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## WHAT THE VOICE OF PROPHECY MEANS TO SOUTHERN ASIA

ROBERT H. PIERSON

**A**LTHOUGH Voice of Prophecy Day comes to our churches but once a year, every day is Voice of Prophecy day throughout Southern Asia. As the thrilling reports come in from all parts of the Division we are again and again reminded that the radio broadcasts and the Bible Correspondence School are two of God's divinely appointed agencies for finishing His work in these intriguing Oriental countries with their teeming millions of judgment-bound souls.

Just what does the Voice of Prophecy mean to Southern Asia?

First, *the Voice of Prophecy breaks down prejudice.* Not long ago when one of our students, a dental surgeon, sent in his last test paper he made this confession: "I openly admit that before I joined your school I hated even the name of Christ. Christianity

was to me then the embodiment of all that is bad. But now what a change has been wrought in my thinking and in my life! I now owe you a great debt. You have given me the key to the riches of heaven—the unsearchable riches of Jesus." How true it is that for many the Voice of Prophecy has broken through barriers of prejudice and emptied the riches of grace in Christ Jesus into their lives.

*The Voice of Prophecy creates interests in the gospel and the third angel's message.* One of our faithful colporteurs called upon a high caste Hindu doctor who was in search of peace of mind. After visiting for a while our brother enrolled the doctor in the Voice of Prophecy Bible Course and went his way. One year later the colporteur called on this same doctor again. After telling of

the joy that had come to his heart through studying the lessons the doctor said, "I was a Hindu when you called last year, but now I am a Christian. I study my Bible daily and in its teachings I found the peace I sought."

A few days ago I was attending service in one of our churches located in a large city. After the meeting I stood at the door greeting old friends. The pastor then introduced me to a very fine cultured lady and her daughter who were requesting baptism. Later the pastor revealed that this lady's husband is the head of one of the large firms for all of India. She had been a social leader in many of India's cities. When her mother died she grieved greatly. In search of solace she turned to Spiritualism but no comfort came.

*(Continued on p. 5)*

**Don't  
Forget**

VOICE OF PROPHECY DAY

FEBRUARY 13

GOAL—Rs. 3,650

**ONWARD**

and

**UPWARD**

A. E. RAWSON

Saviour. Hundreds, if not thousands of these, are secretly following Christ waiting only for the opportunity to openly confess Him.

In addition to our English school in Poona, we have seven branch schools in the vernacular languages. There is scarcely a place in this great Division that has not been reached through this God-ordained agency.

The Voice of Prophecy is building up a reservoir of goodwill throughout this Division that will be of great value to us in time of trouble. No matter where you go, you will find Bible School students and radio-listeners. The way in which the message has spread in this Division, in so short a period of time, is nothing short of a miracle.

From almost every section of this fair land, come reports from our workers telling of the opening of new work in hitherto unentered territories.

The other day I received a letter from Brother Nowrangi, Voice of Prophecy secretary for the Northeast Union. He says that in one section of that field four new Sabbath schools, eight companies and three churches have been organized as a result of the interest created by the Voice of Prophecy. What a wonderful record it is and how our hearts thrill at this good news!

Brother Pinghe, Voice of Prophecy secretary for the Ceylon Union, writes: "During 1953 two churches, several companies, and several Sabbath schools, have been organized as a result of the interest created by the Voice of Prophecy."

We often talk of unentered territories but you will be glad to know that there are no unentered territories in this Division. The gospel messages, as given by the Voice of Prophecy, have penetrated every barrier, and leaped every hurdle.

We have a number of students in Afghanistan, thirty students in Baluchistan, 1,400 students in Kashmir, 30 students in Sikkim, a number of students in Bhutan, a dozen students in Tibet, and almost 400 students in Nepal.

You will be glad to know that we now have students living in the Andaman islands and we also have some students in the Maldivian islands.

We have 260 students in the Khasi hills of Assam, 350 students in the Lushai hills, 360 students in the Naga hills, and some hundreds in the Garo hills. We also have scores of students taking our English and Burmese courses living in the Chin hills of Burma.

In Matthew 13:17 we read these words:

"For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see *those* things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear *those* things which ye hear, and have not heard them."

In 1836 the servant of the Lord gave us this message:

"Our people have been regarded as too insignificant to be worthy of notice. **BUT A CHANGE WILL COME.**"

We believe that this prophecy has been fulfilled. Today we are witnessing this change. We also believe that the Voice of Prophecy, in its dual capacity—the Bible School programme and the radio broadcasts—has played a very important part in bringing about this change.

What a wonderful privilege it is to have a part in this transition. Wherever you go in Southern Asia, the Voice of Prophecy is bringing Adventism to the forefront. It is breaking down prejudice and it is stirring hearts to make decisions of eternal consequence—and many are requesting baptism through this ministry.

I think that most of us know something of the work being done by the Voice of Prophecy. Therefore, it is sufficient to say that, within a period of six years, 305,000 men and women have applied for the Voice of Prophecy lessons and 185,000 have become active students of the school. Of this number, 60,000 have graduated, and 20,000 have written in expressing their acceptance of Jesus Christ as their divine

**DO YOU KNOW?**

(Throughout the World)

That the Voice of Prophecy is broadcasting over 928 radio stations every week.

That there are ten Voice of Prophecy radio quartettes.

That we own eight radio production studios with more in the making.

That the Voice of Prophecy and its associated radio programmes reach more than four fifths of the world's population.

That the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence School lessons are offered in more than fifty different languages.

That the Voice of Prophecy Bible Schools throughout the world have passed the two and a half million mark in enrollment.

That it costs one crore of rupees (over two million U. S. dollars) to run the Voice of Prophecy radio programme and Bible Schools throughout the world each year.

## Radio Broadcasts

Radio knows no bounds! God has made this modern convenience possible that it might span the Iron Curtain, pierce the Bamboo Barrier, and flash across trackless jungles, with the story of hope. The numberless islands of the sea are joined together when radio carries the message, and the long weary miles of mountain treks melt away before tireless ether waves.

Through our radio broadcasts, thousands have found Christ and scores have been baptized. I wish I had space to relate more of the thrilling letters that come to our office. I shall just briefly refer to a few of these:

1. A lady living in Italy who listened to our broadcast over Radio Ceylon has recently been baptized.

2. In Rhodesia, Africa, several families have been baptized. We have also received letters from other sections of Africa telling us of baptisms resulting from people listening in to the broadcasts over Radio Ceylon.

3. A young man in Indonesia, who listened to the radio, was convinced of the truth. He was later baptized. He is now preparing for the ministry in one of our colleges.

4. Many in England and in Europe have also been baptized as a result of first hearing the message over Radio Ceylon.

5. A Chinese gentleman, living in Malaya, listened in to our Voice of Prophecy broadcast, accepted the truth, and was baptized. He recently left for America for further studies.

Yes, thousands are listening in to our radio programmes. They form a vast unseen audience and time and eternity alone will reveal the actual harvest of souls won to the kingdom through the messages heard over the air!

At the present time, thirteen broadcasts are released over the air each week—eleven over Radio Ceylon and two over Radio Burma.

These broadcasts herald the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour. The radio broadcasts, in conjunction with the Bible Correspondence School, is the greatest single evangelizing agency now available to God's people.

We have received letters from radio listeners living in practically every country of the world. Think of it, friends. We have radio listeners in ten different countries in Europe, ten countries in the Middle East, fifteen countries in Southeast Asia,



## DO YOU KNOW?

(In Southern Asia)

That the Voice of Prophecy radio programme is released eleven times over Radio Ceylon every Sunday and twice over Radio Burma.

That "Your Radio Doctor," a health programme, is becoming very popular throughout Southern Asia.

That the Burmese government is broadcasting "Your Radio Doctor" twice a week—once in English and once in Burmese.

