke 22:42. At this point of submission, angels came to strengthen Him. This was a true, and we may say, a model prayer of faith. Never are we to act like unruly children when our desires are not met, nor to conclude that God has forsaken us because we are not granted our requests. God alone knows the human heart. He understands our needs. He alone knows what is for our eternal good, and He leads us as we would choose to be led could we see His purpose in it all. Instead of worrying about that which we cannot remedy, let us co-operate with God in convert-

ing the apparent curse into a blessing. Let us live to be a blessing to those about us, no matter what our infirmity may be.

To a friend of mine, a minister of the gospel and a leader in the gospel work, whom I attended during a prolonged illness, I said, a few days before he died, "I have heard you preach many a sermon, but the most impressive sermon you have preached to me has been on your sickbed." I could not recall one word of complaint uttered by him during his entire illness.

The time comes to all when physical strength fails because of age. This we must expect, for "it is appointed unto men once to die." Hebrews 9:27. No one can avoid death, it matters not whether he is a saint or a sinner. In

old age there develop certain infirmities which are trying and undesirable. Observing that many of the old men about him became grouchy and were difficult to please, David prayed, "Forsake me not when my strength faileth." Psalm 71:9.

Instead of worrying about our infirmities in old age let us permit God to convert them into a blessing. The most effectual sermons are not always preached from the pulpit, but often from the lives of disabled or aged trusting children of God. The privilege of such as these is to say with Paul, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. . . . For when I am weak, then am I strong." 2 Corinthians 12:9, 10.



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.

Why is caffeine harmful? A relative who admits that there is caffeine in coffee claims that it is harmless.—N.O.

Coffee contains about an average of two and one-half grains of caffeine to each cup. Caffeine is a stimulant closely related to uric acid, one being di-oxy purin and the other tri-oxy purin. The great Dr. Osler referred to it as "that prince of heart stimulants." Any stimulant works on the principle of enabling you to borrow tomorrow's strength and use it today, using up energy but never supplying any. In my own practice I have found severe heart attacks to result quite frequently from the use of from one to four cups of coffee; and on discontinuing the coffee, the heart disturbance would cease almost immediately. Extra systoles and missed beats are frequently found among persons who drink coffee, and these very often clear up as soon as some other drink is substituted. Coffee tends to add to the acidity of the body. Any so-called "pickup" due to coffee or any other drug stimulant is followed by a letdown which is somewhat greater than the pickup, calling for another stimulant. It is a case of, "you can't get something for nothing," although there will always be some persons who seem to doubt this truth. Regular coffee drinkers often become so addicted to the stimulant that they become mild drug addicts, and find it almost as hard to quit coffee as for an alcoholic to quit drinking. It has been said that Americans are fast becoming a nation of drug addicts, and that from a twilight-sleep birth to a narcotized death most persons are never free from the influence of one or more drugs. We go to sleep with drugs, wake ourselves up with a drug, move the bowels with a drug, get joy and contentment from a drug, or perhaps avoid misery by the use of a drug. In this hurry-up age of

heart disease and high blood pressure it seems better, if we must use some one drug, to choose a sedative rather than a stimulant. Better still, find out what our bodies lack, build up the health, and let all drugs alone.

What would be the best treatment for a case of asthma? What climate and diet would you suggest?—A.L.H.

Asthma is a disease of nervous and allergic background. No cure-all has been found and cases of it are sometimes quite baffling. Since diet, however, affects the course of the disease so definitely, every severe case of asthma should be dieted carefully. This means light, easily digested foods, thoroughly masticated, taken at intervals long enough to allow each meal to digest before eating a second meal. Many persons will do much better on a two-meal-a-day plan. If the third meal is eaten at all, it should be light in quantity and quality, consisting of fruits, crisp oven toast, and a simple drink of juice or coffee substitute. Avoid much milk and eggs, and look well to wheat cereals since the patient may be allergic to them also. Never eat between meals or within less than four hours of going to bed. In very severe attacks it may be necessary sometimes to resort to sedatives or even a narcotic as an emergency measure, but these should be taken with full knowledge that they are not cures. Sedatives may be dangerous because we are dealing with a chronic disease.

