

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

FOUNDED 1874



The Flight of TIME



American Airlines' "Flagship" soaring over Niagara Falls.

INTERNATIONAL

A Survey of World Events by the EDITOR



MAGNA CHARTA IN NEW YORK

ONE of the most valuable exhibits at the New York World's Fair is a copy of the historic Magna Carta, the great charter of English freedom extorted by the revolting barons from tyrannical King John in 1215.

Only four copies of the original document are in existence, and this one, brought over from the city of Lincoln,

has been insured for \$500,000. Sealed in a strong wooden case, it was escorted to the Fair Grounds by twelve policemen.

Among the provisions of the great charter were the following: No taxes to be levied without the consent of the great council (later Parliament). All men to be free to pass from and return to the realm at their pleasure, except in time of war. All cities and boroughs to preserve their ancient liberties. The estate of every man to be regulated by his will, or, if he die intestate, by the law. Citizens to be fined only in proportion to their offense, and no fine to be imposed to a man's utter ruin. No citizen to be tried on suspicion alone, but on the evidence of lawful witnesses. No one to be tried or punished but by the judgment of his peers and the laws of the land.

Some of these provisions may seem superfluous nowadays. We accept them as part of our everyday life, never dreaming that anybody would question them. But it was not always so; and these elements of civil freedom were established only after a titanic struggle with tyranny.

Magna Charta is a sacred relic of the age-long battle for the rights of man; and in these days when tyranny is raising its ugly head again and citizens of some countries at least are being condemned without trial, tried on suspicion alone, fined out of all proportion to their offense, and denied free access to their own land, it is good that this grand old document should be brought to light again that we may reverently gaze upon the ancient handwriting and recall the sacrifices made by our forefathers to purchase the heritage of liberty we now enjoy.

"With a great sum obtained I this freedom," said the Roman captain to the apostle Paul, and the words might properly be repeated by all who reside in the favored English-speaking nations today. What an incalculable debt we owe to the brave barons who brought John to Runnymede, to the first stalwart champions of Parliamentary government, to all who time and again challenged and checked the power of despotic kings, to the innumerable martyrs who gave their lives rather than surrender their right to worship according to the dictates of conscience, and to those gallant, farsighted men who wrote the principles of civil and religious freedom into the Constitution of the United States!

Magna Charta—the copy at the New York Fair—is insured for half a million dollars. But for how much would we insure the principles it embodies? To what extent would we go to see that they are preserved in this fair realm? What price freedom? is a question all of us should ask ourselves in these dangerous times.

Perhaps one of the greatest lessons of history is that only those willing to die for liberty are really worthy of it.

Two thousand young men parade through the streets of London in protest against the Government's conscription bill. In very few countries today could such a scene be witnessed.





WHO WANTS WAR?

IN that very impressive speech that the Duke of Windsor broadcast to the United States from Verdun he made the following statement concerning the attitude of the common people toward war: "I have been left with the profound conviction that there is no land whose people want war. This I believe to be as true of the German nation as of the British nation, as it is true of you in America and the French nation, on whose friendly soil I now reside."

We believe the Duke is right. Travel where you will around the world, and you will be greeted almost everywhere by kindly disposed people. In all our wanderings to and fro through the Old World we have never met a single person who appeared to have a particular desire to kill anybody. True, some of the soldiers we saw had a fierce look on their faces, but that is common to soldiers in uniform everywhere; but when we mixed with the common people in their homes, especially if they were Christian people, we found them as friendly, and as devoted to peace, in one country as in another.

Then who does want war?

Judging by the newspapers, the passion for battle and conquest would seem to reside chiefly in certain power-drunk war lords who are driven to continue fostering the spirit of strife in order to keep themselves in office. And there is a passage in the Bible which directs attention to the same quarter. In the sixteenth chapter of Revelation we read of spirits of devils which "go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Verse 14.

Here is clear evidence that it is the rulers who become possessed by devils, and we are then left in no doubt as to where the responsibility for war lies in the sight of God.

It is a terrible pity that so many of the kindest, friendliest people have to be dragged into the charnel house of war because of the lunacy of their national leaders. It is a shame that so many splendid young fellows in the various nations must be trained to shoot each other down like wild beasts to please or flatter the vanity of their mad overlords. Indeed, the only consolation in such a state of affairs is the reflection that God in heaven



OUR COVER PICTURE

This week we present a reproduction of the famous historical painting showing Patrick Henry delivering his memorable speech at the Virginia Convention, March, 1775, when he concluded with the stirring words: "Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? . . . I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!"

understands and in the day of judgment will apportion the blame where it belongs.

We may also take courage from the knowledge that this method of conducting human affairs is not going to last much longer. It is intolerable to God as well as to man, and He will not permit things to continue like this. Soon He will send His Son to take the reins into His own hands, and then "of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever." Isaiah 9:7.

There will be no war lords or war makers in that happy land.