That a unique dramatized programme titled, "Your Story Hour" is now on the air over Radio Ceylon.

That we are now broadcasting a Hindustani and a Tamil programme each week.

That we have a Tamil-Hindustani King's Herald quartette.

That the Voice of Prophecy in Southern Asia opened three more vernacular schools (Tamil, Burmese and Chinese) during 1953.

That a Malayalam branch school will be opened the early part of 1954.

That 18,000 students have declared themselves in favour of the seventh-day Sabbath.

That more than 20,000 non-Christians have expressed their faith and belief in Jesus Christ.

That thousands of men and women have become members of our branch Sabbath schools after completing our Bible courses.

That many new companies and churches have been organized as a result of the interest created by the Voice of Prophecy.

That during the past seven years 3,398,985 Voice of Prophecy lessons have been placed in the hands of men and women in Southern Asia. In addition to this millions of tracts and other magazines have been distributed.

That the following number of men and women in Southern Asia have requested Voice of Prophecy lessons.

Poona English School	202,116
Burma English School	2,936
Ceylon English School	10,156
Sinhalese School	19,665
Hindi School	32,675
Urdu School	17,769
Tamil School	17,744
Burmese School	1,544
Chinese School	211
Kashmir School	729

Total 305,545

**That your gift, be it large or small, would help us continue this work of faith. Your contribution will be much appreciated.**

and fifteen countries in Africa. We have radio listeners in Sikkim, Afghanistan, Nepal, the Andaman islands, Tibet, Bhutan—yes, in almost every country of the world.

We have received letters from naval officers aboard ocean liners plying between India and England. We have received letters from air force pilots who, while flying, have tuned in to our Voice of Prophecy programme over Radio Ceylon.

If there ever was a time when there was an imperative need to give our message to the world, it is now. The sands of time are fast running out. Eternity's dawn will soon come. We, the remnant church, must not fail at this time of crisis. The task is ours. May God help us to see the tremendous possibilities wrapped up in the Voice of Prophecy programme.

Today is Voice of Prophecy day throughout Southern Asia. *Today a special offering will be taken up to help finance this gigantic task.* Your investment in the Voice of Prophecy will pay unlimited dividends. *Remember, dear friends, your investment will mean souls—souls for the kingdom of God.* May we, this year give more liberally than we have in the past to help the Voice of Prophecy in its Division-wide English and vernacular Bible School and radio programme.

*Remember the time is short. Now is our day of opportunity. Now is our time to multiply, to double our contributions to the Voice of Prophecy.* May God bless you as you accept this challenge is our sincere prayer.

## Hastening the Message

E. L. CARDEY,

Director, 20th Century School of  
Bible Prophecy

**T**HE Bible Correspondence school idea as an organized programme is only about ten years old. It is essentially Seventh-day Adventist and we believe was given to us to meet the needs of this mighty hour. In these few years millions throughout the world have been registered in our Bible schools around the circle of the earth. "This is one of the effective means available to us for the winning of souls in a short period of time.

Many of us believe we are now seeing what the Lord told us would happen in the very last days when the message would go like fire in the stubble. "By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given."—*Great Controversy*, p. 62. "God means that testing truth shall be brought to the front, and become a subject of examination and discussion."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 453.

Now we see a partial fulfilment of these statements, not only in the millions of Bible lessons sent out from our many Bible schools, but by the miraculous way in which the great magazines of the world have been publishing our message in the past few months. Great things are about to happen. The message is soon to accomplish its full work and we believe we are on the verge of seeing that other statement fulfilled found in *Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 126, where the servant of the Lord declared, "In the visions of the night representations passed before me of a great reformatory movement among God's people. Many were praising God, the sick were healed, and other miracles were wrought. . . . On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth." "Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the Word of God."

There are three potent facts we want to point out:

1. Multitudes around us want to know the deeper things of the Bible and to learn the meaning of these times.

2. The Spirit of God is impressing people to search for truth and to inquire definitely about the commandments of God, especially the fourth.

3. With this latter-rain experience beginning to come to the church and with the world beginning to awaken, this is our time for harvest. With the Saviour we can say, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? . . . Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35.

Let us resolve to make 1954 a banner year in following up the interests created by the Voice of Prophecy.

### 1954 VOICE OF PROPHECY CHURCH CALENDAR DAY OFFERING GOAL

Sabbath, February 13

	Goal 1953	Amount Received	Goal 1954
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
South India Union	1,000	1,010	1,200
Northwestern	700	1,251	1,000
Northeast	500	128	500
Pakistan	300	485	350
Ceylon	250	332	300
Burma	250	Nil	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,206</b>	<b>3,650</b>



Photograph of the Voice of Prophecy English and Hindi Schools staffs taken during the visit of Dr. H. M. S. Richards to Poona, November, 1953.

## THE VOICE OF PROPHECY WINS SOULS

D. W. HUNTER

**E**XPERIENCE proves that for every TEN enrollees in the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence School ONE will ultimately become a baptized church member. The systematic study of the Bible leads to conversion. Thousands of rupees are being spent every year in Southern Asia for direct evangelism. This is good and we wish that even more soul-winning efforts would be held. Yet the average baptism per effort is less than six. Through the Voice of Prophecy an opportunity

is provided for every worker and every lay-member to see as great results in baptisms. The method is simple and the results are certain.

First of all, every worker should organize the churches under his care for systematic visitation in the communities of his district. Lay-members may go two by two on Sabbath afternoons. Each house in the assigned territory should be visited. If English is spoken the residents should be invited to enrol in the English Correspondence School. Otherwise they should be urged to study the same course in one of the vernacular languages. See that the names are secured at the time of the visit. Should the resident seem interested in personal Bible studies this is an excellent opportunity for lay evangelism.

Every worker should carry enrolment cards with him at all times. Fellow passengers on trains and buses are good prospects. Shop-keepers and casual acquaintances are in need of the message presented in the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence Course. *Remember for every TEN*

*enrollees ONE will eventually become a faithful Seventh-day Adventist. There is no easier, better way to evangelize than to secure enrolments for the Bible School.*

When the students are well along with the course pass their names on to the worker nearest them. We urge our workers to visit them at once. They are the best prospects for baptism in your district. Answer their questions. Study further with them and prepare them for full church membership.

*Remember, the Bible School Wins Souls! Let's do everything in our power to make it a real success.*

## WHAT THE VOICE OF PROPHECY MEANS TO SOUTHERN ASIA

*(Continued from p. 1)*

Then one evening she happened to tune in to Radio Ceylon and hear a message of hope that providentially was just for her. She enrolled in the Bible course, finished the lessons and began attending Sabbath services. Probably by the time this appears in the "TIDINGS" this lady and her daughter will be baptized members of God's remnant church. The Voice of Prophecy created the interest.

*The Voice of Prophecy raises up Sabbath schools. About three or four years ago a well-educated young lady took the Bible lessons. These interested her very much and she enrolled other members of her family and friends. After the Sabbath truth*

The prayers and rupees of thousands of Adventist believers are the real ingredients in this Voice of Prophecy seventh anniversary story—one of the most inspiring in all the annals of our history.

**VOICE OF PROPHECY (ENGLISH) BROADCASTS  
HEARD EVERY SUNDAY OVER RADIO CEYLON**

Time	Metres	Kcs.	Mcs.	Services
* † 9.00 a.m.	19	15120	15.1	India/Pakistan/Burma
	41	7190	7.1	India/Pakistan/Burma
	49	6006	6.0	Ceylon/South India
	469	640		Ceylon only
11.15 a.m.	16.8			African Continent
† 5.15 p.m.	16.8			Burma/South East Asia
* † 9.30 p.m.	31	9520	9.5	India/Pakistan/Burma
	49	6006	6.0	India/Pakistan/Burma
	61	4870	4.8	Ceylon/South India
	469	640		Ceylon only

All time given is Indian Standard Time.

