



OUR TIMES

JUNE 1966

EVENTS *and*



TRENDS

History Repeats Itself

The lights of Manila city danced and shimmered on the waters of the bay on the night of January 1, 1942, and across the waves drifted the sound of music, loud voices, and laughter. In the hotels and clubs revelry ruled with a wanton hand. Bacchus, the god of wine, roamed through the ballroom and cocktail lounges, the gala celebrants drank freely to his health.

But in each corner and behind every shadow lurked the dark phantom, fear, for every reckless merry-maker knew that the occupation of the city by the Japanese was only hours away. But banish the thought! Drink yet more deeply, laugh still more loudly, for tomorrow—who knows? And with the dawn the Japanese came.

Another night long before. The circumstances were much the same. The red wine splashed freely into gold and silver cups held by unsteady hands. Laughter rang out and echoed back mockingly from the vaulted halls of old Babylon. But suddenly grim fear silenced the licentious king and his revellers, and Belshazzar watched, pale-lipped and trembling, as a ghostly hand etched his doom and the doom of his kingdom upon the palace wall. Through the unguarded river poured the soldiers of Darius the Median and "in that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain," and his kingdom faded into history.

Roll back the years still more. Once again the sound of drunken revelry was heard. In Sodom and Gomorrah, the cities of the plains, there was dancing in the streets. Utter abandonment flaunted itself before the face of God. A night of careless pleasure was whirling a vice-drunk crowd toward a morning of flaming death.

"They did eat, they drank; . . . but . . . it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man [Christ] is revealed" (Luke 17:28 to 30).

Babylon, Egypt, Greece, Rome, each of those nations became debased and perverted, and each of them fell. Sodom and Gomorrah, Pompeii, St. Pierre and Messina (see page 8), each of these cities were visited with the judgments of God for much the same reasons.

Today the pattern set by those nations and cities is being repeated, but on a far wider, more fearful scale. The whole world is set on a course of utter abandonment which cannot but lead to ruin and destruction such as came to those four cities.

Alcohol has been one of the destroyers of man-

kind. Where war has slain its thousands, alcohol has slain its tens of thousands. But around the world the dark river of alcohol is rising as more and more people are attracted to the deadly stream. And we are fearful as we watch the trends in India, where for so long the tide has been stemmed. We see signs indicating that the dam is developing some cracks. We hope they will be repaired.

We are of the opinion that, in civilized countries, sex morality is something of an indicator of the level of morality as a whole, and that when sex standards fall, other standards are already at a low level. In recent years we have watched the trends in this area. They have not been good. In this country and around the world sex standards are falling. Note a few symptoms: A woman is thought strange by other very "respectable" women because she does not consort with other men when her husband is away. Almost three-quarters of the men of one country visit prostitutes, and evidence points toward similar figures for many other lands. College students hold sex orgies, the faculty knows about it, and nothing is done. On the contrary, some faculty members seem to encourage it. The vilest types of perverted literature are freely available to all who desire it—and multitudes do, because it is a thriving business.

We are reminded of the words of the U. S. Senator who said: "In the last generation we have watched the moral and spiritual life of the whole world deteriorate to a marked degree."

We cannot picture the solemnity of these times more vividly than has been done by one author in these words:

"The crisis is stealing gradually upon us. The sun shines in the heavens, passing over its usual rounds, and the heavens still declare the glory of God. . . . Pleasure lovers are still crowding the theatres, horse races, gambling halls. The highest excitement prevails, yet probation's hour is fast closing, and every case is about to be eternally decided. Satan sees that his time is short. He has set all his agencies at work that men may be deceived, deluded, occupied and entranced, until the day of probation shall be ended, and the door of mercy be forever shut.

"Solemnly there comes to us down through the centuries the warning words of our Lord from the Mount of Olives: 'Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.'"

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THE WORLD



AROUND

The Food and Agricultural Organization, an international food agency, estimates 10,000 fatalities a day due to malnutrition.

It is said that there are more than 21,000 people in the Soviet Union aged 100 or more. One man is 160. The overwhelming majority of these very old people have never been ill. Most of them eat mixed food, three or four times a day, and never overindulge. The specific features of their diets are lots of vegetables, fruits, and honey. Most of them neither smoke nor use alcoholic beverages. They drink only natural fruit juices, observe personal hygiene, and spend most of the time in the fresh air. They walk a lot.

* * *

This month a meeting of the World Conference on Church and Society is being held in Geneva, Switzerland. During the meetings speakers from many countries, including India, will discuss such world problems as the role of the church in the global struggle for social justice, human rights, peace, and the equitable distribution of the earth's resources.

* * *

Recently a detailed plan was offered for the merger of seven Protestant denominations in the United States. Should the plan be adopted and executed it would mean a twenty-three million united church.

* * *

Here we go again! Man's nature can be changed by the control of his environment, a medical doctor claimed recently. The human brain is "totally undeveloped at birth. It is like clay that can be shaped," the doctor said. This raises the old question of heredity versus environment. Apparently the doctor thinks environment can win. But man is born to do evil "as sparks fly upward." Only a higher power can change him.

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Editorial

EVERYBODY WANTS IT

Indian or Russian, British or Chinese, American or Ethiopian, Japanese or Hottentot, everybody wants it. There are various ideas of just what it is and of how it is gained. But all of us, according to our own ideas, search for it continually.

Everybody wants it—but very few ever find it. What is it? Happiness.

But why is happiness so elusive? We cannot pretend to do more than touch on the answer, but we believe we can suggest a thought that may be of help.

Let us think first of what does not bring happiness. Wealth does not bring it, as many a disillusioned millionaire has testified. Long pilgrimages and hard penances cannot. Real, lasting happiness does not come with marriage as such. Position cannot bring happiness, and pleasure merely offers a fading tinsel substitute. Which reminds us of the wise words of Hosea Ballou: "Real happiness is cheap enough, yet how dearly we pay for its counterfeit."

Good health undeniably contributes to happiness, and rare indeed is the person who has happiness without it. But health is not happiness.

Happiness is not to be found simply by looking for her. She is a very shy creature, hiding herself when we search for her. But sometimes when we are doing something else we suddenly realize that she is standing at our elbow. And if we stop to think about it, we will realize that most often those occasions have been when we have been doing something for someone else.

The honey bee goes out to collect honey for itself, and not to pollinate flowers. But we are not honey bees, and when we go looking for the sweet nectar of happiness we do not find it. But if we go about serving others we will find that we get some "nectar" too, and probably much more than we ever expected.

Of this truth the ancient sages spoke. Said Seneca, the old Roman philosopher, "No man can live happily who regards himself alone, who turns everything to his own advantage. Thou must live for another, if thou wishest to live for thyself."

We must take the thought one long step further. The greatest happiness comes through serving man and God. The person who so lives finds all of the happiness this life has to offer.



RULES FOR HAPPINESS

A woman came to my office a while back and lamented, "I can't take any more. Each week that I see coming scares me. I have gotten to the place where I'm sad when I'm happy, because I feel guilty for feeling good when things are so bad."