And the common people who hate war "shall dwell in a peaceable habitation,

and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." Isaiah 32:18. "And none shall make you afraid." Leviticus 26:6.



LUCKY TO BELIEVE

THERE are many prodigal sons about today who are anxious to return to the Father's house. Many who have been skeptics all their lives, and enjoyed themselves poking fun at the Christian faith, are beginning to wonder whether after all they may not have been making a big mistake.

Things haven't turned out just as they expected. World conditions were to get better and better, it was thought, but, instead, they have become worse and worse. We were all to have entered a millennium of peace, prosperity, and world brotherhood long ago, but, instead, we have found ourselves in a "hell-ennium" of hatred, tyranny, and war preparation unprecedented in the annals of man. The new modern freedom from moral restrictions, they supposed, would have brought us by this time into a great new era of blissful enjoyment; but, instead, it has merely multiplied the criminal element a thousandfold.

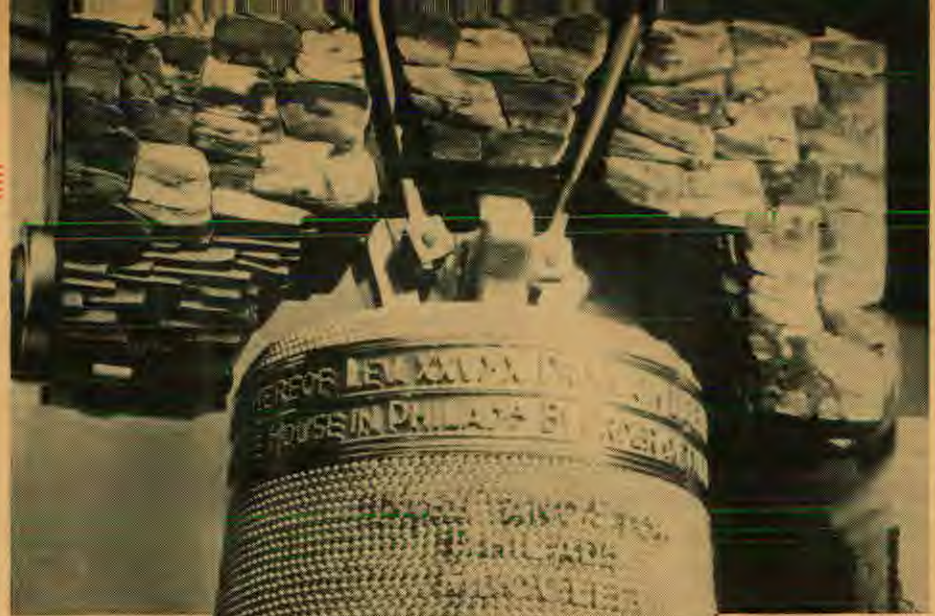
This failure of all man-made predictions has been a terrible shock to those who believed in them. It has also led to a good deal of rethinking about God, about fundamental moral law and Christian ethics.

In his latest book, "The Pastures of His Presence," the Rev. A. E. Whitham

(Continued on page 18)

General Franco's victorious troops march through the streets of Valencia, whose buildings appear to be in a remarkably good state of preservation despite all the bombings of the past two years.





INTERNATIONAL

Is Liberty WORTH SAVING?

*Our Priceless Blood-
Bought Heritage*

by CHARLES S.
LONGACRE

General Secretary
Religious Liberty Association

This fourteen-inch model of the Liberty Bell, made of almost twelve thousand pearls and diamonds, is to be seen at the New York Fair.

IT REQUIRED a struggle of many centuries to win the liberties enjoyed in America today.

The pages of history have been redened with the blood of martyrs from the very beginning of the human race. Even Cain slew Abel, "because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous." 1 John 3:12. And of Abraham's two sons, Ishmael and Isaac, Paul says, "As then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now" (Galatians 4:29), and so it will be as long as men live in the flesh.

The history of humankind is an appalling story of strife and bloodshed. It is not confined to the men of the world but extends even to those who make a high profession of religion. The root cause of all persecution is the bestowal of power upon those who are imbued with the spirit of intolerance and lack an understanding of fundamental principles of government.

Through the centuries the struggle of man for his just deserts had continued

until at last the downtrodden masses rose in revolt against unendurable tyranny, against religious intolerance, against unbearable restraints of many kinds, a revolt that finally triumphed in "government of the people, by the people, for the people."

The movement started in Europe among the Anglo-Saxon races, long before the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were set in order. The founding fathers merely put into the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution those inherent rights that the Anglo-Saxons had already won and extracted from the monarchs of the British throne. Indeed, none but Anglo-Saxons could have drawn up the Federal Constitution, with its matchless Bill of Rights, because it was the heritage of their own ancestors, the purchase of their own blood and treasure on European soil. The struggle of the centuries for liberty and popular sovereignty was merely transferred from European soil to the land of promise across the Atlantic Ocean. America had been divinely re-

served for this very purpose when the fullness of time had come to ordain a government where freedom and democracy could be brought to a grand fruition. It was destined to become an asylum for the oppressed, where God could work out His plan of the ages to enlighten the world with the knowledge of His gospel. The eyes of the oppressed in all lands turned to this virgin soil, which gleamed with the light of hope, liberty, and prospective happiness.