So far as climate is concerned, here again the disease is peculiar, inasmuch as two people with asthma may exchange climates and both be greatly improved and may remain free from attacks. Generally a climate free from dust and pollens is to be preferred. This may mean a high elevation or a climate where there may be some dampness but little dust.



Insect and Flower Partnerships

An Amazing Pattern of Life

By R. N. Montgomery

INSECTS are the only creatures which seriously contend with man for control of the earth. Entomologists say that if it were not for the birds man would lose the struggle and be forced to find sources of food other than plants. Paradoxically, the late war (in which, as usual, man applied all his abilities to exterminating his fellow man) did more scientifically to accomplish the destruction of harmful insects than had been done since the dawn of history.

Economic entomology, which is concerned with the protection of growing crops, has emerged with new and potent weapons to wage annihilative war against the farmers' ancient enemy, namely, such weapons as DDT, DD, ethylene dibromide (an underground insecticide), and sabadilla. The now-famous DDT destroys insects by contact through their exoskeleton and feet. Results are impressive. Moscow, Idaho, last year wiped out the common housefly; Columbus, Georgia; Evansville, Indiana; and Mason City, Iowa, are said to be fly free. Along with the flies they rid themselves of many other pests too numerous to mention.

While we view with satisfaction the decimated ranks of harmful insects, let us not forget the many beneficial creatures we would be loath to lose, such as the bees, so beneficial to man; and the dragonfly, that archenemy of mosquitos and other insects, which performs a very essential function of pollination, without which many plants would cease to exist.

This partnership between plants and insects to provide pollination presents one of the amazing chapters in the history of nature. Bees with long tongues reach the nectaries of certain lilacs, which in many regions would fail of pollination without this service. It is very interesting to note the meticulous adaptation of insects to the mode of life that enables them to assist in the function of cross-pollination of plants. For instance, a negative case is that of the drone bees, which are hairless; they carry no pollen, so they have no need

of hair. (This is an interesting side light on the Bible statement concerning the man who did not improve the talent given him, consequently it was taken from him.) Yucca flowers are pollinated by the Pronuba moth, which collects the yucca pollen in her mouth, proceeds to another flower and actually pushes the pollen into the opening of the style.

So important is the vast partnership of insect and plant for pollination that some flower petals are marked with guide lines which lead directly to the

nectar pots. All flowers which depend on insect pollination are so created that the insect agent must pass both the anther and the stigma. Among those contrivances which are so clearly the results of deliberate creative design must be mentioned the flower structure of the Kalmia, or mountain laurel. In this blossom the anthers, or pollen carriers, are held back from the throat in depressed, latterly constricted pits. When an insect of sufficient size to be an efficient pollinizer arrives on the wing and alights, its weight and effort to reach the nectar releases the captive ends of the anthers, which spring instantly to the center, thus pelting the intruder with the vital pollen. This sticks to the bee and is carried to other flowers.

Certain milkweed pollen is shaped like two bags tied with a single string. In this case, the string is a short, tough, silky filament so designed as to entangle readily around a bee's feet, and the pollen is thus carried from flower to flower. A clever device is employed by the horse balm. One of its lemon-colored petals is very slippery, and the bumblebee, lured by the strong lemon-scented perfume, alights, slips, grasps the stamen to right itself, thus violently shaking it, showering down the pollen on the bee.

