

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

HE THAT REAPETH GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL

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Margaret Haughey, Editor.

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FAITH.

R. C. HORTON.

Abraham was distinguished as a man of great faith. Faith supported him in his severest trials, and enabled him to give glory to God. All the worthies of the Lord as recorded in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews are held up as men of strong faith in God. The first Christian martyr was eminent because of his faith. "And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost." Barnabas the son of consolation "was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost and faith." Acts 11:24.

There was nothing which Christ more frequently reproved in his disciples than their unbelief and the weakness of their faith. The same exercise of heart that is required for our believing in God

and having faith in him is also required for our trusting God. "They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever." Ps. 125:1. Isa. 26:3. We must have perfect confidence in all that the Lord has said concerning ourselves, and in every promise that he has made. To question these promises is to doubt the Lord. Some may say, we do not understand them; but the Lord says, "wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Eph. 5:17. If we lack wisdom he will impart all that we need if we ask in faith. James 1:5,6.

To follow the line of thought as to what the faith of Jesus is, let us go to the grave of Lazarus in Bethany. "Jesus said, where have ye laid him?" They said, "Lord, come and see." The weeping sisters with many others walked with Jesus to the grave where the silent sleeper lay. The Prince of life now stands face to face with the dread monster, death. Can he break its power or set the captive free by his own strength? No, not at all. He says, "The Son can do nothing of himself." John 5:19. He also says, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me, and I know that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he had thus spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, loose him, and let him go." John 11:41-44.

"Father, I know that thou hearest me always." See the perfect confidence that the Saviour had in the Father's power to bring the dead to life. This is the faith of Jesus; and the dear people of God are to be in possession of it before the Lord comes. Rev. 14:12. Is it not high time that we were contending earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. Jude 3.

"This is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, we know that we have the petition that we desired of him." Herein is faith; even the faith of Jesus. But some may say, how do we know that our petitions are in harmony with his will? Oh, beloved, "be not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Eph. 5:17. Again, "if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." 1 John 3:21,22.

Faith is the substance or confident expectation of things hoped for. Heb. 11:1. It is not our Saviour, but the eye that looks at him, the foot that goes to him and the hand that lays hold on him. Take an illustration: Imagine that you were afflicted with a dangerous disease, and anxious for recovery. An eminent physician comes in and says, "I have brought an infalible cure for your complaint. It has cured thousands and it will surely cure you." What would be the effect of this communication upon you? It would

be just according to the state of your mind. If you firmly believed the statement made, you would rejoice at once, and that joy would be the joy of faith. When you had taken the remedy and had been cured, then you would have the joy of experience.

There was a centurian who at one time came to the Saviour saying, "Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus said unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurian answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." Matt. 8:6 8,10. This man had faith. "And Jesus said unto the centurian, go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour." Verse 13. What secured this wonderful healing at once? It was his strong faith in God. Can we wonder that the Lord says, have faith in God? Thus we have learned that faith is believing God; believing him in all things. It is unbounded confidence in all that the Lord has said.

It is the faith of Jesus because "all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him amen, unto the glory of God by us. 11 Cor. 1:20. All the promises of God are confirmed in him. Rom. 15:8. It is based upon the word of God, because it is a revelation of God's good will toward men. It comes by the hearing of the word of God, and not by feeling. Rom. 10:17.

Faith ever looks to Jesus, its author, for the accomplishment of all the promises that God has made. It may become strong or weak just in proportion to the confidence we have in the Author of our faith and in his willingness and ability to fulfil those promises.

(To be continued.)

Lest We Forget.

So many calls come to our people for donations that we fear the one call for that which has been through the spirit of prophecy denominated "the most needy field in the world" may be forgotten, and therefore this is to call attention to the collection of October 5th for special colored work in the southern states. The work among the colored people is in the most encouraging condition that it has ever been. The last year of the Huntsville School was the most successful in all its history. Seven teachers were graduated, who go forth with courage and energy to their work, and there is an encouraging outlook for the school for the next year. Sanitarium work will be opened up on the 15th of October. There is a great work for colored nurses through all the South and this will add to the training features facilities of Huntsville the most important facility that it has ever possessed. It is true that fifty thousand dollars has been raised for the South recently, but another fact should be remembered by all our people, and that is that only a little over six thousand dollars of that amount went to the direct work for the colored people, and it is also a peculiar fact, nevertheless true, that the donations for the special work among the colored people in the South have been cut down very materially during the raising of the fifty thousand dollar fund. Although the exact apportionment of the fifty thousand dollars that has come to the South has been published again and again, no doubt many of our people have not read these notices carefully and have not noticed that nearly thirty-nine thousand dollars of this amount went directly to build up the institutions for the work among white people. Therefore, doubtless many have not continued their previous generous gifts to the specific work for the colored people in the South. Unless there is a

strong effort made to lift on the 5th of October generously, the work for the colored people will be more crippled than for a long time before. "Lest we forget" we appeal to our people everywhere to remember October 5th. A missionary work at home without those words that to many have a peculiar charm, "the regions beyond," the far foreign lands appeal to every one who is interested in pushing this work to a glorious triumph.