The intolerance of Europe drove from her borders many possessed of the most earnest convictions, whose dauntless spirit and ideals became the foundation pillars of the American republic. Their passion for the establishment of the rights of men as men and not as vassals and for liberty in civil and religious concerns they aimed to make secure for their posterity for all time. They knew that such a heritage could be secure only as long as the right of the sovereignty of the people remained supreme and the government remained subject to the authority of the people. (Continued on page 13)

"Signs of the Times," July 4, 1939. Volume 66, No. 26. \$1.50 a year in the United States. Printed and published weekly (50 issues a year) by the Pacific Press Publishing Association at Mountain View, California, U. S. A. Entered as second-class matter September 15, 1904, at the post office at Mountain View, California, under Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, and authorized September 18, 1918.



GOD GAVE US FREEDOM



THE highest testimonial to the value of individual freedom of thought and action is not that uttered by Patrick Henry when he said, "Give me liberty, or give me death!" nor that set forth by Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence, nor that given by Washington and his ill-clad army when they suffered at Valley Forge in the cause of freedom, nor that penned by Lincoln in the Emancipation Proclamation. It was not given by any man nor by any government of this world.

It was given by the great Creator Himself when He invested the beings made in His image and endowed by Him with mental and moral faculties, with freedom to decide for themselves whether to remain loyal to Him or to walk in ways of their own choosing.

This choice offered by the Creator left the way open for rebellion, which first came in heaven and was followed by the disobedience of the first pair in Eden, which plunged mankind into millenniums of sin, crime, and woe, and put the only-begotten Son of God to death on the cross.

All this did not come as a sequence that the Creator had not foreseen. He who inhabits eternity, and to whom the future is as the present, knew from the beginning that there would be those in His universe who would use their freedom to inaugurate rebellion against His government.

*His Estimate of Its Value
What It Should Mean to Us*

by

LEON A. SMITH

He knew when He bestowed this freedom upon His created intelligences that a portion of the host of heaven would be led to revolt against Him, and would have to be cast out of heaven. He knew that the human family would be led into rebellion, and that the history of mankind would be one long, dark, terrible record of sin, suffering, and death. Freedom of choice for angels and mankind was ordained in full view of Calvary.

Knowing the price that would have to be paid for this grant of liberty, viewing it in all its completeness and enormity as only He could do, the God of heaven nevertheless testified by the course He took that this freedom was worth all that it would cost.

Such a testimonial to the value of individual liberty not only far exceeds any that man has ever given or could give,

but is immeasurably greater than the human mind can comprehend.

Rebellion as a consequence of freedom of choice began in heaven. "There was war in heaven," the scripture states. "Michael [called the Archangel in Jude 9] and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Revelation 12:7-9.

Satan's name in heaven was Lucifer, and his station there was by the throne of God. Isaiah 14:12-14. No created being stood higher than he. Under the title of king of Tyrus, God, by the prophet Ezekiel, says of him: "Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering. . . . Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so. . . . Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." The cause of Lucifer's downfall

(Continued on page 14)

Liberty, political and religious, enables men to develop and prosper as they never can when denied the freedom of choice.



The POWER of the CROSS

by TAYLOR G. BUNCH

*Concluding article in the series
on the closing scenes in the life
of Jesus of Nazareth*

THE crucifixion of Jesus was not only the most notorious judicial blunder but also the most awful crime ever committed in the history of mankind. "The cross of His martyrdom will stand fixed forever upon the crowning summit of injustice, cupidity, and civil falsehood, a symbol of eternal reprobation and of regeneration without limit."—*"The Trial of Jesus," Giovanni Rosadi, pages 142, 313.*

The cross of Calvary was the meeting place of the two eternities as well as the focal point of human history. On the summit of Golgotha one dispensation ended and the other began. There the gospel types met their antitypes, and the shadows converged into the substance. The death of Christ was the signal for the consummation of the figurative services in the earthly temple or sanctuary, and the announcement that the ministration "of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man," was about to begin. The Lamb of God, the true sacrificial victim, had shed His precious blood as the price of man's redemption, and could therefore go into the presence of God to make intercession for His people. The Priest of the heavenly sanctuary could now plead His own blood before the Eternal in the repentant sinner's behalf.

"Jesus, when He had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after His resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many." Matthew 27:50-53. Paul tells us that these resurrected saints ascended with Christ when He returned to heaven. See Ephesians 4:8, margin. The twenty-four elders and their assistants who are said to have been redeemed from the

earth by Christ's blood and who assist Him in the heavenly sanctuary service are those who were taken to heaven with Christ as trophies of His resurrection victory; they are the first fruits of the great gospel harvest of redeemed souls.