Perhaps there is more of this woman's attitude in each of us than we would like to admit. We are all familiar with the Negro spiritual:

"Nobody knows the troubles I've seen.

Nobody knows but Jesus.

Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down.

Sometimes I'm almost to the ground."

The greatest mistake we could make is to shut our eyes to the fact that there is trouble in the world. We can't pretend that if we ignore trouble, it will go away. In Job 5:7 we read: "Man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward." And in John 16:33 the Master observed, "In the world ye shall have tribulation." So trouble and problems are a settled fact. Some of the most unhappy people in the world are the ones who feel compelled to be happy all the time. If you take the attitude that in this world you should be free from all difficulties and hardships, you will never be able to face the future without fear and trembling. Actually, the first sign of real maturity and mental hygiene is the capacity to face reality.

Before you begin another day ask yourself this question, "Have you grown in your troubles, or have you been shattered by them?" The answer to this question is the fork in the road. You see, the blow of a hammer on glass shatters the glass into a thousand useless pieces; the blow of a hammer on steel forges the steel into instruments of unmeasured usefulness.

The problem is not, How much trouble do we have? but, How do we react to our troubles? Some people can lose loved ones, financial fortunes, even their health; but they can still meet each morning with a smile. Others surrender to the slightest passing

irritation. The difference between us is probably not that some of us have fewer troubles than others; we differ in the way we handle our troubles.

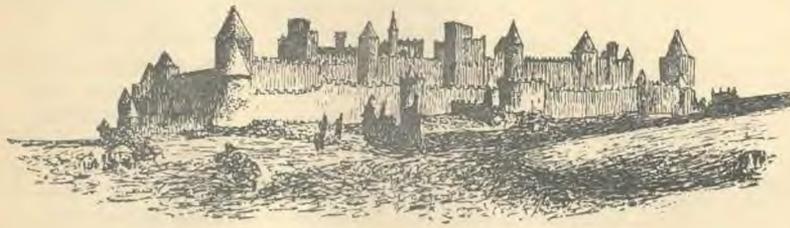
Briefly, let us enumerate a few of the most important ways in which we ought to face our days:

1. **Don't be bitter.** Lin Yutang is one of my favourite philosophers. He tells the story of a Chinese who stopped by a market on his way home from work to purchase a pot of soy sauce. He tied the pot to the end of a bamboo pole and started walking home. Suddenly the pot dropped off the pole and shattered. Someone saw it and yelled, but the Chinese kept right on walking and never turned around. Finally, the man who had seen the accident ran up to him, grabbed his arm, and said, "Man, don't you know your pot of soy sauce fell off?" Complacently the Chinese retorted, "Yes, I heard it break. There's nothing I can do about it, so why should I let it detain me from getting home and enjoying the evening with my family?"

Most of us would have done differently and some of us might even have acted like the chap who stubbed his toe on a curb, then in fury backed up and really kicked the curb, so that he ended up with a very sore foot indeed. It would be wonderful if we could all learn that when we have troubles, bitterness only serves to make these troubles worse.

2. **Don't surrender to your troubles.** So many people hug troubles. One day a doctor told me, "I wish my patients wouldn't identify themselves so quickly with their pain. They hang on to it and entertain it. They love to speak of it and moan over it. They seem to live for it." Christ never surrendered to His troubles. Even in the Garden of Gethsemane He faced them, then said to His disciples, "Rise, let us be going," and He went to meet His would-be captors. Go out and conquer your troubles, before they conquer you!

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GETTING RID OF GHOSTS

All over the British Isles are old castles and mansions which are supposed to be "haunted" by the ghosts of former occupants. Weird cries are sometimes heard, chains rattle, doors slam; in short, the present owners of these places are harrassed by such uncanny manifestations.

Recently a lady appeared on a TV programme and suggested an "anti-ghost" week. "Let's get rid of these nuisances once and for all," she suggested.

The interviewer inquired, "Do all people who die become ghosts and haunt their old homes?"

The lady replied, "No, not by any means."

She assured viewers that these ghosts are merely the spirits of dead people who for some reasons have been unable to go all the way into the spirit world—just, one might say, a case of arrested development. All ghosts long to "go spirit," but some have been unable to advance beyond this intermediate stage. The ghost is in consequence unhappy and needs kind and sympathetic treatment.

Many viewers were no doubt amused by this interview, but anyone who has studied the Bible teaching on these matters will immediately recognize that it revealed a complete misunderstanding of the true facts of life and death.

In the first place, who are these "ghosts" which make their presence so unwelcome? Are they really the "spirits" of people who once lived here on earth?

If we read the Bible carefully, we will find that it teaches most emphatically that death is a deep, unconscious sleep. The psalmist, for instance, wrote:

"His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish" (Psalm 146:4).

Notice particularly those words, "his thoughts perish." It is natural for a man to have nostalgic thoughts about his home and to long to return to it if he has been away for some time. But when people die "their love, and their hatred, . . . is now perished." "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not *anything*" (Ecclesiastes 9:6, 5).

Because "the dead know not anything," it would be quite impossible for anybody, once dead, to find his way back to the scenes of his life, either to encourage his former associates or to cause them annoyance—if he felt so inclined.

We read in the eleventh chapter of John's Gospel that Lazarus, a close friend of Jesus, became sick and eventually died. As Jesus spoke of His plan to visit the saddened home, He said, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go that I may awake him out of sleep." Thinking that the sick man had at last fallen into deep, refreshing sleep, the disciples were surprised that Jesus should propose waking him. "Lord, if he sleep," they said, "he shall do well."

But Jesus "spake of his death"—not "taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead."

Death, then, is like a dreamless sleep, in which the emotions of love, hate, and envy are unknown. There is no consciousness of the passage of time, or even concern for the well-being of loved ones. (Job 14:21.) There is no grief at their failures or joy in their successes. "*He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him any more*" (Job 7:10).

This condition of unconsciousness in both death and sleep is frequently emphasized by both Old and New Testament writers. For instance, in writing to the Corinthian Christians, Paul says, "But now is Christ risen from the *dead*, and become the first-fruits of them that *slept*" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Further, in verse 51, he gives the heartening assurance, "We shall not all *sleep*, but we shall all be changed."

Again, in 1 Thessalonians 4:13, Paul refers to death and the certain hope of a future resurrection: "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are *asleep*, . . . even as others which have no hope."

Actually death is compared to sleep at least fifty times in the Scriptures. One readily recalls, for instance, the thirty-six times in the record of the history of the kings of old, when the writer states simply, "He *slept* with his fathers." (1 Kings 2:10; 2 Kings 10:35; 15:7; 16:20; et cetera.)

In modern times we have a further illustration of unconsciousness in death—the experience most of us have had of being given an anæsthetic. At one moment we are looking up at a hospital ceiling, and the next, it seems, we are back in bed. The first ques-

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GOD spoke messages of warning many times through His faithful servants in the past. He used Noah, Moses, Jeremiah, Daniel, and others, but people hardened their hearts. "They mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his people, till there was no remedy" (2 Chronicles 36:16).