\* West Pakistan time is ONE HOUR EARLIER than Indian Standard Time. Therefore the broadcasts marked \* will be heard in West Pakistan at 8.00 a.m., and 8.30 p.m. West Pakistan time.

\* † East Pakistan time is HALF AN HOUR LATER than Indian Standard Time. Therefore the broadcasts marked \* and † will be heard in East Pakistan at 9.30 a.m., 5.45 p.m., and 10.00 p.m. East Pakistan time.

† Rangoon time is ONE HOUR LATER than Indian Standard Time. Hence the broadcasts marked † will be heard in Rangoon at 10.00 a.m., 6.15 p.m., and 10.30 p.m. Burma time.

had been studied and accepted she longed for the blessings of church fellowship. But since there was no Adventist church nearby she invited in friends who were also studying the Voice of Prophecy lessons to worship with her on God's holy Sabbath day. Now several of these believers have been baptized and the little Sabbath school is flourishing. The Voice of Prophecy did its part well in bringing this new Sabbath school into existence.

*The Voice of Prophecy is instrumental in raising up new churches.* Not long ago I received a letter from the Northeast Union. Brother M. S. Prasada Rao told of the baptism of of seventeen candidates in a village four miles from the Union headquarters. Workers from the Union office, working in conjunction with Hindi Voice of Prophecy lessons developed the interest that led to this splendid baptism. Today we have an organized church in Kadrudih as the result of workers and the Voice of Prophecy joining together in the presentation of the message. Southern Asia should be filled with thousands of such companies as a result of

similar co-operation all over the Division.

*The Voice of Prophecy is one of God's appointed agencies for taking the message into unentered territories.* A few years ago we had no baptized believers nor interested persons in Kashmir. Today we have well over one thousands persons studying the truth in this land beautiful! Recently the first student took his stand and was baptized. Scores more are deeply interested and others are asking for baptism. We hope some day to see a strong work in this land of gentle people and beautiful scenery. The Voice of Prophecy is pioneering the way.

The Southern Asia Division has now become a "home base" for preaching the message through the Voice of Prophecy. Our weekly broadcasts over Radio Ceylon now have regular listeners in forty-nine different countries including ten nations in Europe, thirteen in Africa, eight in the Middle East, seven in the Far East as well as Australia, New Zealand and the United States. We have over 3,000 Bible students living in countries outside Southern

Asia. Listeners in Italy, Java, Sumatra, Mauritius, Rhodesia and the United States have written in stating that they have accepted the message and been baptized as the result of listening in to Radio Ceylon and taking the Bible course from our Poona office.

What does the Voice of Prophecy mean to Southern Asia? It means a great deal—it means prejudice broken down, interests created and developed, unentered territory opened up, Sabbath schools and churches raised up! It means progress in all departments of the work of God. May God continue to add His blessing to this great work!

*"What Hath God  
Wrought!" through  
The Voice of Prophecy*

O. O. MATTISON

AS THIS special number of "TIDINGS" for the VOICE OF PROPHECY comes to you, I am sure that there is very little need for me to say much about it as we have become very VOICE-OF-PROPHECY-conscious. There was a time when it was a new term to us; but, now, we think it and talk it just as much as we do evangelism, or any other department and phase of our work.

If we look back over the past few years—whether into the growth of our Sabbath school work, our church membership, or the success of our evangelism—we can see that in every phase the Voice of Prophecy is having a greater and a wider influence as the months go by. Not only are we as a people Voice-of-Prophecy-conscious, but the public is also becoming very well acquainted with this through the Correspondence School and the radio work. If we will only stop a moment and think of the hundreds and thousands of homes into which the lessons have gone—and no doubt, the millions who listen to the broadcast—truly we can exclaim: "What hath God wrought!"

Knowing that we have but a short time in which to finish the work that

(Continued on p. 10)

**"VOICE OF PROPHECY"**  
**TAMIL**  
 BROADCAST  
 Heard Over  
**RADIO CEYLON**  
 (Tamil Beam)

Every Sunday Evening  
 at  
 6:45 p.m.

Metres	Kcs.	Mcs.
41	7190	7.1

ALL  
 TIME  
 GIVEN  
 UNDER  
**RADIO CEYLON**  
 IS  
 INDIAN  
 STANDARD  
 TIME

**"VOICE OF PROPHECY"**  
**HINDUSTANI**  
 BROADCAST  
 Heard Over  
**RADIO CEYLON**  
 (Hindi Beam)

Every Sunday Morning  
 at  
 9:45 a.m.

Metres	Kcs.	Mcs.
31	9520	9

LISTEN  
 REGULARLY  
 TO YOUR  
 FAVOURITE  
 BROADCASTS



FACE  
 THE  
 FUTURE  
 WITHOUT  
 FEAR

**"Your Story Hour"**

30 minutes  
 of  
 Dramatized  
 Biblical and True to Life  
 Stories  
 Heard Over  
**RADIO CEYLON**  
 Every Sunday Morning  
 at  
 9:30 a.m.

Metres	Kcs.	Mcs.
19	15120	15.1
41	7190	7.1
49	6006	6.0
469	640	—

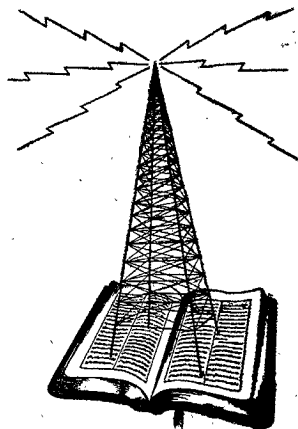
LASTING  
 PEACE  
 AND  
 PERFECT  
 HEALTH



INVITE  
 YOUR  
 FRIENDS  
 TO LISTEN  
 REGULARLY

**"YOUR RADIO DOCTOR"**  
 Heard Over  
**RADIO CEYLON**  
 EVERY  
 SATURDAY EVENING  
 at  
 7 p.m.

Metres	Kcs.	Mcs.
31	9520	9.5
49	6006	6.0
61	4870	4.8
469	640	—



**"YOUR RADIO DOCTOR"**  
 Heard Over  
**RADIO BURMA**  
 EVERY  
 SATURDAY EVENING  
 at

9:15 p.m. (Burma S. T.)

Meters	Kcs.	Mcs.
31	—	—
62	—	4
314	955	—



# CHRIST and the SABBATH

J. WALTER RICH



**C**HRISt and the Sabbath have been very closely associated in the history of Christianity, in fact, in the history of the world. The scriptures clearly declare that Christ was the Maker of the Sabbath. Christ tells us that "the Sabbath was made." Mark 2:27. John, through inspiration, writes, "and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:3.

Paul likewise tells us, "And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ." Eph. 3:9. "For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth. . . . All things were created by Him, and for Him." Col. 1:16.

One cannot study the Bible and fail to discover the high estimate that Christ maintained for the Sabbath. This was because the seventh day is the only one that received the special gift of His blessing and sanctification.

## The Example of Christ

The seventh day was the only day upon which He rested. We are told that He rested upon that day at the close of creation week. In the wilderness He ceased from giving the manna on the seventh day. During His lifetime He always rested from His daily work upon this Sabbath day. And when He completed His work on earth He rested in the tomb on this holy rest day.

Christ who made the Sabbath at creation was He who put the Sabbath commandment with the other nine of the ten when He wrote them all on the crest of Sinai. Would you like to have the evidence for this statement?

Paul tells us that it was Christ who led the children of Israel out of Egypt, protecting them with the pillar of cloud by day, furnishing them with food when hungry, and giving them water when thirsty. (1 Cor. 10:1-4.)

Nehemiah tells us that the same One who led them in the wilderness, giving them protection from the burning sun by day, furnishing the light at night was the One who came "down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest

with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments: and modest known unto them Thy holy Sabbath." Neh. 9:13, 14.