Jesus died at the very hour of the evening sacrifice, when the paschal lamb, representing Himself, was ready to be slain by the officiating priests of the temple. "Clothed in his significant and beautiful dress, the priest stood with lifted knife, as did Abraham when he was about to slay his son. With intense interest the people were looking on. But the earth trembles and quakes; for the Lord Himself draws near. With a rending noise the inner veil of the temple is torn from top to bottom by an unseen hand, throwing open to the gaze of the multitude a place once filled with the presence of God. In this place the Shekinah had dwelt. Here God had manifested His glory above the mercy seat. No one but the high priest ever lifted the veil separating this apartment from the rest of the temple. He entered in once a year to make an atonement for the sins of the people. But, lo, this veil is rent in twain. The most holy place of the earthly sanctuary is no longer sacred. . . . Type

has met antitype in the death of God's Son. The great sacrifice has been made. The way into the holiest is laid open. A new and living way is prepared for all."—*"The Desire of Ages," pages 756, 757.*

The plan of redemption centers in the cross of Calvary, and therefore could not be fully comprehended until after that event. The apostle Paul declared that "the mystery" of redemption, which he calls "the unsearchable riches of Christ," "from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord." Ephesians 3:8-11. The cross alone could bring to man and to the universe a "revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began." Romans 16:25, 26. It is the mystery of the cross that explains all other mysteries.

The death cry of Jesus, "It is finished," meant far more than the announcement of the completion of the typical service, the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies, and the consummation of the plan of salvation that saves man and his lost dominion. It also embraced the death



knell of Satan's revolt and the reconciliation of the entire universe to God. The unexplainable "mystery of iniquity" had left an unanswered question in the minds of angels and unfallen beings, which was equivalent to a partial alienation from God. This question was fully and finally answered by the cross, by which, therefore, a permanent reconciliation was effected. Just before the crisis of Gethsemane and Calvary, Jesus said: "Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me. This He said, signifying what death He should die." John 12:31-33.

The Whole Universe Reconciled

The word "men" is in italics, indicating that it was supplied by the translators. That the "all" includes far more than the inhabitants of this rebel world is indicated by another text: "It pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell; and, having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself; by Him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblamable and unreprouvable in His sight." Colossians 1:19-22. The death of Christ on the cross reconciled the whole universe to God, including "things in heaven" as well as "things in earth."

The incarnation and the atoning death of Christ make possible the final destruction of Satan and all his followers: "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." Hebrews 2:14, 15. As far as the sinless angels and unfallen beings were concerned, Satan and his angels could have been destroyed at any time after Jesus died on the cross, because every question had been erased and every vestige of sympathy destroyed. The entire universe had witnessed the scenes of Calvary, where they saw the final unveiling of "the mystery of iniquity" and the completed revelation of the character of the great rebel. The decisive battle had been fought; Satan had suffered a crushing defeat and knew that his cause and kingdom were lost.

The execution of the archapostate and his followers must be delayed until the gospel message has time to bring the inhabitants of the earth to a final decision as to whom they will serve and to which of the two rival governments they will

give their allegiance. When the gospel has completed its mission, and probation closes, the execution of sinners can take place with the approval of the entire universe. One writer says: "By the facts unfolded in the progress of the great controversy, God will demonstrate the principles of His rules of government, which have been falsified by Satan and by all whom he has deceived. His justice will finally be acknowledged by the whole world, though the acknowledgment will be too late to save the rebellious. God carries with Him the sympathy and approval of the whole universe as step by step His great plan advances to its complete fulfillment."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," page 79. It is for this reason that when Satan and sinners are finally destroyed their execution will meet with such general approval that "affliction shall not rise up the second time." Nahum 1:9. It takes time permanently to cure the disease of sin and to remove all its effects from the universe so that it can-

not again lift its ugly head to plague the sons of God. Like all successful operations, there must of necessity be much pain and suffering before there can be a permanent cure.

Rejoicing in Heaven

The cry from the cross, "It is finished," caused a shout of joy to ring through the universe. The revelator describes this celebration of rejoicing in Revelation 12: 10-13: "I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and

(Continued on page 11)



by
W. L. EMMERSON

News Flashes

POINTED PARAGRAPHS OF WORLD INTEREST

★ **RUSSIA'S ARMY** According to the latest statistics, Russia has a regular army of 1,545,000 men, a fully trained reserve of 7,500,000, and a partially trained reserve of another 9,000,000. The Russian air force a year ago comprised 80,000 men, of whom 15,000 are qualified pilots.

★ **NEED FOR CERTAINTY** "The soul of the nation," asserted Lady Bridgeman at a recent meeting of the National Society, "is awakening to the need of religion, but the man in the street is unlikely to be attracted by a weak uncertainty in religious belief. Let church people be clear about the value in education of definite, dogmatic atmosphere."