J. S. WASHBURN.

The Collection of October 5.

We are glad to say that Oakwood Manual Training School will be one of the beneficiaries of the annual collection for the colored work. This institution has a great work before it, and it is the aim of the management to make the school an efficient means in the hands of God for the training of workers. There are millions of colored people in the South and elsewhere to be warned of the soon coming Saviour. This work must very largely be accomplished by colored workers themselves. White laborers cannot do this. Then, is it not very plain that we should bestir ourselves in the training of consecrated young colored people for this work. This is the very mission of Oakwood Manual Training School. There is a great work before this institution, and at present it is not thoroughly equipped for the work; neither has it sufficient means on hand with which to operate the school successfully.

We believe the great need of the institution, and the importance of the work which it must accomplish will forcibly appeal to our brethren throughout the field to largely increase the collection of October 5th, over all former years. The funds are greatly needed.

We hope that our brethren and sisters all over the field will show their interest in this work by a very liberal collection.

W. J. BLAKE,
Principal.

Lesson for Missionary Volunteers, Sabbath, Oct. 5, 1907.—Signs in the Heavens.

God has promised to show "Signs in the Heavens." Joel 2:30. He could not have chosen a more conspicuous place.

Luke 21:25 tells where these signs shall appear.

These signs are mentioned in many places in the Bible. Read the following and learn at least five, both verse and reference: Joel 2:31 and 3:15; Matt. 24:29; Mark 13:24, 25; Luke 21:25; Acts 2:20; Rev. 6:12, 13; Isa. 13:9, 10; Amos 8:9.

The period of Papal persecution is brought to view in Matt. 24:21, 22. This was to continue a "time, times, and half a time." Dan. 7:25; or 42 months, Rev. 13:5; or 1260 days. Rev. 12:6. This is the same period of time, amounting to 1260 years, Jewish reckoning, 30 days to the month. (In prophecy a day represents a year. See Eze. 4:3-6.)

These days of persecution began in 538 A. D. when the decree of the Roman Emperor, Justinian, that the Bishop of Rome should be head over all the churches and the corrector of heretics went into full force after the "plucking up by the roots" of the three Arian powers that opposed it, namely: Heruli, Vandals and Ostrogoths. Dan. 7:8. The "days" would therefore close in 1798. In that year the city of Rome was entered by a French army under Gen. Berthier, and the pope was carried a prisoner back to France.

Matt. 24:23 says these days were to be shortened. This was accomplished by the work of the reformers, and by the suppression of the Jesuites which took place in 1773.

Read Matt. 24:29, and Mark 13:24 and observe that the darkening of the sun to be a sign must occur between the dates 1773 and 1798. May 19, 1780, witnessed the fulfillment of this sign.

"That was a day of supernatural

darkness. It was not an eclipse of the sun; for the moon was nearly at the full: it was not owing to a thickness of the atmosphere, for the stars were seen. The darkness began about 9 a. m. and continued through the day. Such was the darkness that work was suspended in the field and shop; beasts and fowls retired to their rest; and the houses were illuminated at dinner time. The sun was supernaturally darkened." Josiah Litch, in *Prophetic Expositor*.

Illustrate by means of the black-board, or by objects, the impossibility of an eclipse at the full of the moon.

"The night succeeding that day was of such pitchy darkness that in some instances horses could not be compelled to leave the stable when wanted for service." Stone's *History of Beverly, Mass.*

"The moon shall not give her light."

The falling of the stars took place on the night of November 13, 1833. The meteors were to fly out in all directions from a common source. Read Rev. 6:13.

"Those who were so fortunate as to witness the exhibition of shooting stars on the morning of Nov. 13, 1833, probably saw the greatest display of celestial fireworks that has ever been seen since the creation of the world. . . . The meteors did not fly at random over all parts of the sky, but appeared to emanate from a point near the constellation Leo. . . . Henry Dana Ward, in *Journal of Commerce*, Nov. 14, 1833.

It is now nearly seventy-four years since the last of these signs was fulfilled. Read Matt. 24:33-35. "We are right upon the threshold of the eternal world." Who will be ready?

C. A. RUSSELL.

Our Academies and Church Schools

All of our schools will have opened by the time this paper reaches its readers. The prospects are bright for a successful year.

The course of study at Cedar Lake Academy has been altered so as to harmonize with the course as outlined by the General Conference Educational Department. As all our other schools conform to the same course, this will prove a great advantage to those attending Cedar Lake.

Just at this time, when prosperity seems to be attending our educational work, is when the enemy will seek the hardest, by all of his artful devices, to bring discredit upon the work. Let us all pray most earnestly that Satan's plans may be defeated, and that God may have his way in all our schools.