A further strange relationship between plants and the insect world is found in the numberless galls. Possibly the most familiar is the oak gall, or "oak-apple," and the blackberry knot gall. The first is a round green ball; the second is a knotty, ridged enlargement on the stem. These galls are formed by punctures of the inner bark by the lancetlike ovipositor of female insects (mostly gnats) in the process of egg laying. Then begins an amazing process in which the wounded plants, irritated and stimulated by the chemical nature of the egg and the sting, begin the building of tumors of hypertrophied tissue enclosing the eggs uniformly, which soon hatch into larvæ, which feed upon the juices of the central cavity of the galls. Thus the galls are at this stage parasitic. In the process of



There is a remarkable partnership between the insects and the trees and flowers.

time the fully developed four-winged flies emerge to continue the cycle of life.

Of special interest are the oak hedgehog galls, found on the under side of leaves of the white oak tree. These galls are brownish pink in color and are covered with spines, from which they take the name hedgehog. When the leaves fall in autumn, the galls still contain the young insects. In North America they emerge in early November, having gnawed neat round doors, and appear like wingless brown ants. Being forced to climb, in the absence of wings, they work their way up any vertical objects which are near by, apparently making no choice. Many perish after having laboriously climbed some object other than an oak tree. Those having succeeded by chance in selecting an oak tree, climb to the tip of the twigs and, since all of them are females, they prepare to lay eggs, without the necessity of fertilization by males. These eggs they insert into the winter buds of the trees, there remaining dormant until spring.

The return of warm weather stirs the buds to activity and also the hidden insects. In response to the irritation produced by the larvae, the plants form galls around them about the size of pin-heads. Each white worm, without eyes or legs, absorbs its daily food from the juices of the bud, grows rapidly, and becomes a pupa. It is ready to emerge as an adult when the bud expands, which thus frees the insect. But what magic is this? The adult appearing from the folds of the tender bud in nowise resembles the mother. It is smaller, more active, slender, and possesses wings. To add another touch of mystery, males and females appear! Then the cycle begins again.

One stands in amazement in contemplating this complex pattern of life governed solely by instinct. Who else but the Creator could have brought such a thing to pass? How absurd to believe that circumstance, environment, or trial and error by an insect void of the power of reason could produce such an amazing pattern of life!

\$120,000 for One Egg

(Continued from page 2)

shall be added unto you," find peace in their hearts. Matthew 6: 33.

Pitiful, indeed, are the sights one sees on the streets of Shanghai. Old men and women and little children, with all their earthly treasures gone or rapidly vanishing before their very eyes, living on the streets, sleeping on the

sidewalks, or crouching in the doorways and under the window ledges, anywhere they can find a bit of shelter and protection from the intense heat of the summer sun or from the cold, cutting winds and rain of the winter. Hundreds sleep on the floors of the large open markets, eating the rotting vegetables and fruits that have been thrown out during the day by the merchants. They are dependent upon the pity and the generosity of a city that is overrun with thousands of others in a like condition—a city whose inhabitants are themselves filled with fear lest they and their loved ones come to the same sad fate. Literally hundreds die on the streets of the large cities of China daily during the cold winters.

Most heartbreaking of all are the thousands who are not aware that they also are starving—for the spiritual Bread of Life. May God help us to seek and to find every honest heart and to tell them of the better land, where "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain." Revelation 21:4.

"Knowledge Shall Be Increased"

(Continued from page 3)

Gas lights, steel pens, and the steamboat introduced this remarkable era. Closely following were the steam printing press, railroad cars, the reaper, and the electric telegraph. During the decades since these beginnings man has seen a galaxy of inventions never dreamed of in George Washington's day.

While some men reached out after more and more knowledge, others became interested, and a great stampede for education was on. Books, magazines, and newspapers soon became available to the average person and people of all classes kept informed on developments.

And so man has learned and produced until today the cry is: "Nothing seems to be impossible for the mind of man to contemplate and to understand." Now he sends rockets many miles beyond the earth's surface, he flies in the stratosphere faster than sound, and he sits in his armchair as he views events actually happening elsewhere at that same instant.