Thus, Christ gave to men the seventh day of the week as the day of rest. Having thus given this day to men, He had no reason for ever making another day take its place. The thing He did at creation was a perfect work. To change a perfect work is to make it imperfect. Christ tells us through the wise man that there never could be a time when it would be necessary to alter anything He ever did. Note these words: "I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor anything taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before Him." Eccl. 3:14. From Malachi we read, "For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." Mal. 3:6.

The Sabbath was put into the very heart of the law of God. The Psalmist says of that law, "The law of the Lord is perfect." Ps. 19:7. God is perfect (Matt. 5:48); therefore what He does is perfect. So the Sabbath He made is perfect. His rest on the Sabbath was perfect. For us to rest on the seventh-day Sabbath would be a perfect thing for us to do. Is not keeping the Sabbath a part of the perfection Jesus calls for as outlined in Matthew 5:48?

When Christ gave the law to Moses at Sinai Moses was instructed to teach Israel to obey it in every particular. (See Deut. 5:31-33.) The Sabbath was of particular mention.

"Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people." Ex. 31:13, 14.

For their disobedience Israel often came under the domination of their enemies. The book of Judges contains many a recital of their failure, and many a story of their deliverance

when they would mend their ways. That they went into captivity because they rejected the commandments of God, and especially the Sabbath, is plainly revealed by the reading of Jeremiah 17:21-27.

In this passage the continued prosperity and the very existence of Jerusalem are promised on condition that the children of Israel faithfully observe the Sabbath. Just as surely they are warned that their city will be destroyed for a continued violation of the Sabbath command. Truly from this clear treatment of the history of Israel it is very evident that the very existence of the Hebrew race depended upon their observance of the Sabbath. The warning was clear and definite. What followed? The Jews continued to violate the Sabbath, and as a result their Babylonian enemies came against them. (See 2 Chron. 39:19-21).

From this recitation can anyone consistently say that it does not make any difference with Christ which day of the week we keep as the Sabbath and how we keep it?

## Christ the Lord of the Sabbath

Christ was the Lord of the Sabbath in the Old Testament. No less is He the Lord of the New Testament Sabbath. First, He kept the seventh-day Sabbath Himself (Luke 4:16). What He did was done as an example for us (John 13:15). He was laying the foundation for the building of the church in New Testament times. He was building for the future. What He taught was not to be forgotten when He left the disciples.

Looking forward into the future, He saw Jerusalem surrounded to be destroyed. He saw the armies of her enemies approaching. He thought of His own people and of their distresses depicted by Jeremiah, and out of the fullness of His love for His people He told them to "pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the Sabbath day." Matt. 24:20. By



# DID JESUS COME IN THE FLESH?

ALLEN WALKER



this Christ positively taught that the Sabbath that He kept was not to cease at the cross. Jerusalem was destroyed in A.D. 70, and that was thirty-nine years after Jesus went back to heaven. This plainly teaches us that Jesus knew nothing about the modern idea that the Sabbath ceased at His resurrection.

In the great commission given the disciples just before Jesus left them to return to His father, He gave unspeakable evidence as to the fact of the Sabbath's being an unchangeable institution and of its continued binding obligation. He said to them, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations. . . : teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:19, 20.

For every sort of reform, example is the strongest kind of command that can be given. Jesus was explicit in stating definitely His position as to the keeping of the Sabbath. Here is His example: "And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read." Luke 4:16. To His followers this is His exemplified command: "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross, and follow Me." Matt. 16:24. The disciples could not consistently follow the command of the great commission and ignore the example that Jesus gave about the keeping of the Sabbath, for they were commissioned to teach and observe "all things whatsoever I have commanded you." And His example was worth more than a command.

To be absolutely certain that Jesus taught the same Sabbath that Moses taught, we need to know only what He said about Moses and his work, and here it is: "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed Me: for he wrote of Me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe My words?" John 5:46, 47. A further evidence is cited in Luke 16:31: "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." Here we have the teaching of Jesus definitely stated. No one wonders about the Sabbath that Moses taught, and now no one wonders, about the Sabbath that Jesus commanded to be taught till the very close of time. The disciples were to teach everybody everywhere that the seventh day is the Sabbath of the New Testament, and will continue to be to the end of the world.

"**H**EREBY know we the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." 1 John 4:2, 3.

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist." 2 John 7.

In *The Question Box* (a Roman Catholic publication), pages 358, 359, the following words are found:

"On Dec. 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX defined that 'the doctrine (of the immaculate conception) which declares that the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, was preserved exempt from the stain of all original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God, and therefore must be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful.'"

## The Dogma Examined

An examination of this dogma in the light of the Holy Scriptures will prove that it denies that "Jesus Christ is come in the flesh." And the thing that is more tragic is that the futurist school of Bible interpretation goes along with and upholds that doctrine.

What the Roman Catholic teaching really amounts to is that God supernaturally prevented Mary from inheriting the fallen nature of her ancestors, and that Mary, being the mother of Jesus, could not biologically impart to Him the fallen nature of humanity. If this be true, then Jesus knows nothing, by actual experience of the temptations and weaknesses of the humanity He lived with during the thirty-three years while He was on earth. Such a teaching separates Christ from identification with those who have inherited the human nature of their ancestors.

And this is nothing less than denying that "Jesus Christ is come in the flesh." It comes from and is identified with "antichrist."

In Hebrews 2:17 we read that in order to be "a merciful and faithful high priest," Jesus was "in all things" made "like unto His brethren." But if Jesus did not inherit the same kind of flesh that "His brethren" had, then He was not "in all things" made "like unto them," and "this is that spirit of antichrist." 1 John 4:3.

When we read that "the Word was made flesh" (John 1:14), it means that He "was made of the seed of David according to the flesh." Rom. 1:3. The "seed of David" was not "preserved exempt from the stain of all original sin," and Mary was not an exception. In being made "of the seed of David," He "took on Him the seed of Abraham." Heb. 2:16. This enabled Him to "be touched with the feeling of our infirmities." But if Jesus was not made "in the likeness of sinful flesh," as Paul declares in Romans 8:3, then He could not experience "the feeling of our infirmities."

Moreover, we read that He "was in all points tempted like as we are" (Heb. 4:15), but He "did not sin." 1 Peter 2:22.

If Jesus did not inherit the same kind of flesh that we did it is sure that He was not "tempted like as we are," as Paul declares. But we are assured that "as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same." He "took on Him" the same kind of "flesh and blood" as we have, and to refuse the confession that "Jesus Christ is come in the flesh" "is that spirit of antichrist." How encouraging to know that "in all things it behooved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succor them that are tempted." Heb. 2:17, 18.

**WEST PAKISTAN UNION MISSION***President: D. S. Johnson**Secretary-Treasurer: N. R. Fouts**Office Address: 32 Mozang Road, Lahore***DORCAS ACTIVITIES IN KARACHI***BARBARA SCOTT, Dorcas Leader*

IT IS some time since our "TIDINGS" readers have been informed regarding the activities of the Karachi Dorcas Society, so we feel impressed to tender a report of its general progress.

Our first sale in 1953 took place on April 16, and although only a week was designated for actual preparation, a few members rallied strongly and the results, with the Lord's blessing, transcended our highest expectations when we realized more than Rs. 500. With these proceeds we were able to render much helpful service.

In November of the same year, it became evident that funds would be necessary for our Christmas plans for the needy, and also for our charities for 1954. Accordingly, plans were once again laid more meticulously than ever, and the date was set for December 16. We decided on a minimum of advertisement as we felt we could not cope with a large crowd of patrons in proportion to what we had to offer.

An hour before the sale the crowd started assembling and just before the gate was thrown open, we were nonplussed at the large number awaiting admission. When finally we did open punctually at 4 p.m. as scheduled, the stall holders had a difficult time handling the enthusiastic customers. Although we had fair rates fixed on all items, our tables were cleared by 5 p.m. It was most encouraging to see our food section so efficiently organized and supervised by Mrs. Rothe who did a roaring trade. Within an hour and a half, we closed our gates on the last customer and found we had realised over Rs. 850.

