

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

HE THAT REAPETH GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL

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The Reward of a Faithful Study of the Word.

Christ and his word are in perfect harmony. Received and obeyed, they open a sure path for the feet of all who are willing to walk in the light as Christ is in the light. If the people of God would appreciate His word, we would have a heaven in the church here below. They would be anxious for time to compare scripture with scripture, and to meditate upon the word. They would be more eager for the light of the word than for the morning paper, magazines or novels. Their greatest desire would be to eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God. And as a result, their lives would be conformed to the principles and promises of the word. Its instruction would be to them as the leaves of the tree of life. It would be in them a well of water, springing up

into everlasting life. Refreshing showers of grace would refresh and revive the soul, causing them to forget all toil and weariness. They would be strengthened and encouraged by the words of inspiration.

Ministers would be inspired with divine faith. Their prayers would be characterized by earnestness, filled with the divine assurance of truth. Weariness would be forgotten in the sunlight of heaven. Truth would be interwoven with their lives, and its heavenly principles would be as a fresh, running stream, constantly satisfying the soul.

The Lord's philosophy is the rule of the Christian's life. The entire being imbued with the life-giving principles of heaven. The busy nothings which consume the time of so many shrink into their proper position before a healthy, sanctifying Bible piety.

The Bible and the Bible alone, can produce this good result. It is the wisdom of God, and the power of God, and it works with all power in the receptive heart. O what heights we might reach if we would conform our wills to the will of God! It is the power of God that we need, wherever we are. The frivolity that cumbers the church makes it weak and indifferent. The Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit are seeking and longing for channels through which to communicate to the world the divine principles of truth.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

The Third Angel's Message in Prophecy.

EZEK. 47:1-12.

The last nine chapters of Ezekiel are a conditional prophecy to Israel partly applying to sacrificial rites and offerings antedating to the crucifixion and in part, to the conditions under the New Covenant extending down to the close of the proclamation of the gospel. Altho that portion of the prophesy which constitutes the subject of this article began to develop in the days of the apostles, it meets a more complete fulfillment in the proclamation of the Third Angel's Message.

To the following exposition of the prophesy by terms the reader's attention is invited.

"RIVERS," v. 5. Symbol of an invading army. Isa. 8:7, 8; Jer. 46:7-9. God's people constitute such an army; Eph. 6:10-17; Isa. 60:5 and 53:11; Psalms 46:4; Luke 15:7. Springs of water are the ultimate sources of rivers, and a river is an aggregation of springs. Each child of God is a well or spring of overflowing water of life. John 4:14.

"SEA," v. 8. All the unconverted people of the world, Rev. 17:15; Isa. 17:12.

"THE MAN," v. 3. The angel Gabriel. Ezek. 40:2, 3; Dan. 9:20-23, and 10:4-6.

"THE LINE," The law of God. Rev. 11:1.

"1,000 CUBITS" v. 3. The cubit was a unit of measure. One thousand Sabbath-keepers under the Third Angel's Message.

"THE HOUSE," v. 1, Sanctuary, v. 12. The heavenly sanctuary. Heb. 8:1, 2. The Third Angel's Mes-

sage arose in light on the Sanctuary question.

"TOWARD THE EAST," v. 1. The Lord was particular about having the Sanctuary pitched facing the east, Ezek. 8:16. In their aggressive work Seventh Day Adventists flow eastward (symbolically,) facing and opposing the worship of the sun; but in worship they face the heavenly sanctuary, the source of their light.

"FISH," v. 9, 10. Men, Matt. 4:19; 13:47-50.

"RIVERS," Margin "Two rivers," v. 9. The loud cry united with the 3d message. See Early Writing p. 138.

"TREES," v. 7. Printing houses, sanitariums, schools, colleges, missionary stations, churches, etc.

"LEAVES," v. 12, Publications containing spiritual truth which does not fade nor decay. See Testimony, vol. 6, p 22, 27, 230.

"FRUIT," v. 12, Trained workers, Living fruit; not consumed. Ministering spiritual food to one and to another indefinitely.