But in all his search after knowledge, man has failed in one vital respect. He has not kept the pace morally. Moral inadequacy is his towering enemy. He has not been able to put his discoveries and inventions to good use because he does not know how. He has reached the

point when almost all that he does must be subject to that demanding moral inadequacy—power. And power in the hands of unscrupulous and ambitious men is a prelude to destruction. This century, and especially this decade, has seen misused power—the fruitage of misdirected knowledge—result in the destruction of entire cities. Surely this generation is presented with what may well be the final choice between the use of knowledge for good or the use of it to build arms for one last affray.

The prophet Daniel was told about this great increase in knowledge over twenty-five hundred years ago—a remarkable fact in itself. But that was not the most important part of the prophecy. The part which should concern this generation is that the knowledge expansion would occur in "*the time of the end.*" Men would "run to and fro" in a mad search after knowledge. Today literally thousands upon thousands are traveling hither and yon, rushing "to and fro" to the ends of the earth in the mighty quest for knowledge.

Never before in history has there been such a fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy. In the same chapter of Daniel, the prophet further states: "And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even to that same time.*" Daniel 12:1.

"That same time." The "time of the end." At that very time of most astounding advancement, the time when men were to travel "to and fro" about the world by astonishing means of transportation, a "time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation" was to befall the human race.

This is an age of great knowledge, yet it is also an age of great perplexity. There are people living in the most comfortable circumstances imaginable; others are living in abject misery. Some nations are making great gains in wealth; others are being reduced to poverty. All nations are either fighting or preparing for war, not knowing today who will be their enemies tomorrow.

Man is perplexed and disturbed over all this. He sees a possible perfect world through his own efforts, but he has not the moral adequacy to gain that which he sees. And he has not that moral adequacy because he is spiritually blind—he has rejected his Maker and has refuted His commandments. Because of this, man is literally asking for the "great day of God's wrath."

There can be no doubt that this is "the time of the end." This is the time just preceding the second coming of Christ.

Science Falsely So Called

(Continued from page 5)

believed that material substance had always existed; it had had no beginning, and it would never have any end. The truth that God was the Creator was forgotten; pagan gods were not creators, they were merely molders or architects of natural things. Since matter and energy could exist independently, God became merely another deity of the same order as the heathen gods. He was only the "god of the hills," a local god who ruled the chosen people in their own land. He was forgotten in His true reality, the One who had made not only the earth, but the heavens as well.

Repeatedly Jehovah tried to impress His people with the fact that He was supreme, and that He controlled the forces of nature. One forceful presentation of this principle is to be found in Isaiah 48:5-7: "I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I showed it thee: lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them. . . . I have showed thee new things from this time, even hidden things, and thou didst not know them. They are created now, and not from the beginning; even before the day when thou heardest them not; lest thou shouldest say, Behold, I knew them."

Here God clearly states that He does some unpredictable things purposely to prove to men that their insight into the future is not based on a knowledge of blind, mechanical, natural forces. He retains control of the laws which He has established, and modifies them as His wisdom sees fit.

The ancient errors have showed themselves in modern science. Much that parades under the name of science is speculation and vain philosophy. Men regard nature as self-operating. They talk as if matter were endowed with its own properties whereby it is capable of following its own "laws." They forget that matter has no power aside from God's power.

Modern science is materialistic in its outlook. Scientists may believe in God, but seldom will admit that God works through His creation.

About two hundred years ago Deism was very popular among scientists and churchmen alike. God created the world, it was admitted, but did so, not in a supernatural manner, but through the slow, orderly processes of evolution. The world (as well as the rest of the universe), once having been created, continues to act by the power with which

its material substance was endowed at the time of creation. God thus becomes a kind of "absentee" landlord, who has delegated authority in nature to blind, mechanical "law," which cannot deviate from the path He has marked out for it.

The only way this sort of philosophy is superior to pagan naturalism, that denies the existence of God, is to allow God to intervene in times of emergency. But this is unscriptural, for the Bible declares that Christ upholds "all things by the word of His power." (Hebrews 1:3.)