★ **AIR FORCES OF THE WORLD** According to the War Department of the United States, the present estimated standing of the world's first-line effective air forces is as follows: "Germany, 9,800; Great Britain, 7,100; Russia, 5,500; Italy, 4,000; United States, 3,500; Japan, 3,100; France, 2,700."

★ **OPTIMISM TO PESSIMISM** "In the twenties of this century we had a mood of excessive optimism," declared Sir Alfred Zimmern in the course of his James Seth Memorial Lecture in Edinburgh; "we thought that there was a new world just around the corner. We have moved now from excessive optimism to excessive pessimism."

★ **WAR NOT THE WAY** "Twenty-five years ago," writes Dr. Inge in the *Church of England Newspaper*, "we drew the sword with two objects—'to end war' and 'to make the world safe for democracy.' We won that war after narrowly escaping destruction, and the results are what we see. The wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

★ **EUROPE'S STRUGGLE** "The spiritual struggle that is now being waged in Europe," says J. Middleton Murry in "The Price of Leadership," "is a life-and-death struggle of the Christian idea as the vital principle of a civilization. In its simplest form that idea is that the overriding allegiance of man is to God as revealed in Christ—and that this allegiance is not clean outside the texture of men's daily lives, but enters into them at every point, and gives them meaning."

★ **VERBAL DISARMAMENT** "Among the many conferences that are now in the air," writes Mr. J. A. Spender, in the *Yorkshire Observer*, "I would suggest one for verbal disarmament. By their inflamed eloquence the dictators have brought us to the point at which strong words have ceased to serve any purpose except to embitter facts. If, by general agreement, the international dictionary could be combed of a few score of boastful words and menacing epithets, it would be an immense advantage to the world."

"He Will Abundantly PARDON"

*The Promise of Divine Forgiveness
Conditions to Be Observed
Should Sins Be "Shared"?*

AN intelligent youth of good appearance presented himself at a Christian college. Seated in the president's office, he told this story:

"I have come to ask admission to this school. But first I will tell you the truth about my life. For the past two years I've been serving time at the state prison at —. I have no alibi. I simply got what was coming to me. But when I was taken to the prison and the walls shut me in, I finally came to myself, and made up my mind that I was finished forever with a life of crime; so I didn't mix with the tough boys in the bastille.

"The guards were very kind to me, and granted me special favors. Friends worked for my freedom; and, at last, on the recommendation of the warden, and because of my youth, the governor pardoned me. That was only three days ago. I believe that God has pardoned me too, for I have prayed to Him to forgive. I'm as sorry as a boy can be for all my lawlessness, and I think that a Christian college is the best place in all the world for me to start life over again. Will you take me as a student?"

The governor's pardon to this youth was not granted to condone or to minimize his offense, neither was it a license to continue in a life of crime. The very fact that the pardon had been generously given placed the young man under added responsibility to become a law-abiding citizen. While he was in prison, he was "under the law," under the stern restraint of civil statutes; but with the pardon he walked forth to liberty "under grace," under the governor's unmerited favor.

Even so, God's pardon is not an "indulgence" to commit sin, to violate any of His commandments. Before an individual comes to Christ, he is "under the

law," under condemnation of the divine code. But there stands the peerless promise, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9.

When we confess, He forgives. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Romans 8:1. Christ has written the certificate of pardon with His own lifeblood. King David accepted of that certificate, and declared, "I will walk at liberty: for I seek Thy precepts." Psalm 119:45. That is true "liberty under law."

One day while conversing with a talented college teacher I mentioned the joy, the thrill, that comes with the assurance of Christ's full forgiveness and pardon. But like a flash she replied: "I have no sin. I need no forgiveness. I am a

pagan." Yes, modernism has told the world that there is no divine law, no fixed standard of right and wrong, and, consequently, no sin, no need of a Saviour or of a Saviour's pardon.

Possessing an inflated ego, many a modernist would banish God from the universe and exalt his own intellect as the supreme court of appeal. But, in spite of man's puny thoughts and pitiful unbelief, the Hand Omnipotent continues to guide planets, stars, and systems in their orderly march, and still presides in the affairs of mankind. His divine law has never been abolished or repealed. Sin is ever an ugly intruder in this world; and the wages of sin have never been suspended or reduced. The only hope of a lost, dazed, and doomed mankind is a sin-pardoning Redeemer.

To some Satan whispers, "You are too great a sinner. There is no hope of for-



PICTURES, INC.

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:7.

giveness, for you have doubtless sinned away your day of grace." But the promise is unlimited: "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:7.

No matter how sordid, how tragic, the past, the wondrous Saviour is ready and anxious to forgive the darkest page in life's history. "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25.

Troubled heart, are you afraid that you have committed the unpardonable sin? Then banish your fears. Your anxiety is the best evidence that you have not gone beyond the limits of divine mercy. The invitation is still extended: "Return, My son, My daughter; follow Me, I'll guide you home." "The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. . . . And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Revelation 22:17.