God punished the wicked ones in ancient times. They perished through water, fire, sword, earthquake, hail, and storm; for He cannot be mocked. God is not partial. He is no respecter of persons. He judges everyone according to his wickedness. History is a witness of God's righteous judgements.

But someone might ask, If God has spoken such a powerful language in the past—hundreds of years ago—why is He quiet in our time? Why do the blasphemers mock Him today and He does not answer? There are many scoffers who mock, but nothing ever happens to them. Why?

Let us look at some comparatively recent events which prove that God cannot be mocked in our century any more than in the centuries before Christ. May God help us to realize that His warnings are for us today, as much as they were for the people of ancient times.

1. *The eruption on Martinique.*

The city of St. Pierre, called the "Paris of the West Indies," celebrated a great banquet on Good Friday, 1902. A crucified, roasted pig was the main dish on the menu of the gala dinner. After the dinner a great procession marched to the top of Mount Pelee. The procession was led by a man who carried a caricature of Christ. After they arrived at the crater of the volcano, the caricature was thrown down, and scornful laughter followed this blasphemous scene.

Did they fear God's punishment? Oh, no! Since 1502, when Columbus sighted the volcano, Mount Pelee had been harmless. The last brief spurt in 1851 was mild and did not bring any harm. So why fear?

A few days later thin columns of smoke rose from the extinct volcano. Mr. Laudis, professor of natural science in the St. Pierre school, saw the smoke, but declared there was no danger. Several faint detonations followed days later, and on May 4 a tremor shook the mountain as if God were warning the people to repent from their wickedness. A last warning came two days before the disaster. But a commission of noted scientists had declared there was no danger. Even Mr. Mouttet, governor of the island, came from the capital to St. Pierre to reassure the people that there was positively no danger. So the inhabitants joked and laughed: "Uncle Big [as the volcano was called by the people] is foolish to try to frighten us!"

But then on May 8, at the Feast of the Ascension, the volcano erupted at 7:50 a.m. with such power that in three minutes the godless city had been totally destroyed and 33,000 lives buried under the ruins, among them Governor Mouttet and all the scientists.

2. *The earthquake in Messina in 1908.*

Messina was a religious city; otherwise there would not have been 125 churches there. The people

read with pleasure their magazine *Il Telefono*, which was published in a quantity of 25,000. On December 25, 1908, the magazine printed a long blasphemous poem in which Christ was mocked. One stanza read: "O thou, my little baby, who art the true man and the true god [notice the small letter], we pray to thee, hear our voice and through love to thy cross please send upon all of us an earthquake!"

Their request was granted, and three days later, on December 28, came the dreadful disaster which took nearly 80,000 lives, among them two-thirds of the priests. Of the 125 churches, 124 were destroyed and only one remained undamaged. Being the oldest building in the town, it was closed for a long time, for fear the church would collapse and kill the worshippers. It seemed as if God wanted to show how displeased He is with worship which is a form only, without Christian life and spirit.

3. *The flood in Paris.*

There was a great discussion about school, religion, and God in the French Parliament in 1910. One infidel congressman jumped from his seat during the session and shouted, "If your God is almighty, let Him show it at last!"

God answered in a few days, when the Seine River overflowed and caused great damage in the capital of France, where several ungodly people lost their lives.

4. *The sinking of the "Titanic."*

Many people still remember the greatest disaster of navigation. The largest and richest ship in the

**you
cannot
mock
God**

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

An artist illustrates what it would be like if, were God's patience exhausted, He permitted the destructive powers of evil bombard some of the world's more sinful cities.

world left Southampton, England, April 10, 1912, never to reach the coast of America. The ship alone cost about \$7,500,000. The riches of the passengers amounted to many millions. One lady alone carried with her diamonds valued at \$1,000,000.

With music and the laughter of the 2,300 passengers and the throng at the harbour, the "Titanic" left Southampton. In haughty conceit the director of the ship's company waved his hand and stated, "There is no God strong enough to sink our mighty

ship. The powerful pumps and hermetical locks are sufficient to bring our 'Titanic' to New York even if something should happen. No God, no Christ, is able to send this vessel to the bottom of the sea."

Sunday, April 14, was a merry and happy day. The people danced, rejoiced, played cards, ate, and drank. Two tennis courts, a theatre, a gymnasium, a smoking hall, a gambling room, dancing halls, movies, orchestras, and many billiard tables provided a variety of pleasure. The passengers joked,

laughed, mocked, and blasphemed. God was forgotten. Suddenly at 10:30 p.m., when many were in bed, a terrible shock was felt throughout the ship, and many people fell from their beds. Frightened men and women ran to and fro asking what had happened. "Nothing; go to bed," ordered the captain.

The ship had received warnings: Icebergs in sight! But the proud, self-confident captain had disregarded them. He, too, was convinced there was no power, whether in heaven, or on earth, strong enough to sink the mighty vessel. Even after the dreadful impact, the captain was sure the "Titanic" was strong enough to face the danger; but the ship started to sink. The alarm was given. Passengers ran to the lifeboats. But there were only sixteen boats! Why? Since there was no God in heaven or any power upon earth able to destroy the "Titanic," there was no need for lifeboats.

Once more the orchestra came together, but this time not for dance music. "Nearer, My God, to Thee!" sounded the melody until the water washed away the musicians. More than 1,500 persons perished.

One of the passengers was an American millionaire named Harris, who was on his honeymoon with his young bride, Mrs. Harris found a place in a lifeboat, but he had to stay on the ship, although he offered half his wealth for a place in the lifeboat. Nobody was eager to get that money. It could not help them; neither will it help at the great judgment day.

5. *The flood in Leningrad.*

The Russian Empire fell: the czar, who was head of the church in Russia, was killed; and the different political parties fought until one of them won the sovereignty. After the political struggle was over, a war was started, this time against God and religion. An ostentatious procession was arranged in 1924. Criminals discharged from prisons, disguised as priests and monks, demoralized women disguised as nuns, marched through the main street of Leningrad with images of saints, crucifixes, prayer books, and Bibles,

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TWO AND A HALF centuries ago, so it is reported, Sir Isaac Newton, England's illustrious mathematician and philosopher, studied Bible prophecy and anticipated a time when men would travel fifteen or twenty miles an hour. In those days such speed seemed preposterous. Agnostics ridiculed, protesting that this man of giant intellect was slipping into his dotage.

In 1873, when Jules Verne narrated the imaginary journey of Phineas Fogg in his colourful novel "*Around the World in Eighty Days*," people regarded it as highly fantastic. What would they think if they could know of our astronauts orbiting the globe in ninety minutes?

During the past century and a half the world has advanced from the horse-and-buggy age to the steam age, to the electric age, to the radio and radar age, to the nuclear age, and now to the space age. A hundred years ago people imagined that about everything inventable had been invented; but today no one is simple enough to conceive that we have reached the heights of accomplishment.

Never before, either in government or in private industry, has there been such a vast army of research chemists, physicists, and nuclear engineers; and many of these are predicting a future that will be glamorous, breath taking, and incredible.