Gifts

"Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men." Ephesians 4: 8.

If God will give me childlike faith,
The love that spans the second mile,
His grace to overcome my faults
And bear my heartaches with a smile;
If He will grant me fortitude
To form a soul of sterling worth—
I'll hail these as the greatest gifts
A mortal can receive on earth.

By

WELDON TAYLOR HAMMOND

To relieve God of all direct control in nature except in cases of emergency would be to place dependence on natural law under normal circumstances, but beg God to intervene when we are in trouble. Such a philosophy deprives the Christian of his sweetest blessing, that of living in daily contact with the source of His strength. God would be only a moral or spiritual inspiration, but of no help in physical situations. Such a relationship is unworthy of the name of Christianity.

The Bible is plain in its portrayal of the fundamentals of true science. From Genesis to Revelation, God is revealed as a personal being who creates and maintains the universe by the continual and instantaneous exertion of His power.

"By Him all things consist." Colossians 1:17. "Upholding all things." Hebrews 1:3. This is Theism, the only

philosophy that gives God His true place and makes moral freedom possible.

According to this interpretation, God created all material substance, and He continues to maintain its existence every instant. He uses material substances as His agency for performing His will. Matter is not evil, but evil has come about through the wrong choice of created personal beings who were made in God's image, with power to think, to act, and to choose which way they would take.

Any scientific theory that denies the existence of God is pretentious ignorance, for it refuses to accept the most obvious of all truths—the fact that the universe must have had a Cause that is greater than itself.

Any scientific theory that makes nature self-operating, whether by original inherent power or by endowment, is a form of Deism that denies the Omnipotent One His rightful authority over nature.

True science recognizes God as the Creator and Sustainer, and acknowledges His control in every detail of natural activity. "In Him we live, and move, and have our being." Acts 17:28. Only by accepting this principle can we avoid the same error that originally led Lucifer to exalt his scientific theories above the word of the Infinite One.

Robbing God?

(Continued from page 6)

giveth thee power to get wealth." Deuteronomy 8:18. A Christian does not steal from a neighbor, and he surely should not rob God.

We also see from the text in Malachi that a difference is made between offerings and tithe. The tithe is set apart for the support of the ministry, as it was used before Christ by the Levites who cared for the temple and its services. The tithe is a definite portion of our income, while of the offerings we are told, "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee." Deuteronomy 16:17. It is from these offerings that care for the poor, and other Christian enterprises should come.

Of these free-will offerings which are given beside the tithe, the apostle Paul says, "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6, 7.

Verse fifteen of this same chapter reads, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift." Christian giving is thus bound up with the greatest gift, Jesus; who was given "that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The Sealing of the Church

(Continued from page 9)

this identifying mark can be placed on "the servants of our God."

From the considerations already advanced it seems plain that the seal of God consists of two things, an inward experience and an outward sign. It is an internal union with Christ which makes the individual peculiarly His, in which the Spirit imparts Christ's own divine life and righteousness. This is manifested and revealed to the world by some God-given practice or ceremony which sets the individual aside from others as belonging wholly to God, and following Him alone.

God will, then, have a people in the last days, in these days, who will enter into all the provisions He has made in Christ for full salvation. This will mean that their lives are, by resolute purpose, devoted without reserve to His service. This purpose will necessarily involve the surrender of all other purposes except so far as they can be and are subordinated to this supreme purpose. It will involve an acceptance of a path in life marked out not by their own choice, but by the will of Another. It will involve a recognition of their own lack of ability by any moral strength of their own to live for God, and a complete dependence upon Him alone to make possible this life of devotion to Christ.

1000 Years Into the Future

(Continued from page 11)

his angels have been to blame for all sin and suffering, can you think of a better place to punish them than this ruined, devastated earth? It will be the "bottomless pit" spoken of in Revelation 20. Satan will be bound and chained by circumstances. There will be no one to tempt, for all the wicked are dead and all the righteous are in heaven. Satan will receive his punishment here on earth. "The righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner." Proverbs 11:31. Satan was cast out of heaven into the earth. (Revelation 12:7-9.) He will never again be permitted to leave it.