"See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh." Hebrews 12:25. Listen to the persuasive voice saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it." But here is the danger: If unheeded, the senses gradually become

tern, and our great enemy is well pleased when he can turn the eyes of man away from the Master to behold the faults in poor, frail humanity. Our only safety is found in "looking unto Jesus."

No matter what others are doing, be they true or false, the vital issue is this: If you have not come to Christ for cleansing and pardon, you are eternally lost. Even as our Lord said to the great Hebrew scholar, Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again." Do you ask, How? The answer is simply, *Come*. Come just as you are. Of yourself you cannot repent or truly reform your life. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." Jeremiah 13:23.

The Spirit of Repentance

But we come to One who is "mighty to save," who can "subdue our iniquities," One who can turn us away from our sins, who can give the spirit and power of repentance, and who can issue an unqualified pardon. Isaiah 63:1; Micah 7:19; Acts 9:26; 5:31.

To another the tempter suggests: "A pardon may be desirable, but it requires altogether too much humiliation." On receiving a roll of bills from the bank teller, Mr. Brown found an extra ten dollar bill, and thought to himself, "That's his hard luck and my good fortune." Several years passed by, and at length Mr. Brown determined to surrender his heart to Christ. In the Book he read: "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Proverbs 28:13.

To be sure, it was humiliating, but straight to the bank he went and returned the money. The manager said: "And you kept that money all these years! Brown, you're an awfully mean man; but I think more of you than I ever did before."

Whatever the cost, it pays a rich dividend to be honest with God, and honest with our fellow men. In ancient times when a person actually repented, he was instructed not only to bring an offering, but also to "confess that he hath sinned *in that thing*." The truly penitent will be specific in his confessions; he will also seek to remove every stumbling block from the path of others. See Matthew 5:23, 24.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another." James 5:16. Contrary to the advice of some, we do not advocate "sharing" the dark and hidden experiences of life with others, as is practiced by the so-called modern Oxford Movement. Open sins should be publicly acknowledged. The confession should extend to all who know, or might be influenced by, the wrong committed;

while no curious ear should listen to the heart confession of secret sins known to God alone.

"Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." 2 Corinthians 7:10. If you are troubled over sins that are unconfessed, that is the work of the Holy Spirit; but if worried over wrongs that have been humbly acknowledged, such is the work of the enemy. Ever remember the promise that our Father will "abundantly pardon."

There are some who greatly admire the Christian life, yet, observing the contrast between the spotless Christ and their own sinful hearts, feel that the way of holiness is too straight and too high for them to attain. In this they do not rightly evaluate the mighty power of God to change the desires, transform character, and bring "into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." 2 Corinthians 10:5. Not only does He pardon the sins that are past, but He also supplies strength for the future to keep the returned prodigal from falling. Jude 24. He imparts an abhorrence of sin and a joy in obedience, so that the child of faith can truly say: "I delight to do Thy will, O my God: yea, Thy law is within my heart." Psalm 40:8.

To others the tempter softly suggests: "The Christian life is truly desirable, but there is no need of being in a hurry." This demon of procrastination is one of the most deadly. The longer one waits before coming to Christ for cleansing and pardon, the easier to delay, and the more difficult it is to step over the line. A very large proportion of those who are Christians make the decision in early life; while, after the age of twenty, comparatively few enlist under the bloodstained banner of Prince Emmanuel.

Life is uncertain. There is no promise of tomorrow. "Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Hebrews 4:7; 2 Corinthians 6:2.

The great and vital message of the Bible is God's plan for delivering men and women from the bondage of the subtle monster—SIN. Many years after Lincoln had freed the slaves and the Civil War had closed, a traveler visited an out-of-the-way district on one of the tributaries of the Red River. There he is said to have found an old Negro slave working along on a plantation as in former times. And the reason? He had not heard of the Emancipation Proclamation issued more than a decade before, which liberated him from slavery.

And, stranger yet, multitudes today stagger along under the bondage of evil habits and sinful practices just as though they had never heard that their freedom

(Continued on page 11)

th in the series on the
omises of the Bible by

F. COTTRELL

dull to entreaty, the ear deaf, and the conscience dead. Then, though the Spirit pleads with the individual to be reconciled to God, no voice is heard, no heart is touched, no impulses are stirred, no desires are awakened for a Saviour's love and pardon. The conscience has atrophied, and the individual has committed the unpardonable sin against the Holy Ghost. O friend, let us keep our ears sensitive to the faintest whisper of the Spirit, and the heart ever responsive to the voice of God in the soul!

Again, Satan often tempts the worldly-wise man to think and say, "I'm just as good as those church members, and a lot better than some of them." That may be very true—painfully true. It is tragic that many professed Christians are a disgrace to the worthy name by which they are called. Christ is the only perfect pat-



STOP!