Some scientists believe they have identified the basic material of all life. It is the long molecule of DNA, and it "seems to be life's queen-bee molecule from which spring all other essential molecules of life." They believe that the rewards from further research will be without limit, that cancer and other dread diseases may be eliminated, and that the life-span of many forms of life, including that of human beings, may be lengthened indefinitely.

Electronic experts predict that someday all motor vehicles will be powered by atomic energy. They further conceive that this force may become almost as "free as the un-metered air" to transform enormous quantities of the briny seas into fresh water, enabling vast desert regions to "blossom as the rose." Other scientists expect that ere long guided missiles will be employed to transport both passengers and mail from take-off to safe destination within a few minutes. Others look forward to a time when "amplified light," with the pressing of a button, will turn night

into day, eliminating the present light bulbs and reducing light bills to a trifle.

Turning skyward, qualified astronauts envision as many spacecraft as there are stars in the firmament, while some cherish the hope of establishing outposts in space, on the moon, even on Mars and Venus.

The above are but a few of the amazing dreams of modern scientists; and with more than a million and a half research workers in the United States alone we may well expect thrill after thrill, with dramatic impact upon multitudes of the human race.

With all our discoveries, inventions, and successes, have we stopped to inquire, Is God interested in all this spectacular march of events? Did He know that this unprecedented era of progress would burst upon the world, or has He been taken by surprise?

Far from it. He it is who declares "the end from the beginning." When communicating with Daniel the prophet regarding events to take place at "the time of the end," He informed him that "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" (Daniel 12:4). That prophecy was recorded two and a half millenniums ago, and the astounding developments of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries are unquestionably its fulfilment. Truly this age of miraculous achievement is big with import. We are living in "the time of the end."

Nor is the increase of scientific knowledge the only sign of our times. Scores of Bible prophecies are fulfilling about us, declaring that earth's sunset hour is near. Conditions now present in the world of industry and labour; in frenzied war preparations; in the underworld of vice and crime; and in religion and mission endeavour, all testify to the rapid fulfilment of Scripture. Look where we will in this twentieth-century drama, the events taking place in earth, sea, and sky give unquestioned evidence that this is the time of the end, and that Christ's second coming in power and glory is near at hand.

Man may predict a glamorous future, but God has in reserve for His people a fabulous future infinitely beyond the fantastic dreams of modern scientists.

Says the Scripture: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for



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Infinitely more wonderful than the most fantastic dreams of modern scientists are God's plans for the world of tomorrow.



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them that love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). The Bible begins with the description of a new world, and closes with the vivid portrayal of another new world. One was the dwelling place of our first parents before sin entered; the other will be the home of the redeemed after sin has been for ever removed.

The Bible also reveals that God's new-world project will be established upon this planet. (Matthew 5:5.) This globe that for six thousand years had groaned beneath the curse of sin and suffering is to be completely transformed to become the glorious dwelling place of the saved. (2 Peter 3:10 to 13.)

Nowhere does the Bible forecast a mystic abode of disembodied spirits. Instead it pictures a land inhabited by resurrected and translated men and women who have lived victorious Christian lives—a radiant reality, just as actual an existence as we now enjoy. Vineyards and orchards will be cultivated. Houses will be erected. Vast enterprises will be carried forward. (Isaiah 65:17 to 22.)

All marks of decay, all evidences of the curse, will be for ever removed. The entire surface of the globe will be a realm of peerless beauty, with no more parched deserts, vast oceans or wilderness wastes. (Isaiah 35:1; Revelation 21:1.) This complete transformation of the earth's surface is to be accomplished, not by means of modern technology, but by the same Divine power that created heaven and earth. In one of the last promises of Scripture, He who sits upon the throne declares, "Behold, I make all things new."

The metropolis of that country will be a city of wonders that baffle the imagination. In heavenly vision John the beloved beheld the New Jerusalem, the city foursquare, three hundred and seventy-five miles on each side, and embracing an area in excess of 130,000 square miles. In glowing terms he described the jasper walls, the pearly gates, the glistening streets of gold, and the palace grounds from which flows the sparkling river of life. Like a mighty banyan, with trunks on either side of the river, the tree of life will send forth its spreading branches to arch the tide, and to yield its monthly bounty of "twelve manner" of luscious fruit.

In that paradise of the future, will we recognize our friends? Yes, indeed. We shall know as we are known. In that charming home the affections of earth will be far sweeter and more

precious. There we shall meet and mingle with Abraham, Joseph, and Daniel, with Ruth, and Esther, and Mary, the most favoured of all women. There, too, we shall see the lovely Jesus, and hear from His lips the story of infinite sacrifice that led to Calvary, and that has brought cheer and uplift to multitudes in all ages. What a high honour and privilege it will be to listen to the Great Teacher as He unfolds the romance of creation, the secrets of nature, and the science of redemption that has re-created man in the divine image! Such themes will bring profound satisfaction and keenest delight.

What is more, this preview of God's fabulous future for His children is actually true, for it rests upon His sure and unfailing promises. To us the question of supreme import is this: Shall we be welcomed as guests and citizens? The entrance qualifications are clearly and simply stated. Christ calls for a completely loyal, surrendered, dedicated life; for "there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, . . . or maketh a lie." But the promise is given, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." And, precious assurance, that "inheritance incorruptible" is "reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God."

The Utopia predicted by research scientists leaves countless problems unsolved, but the glorious future provided in God's homeland will be completely ideal and perfectly satisfying.

Would you like to live in a country without illness, accidents, drunkenness, hospitals, or funeral processions?

Would you like to enjoy citizenship in a realm without monopolies, poverty, bandits, crime, police courts, corruption in high places, or prisons?

Would you be happy in a land without cyclones, floods, tidal waves, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, freezing cold, or burning heat?

Would you like to live in a glorious new world without racial jealousies, divorces, labour riots, scandal investigations, armies, navies, or bloodshed?—where love and goodwill fill every heart?

All this may be yours, "without money and without price." "The Spirit and the bride say, Come." Come today and find supreme satisfaction in Jesus. Be ready to welcome Him at His glorious second coming and share the fabulous future with Him.

—ROY F. COTRELL



The Hand

That Rocks

The Cradle

A tribute to mothers by

LEELA R. GNANASUNDRAM

"Sergeant, find the cause of the stir behind those bushes," said the captain. In a few moments the sergeant emerged with a mother and her two small children.

It was following the French Revolution. The woman had been driven from her home and had fled with her children to the woods, where they ate roots and leaves to keep alive.

As the captain looked at the gaunt faces his heart was filled with pity, so he gave the mother some bread from his knapsack. Like a famished animal the mother grasped the loaf, broke it into two pieces and handed each child a piece.

Surprised that she kept none for herself, the sergeant enquired of the captain, "Is it because she is not hungry?"

"No, it is because she is a mother," the captain answered.

"It is because she is a mother."

It is to you who are mothers that I dedicate this article. No matter who you may be, no matter what your place or condition in life, I stand in deepest respect because you have the wonderful title, MOTHER! I, a daughter of India,

bow to you who are mothers, regardless of your religion, colour, or caste!