During the thousand years with Jesus in His heavenly home, the righteous

will miss many of their friends and loved ones. They will wish to know why some are missing. They will have the privilege of looking over the records and knowing the reason. They will also help to judge the wicked and the fallen angels. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; . . . and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Revelation 20:4. "Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world?" 1 Corinthians 6:2. "Know ye not that we shall judge angels? Verse 3.

At the close of the thousand years the New Jerusalem will come down from heaven. (Revelation 21:2.) The wicked will be resurrected to receive their sentence. Paul wrote, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." 2 Corinthians 5:10. It is only fair that the wicked should have a chance to answer. They will have the opportunity to show whether they are on the side of Satan, or whether God made a mistake in not raising them at the first resurrection. "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison [by the resurrection of the wicked], and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city." Revelation 20:7-9.

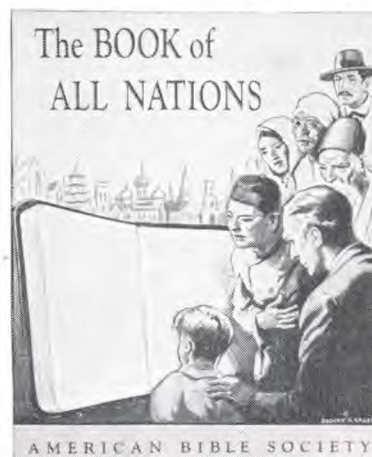
Deceived by Satan, they march against God and the holy city in blasphemous defiance, seeking by force to overthrow the government of God. This has been Satan's purpose all along, but he has done his work under cover, hiding his real purposes. But now he shows to the whole universe his real character. Now is clearly seen the difference between following God and following Satan. Evil men and evil angels stand condemned. They are not fit to live in a perfect world. "And fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." Verse 9.

Our God is a God of love. He does not want His people to be constantly reminded of the sorrows and trials they have endured. So He recreates the earth, making it all new. "Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." Isaiah 65:17.

Thus another cycle of sevens will be complete. From Eden to a new Eden, past the experience with sin into a new world order where all will be overcomers, where all will love righteousness.

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WORDS OF WISDOM

A little philosophy inclineth man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion.—*Francis Bacon.*

WHEN JESUS CAME

NOTHING WAS EVER THE SAME AGAIN

THOSE of us who listened to the story of the passing of Lazarus as it was told by Dr. Harry Rimmer will not forget it soon. We sensed the loneliness, the shadowed home from which a loved one had been cruelly snatched by death. The audience sat quietly, spell-bound by the reality of the presentation. Dr. Rimmer paused for a moment, then he shouted: "Then Jesus came; that changed everything!"

When Jesus came, nothing was ever the same again. There was glowing health and boundless energy and the joy of sins forgiven, whereas there had been illness, helplessness, and sin.

I wonder if there is any difference after *I* enter a community. *I* am a Christian. *I* strive to follow Christ. Nothing was ever the same again after He passed by. Is there a blessed fragrance that emanates from *my* life as it did from His? And if there is not, *why not?*

"Be ye perfect." "Leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps." That means that I must keep striving to live a perfect life as Jesus did. If I live as He lived, and pray as

He prayed, I shall work as He worked, and nothing will be the same where I have passed by in His Name, for the world will see His likeness even in me.

The Jewish leaders taught that the poor were not acceptable to God, but Jesus went among them, doing good and pointing them to the Lamb of God for cleansing. He said, "Whosoever will," and,

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor." He gave of His time and of His strength to the common people and they have never been the same since that day. He elevated womanhood, for He looked for goodness and self-respect in women and presently they were good and self-respecting.

He gave gladness for grief, sunshine for shadow, "beauty for ashes."