The leader is most appreciative firstly of the individual gifts of friends and members, and secondly for the magnificent help rendered by a faithful group of men and women. Space does not permit of personal tributes which nevertheless are richly deserved. In the hour of triumph it is the leader who gets the laurels and

completely eclipses the more deserving of the rank and file. Especial credit however, is due to the secretary and treasurer Mrs. Rothe, who in spite of holding a post in the hospital, gives so unselfishly of her leisure and works indefatigably to promote the cause of Dorcas in its various spheres of activity.

The Karachi Dorcas society has learned to appreciate the important part Dorcas can play in our churches in not only assisting the less fortunate but in breaking down prejudice and winning friends to the cause. The concerted effort of each member striving to live out its ideals can make the Dorcas society a tremendous blessing and a beacon of light.

"For when the One Great Scorer comes,  
To write against your name,  
He'll write not if you won or lost,  
But how you played the game."

We truly praise the Lord for his Leadership in the past and under His banner we pledge ourselves anew to His service in 1954, that we might be known by the charity we practise as well as by the message we preach. We want to attempt great things for the Lord in 1954 conscious always of the promise that comes to us through Zephaniah:

"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit saith the Lord of Hosts."

**"WHAT HATH GOD WROUGHT?" THROUGH THE VOICE OF PROPHECY***(Continued from p. 6)*

God has given to us, we can thank Him for this medium of reaching the teeming millions of India. Let us not become "weary in well doing," but seek every opportunity to get our neighbours, our friends and relatives, and the strangers "within our gates" enrolled as students of the Voice of Prophecy and get them into the habit of listening to the radio broadcast.

We are especially thankful for the rapid growth and the wonderful re-

ception of the Tamil Voice of Prophecy school. It has encouraged us to step out in faith and make definite plans for the opening of the Malayalam Voice of Prophecy school, either in the beginning of 1954 or as soon after as possible. May it also meet with the same reception as the Tamil school. May it be such an encouragement to our field that soon we may add to it the great Telugu-speaking area.

Pray for, and work for, the Voice of Prophecy work.

VOTED To approve the Church 15095- Calendar as submitted:

**Calendar of Special Sabbaths and Offerings**

Jan. 2	Home Missionary Day and Offering
Jan. 23	Tithe Covenant Day
Feb. 6	Christian Home and Family Altar and H. M. Offering
Feb. 13	Voice of Prophecy Offering
March 6	Home Visitation Day and H. M. Offering
March 13-20	Religious Liberty Campaign
March 20	Religious Liberty Offering
April 3	Home Missionary Day and Offering
April 10	Spirit of Prophecy Day
May 1	Medical and Welfare Evangelism and H. M. Offering
May 8	"Southern Asia Tidings" Offering
June 5	Uplift Rally Day and H. M. Offering
June 12	Christian Education Day and Offering
July 4	Literature Evangelism and H. M. Offering
July 10-17	M. V. Week of Prayer
Aug. 7	Home Missionary Day and Offering
Aug. 14	Bible Society Offering
Sept. 4	Big Week Campaign and H. M. Offering
Sept. 11	Big Week Offering
Sept. 18	Colporteur Rally Day
Sept. 25	Sabbath School Rally Day
Oct. 2	Home Visitation Day and H. M. Offering
Oct. 30	Temperance Day and Offering
Nov. 6	Witnessing Laymen and H. M. Offering
Nov. 6-13	"Review and Herald" Campaign
Nov. 13-20	Week of Prayer and Sacrifice
Nov. 20	Week of Sacrifice Offering
Dec. 4	Home Missionary Day Offering

**SOUTH INDIA UNION MISSION**

President: O. O. Mattison

Secretary: I. K. Moses

Treasurer: D. O. Calkins

Office Address: 9 Cunningham Road, Bangalore

**VISAKHAPATNAM STIRRED**

I. SUBUSHANAM

“**G**OD leads no backward movements; God builds no roads for retreat. The greatest days of the message are ahead of us, and faithfulness is expected of every believer.” Ours is a growing movement. The little church at Visakhapatnam was organized in March 1951 with a charter membership of fifteen. In spite of hard and faithful labours the progress seemed to be restricted for a while, but thanks be to God the outlook is different now.

On October 25, 1953 in spite of many obstacles and continued rain, Evangelist D. S. Harris launched his evangelistic campaign. A capacity crowd of 700 earnest seekers for truth jammed the “Prophecy Speaks” auditorium which is located in the centre of the town. In order to present the message to an even larger section of the population arrangements were made for the writer to conduct Telugu meetings in conjunction with the English campaign. This provided for a “double header” meeting on Sunday evenings with both English and Telugu lectures. This was followed during the week by two other Telugu lectures and three other English lectures on alternate nights. For several weeks the attendance continued with 500 for each of the meetings on Sundays and over 400 for the week night lectures. Thus over 1,000 heard the truth each Sunday.

Opposition developed from all sides, immediately following the presentation of the truth regarding the State of the Dead. Members of other churches who had not been visited for a long time by their pastors or ministers now began to receive frequent callers. These religious leaders were most diligent in trying to persuade their members from attending the “Prophecy Speaks” lectures. About this same time one of the local pastors, in an endeavour to thwart the work of Seventh-day Adventists in this city began his own meetings. He called them the “Bible Speaks” lectures but they lasted only a few weeks.

In order to take care of the Telugu interest while the writer was called to attend the year-end committee meetings at Poona, Brother O. B. Jonathan, evangelist of Giffard Mission Hospital, Nuzvid, was invited to lead out in the Telugu work here. Thus during the absence of the writer the meetings were ably carried on and the interest was maintained.

Much preparation went into the plans for the presentation of the Sabbath truths. On December 27, the beginning of the 10th week of the campaign, the “Mystery Lecture” was presented. We were happy to see that all the 550 chairs in the auditorium were taken and many people were standing in order to hear that important lecture. We praised the Lord for His marvellous leading and for the large audience which crowded into the auditorium. The Sabbath truth was then presented in a most vivid way and hundreds of people returned to their homes impressed with this “new message.” At the following meeting an impressive stage demonstration was witnessed by the audience. A large temple labelled “Sunday Observance” was featured on the platform supported by the eight texts which mention the first day of the week. One by one each pillar was removed as evidence was clearly produced to show that not a single one of the “pillars” actually support Sunday Observance. All were impressed with the truth regarding the Sabbath. At the conclusion of the lecture an appeal was made for all present to accept the true Bible Sabbath. In response to this appeal sixty persons rose to their feet thereby manifesting their decision to be obedient to the Sabbath command. In visiting in the homes of the people our workers have discovered that quite a number have already begun to observe the Sabbath and the list is growing! It seems that the whole town has been stirred.

On January 2, the first Sabbath of the New Year, Sabbath services were conducted for the first time in the auditorium. (Up to this time all church services were held in the home of the worker.) Great was the joy of the entire evangelistic company when people of both old

and new acquaintance were observed making their way toward the pandal. On this auspicious Sabbath day over eighty people attended the Sabbath school and joined in the morning worship service at the “Prophecy Speaks” auditorium, which now also serves as temporary church for the believers here.

Pastor M. O. Manley, of Vincent Hill School, on his way to South India, was the guest speaker. Fortunately, this provided an opportunity for the new believers to have an enlarged understanding of the work of Seventh-day Adventists in other parts of the country. Drawing lessons from the lives of Patriarch Abraham, who hastened to meet the angels, and Lot, who lingered at the gates of Sodom, Pastor Manley admonished all against the danger of neglecting “so great salvation.” His timely message was appreciated by all.