Few mothers have the honour of giving to the world a child of great intellect who grows up to be an inventor, an explorer, a reformer, a great leader. But because a mother does not have that honour, does it mean that she deserves no praise? The truth is that each mother, if she fulfils her role as God intended, is the queen of her home and worthy of great honour.

"The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world" is more than a sentimental saying. It springs from a great truth. Mother's work is unique, for while it may be likened to that of an artist who paints a form of beauty on a canvas, it goes far beyond that. While it may be compared with that of a sculptor who chisels an exquisite form from marble, it exceeds that work infinitely. And while it may be likened to an author who expresses an ennobling thought on paper, it goes immeasurably beyond to express love, and beauty, and other virtues in a life.

Mother's work is God-given and

God-directed. It is that of moulding minds and characters for now and eternity, the most difficult duty a human being is called upon to do.

Napoleon once remarked, "Let France have good mothers, and she will have good sons." The destiny of each person depends to a large extent upon "the hand that rocks the cradle."

In Capetown, South Africa, some time ago, a crazed lioness left the jungle and made her way into the city. She roamed about the city streets roaring defiance while citizens fled before her.

Seeing an open door she sprang into the house and attacked the father and two children, who were playing together. The mother—usually a timid woman—attracted by the screams of the family, rushed to the scene and without hesitation threw herself on the back of the lioness and pulled at its ears until her husband was able to get his gun and shoot the beast.

I believe that almost any mother, however weak or timid, if circumstances demanded it, would display an equal measure of heroism. God has implanted in mothers

a bravery, and a willingness to sacrifice life itself, in order to protect her kind.

Under ordinary circumstances, mother is not called upon to perform such daring and risky feats. However, she deserves honour and praise, for she carries the tremendous responsibility of fighting the toughest battle at the home front! A mother toiling away, often under the most undesirable circumstances to bring up her children aright, needs to be recognized; mothers such as my own who find joy, satisfaction, and accomplishment in humble household duties; mothers who dedicate their all to bring up their children to be physically fit, to be worthy citizens of the land and to fear God. These deserve greater honour than a woman orbiting in space, or climbing the highest mountain peak, or completing a solo flight around the world!

There are mothers who shower all their love, care, patience, sympathy and tenderness upon their sons to make them good citizens only to lose them on the battlefields. It takes tremendous courage, stamina, bravery and sacrifice for a mother to let her son go to shed his blood in war. Should not such mothers whose hearts are torn and bleeding deserve to be recorded among those names which top the list of the greatest women?

Women with imagination and initiative could make a tremendous impact in the troubled atmosphere of the world today. Feminine influence, if directed rightly, could sway the world as strongly as "the hand that rocks the cradle" does to decide the destiny of her offspring. The hand that rocks the cradle has much to do with the rise or fall of a nation, for true greatness of a nation depends on healthy homes, and mother is the soul of the home. The mother who will stand for right principles and who will instil them into her children is a true nation-builder. And one of the greatest needs of the world today is women who will imbue our society with moral stamina and spiritual insight.

Great men have paid beautiful tributes to the hands that rocked their cradles. My favourite is Abraham Lincoln's, "All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." However, perhaps the most beautiful tribute that can

be paid to a mother is that of the Jewish proverb, "God could not be everywhere at once—and so He made mothers."

While it is true there are some mothers who seem to care not at all for their children, generally mother's love is something like God's love; it is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. Who other than a mother can be so understanding, so thoughtful, so tender, so sympathetic, so sincere, so loyal, so patient, so brave, so unselfish, so dear, so precious, so devoted, so loving. All respect, admiration, praise and honour to each faithful mother whose hand rocks the cradle and helps to mould the future of the world.

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Getting Rid of Ghosts

From page 7

tion invariably is, "What time is it?" and we are amazed to find that as much as six hours may have passed since our last conscious moment. We have been completely oblivious to all that has taken place during that time. So it is for those who "sleep" in death.

But the Bible picture of death is not wholly negative. We have only to think of another aspect to see the glory that lies beyond the tomb.

If there is one thing we take for granted when we go to sleep at night, it is the fact that there will be an awakening in the morning. Even so, God assures us in His Word, those who fall asleep in death will one day rise from their graves to live again.

Far back in Old Testament times this truth was understood. Triumphant Job declared, "Though . . . worms destroy this

body, yet in my flesh shall I see God" (Job 19:26). "If a man die, shall he live again?" he asked, and then supplied the answer: "Thou shalt call, and I will answer Thee" (Job 14:14, 15).

The human voice can awaken a sleeper in the morning, but only the voice of Jesus, "the Resurrection and the Life," can awaken those who sleep in the grave.

So from the Word of God it is clear that, because the dead know nothing, and because there is no thought or wisdom or knowledge in the grave, no "spirit" of a dead person can ever return to "haunt" a house.

However, if it is established that there are ghosts which haunt places, two questions still remain: Who are they? and, What can be done to get rid of them?

An experience well remembered by the writer, and one which has been duplicated in countless other places around the world, provides a clue both to the identity of these spirits and how most effectively to get rid of them.

A room in the dormitory of a certain college was at one time indisputably haunted. So frightening were the noises at night that even the bravest of the young men "sleeping" there, would sweat with fear.

It was decided that something must be done, and accordingly a group of ministers and leaders of a nearby church were called. In the "haunted" room a simple service of prayer was held. The power of the name of Jesus was invoked, and the spirit manifestations ceased immediately and permanently.

If, then, these spirits so fear the name of Jesus, it is obvious to any Christian that they are associated with the power which has always been in opposition to God and that they are to be shunned as something evil. They must be exorcised by the power of prayer. Paul accurately describes them as "the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness" (2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10).

For a successful anti-ghost week, the name of Jesus must be exalted and His power invoked. The "ghosts," or spirits, will flee as of old.

—EDGAR A. WARREN

(Note: That this study might be of permanent value, readers are invited to underline all the texts and to follow a simple plan of annotating alongside each text in the margin of their Bibles the next text in the study. Begin by entering the following information about the study on the flyleaf of your Bible as tabled below: serial number, title, first text, code letters, and total number of texts used. Then turn to the first text and write in the margin alongside it the second text with code letters and so on in chain reference fashion to the end.)

29 Jē-sūs answered and said unto them, Ye do err, / not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.
 30 For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.
 31 But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by

MARK YOUR BIBLE

Conducted by Bernard Pinghe

No.	Title	First Text	Code	No. of Texts
21	The Lord's Supper	John 13:11	LS	11

The Communion service was instituted to increase "mutual esteem and fellowship designed to stimulate and develop their love." It is primarily a service of "cleansing and forgiveness; a time for melting hard hearts and for healing broken friendships."

1. What statement by Jesus makes it obvious that there is a degree of impurity in each of us?

John 13:11. "Ye are not all clean." (2 LS John 13:14.)