Are You Obeying the Divine Speed Law?

by MURL VANCE

"We can put shatterproof glass in our automobiles, but no one has yet discovered a way to put shatterproof nerves in the human body."

THE high, chilling whine of the siren on the officer's motorcycle warned us to pull over. I glanced at the speedometer. Only fifty miles an hour; but it was on a mountainous road where the speed limit was twenty-five. The neighbor with whom I was riding explained to the officer that he did not know the speed limit was only twenty-five miles an hour; but the officer made out the ticket just the same. The next day in traffic court we paid the fine and vowed to watch for speed-limit signs the next time we passed through a strange country.

Today another siren is sounding, warning all humanity to pull over. It is far more chilling, more bloodcurdling, than any siren on an officer's machine—it is more like the sickening whine of skidding tires just before a crash. Do you hear it? I do. It comes as a last-minute warning that we are going too fast, that our speed is so great that we are no longer traveling under control. And all because we are breaking a fundamental speed law, given by the Creator Himself some six thousand years ago.

Perhaps you did not know that God wrote a speed law into the Ten Commandments. Well, He did; and, if it were obeyed, we should have a far different world today in which to live. He must have looked down through the centuries and seen man's need for a speed law; and, since He had set Himself to the service of supplying all man's needs, He gave him the speed law along with the other nine commandments He saw were so essential for man's happiness. It is no arbitrary law—God does not do business that

way. It is necessary to man's health and happiness, and because we have disobeyed it, we are paying and will continue to pay to an even greater extent the fine for our disobedience.

Take my own work, for instance. Nine hours each day I struggle away in my workroom trying to prevent printers from spelling Roosevelt with one *o* or writers from saying that Albania is one of the South American republics. A mistake on my part may cost my employer hundreds of dollars.

As a result of this responsibility, my nerves are keyed up to the point where each day usually ends in exhaustion as far as nervous energy is concerned. I surely would have been a physical wreck long before this if it were not for the commandment that says, Stop, rest, take time out to refresh soul, mind, and body.

I have seen some of the results of the disobedience to God's speed law. Several times I have visited a near-by sanitarium, where doctors and nurses were attempt-

ing to patch up some of the wrecked persons who have been driving too fast. The human body and the human mind just cannot be driven day and night, seven days a week, 365 days a year, without a wreck sooner or later. We can put shatterproof glass in our automobiles, but no one has yet discovered a way to put shatterproof nerves in the human body. Only last week I read in a dental magazine that one out of every twenty-five dentists commit suicide; and I am sure some of the other professions are about as nerve-racking. Every newspaper tells of those who go too fast and too far, who break down under the strain of too much speed.

That is the reason God wrote His speed law. He knew exactly what He was doing when He said, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20:8-11.

Man Without God Is Without Hope

I do not mean to infer that the only reason God set a speed limit upon human activity was to provide rest for man. No one who has studied the hundreds of references to this law in both the Old and the New Testament could think that. More essential to the happiness and physical well-being of man than a day of rest is intimate contact with his Creator. The Sabbath was provided as a special day for making and renewing this contact. It is becoming increasingly recognized that man without God is not only a hopeless creature, but a lawless creature, a constant danger to society. There has never been found a better governor of human conduct than genuine Christianity. And there is no genuine Christianity without obedience to the law of God; for we read, "Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." 1 John 2:3, 4.

The commandment having the greatest bearing upon man's relation to his Creator is undoubtedly the one quoted above. As one writer has expressed it: "Had the Sabbath been universally kept, man's thoughts and affections would have been led to the Creator as the object of reverence and worship, and there would never have been an idolater, an atheist, or an infidel."



There are, then, two reasons for God's giving the Sabbath commandment to man: It provides a day of rest and spiritual recreation for man's mind and body; and it is the key commandment in maintaining that all-essential contact between the creature and the Creator. Since the mass of humanity has lost this contact, we have wars and rumors of wars, nervous and mental breakdowns, suicides, and unrestrained lawlessness. Yet mankind speeds on, unheeding this warning siren, unmindful of the commandment which says, Stop, rest, take time to live!

The Power of the Cross

(Continued from page 7)

of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child."

The devil never knew that his cause was lost and that his time was short till Jesus died a conqueror on the cross of Calvary. This was the event that withdrew from him all sympathy and divested him of his position as "the prince of this world." He was then cast out as this world's usurper prince and ruler, and Jesus became the world's true prince and representative in the councils of heaven. The cross was the weapon that sealed the doom of the great rebel leader, who knows that it is only a question of time till he shall be stripped of all authority and power and shall be imprisoned in the bottomless pit to await a just sentence at the close of the millennium. Then his power for evil shall be ended.