The large attendance on the first Sabbath day of the year gives strong indication that the Visakhapatnam church will not only double its present membership, but that it will double the *double membership* before the end of this quarter.

Plans are under way for the construction of a new church building for this important port city to care for the enlarged membership and to provide facilities for strengthening the work in this area. To this end all the believers of Visakhapatnam are unitedly working. We solicit the prayers of the “TIDINGS” family that a quick work may be done in this city along with the great work in the other cities of this great Division field.

**AT REST**

**PAUL**—Mrs. Soundrammal Paul had been a faithful and enthusiastic member of our Tuticorin church for well over twenty years. She was a deaconess when the church was first organized in 1931. She passed to her rest on December 7, 1953 and was buried by the church elder, A. J. Wessel, in the Municipal Cemetery.

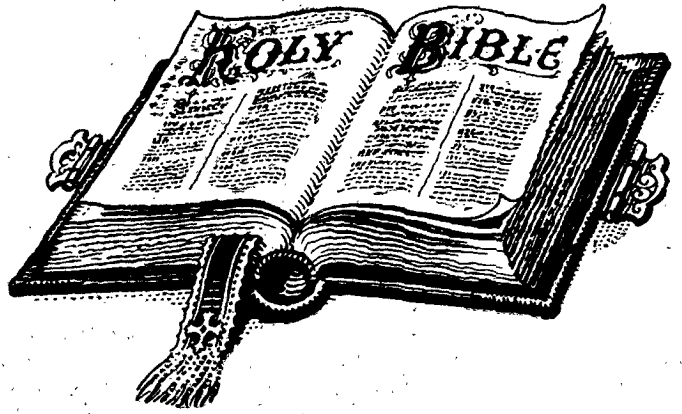
We extend our sympathies to her relatives and friends and appeal to them to prepare to meet her at the second coming of the Life-Giver.

—M. S. Y. JAMES

# NEVER SUCH A BOOK

DR. EUGENE A. NIDA

*Secretary for Translations, American  
Bible Society*



A SHORT time ago a Bible seller in Syria was dragged off to the local police court for selling what appeared to be highly inflammatory political propaganda. The judge examined these strange books carefully and then demanded, "Where is that man Paul who wrote this book to the Romans? Bring him into this court!"

The Bible seller did his best to explain to the judge that the apostle Paul died almost two thousand years ago. The judge was slow to be convinced, but finally he said to the Bible seller, "Here, you sign a statement declaring that you will be personally responsible for everything written in this book to the Romans. This document is too contemporary and its significance too timely not to have someone personally responsible for its contents."

Few Christians have the insight of this Mohammedan judge. We tend to look upon the Bible as an ancient book, more or less unrelated and unrelatable to our modern industrial civilization. Of course, we revere the Bible, but too often we do not read it. We honour it with high-sounding praise, but too many of us do not believe it with our hearts. We quote it, but we do not live it.

Perhaps the Bible would take on new meaning for us if we realized that it is not only the best loved but also the most hated book in the world. Though millions of people respect it, other millions suspect it. It is forbidden entrance into many parts of the world, and its distribution is systematically thwarted by its enemies. I have been in places where the Bible is called "the book of the devil," so hostile has been the attitude of the established religion to the message of this unique Book.

But despite all the opposition to this Book, it still remains the world's all-time best-seller, and has been translated in whole or in part into a total of 1,059 languages.

Every missionary realizes how

easy it is to make silly and embarrassing mistakes in speaking a foreign language. But perhaps none has been more shocked than one missionary who discovered that in one of his favourite sermons about "going to heaven," he pronounced the words so incorrectly that the people thought he was telling them "to go sit on a stick."

The ways in which people talk about the experiences of life may be utterly different, and yet they may be saying exactly the same thing. We use the word "sorrow," but the Bambara people of West Africa say, "My eye is black." The Habbes in the Ivory Coast also talk about sorrow, but they say, "My liver is sick." The Mossi people to the north of the Gold Coast insist that sorrow is best described by saying, "My heart is spoiled"; but the Uduks, living in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, would say, "My stomach is heavy."

There has never been such a book as the Bible, because there has never been such a message. There has never been such a message, for there has never been such a person as Jesus Christ.

The peoples of the world are amazed when they read the message of Jesus Christ, for there they see no tendency to divorce morality and religion. In so many of their religious systems a man may be ever so evil and at the same time profoundly religious. I once met one of the pagan religious leaders of the northern Congo. His speciality was murder by black magic, and his life had been a series of violent crimes; but he was master of the secret formula, and this entitled him to religious leadership.

The message of the Word of God is not a code of laws but a way of life. People have complained that no one could possibly live up to the standard set by Jesus for His followers. If people are to depend solely on their own strength, this is perfectly true.

The message of Scripture is the message of life—real life and abundant life—but not lived through our resources. It is only possible through the power of the Spirit of God, who dwells within any person who will acknowledge Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

Never has there been such a demand for this message of life. In Brazil there is a demand for at least twice as many Bibles as we have ever been able to provide in any one year. But it is not surprising that the churches of Brazil are asking for three hundred thousand Bibles next year. One cannot "sow the seed" of a million Gospels distributed each year for several years without experiencing unprecedented demands for all the Bible.

There is a demand not only for more Bibles but for more easily understood ones. There are more revisions of the Bible going on now than at any other time in the history of Christendom. "We must have the Scriptures which will speak in present-day words to the hearts of living men and women," is the demand. But the message of the Bible remains the same. These people throughout the world do not regard the Bible as a mere fetish or the possession of it as a mark of social respectability. They want to read it, to understand it, and to be transformed by its message.

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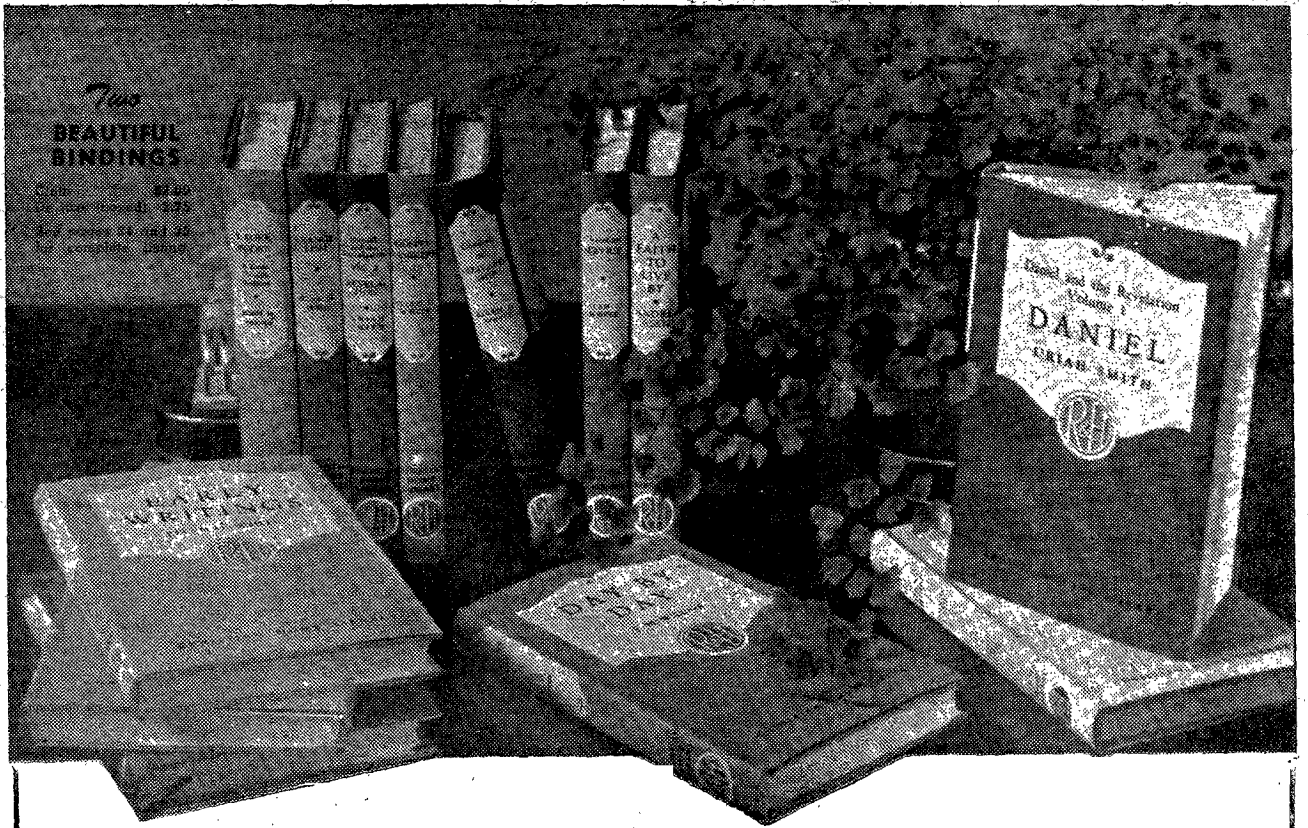
## A LITTLE PRAYER