Many deceive themselves and think they are religious, like the man who said, "All of you folks know the kind of life I have been living. I've wasted my money gambling, I've ruined my health by drinking. I've beaten my wife and children. I've been in jail for stealing. I am sorry for all this and I want the Lord to forgive me. But I'm thankful for one thing—through it all I never lost my religion!

2. What remedy did Jesus offer to keep us humble and to help us realize our state of sin?

John 13:14. "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet." (3 LS John 13:8.)

"The ordinance preceeding the Lord's Supper is to clear away these misunderstandings, to bring man out of his selfishness, down from his stilts of self-exaltation to the humility of heart that will lead him to serve his brother." E. G. White, *Desire of Ages*, p. 650.

3. How would the relationship between Jesus and Peter suffer if Peter had not had his feet washed?

John 13:8. "Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me." (4 LS 1 Corinthians 11:28.)

On October 12, 1915 Edith Cavell, the British nurse, went to her death like a saint before a German firing squad. To her chaplain she uttered two sentences that have been preserved in a bronze and granite monument. "I must realize that patriotism is



The washing of feet

THE LORD'S SUPPER

not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness toward anyone." There was no bitterness in the heart of Jesus even against Judas. Jesus washed his feet also.

4. Because many partake of Communion without much forethought what personal scrutiny is necessary?

1 Corinthians 11:28. "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup." (5 LS 1 Corinthians 11:27.)

Some recognize their sins only as far as others know them. They are like the boy who returned from his minister and said to a friend, "The minister questioned me today. He asked me if I had stolen any

chickens. I said, 'no.' He asked me if I had stolen any eggs, I said, 'no.' The minister was very pleased with me. I am glad that he did not ask me if I had stolen any ducks!"

5. Of what is a man guilty when he participates in this service with sin in his heart?

1 Corinthians 11:27. "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord." (6 LS Luke 22:19, 20.)

"One who fails to appreciate the incalculable debt he owes to the Saviour, and who treats with indifference the ordinance appointed to keep fresh in the minds of believers the death of Christ, is guilty of disrespect toward Him." S. D. A. Commentary on text.

6. How did Jesus inaugurate the Lord's Supper?

Luke 22:19, 20. "And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup . . . saying, This is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." (7 LS 1 Corinthians 11:26.)

"They are chosen for us, given to us: these rites of Baptism and Eucharist go back to Christ himself. There is nothing older than this in Christendom. Before theology; before all our ecclesiasticism; before ever a word of the New Testament was written, this was. This is the earliest Gospel. . . . We take Bread and we take the Cup because the Redeemer Himself is the fountain-head of this living tradition." J. S. Whale, D.D., *Christian Doctrine*, pp. 150, 151.

7. What is the only recorded statement of how frequently this ordinance is to be held?

1 Corinthians 11:26. "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (8 LS I Corinthians 11:24.)

"The supreme sacrament of the Christian church, the Lord's Supper, is filled with eschatological tension. . . . In this sacrament the Christian community lives by a great memory and a great hope." Reinhold Niebuhr, *Faith and History*, p. 241.

The cup of unfermented wine



WAITING FOR US

There is a very large part of the Bible which can be received by us only when we come into the places for which the words were given. There are promises for weakness which we can never get while we are strong. There are words for times of danger which we can never know while we need no protection. There are consolations for sickness whose comfort we can never get while we are in robust health. There are promises for times of loneliness, when men walk in solitary ways, which never can come with real meaning to us while loving companions are by our side. There are words for old age which we never can appropriate for ourselves along the years of youth, when the arm is strong, the blood warm, the heart brave. God cannot show us the stars while the sun shines in the heavens.

—J. R. Miller

8. Of what significance is the bread?

1 Corinthians 11:24. "Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." (9 LS Matthew 26:28.)

Goethe said, "The highest cannot be spoken; it can only be acted. The supreme Christian Sacrament is a drama. As often as we eat the Bread and drink the Cup we do show forth the dying of the Lord Jesus; we do re-enact the drama, which thus exhibits, . . . the mystery of our Redemption. . . . This is our Symbol because He said, 'Do this in remembrance of Me.'" Quoted by J. S. Whale, D.D., *Christian Doctrine*, p. 151.

9. To represent the blood what did Jesus provide?

Matthew 26:28. "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." (10 LS Luke 22:15.)

"We gave Him a cross to carry,
A cross that our hands had made,
And His blood was a stain upon it—
But the price of sin was paid."

—RUTH GIBBS ZWALL.

10. At the inauguration of this service how intense was the desire of Jesus to participate in it?

Luke 22:15. "With desire have I desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer." (11 LS Matthew 26:29.)

11. What is the permanent blessing to all those who participate in this service?

Matthew 26:29. "I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." (LS//)

"They [the disciples] did not believe that they would have a long time to mourn: after that other vintage time . . . the Master would return . . . to summon them to the great wedding of Heaven and Earth to the everlasting banquet." G. Papini, *Life of Christ*, p. 360.



A Bath For Tinker

Sonya sat in the living-room playing with her kitten, Tinker. Mrs. Shah had given her the tiny kitten when it was only a few weeks old. Its mother had been killed on the road. Tinker had been so tiny that Sonya had had to feed it warm milk several times a day. Now the kitten was big enough to run around and chase bits of string. Sonya loved her little kitten.

From the splashing sounds that came from the bathroom, Sonya knew that Mother was giving her little brother Vijay a bath. This gave her an idea. "Why don't I give Tinker a bath?" she said to herself.

Sonya ran to the bathroom to tell Mother the idea.

"Why, Sonya," Mother said, "tiny kittens like Tinker are too young to have a bath. Cats do not like water anyway. Do you know how a cat has a bath? If Tinker had a mother she would keep her clean with her tongue."

"But Tinker doesn't have a mummy to keep her clean," Sonya said.

"No, she doesn't," Mother agreed. "But we had better wait until she is old enough to wash herself and not take the chance of making her sick."

Sonya walked back to the living-room and the box that was Tinker's bed, but the idea to bathe Tinker wouldn't leave her head.

Later that day Mother went to the store on the corner. Sonya was left at home to play with her dolly while Vijay took his nap. Mother told Sonya she would be away only a little while.

Sonya sat in the living-room quietly playing with her dolly when she thought, "I could give Tinker a bath while Mother is

gone. I could have her all dry before Mother comes back." Sonya knew she shouldn't disobey Mother. She knew it was Satan whispering to her.

"It won't matter just this once, though," she said to herself. "I can put Tinker by the heater and get her dry right away."

Sonya filled the basin with water and made suds with the soap. When she put Tinker in the basin, Tinker put out her tiny claws and meowed. She didn't like the bath at all. Then the little body began to shiver and Tinker made pitiful little crying noises.

Sonya began to wonder if maybe Mother had been right after all. How she wished she hadn't disobeyed. She lifted the little kitten from the soapy water and rubbed her with a towel, but still Tinker shivered and meowed.

At last Mother returned from the store and Sonya told her what she had done. "Oh, Mother, I am so sorry I disobeyed you. What if Tinker dies?" she cried.