"MIRY; MARSHY PLACES," v. 11, Saloons, tobacco houses, opium joints, etc. God's truth cannot heal such business schemes making them lawful and proper. They will be salted with fire.

The duty of God's people is to flow in living streams of salvation to the world, and no dead bodies should be allowed to float upon the river, nor stagnant pools to line its shore.

Let us, by faithful service "make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacle of the most High." Psalms 46-4, Zeph. 3:16-20. A. S.

The Would-be Missionary.

"Missionary timber should be thoroughly tested at home before sent aboard. The sensational and romantic soon wears off, and the missionary is confronted with grave and complicated problems sufficient to test him to the core. The mere enthusiasm often seen in a "rousing" missionary meeting is no proof

that the participants therein are equipped for the field. A. T. Pierson's daughter, a missionary in India, shortly before her death wrote the following weighty words to a prospective missionary, and we commend them to our readers:

'My Dear Brother:—I write words for you to ponder and pray over. Do not go to any foreign field until you know beyond a doubt that God has Himself sent you to that particular field at that particular time. If you marry any mission field in haste, you will repent it at leisure. There is a romance or halo about being a missionary which disappears when you get on the field, I assure you. And, believe me, from the first moment you step upon your way to the field, the devil and all his agents will attack, and entice, and ensnare you, or try to do all these, in order to defeat the purpose for which you cut loose, and launched out. Nothing but the fulness of the Holy Spirit will carry any one through; and if you do not know that you have received this, do not fail to obey the command to tarry until you be endued with power from on high. Believe me, the foreign field is already full enough of prophets that have run, and He did not send them. Because of this, things are in a sad state in India, in the missions themselves.

"If you know beyond a doubt—and you may—that God is empowering and sending you there, and now, go, and fear not; and when, through the days, months, and years of suffering that are sure to be in cross-bearing life the question arises again and again, 'Why is this? Am I in God's plan and path?' The rock to which you will hold in this sea of questionings and distresses is, 'God sent me here, I know beyond a doubt; therefore I may go on fearing nothing, for He is responsible, and He alone.'

"But if you have to admit, 'I do not know whether He sent me or not,' you will be thrown into an awful distress of mind by the at-

tacks of the great adversary, not knowing what will be the outcome, and you will find yourself crying out, 'O, that it were time to go home! What a fool to run ahead of the Lord.' Do not think, my brother, that God sends us to the field to sweetly tell the story of Jesus, and that is all. He sends us there to do what Jesus came into this world to do—to bear the cross—but we will be able to trudge on, tho bowed under the weight of that cross of suffering, and even of shame, if our hearts are full of Him, and our eyes are ever looking upon One who is invisible, the One who sent us forth, and therefore will carry us through. Forgive me for writing thus plainly. I pray that this message may shake in you all that can be shaken, and that which cannot be shaken may remain as firm as the Rock of Ages." —Selected.

Thy Will Be Done.

Christ in his sermon on the mount gave us what is termed the Lord's prayer. Volumes have been written on it and innumerable sermons have been preached from it, and untold millions have repeated the words during a life time; but a mere repetition of words is not real prayer, even though it is the Lord's prayer.

Many definitions have been given of the word "prayer," but one of the best is this,—"Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend." Steps to Christ, page 106. But the words "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven" have forced themselves upon the mind of the writer for several months past while passing through affliction.

In offering the Lord's prayer, when we repeat the sentence referred to, how natural it is to picture out in our imagination the contrast between present conditions in the world and the time when this prayer will be answered in its fullness; but as I have reflected upon that, I am led to see that if ever

we experience the reality of heaven itself, that "will" must be done in us, in our own hearts and lives here; and any mere repetition of that prayer that does not include the desire to have that "will" wrought out in our lives must be a useless prayer. Then in offering this petition we must have faith in our Father, we must believe he is omniscient and also omnipotent so that knowing all things he also has power to do that which his wisdom dictates should be done.