Donald W. McKay

O Lord, I know not how to pray,  
But bless us all, I ask;  
O give us strength to do Thy will,  
And carry out each task.

Without the help of Thee, O Lord,  
The end would be the grave,  
With Thee there is eternity,  
For Thou hast come to save!

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### THE ADVENTIST HOME

Have you read the **ADVENTIST HOME** by Mrs. E. G. White? It contains a wealth of counsel and information on the home. Here you'll find that "each sentence is alive and bubbling over with practical instruction on every phase of home life." You may have this in the Christian Home Library Series.

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# NEW THREAT TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

## PHILIPPINE SUNDAY LAW ENACTED

ALVIN W. JOHNSON

A NEW national Sunday law was recently adopted by the Republic of the Philippines. This law, House Bill No. 2855, became effective September 20, 1953. The act prohibits labour on Sunday, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday.

Section 1 provides that "no commercial, industrial or agricultural enterprise or establishment, including stores and shops of any kind, shall be open on any Sunday, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday, from twelve midnight to twelve midnight."

The law provides certain exemptions from its provisions, namely, hospitals, dispensaries, medical and dental clinics, drugstores; the loading and unloading of cargoes; fishing and curing of fish; cattle raising and dairying; amusement enterprises; printing and sale of periodicals, referring to newspapers but not to books. Likewise in this exemption are included certain government and private systems of communication, embalming and burial of persons, domestic service, driving vehicles, restaurants and eating and drinking establishments, markets and fairs.

Cockfighting, horse racing, non-religious motion-picture exhibits or theatrical performances, may not be held on Holy Thursday or Good Friday.

The penalty for violating this national Sunday law is not to exceed one hundred pesos (\$50, U. S.) or imprisonment not to exceed one month, or both, at the discretion of the court. If the law is violated by any association or corporation the manager of such association or corporation shall be held criminally liable.

Such a law is all the more interesting in the light of paragraph 7, section 1, of Article III of the constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, which provides for the complete separation of church and state in the following words:

"No law shall be made respecting an establishment of religion, or pro-

hibiting the free exercise thereof, and the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever be allowed. No religious test shall be required for the exercise of civil or political rights."

In supporting this law, Congressman Miguel Cuenco, of Cebu, who introduced the act, commended this Sunday law in principle for the Philippines. He stated that it was "an acknowledgment of our faith in Almighty God and a recognition of our duties and obligations to Him." He further commented that a blue law is in harmony with the religious traditions of the Philippine people, who had solemnly proclaimed their faith in the existence of a Supreme Being in the preamble of their constitution. He also pointed out that blue Sunday laws existed in Protestant countries such as the United States, Great Britain, and Germany, and in Catholic Belgium, Spain, and Latin-American countries.

Congressman Cuenco continued to point out that one day of rest has a wholesome effect on the worker. It gives him a chance to be with his wife and children, and "as it was aptly remarked by Fr. Canon Cardijn, an Australian Labourite Catholic priest, in his pamphlet, *The Hour of the Working Class*, page 10, 'Not only the length of work, but also Sunday work and night work broke up the family.'"

It should be said here that it has not been proved that physical rest is better on one day than on another. Whatever significance Sunday has is religious. Whatever law governs Sunday work is a religious law, and should not be on civil statute books.

It will be noted that no attempt is made in the law or in the discussion by its author to deny the fact that it is a religious measure. The proponents of the Philippines national Sunday law appear to be very frank, and in no way do they attempt to hide its religious characteristics and purpose. This is somewhat in contrast with modern attempts in many Euro-

pean and Western governments, particularly in the United States, to camouflage Sunday laws as police-power measures. Such laws, it is maintained, are passed in the interest of the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of the people, rather than being religious laws.

### One Day in Seven

If a rest law were adopted as a police-power measure in the interest of health, safety, morals, and the welfare of the people, it could at best, and might well, require simply one day of rest in seven. Such a law would recognize the needs of the working man without injecting the religious element into it. It would protect employees from seven days of work a week, but would recognize the principles of religious liberty by permitting every person to select the day for rest of his choice, so long as he rested twenty-four consecutive hours each week.

In America some States, as for example New Hampshire and California, have adopted such a law. The American Federation of Labour has on several occasions gone on record as favouring a one-day-of-rest-in-seven law, leaving each employee to select his own day and the manner of its observance. But for the most part, this is not the type of legislation desired by churches and ecclesiastical organizations.

The world's first Sunday law was enacted by the Emperor Constantine in the year A.D. 321. It reads as follows:

"All judges and city people and the craftsmen shall rest upon the venerable Day of the Sun. Country people, however, may freely attend to the cultivation of the fields, because it frequently happens that no other days are better adapted for planting the grain in the furrows or the vines in the trenches. So that the advantage given by heavenly providence may not for the occasion of a short time perish."—*Codex Justinianus*, bk. iii, title 12, 3. Trans. from J. C. Ayer, *A Sourcebook for Ancient History* (New York, 1933), para. 59 (g), pp. 284, 285.

This Sunday law was the product of that pagan concept, developed by the Romans, which made religion a part of the state. The day was to be venerated as a religious duty owed to the god of the sun.

Other laws followed forbidding circus performances and theatrical shows on the Lord's day. The text of Sunday laws clearly reveals that the



object of such legislation is the enforcement of religion.

### Liberty of Conscience a Sacred Right

Among the most sacred heritages of man is his right of conscience. In any legislation adopted by the state for the moral benefit of her subjects, the person's conscience should be respected. The claim put forth that Sunday laws are intended to secure freedom and help for the labouring classes does not justify the adoption of Sunday laws. The many cases on this subject clearly indicate that the ultimate and sole object in the minds of Sunday law legislators is to promote the interest and influence of the church by constraining men to attend to her ordinances. Sunday legislation is not only contrary to the principles of separation of church and state but antagonistic to the principles and precepts of Christianity itself.

This thought was well stated by the United States Senate in 1829 when it made the following observation relative to the proper functions of government:

*"It is not the legitimate province of the Legislature to determine what religion is true, or what is false. Our Government is a civil and not a religious institution. Our constitution recognizes in every person the right to choose his own religion, and to enjoy it freely, without molestation." "The proper object of government is to protect all persons in the enjoyment of their religious as well as civil rights, and not to determine for any whether they shall esteem one day above another, or esteem all days alike holy. . . . What other nations call religious toleration, we call religious rights. They are not exercised in virtue of governmental indulgence, but as rights, of which Government cannot deprive any portion of citizens, however small. Despotic power may invade those rights, but justice still confirms them."*—United States Sunday Mail Report, 20th Congress, 2d Session, Jan. 19, 1829.