"Yes, Sonya, I wish you had obeyed me, too. It is very important to obey even when you don't understand. You have not only hurt yourself and Tinker, but the angels and Jesus are sad, too," Mother said.

Sonya walked away from her kitten that lay shivering on the towel. She went to her room and knelt by her bed. "Dear Jesus," she prayed, "please forgive me for not minding Mummy, and please make Tinker well. Amen."

When Sonya got up from her knees, she dried her eyes. She knew that God would do what was best for Tinker.

Daddy returned from work, and mother told him what Sonya had done. Daddy looked at the kitten. "It does look like a very sick kitten. I think we had better take the kitten to the veterinarian. Maybe he will be able to help her."

The veterinarian shook his head and said, "I don't know if anything can be done, but I'll give her a shot and then all we can do is hope."

"No," Sonya thought, "there is something else I can do. I can pray, too."

It was two days before the veterinarian called Sonya's home. He told Sonya's mother that she could come down to the office and

To page 17

Why

Susheela

Susheela was a young mother who had two small children. Her husband was successful in his business and they led the usual life of prosperous homemakers who also attempt to make their contribution to the community. But Susheela found little pleasure in their prosperity or their social position, for she was tired all the time. Her husband became alarmed and took her to a nearby medical centre to see if the cause of her fatigue could be determined by a thorough search.

She spent several days in the hospital while various laboratory tests were being done. When her physician had completed his search and had checked all of the results of the tests, he was baffled. He could find nothing to account for her chronic fatigue. So he called in consultation, and together the doctors probed her case. Results—the same. No cause could be found. At the end of her interview with the consultant a friend stopped at her bedside. "Well?" the question was asked.

"He told me to go home and be carefree. And just how do I do that?"

For an instant the friend who was also a nurse was nonplussed. Then she remembered how she too had been in a comparable situation and had found help. Her help had come in the form of an invitation spoken by the Great Physician nearly two thousand years ago, and recorded in Scripture for all time, but the message it conveys is as fresh—and as healing—as when the words were uttered. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart:

Felt Better



and ye shall find rest unto your souls" (Matthew 11:28, 29).

As the import of that loving invitation was brought home to Susheela's mind, she recognized that here was the help she had been seeking—and it was free! And after all the money they had spent with no results! Gradually she relaxed as she learned to place her cares and burdens upon One who was equipped to carry them. How grateful she was. In a measure she did go home carefree as she later wrote to her friend, "I am feeling better though on the surface I see nothing to account for it."

There are many emotional burdens carried by the sons and daughters of men that may be laid aside when they realize that through Jesus Christ they may become sons and daughters of God by accepting His invitation to "Come." Some of these emotions that bring weariness and weaken the life forces are grief, anger, fear, anxiety, guilt, distrust, discontent, remorse. These emotions, if not checked, will result in illness of both mind and body.

You may say, "But I can't control my emotions." And the Word of God responds with the assurance, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippian 4:13). And as an echo from the ages comes back the

words, "He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might He increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, . . . they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:29 to 31).

Who is better prepared to give counsel regarding the care of that wonderful organism, your body, with all of its complexities, than the One who formed it and breathed into it the breath of life, the One who "forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases"? (Psalm 103:3). He recommends: "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." (Psalm 55:22). "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart" (Psalm 27:14). "My God shall supply all your need" (Philippians 4:19). "They that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing" (Psalm 34:10).

These are only a few passages of many that a loving heavenly Father holds before us. The emotions they awaken, hope, faith, love, gratitude, courage, have a healing effect upon every portion of the body, mind, and soul. Why not try it?

LUCILLE JOY SMALL

Tinker

From page 16

get the kitten. It seemed to be much better.

At the office the little kitten meowed when Sonya stroked its head. The doctor smiled at Sonya and said that Tinker would probably be all right and that she could take the kitten home. "But," he said to Sonya sternly, "keep her away from water, young lady. You must remember that your mother knows best."

Sonya picked Tinker up carefully and wrapped her in a warm blanket. As she started out to the car she said a special thank-you to Jesus and vowed that she would never disobey again.

—LUANNA LOEFFLER

You Cannot Mock God

From page 9

singing atheistic and blasphemous songs. Finally the procession stopped at a square. They heaped up all the Bibles, and ecclesiastical objects and stirred up a big bonfire, laughing and mocking that there is no God any more, because they burned Him in the fire, and that there is no Bible—the opium of the priests—any more.

But God cannot be mocked. In a few days the Neva River overflowed, and the godless city lost much property and many lives.

6. *A blasphemer torn in pieces.*

In 1939 the German army besieged Lvov, which was defended by the Poles. From time to time hostile aeroplanes whirled over the city and dropped bombs. The tenants of a large apartment house assembled in the shelter under the house in order to save their lives. A Christian lady prayed to God, asking for protection. Other people joined her in prayer. But her husband, an atheist, cursed God. The neighbours tried to stop him but the more they asked him to calm down, the more he cursed God. "If there is a God in heaven, let Him shut my mouth!"

Suddenly a bomb hit the build-

ing, one wall fell down, and a shell fragment hit the man in his mouth. The blasphemous tongue was silenced for ever. The dead man was carried to the cemetery, and hardly was the coffin put down in the earth when another bomb whirled down in the grave and the coffin flew up in the air. After the scared mourners recovered from their consternation, they discovered that no one was hurt; but neither the coffin nor the body of the blasphemer could be found, except a few very small pieces of flesh scattered all over the cemetery. Said the neighbours, "Surely this man must have been a great sinner."

You cannot mock God.

Someone may ask, Why did God punish these cities, nations and persons, and yet does not punish all other blasphemers? Were the afflicted ones worse than other sinners? Surely not. Why then did He choose to punish certain people and not others? Christ gives the answer:

"There were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:1 to 5).

Is our heart open to the voice of the Lord when He speaks to us gently, or are we waiting until He has to speak powerfully? Let us open our soul, our mind, our heart, and listen to God as Samuel did: "The Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth" (1 Samuel 3:10). Every person has the same privilege of responding to God's appeal.

—EDMUND KLUTE

Rules For Happiness

From page 5

3. Don't meet your low moods by thinking trouble will help to make you good. Some parents think their children must go through a lot of trouble in order to develop character, so they give them plenty of it. Such thinking is poisonous. The idea that good is the result of evil is false. The best sign of being able to have a happy home is to come from one. Children that do not come from happy homes usually find it difficult to get along with other people.

You have perhaps heard of the man who was walking along with a certain family. His collar was unbuttoned, so one of the solicitous friends asked, "What is wrong? I see your collar is unbuttoned and you have a bandage around your neck."

"Yes," answered the man, "I have a number of large boils there, but then, I suppose it's good for us to suffer a little. It teaches us patience."

At that point a six-year-old girl interrupted with a wise idea. "Well," she said, "if pain is good for you, why don't you button your collar?"

The philosophy that the more trouble you have the better you'll be is poor philosophy. We must believe that trouble is an enemy, but that we can take that enemy and wrest some good from him.