God will not allow us to pass through any experience that is not designed for our best good. Many scriptures might be cited in proof of this. Jer. 31:3; Hosea 11:3,4; and Eph. 3:19 is a wonderful verse. Surely if we were "filled with the fullness of God" this "will" would be done in us, in our lives continually, as it is done in heaven, and who would not desire it and pray for it; and yet what is it that keeps us from doing it? This question each person can and must answer.

When all our plans are set aside and sorrows and trials come, and the heavens above are black with storm clouds, then is when we may learn to pray "Thy will be done," and happy indeed is the one who has learned to pray thus.

A. B. C.

A Preaching Teacher.

Nothing is more unfortunate for a Sabbath-school class than to have a teacher, who, instead of conducting the recitation by drawing from the members of his class the truths of the lesson, delivers a lecture, a sort of sermonette, covering the points of the lesson.

Not long ago I dropped into one of our larger Sabbath-schools. One class and teacher especially attracted my attention. There was not a single Bible in sight. The teacher had discarded both Bible and quarterly, and with a few headings on a slip of paper, resembling a preacher's notes, he was teaching his class. He did not ask them a single question, but was pouring

into their ears the truths of the lesson. He gave them an opportunity to recite, and proceeded apparently on the basis that they knew nothing whatever about the lesson. Some of the class looked decidedly weary. With a far-away expression on his face, one good brother was looking out of the window, seemingly wishing that the lecture would end. Two or three others looked bored. Yet unconscious of the travesty he was carrying on, the teacher continued to pour forth an uninterrupted stream of talk.

When the bell rang, the faces of the class brightened as they became aware that the trying ordeal was over, and that another week would intervene before similar experience would befall them. Personally, I, too, experienced a feeling of relief when the recitation closed. I pitied the class, and while the teacher was well-meaning and consecrated, this did not alter the fact that his method was entirely wrong and greatly detrimental to his class. They had no incentive to study during the week. The time which is supposed to be used in recitation was employed in listening to a lecture.

A Superintendent should be thoroughly familiar with the methods of the teachers in his school, and in a case like this one, the person should be kindly labored with; if no reform can be effected, at the proper time another teacher should be chosen. A good teachers' meeting each week will do much to correct evils like this, which are continually creeping into schools.—G. B. Thompson.

"Socrates said that a knowledge of our own ignorance is the first step toward true knowledge; and it was Coleridge, I think, who supplemented this truth with the suggestion that, we cannot make another comprehend our knowledge until we first comprehend his ignorance."

From the Field.

NILES.

After the Camp-meeting we pitched our tent again in Niles and began meetings September 2. The interest has been steadily increasing from the start and has grown intense. Those who attend are very regular and are an especially fine class of people.

H. C. PITTON,
E. F. COLLIER.

News and Notes.

E. A. Merriam spent last Monday in Paw Paw.

Brother Clifford A. Russell and family expect to move to Otsego this week.

Brother S. S. Gray occupied the pulpit at the Otsego church last Sabbath morning.

Elder M. N. Campbell spent a few days last week in Battle Creek assisting in the work.

The Berrien Spring school opened Wednesday, September 12, with a good attendance.

We hope our laborers will please remember that we would be glad to receive something from them for the columns of the Herald.

East Michigan camp-meeting begins September 27. It will be held at Holly. Some of the West Michigan laborers may attend it a few days.

Our office has a supply of Sabbath-school lesson quarterlies for the fourth quarter of 1906. We hope the Sabbath-schools will send in their orders early.

Sabbath afternoon, September 22, a number of the brethren and sisters from the Otsego church went to Plainwell to meet with the tent company in that place. They held a Sabbath-school at 3:00 p. m. which was followed by preaching services.

If you want to read an account of the educational meeting that was held at College View, Neb., send ten cents to this office and procure a copy of "The Story of the Convention."

For rent:—Good house one-fourth mile from church school and one-fourth mile from Seventh-day Adventist church. Day laborers in good demand. Address, Mrs. Anna Fleming, R. F. D. No. 3, Hastings, Mich.

Elder H. Nicola spent Sabbath and Sunday, September 1 and 2, also Sabbath and Sunday, September 8 and 9, at the Glenwood church. Four persons were baptized and united with the church. Three of them were young people.