Several of our last year's teaching force have entered the various colleges to prepare for more effective work in the Master's vineyard—Winifred Trunk to Washington Foreign Mission Seminary to train for mission work in other lands; Leslie Avery, former preceptor at Cedar Lake Academy, to Emmanuel Missionary College; and Eugene Waller to Union College. Grace Evans goes to Southern Illinois to take charge of the DuQuoin Intermediate School. Several other teachers have been furnished our sister conferences in the Lake Union, after all of our schools had been supplied. For this, and many other signal blessings of the Lord, we are devoutly thankful.

The following is a list of our academies and church schools, with the teachers engaged:—

Cedar Lake Academy; W. C. Matthewson, Fred Green, Edith Shepard, VoWyla Aiken; Battle Creek Academy; Mrs. Flora Williams, Mrs. Harriot Heffley, Minnie Hart, Lois Randall, May Williams; Otsego; Edna Ayers; Monterey; Nellie Smith; Bangor; Mabel Haughey; Covert; Mrs. Julia Countryman; Bedford; Katherine Bell; Carlton Center; Ethel Cooper; Lake Odessa; Edna Cooper; Glenwood; Claude Countryman; Grand Rapids; Ada Somerset; Wright;

Lucile Gregg: Berrien Springs;
Edna Decker: Paw Paw; Anna
Garton: Grand Ledge; Flossie Hall:
Michigan Home for Girls; Maude
Henry: Denver Center; Grace
Davis: Portland; Mina Hastings:
Bauer; Mildred Wilson; Charlotte;
Augusta Blosser.

The Morning Cometh.

This is the pleasing caption which will appear over the cover-page illustration of the new special issue announced by the publishers of the WATCHMAN. It will be beautifully illustrated, and the articles will deal in an interesting manner with the fundamental truths for this time.

There is nothing more important than publishing the great principles of the Advent faith. On every hand people are asking for instruction in these very doctrines. The object in preparing this special issue of the WATCHMAN is to give the message. The articles will be clear and strong. The truth will be presented in simplicity and with power.

This number will contain four more pages than the splendid "End of the World" issue published last year. Its attractiveness, and the intensely interesting character of its contents, will make it an easy seller. Are there not those who can devote all their time for several months to selling this valuable issue? Think of this; pray over it; consider if you can use your energies in any better way.

This is a golden opportunity for every believer in the third angel's message to get the truth before others. Let us give the point of our message. Let us work with all our might.

The special WATCHMAN will be ready to mail about the end of October, and will retail at ten cents per copy. The prices are as follows:

Single copies..... .10
In quantities less than 100, to
one name and address, each... .05
100 to 499 copies, to one name

and address, each..... .04
500 or more copies, to one
name and address, each..... .03½
10 or more copies mailed direct to lists of names and addresses, each..... .06

Orders may be sent at once. Send through the West Michigan Tract Society, or direct to THE WATCHMAN, Nashville, Tenn.

News and Notes.

The editor spent last Sabbath with the Grandville church.

Brother A. Smith spent last Sabbath with the Wright church.

We hope that our workers will not forget to report to the Herald.

Brother O. T. Noble occupied the pulpit at the Otsego church last Sabbath.

We understand that the Emmanuel Missionary College opened with a large attendance.

Cedar Lake Academy opened last week with thirty-four students in the Academy and twenty in the church school.

It will soon be time for the "Ingathering Services." The program appears in the "Youth's Instructor" dated August 20, 1907.

Please remember that Sabbath, October 5, is the day that a collection is to be taken for the work among the colored people of the South.

The editor had the pleasure of visiting the Grand Rapids church school a short time last Friday. This school is progressing nicely under the management of Miss Ada Somerset.

All of our young people should have the "Youth's Instructor," as it is the official organ of the Missionary Volunteer work. It is seventy five cents a year. Send your subscription to the West Michigan Tract Society.

The children of the West Michigan Conference are going to make an effort to raise one hundred dollars for China this year. We believe they will succeed in this missionary enterprise.

Miss Myrta Kellogg, who has been the educational secretary of the North Michigan Conference for two years, has connected with the college at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, as a teacher in the normal department.

The first one to send in their name for enrollment in the Missionary Volunteer Reading Course is a little girl, perhaps ten years of age. We hope this will be an incentive to some of our older ones to do likewise.

The books, "Into All the World" and "Pastor Hsi" have reached our desk, and we can recommend them to our young people. We hope that many of our youth will take up the reading course. It will be a fine thing for those who are not in school. It will help them to keep their mental faculties bright.

For Sale—One and one-fourth acres of ground, with a house, barn, chicken park and a good flowing well. Five minutes walk from Cedar Lake Academy. A good home for some one who desires to educate their children. Address, A. C. Field, Cedar Lake, Mich.

Report blanks have been sent out to the Sabbath-school secretaries and the secretaries of the Missionary Volunteer Societies. We hope each secretary will be prompt in returning these blanks as we want to hear from every Sabbath-school and every Missionary Volunteer Society. We want to be diligent in the Lord's business.

It has been decided not to increase the subscription price of the WATCHMAN October first, as recently announced by the publishers of that paper. The change in price will be further considered at the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Publishing Association in January, 1908.