Many efforts are being put forth in different parts of the world for the adoption and enforcement of more stringent Sunday laws. This is especially true in America and in countries of Europe. The union of Protestants and Catholics in a common endeavour to secure greater recognition of Sunday was demonstrated recently when in the city of Columbus, Ohio, Protestant and Roman Catholic leaders united in calling a halt to the commercialization  
(Continued on p. 16)

## LOYALTY

J. F. ASHLOCK

**W**ORTHY of honour is the individual who fearlessly stands for the right when the spineless multitudes bow down to the wrong. Greatly to be admired is he who faithfully maintains his allegiance to truth when those about him accept the teachings of error. Deserving of praise is the one who is consistently controlled by principle while the majority are moved by impulse and swayed by popular opinion. Heaven approves of the man who courageously chooses death before dishonour, who is always true to a righteous cause, who can be trusted by a worthy friend, and who can be depended upon by his appointed leader. These admirable qualities constitute the essential ingredients of loyalty.

The pages of sacred history are filled with forceful illustrations of genuine loyalty to God. Loyalty to God means loyalty to His Truth, loyalty to His church, loyalty to His people, loyalty to His ministers and loyalty to His great commission.

In *Acts of the Apostles* by Ellen G. White, page 81, we find this record, "In the history of prophets and apostles are many noble examples of loyalty to God."

The first two sons of Adam and Eve are exhibit number one in our lesson on loyalty. The lives of these two sons are succinctly summed up by the Spirit of prophecy. "Abel had a spirit of loyalty to God. . . . But Cain cherished feelings of rebellion."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 71. This inspired statement not only characterizes the two brothers but it strikingly reveals that the opposite to loyalty is rebellion. This excellent book *Patriarchs and Prophets* teaches clearly that before the creation of the world Christ was loyal and Lucifer was disloyal. Throughout the ages the followers of Christ have been trustworthy, steadfast, dependable and loyal while the agents of the evil one have been unfaithful, unstable, undependable, vacillating and rebellious.

Often loyalty is accompanied by loneliness, many times it is not ap-

preciated by those around us. Nevertheless it is always recognized and rewarded by Heaven. This was aptly illustrated on Mt. Carmel. For centuries that mountain has been remembered because of the loyalty of Elijah. "Unashamed, unterrified, the prophet stands before the multitude. . . . His countenance is lighted with an awful solemnity. Not one in that vast assembly dares reveal loyalty to Jehovah. . . . But Elijah is not alone. Above and around him are the protecting hosts of heaven—angels that excel in strength."—*Patriarchs and Prophets* p. 147. Then the tide of battle was turned. The enemies of righteousness were routed. A great victory for God was won and a multitude were redeemed by the loyalty of one brave man on Carmel.

The Levites were loyal at Mt. Sinai and God entrusted to them the sacred work of the priesthood.

A further very pertinent statement is found on page 148 of the above quoted book. It says in part, "All through the ages God has had moral heroes, and He has them now—like Joseph, Elijah, Daniel—men who will not be swerved from the straight line of duty. . . . Fidelity to God is their motto."

Now we have come to the crisis of the ages. The work of God will soon be finished. Our earthly sojourn is almost ended. We are face to face

## Southern Asia Tidings

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with the severest tests of our experiences. What is the counsel of God to us? Once again we turn to page 148 of *Patriarchs and Prophets* and read, "The people of God are nearing the borders of the eternal world; what can be more important to them than that they be loyal." What challenge to workers and church members today to be loyal!

To shock us to a sense of our responsibility, God's chosen messenger gave this startling, this solemn warning, "The Lord abhors indifference and disloyalty in a time of crisis in His work."—*Prophets and Kings*, p. 148.

In the July 16, 1953 issue of our church paper *The Review and Herald* appears a very helpful article by W. E. Read, Field Secretary of the General Conference. Elder Read asks these questions, "What does loyalty mean? What is the responsibility of members to one another in the church of God?" Then he answers his questions in the following manner:

1. It means that we will speak well of one another.
2. It means that we will speak well of our leaders.
3. It means that they will abide by the decisions of the church board and the various committees appointed for carrying forward the work of God on earth.
4. It means we will be loyal to the ideals and principles for which the church stands.
5. It means that every member will be a worker, actively propagating the ideals of the church.

Standing at the portals of the unknown and untried new year let us enter its service with courage and hope. Let us approach its tasks with confidence in the Master who has so definitely guided us and so wonderfully blessed our past efforts. Let us determine to be loyal to Him, whatever the cost.

If we are true and loyal to God we shall certainly be loyal to His church, to His work, and to His workers.

## PHILIPPINE SUNDAY LAW ENACTED

(Continued from p. 15)

of Sunday. According to the Religious News Service, the plea was read from the pulpit of every Catholic church and nearly every major Protestant church in Columbus. The letter reading signalled the beginning of a joint campaign against business

places that remain open on Sunday.

The Union of South Africa is experiencing frequent attempts to revive old Sunday laws or enact new ones. The same is true of many other countries. We have been told through the pen of inspiration that "to secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for Sunday laws."—*Prophets and Kings*, p. 606.

The adoption of a national Sunday law by the Philippines shows how other countries are gradually joining hands with the powers of the Western world in the fulfilment of prophecy. Surely "the time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 81.

## Miscellany

• SUNDAY evening, January 17, the first meeting of the HERALDS OF TRUTH was held in the Ahilya Ashram of Poona City. Pastor W. L. Barclay was the speaker for the evening and Mr. Lobo the song leader. The evangelistic team is made up of the members of the Salisbury Park church who have for some time been attending classes in lay evangelism. The SOUTHERN ASIA TIDINGS readers are asked to join in prayer for the success of this major lay-evangelistic effort.

• PASTOR M. O. Manley spent a few days at the Division Headquarters after visiting the field in the interest of Vincent Hill School. He plans to attend the West Pakistan Union constituency meeting in February.

• Miss Mabel Broderson from the Assam Training School en route to South India to visit her brother, Pastor R. H. Broderson, paid a visit to Spicer Missionary College and Salisbury Park. Having taught school in Southern Asia since 1921 Miss Broderson found many of her former pupils among the workers and college students. To make her feel at home the Assam students of S. M. C. and Pastor and Mrs. J. F. Ashlock met one evening in Miss Meister's home where the students entertained their beloved teacher with speech and song.

• PASTORS M. E. Kemmerer and J. F. Ashlock have returned to Poona after attending constituency meetings in the Northeast, Burma and Northwestern India Unions. Others from the Division office in attendance at

the Northwestern India Union constituency meeting were: Pastor C. B. Israel, Brethren William Sharalaya and S. James. Pastor I. D. Higgins also was present at this meeting to represent Spicer Missionary College.

• Mrs. H. H. Mattison has returned from furlough to join Pastor Mattison at Spicer Missionary College. Welcome home, Sister Mattison!

• Miss Leila Baird, the dean of women at Spicer Missionary College gave a supper in honour of Miss Mabel Broderson, teacher from the Assam Training School, to which she invited the following: Misses Ina White, editor of the SOUTHERN ASIA TIDINGS, Esther Feltus, Salisbury Park church school teacher, Valerie Wright, secretary to the Division Treasurer, Emma Lehman, teacher in the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School, Marie Guinn, dean of women of Vincent Hill School, Rose Meister, critic teacher of Spicer Missionary College and Edna York, Director of the Giffard Mission Hospital School of Nursing. These nine ladies have a remarkable record of service for God. All have been in the Lord's work since leaving College—from Miss Valerie Wright who has served only three years to Miss Broderson who has given 37 years to guiding the children and youth of the church. Their total number of years of service equals 226 and of these more than half or 124 years have been spent in Southern Asia. It will be noted that they represent four of the professions. Congratulations to all the single ladies labouring for God in Southern Asia!

—MRS. J. F. ASHLOCK

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