Emmanuel Missionary College offers a special course of training to all who desire to prepare themselves for the ministry, Bible work, teaching, nursing, or Christian business. The teaching force has been increased, and thorough instruction is offered. For further particulars address N. W. Kauble, Berrien Springs, Mich.

The September edition of *LIFE AND HEALTH* was the largest of any regular number ever published, yet by the 15th of the month it was all sold. The October number will be larger still.

Agents everywhere are greatly increasing their orders. One church of 30 members are selling 10,000 copies. Large numbers of individuals in all parts of the United States are handling from 500 to 1,000 copies per month. Those who would like to sell the journal should write us for special agents' rates.

The following teachers have been engaged in West Michigan: Winifred Trunk, Wright; Ada Somerset, Grand Rapids; Mrs. E. A. S. Clark, Bedford; Erma Parks, Charlotte; Eugene Waller, Otsego; Grace Evans, South Monterey;

Edna Cooper, Carlton Center; Jennie Judson, Maple Grove; Tina Jorgensen, Lake Odessa; VoWyla Aiken, Glenwood; Claude Countryman, Covert; Flossie Hall, Grand Ledge; Mina Hastings, Denver Center; Anna Garton, Paw Paw; Maude Henry, Michigan Home for Girls; Mrs. Flora Williams, Mrs. Ella Sanders, Mrs. Harriet Heffley, and Miss Lottie Bell, Battle Creek.

The October number of *LIFE AND HEALTH* has some good things in it for everybody. The editor gives three pages to the exposing of some medical foibles, such as "dish-rag wart-curing," "onion-in-the-pocket fit cure," "eating poison-oak leaves to prevent poisoning," "black-string-around-the-neck cure for croup and diphtheria," "wedding-ring-rub for sty cure," "sulphur-bag-wearing to ward off contagious diseases," "head-to-the north sleeping to promote health," "boring the ears to prevent weak eyes," "excluding 'night-air' to prevent taking cold," "chewing tobacco to preserve the teeth," "smoking to prevent contagious diseases," "preserving the hair by cutting it at certain stages of the moon," "meat-eating essential to health," "the theories of mind-cure," etc. This article will reveal some of the foolish practices of good honest people in every-day life. The entire contents of the October number is excellent. It will be especially good for general circulation.

The West Michigan Sanitarium.

It may be of interest to all the readers of the "Herald" to know that the West Michigan Sanitarium is being transferred from 475 Wealthy Ave., Grand Rapids to Berrien Springs, Michigan. The Sanitarium will be operated by the Emmanuel Missionary College, and supported by the Lake Union Conference.

What is known as the Magan cottage is being converted into a Sanitarium. It is expected that the Sutherland cottage and also

the Morse cottage will eventually be used for sanitarium purposes. An electric dynamo for generating electricity is being installed. Dr. Runk will be the physician in charge; Dr. Otis will travel in the interest of the Sanitarium receiving his support from the West Michigan Conference.

We believe all the friends of the Sanitarium will be pleased to note this change. The location is attractive; of easy access, and undoubtedly this is a move in the right direction. We bespeak a rapid growth and development.

A. G. HAUGHEY,
Pres. West Michigan Conference.

Fault-Finding.

"Any savage can find fault."—Sir Benjamin West.

Nothing is so easy

As to criticize,

Looking on a neighbor's work

With friendly eyes,

Nothing is so easy,

With unruffled mien,

To dissect a masterpiece—

Book or painted scene—

And tear down those idols

Which the soul exalt—

O, yes! "Any savage

Can find fault."

Nothing is so easy

As to find a blot

On a place where other men

Might discern it not;

Nothing is so easy

As to drag down men

Who are making dreams come true

With chisel, brush, and pen;

Who would seek to help us

To the skies to vault.

O, yes! Any savage

Can find fault."

—Selected.

"A seed is but a tiny thing;

But in its heart it holds

A life which grows into the plant,

And leaf and flower unfolds.

A word—it seems a tiny thing;

But God can bless it so

That it may fall in many a heart,

And like a seed may grow."