4. Learn to adjust. Learn to be flexible like the trees on a windy coastline. The winds have blown against them for years and they have learned to give, but they do not break. They give and come back. An outstanding psychiatrist has said that people break because they cannot adjust.

5. Anticipate low ebbs. This is infinitely important. We must realize and accept that life has its low moments as well as its high ones. Can you laugh when you're low? Can you say, "Well, here I go down; but it won't be for long. I'll be up again"? The music of human experience is played in different keys. If it were all in one key, it would become monotonous. The ocean is not always calm,

quietly reflecting the sun. Sometimes the breakers heave and foam and roar tempestuously.

6. Co-operate with adversity. Does this seem strange? For fourteen years a severe backache has kept a man I know in almost constant pain. He says that the only time he can't bear this misfortune is when he has a compulsion to get rid of it; but as he accepts it and co-operates with it, he says he can go on with his life-work. The pain doesn't direct him; he directs his pain.

7. Never dwell on defeat. I like the statement by Tommy Hendricks who was a great baseball player. He wrote in a book, "Whenever our team loses, I forget that and focus on the next game and make up my mind that the next game is going to be successful. I do that, not because I'm a poor loser, but because I'm so dreadfully afraid that if I keep my eyes on defeat, I will attract it to myself."

8. Acquire a sense of humour. Laugh at yourself. When you suffer from morning blues, look in the mirror and laugh at your own depressed image. Don't take yourself so seriously that you forget how to smile.

9. Take time to reflect. It is always well to think through your problems. And the most comforting part is that you need never face them alone. There is Someone who has already gone through your adversities. He understands fully. The psalmist says, "In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord" (Psalm 77:2). Talk over your problem with God. Tell Him exactly how you feel. Find a quiet spot and solve your mood with Him. He will help you find joy again.

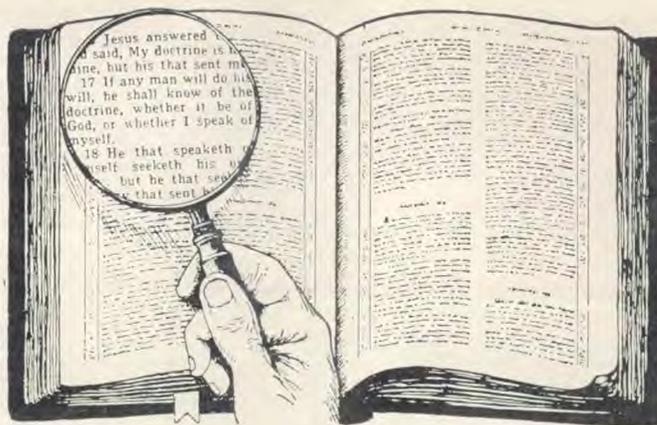
If you are to overcome the early morning blues, you must identify yourself with your better hours. Claim joy, peace, serenity, as your rightful heritage. If some have wronged you, think of those who have always loved you. If some have mistreated you, remember that there are some who would not hurt you for anything in the world. If the day seems dark, remember that the sun still shines behind the clouds. Early morning blues can become early morning jubilees.

—ARTHUR L. BETZ

ANSWERS FROM THE BOOK

Conducted by the Voice of Prophecy

Questions related to Bible subjects or personal spiritual problems are invited. Address to "From the Book", Box 35, Poona 1, India.



Christ's Kingdom

Please explain these scriptures. Christ said, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). But He asked us to pray, "Thy kingdom come" (Matthew 6:10).

When Christ said, "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence," He was speaking to Pilate, the Roman governor before whom He was accused of seeking to establish a kingdom in opposition to the Roman authority. Pilate seemed to understand the nature of Christ's kingdom better than His own disciples did. A few hours before Jesus spoke these words to Pilate, Peter had attempted to defend Christ with a sword, but Jesus had told him to put up his sword (John 18:11).

The kingdom of Christ is established in the world by the work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of men. For this kingdom we are to pray, "Thy kingdom come." Also we look forward to and pray for the time when He will come sitting upon "the throne of his glory" (Matthew 19:28; 25:31), to establish His everlasting kingdom, of which there shall be no end (Isaiah 9:7; Daniel 2:44; Revelation 11:15).

Repentance of Adam and Eve

The Bible says that our first parents, Adam and Eve, disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden and were chased out. This resulted in sin and evil in the world. Did they ever repent after being cast out?

Although the Bible does not contain a direct answer to this question, the experience of Adam and Eve after their sin makes us believe that they repented of their sin.

When God sent them out of the Garden of Eden, He gave them a promise. He said, "I will put enmity between thee [the serpent or the devil] and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed [Eve's progeny who was the Messiah]; it [the Messiah or the Son of God] shall bruise thy head, and thou [devil] shalt bruise his heel [bring about the death of the Messiah on the cross]."

An indication that Eve believed in God's promise is found in what she said when her first son was born:

"I have gotten a man from the Lord" (Genesis 4:1). She believed that her first son, Cain, was the promised seed who would bruise the devil's head and deliver the human family from sin.

But Cain was different. He became the first murderer and after he slew his own brother, Abel, his mother Eve transferred her hope on yet another son named Seth. "For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew" (Genesis 4:25).

The hope of salvation existed in Eve's heart, though she did not fully understand how or when it was to be realized. She could not have had this hope without repentance. Adam must have shared her sorrow for sin and her faith in the Saviour to come.

The Temptation of Jesus

I am puzzled about Jesus spending forty days in the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Was He tempted the whole forty days, or did He fast during this time and was afterward tempted?

The following statement by an oft-quoted Bible commentator makes this point clear:

"When Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted, He was led by the Spirit of God. He did not invite temptation. He went to the wilderness to be alone, to contemplate His mission and work. By fasting and prayer He was to brace Himself for the blood-stained path He must travel. But Satan knew that the Saviour had gone into the wilderness, and he thought this the best time to approach Him. . . . When Jesus entered the wilderness, He was shut in by the Father's glory. Absorbed in communion with God, He was lifted above human weakness. But the glory departed, and He was left to battle with temptation. It was pressing upon Him every moment. His human nature shrank from the conflict that awaited Him. For forty days He fasted and prayed. Weak and emaciated from hunger, worn and haggard with mental agony, 'His visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men' [Isaiah 52:14]. Now was Satan's opportunity. Now he supposed that he could overcome Christ."—E. G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, pages 114, 118.

But Jesus overcame the devil. The devil could not conquer Him.

THEMES FOR THOUGHT



You cannot prevent the birds of sorrow from flying over your head, but you can prevent them from building nests in your hair.
—Chinese Proverb

Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.
—George Washington

Strong feelings do not necessarily make a strong character. The strength of a man is to be measured by the power of the feelings he subdues, not by the power of those that subdue him.

—Anonymous

Even in this world of sorrow, disappointment, and sin, the Lord desires us to be cheerful, and strong in His strength.
—Ellen G. White.

All things in the universe, including the sun and the moon and the stars, obey certain laws. Without the restraining influence of these laws, the world will not go on for a single moment. . . . It is discipline and restraint that separate us from the brute.

—Mahatma Gandhi