Brings Us Near to God

The cross is the greatest of all evidences of the love of God. After a certain prisoner had died, there was found on the wall of his cell a picture of a large cross with the word "LOVE" written at the four ends of the two beams, indicating that the cross alone measures the height, depth, and breadth of the love of God "which passeth knowledge." The cross is the science of salvation, and it will be the song of the redeemed throughout all eternity. E. G. White wrote: "To remove the cross from the Christian would be like blotting the sun from the sky. The cross brings us near to God, reconciling us to Him. . . . Without the cross, man could have no union with the Father. On it depends our every hope. From it shines the light of the Saviour's love; and when at the foot of the cross the sinner looks up to the One who died to save him, he may rejoice with fullness of joy; for his sins are pardoned. Kneeling in faith at the cross, he has reached

the highest place to which man can attain."—"The Acts of the Apostles," pages 209, 210.

It is the thought of Calvary that awakens sacred emotions in our hearts. It is impossible for pride and selfishness to flourish in the heart that keeps fresh in memory the scenes of Calvary. The reflections of the love of God as demonstrated by the cross will renovate the mind, touch and melt the soul, refine and elevate the affections, and completely transform the whole character. No wonder the apostle Paul cried out, enraptured by his vision of the cross: "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." Galatians 6:14.

God give us all the same glorious vision and living experience.



IT WAS two thousand years ago, on a Friday afternoon. Three crosses stood in a row on the summit of Golgotha. On them three were crucified. Two were robbers. One was the Redeemer. Matthew 27:38.

Before the crucifixion, the two on either side were thieves. After the crucifixion only one was a thief. They began to differ while the pall of darkness hung over the cross. One saw a great light. The other saw only grim darkness. One saw his Mediator, dying as a sacrifice. The other saw only a man, dying as a sinner. When looking at the cross, what do you see?

These men continued to differ more and more, moment by moment, and hour by hour, as the day wore on. At last one was sealed for salvation. At last the other was set for destruction. The cross of Christ is still a great divider of men.

In close contact with Jesus, one man grew better, and the other man grew worse. Jesus was a savor of life to one, and a savor of death to the other. 2 Corinthians 2:16. The one on the right hand was saved. The one on the left hand was lost. The cross divided them as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats. Literally, both men were an equal distance from Jesus; yet, spiritually, they were a great distance apart. One man desired a better life; the other did not.

One thief said, "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom." Luke 23:42. The other said, "If Thou be Christ, save Thyself and us." Verse 39. One asked for eternal life. The other asked

He Will Pardon

(Continued from page 9)

had been secured nineteen hundred years ago on Calvary's cross! Reader, knowing that your pardon was purchased by the Son of God at such infinite cost, do you now propose to remain in the prison house and be led forth at last to pay the supreme penalty for your folly and delay?

Let us humbly resolve that Jesus Christ shall not have shed His precious blood in vain for any of us! "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land." Isaiah 1:18, 19.

Our God "will abundantly pardon."

Bible Comparisons and
Contrasts—16

The Two THIEVES

by

CHARLES G. BELLAH

for temporal life. One only wanted to be taken down from the cross. The other wanted to be taken up to heaven. One said, "Never mind about the future, but help me now." The other said, "Never mind about the present, but remember me then." Which life are you most interested in?

One united himself with the Saviour against the world, and was saved. The other united himself with the world, against the Saviour, and was lost. One spoke up for Christ. The other condemned Christ. One called Jesus by His rightful name, "Lord." The other said, "If Thou be Christ." One wanted a demonstration of works. The other was satisfied with a declaration of faith. How about you?

Jesus promised to remember the one in Paradise, because that one had remembered Him on earth. The other would be forgotten in Paradise, because he had forgotten the Lord on earth.

One thief was saved on the cross, in his last hour, that none might despair of salvation. And *only* one was thus saved, that none might presume to wait for salvation.

"One of these days," in finding salvation, is often "none of these days." God has promised pardon to the penitent, but He has not promised tomorrow to the negligent. None can be safe too soon. But many seek safety too late. It is a poor time to seek fire insurance when the flames are bursting through every window of your home. Start right, get right, and stay right, and you will be right when the end comes.



Challenge to LIBERTY

In America Today

by HEBER H.
VOTAW

*The eagle at
Grant's Tomb,
New York City.*

KEYSTONE

THE average American justifies his indifference to all suggestions that there is any danger of religious intolerance in the United States by the fact that the first article of the Bill of Rights—the First Amendment to the Constitution—provides that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” Ignorantly or willfully he overlooks the fact that the statute books of the various commonwealths are loaded down with laws that savor of religious legislation to a greater or lesser degree. More than forty states have Sunday laws of one kind or other. These measures are often honored in their breach rather than in their enforcement. But as long as they are a part of the criminal code, they are weapons to be used by bigots who seek to enforce religion by the power of the police authorities.

Some of these old blue laws go to the extreme in their provisions, and many would be simply ridiculous if they were not actually so dangerous. For instance, New Jersey's Sunday law prohibits *traveling more than twenty miles on Sunday* except it be in “going to or returning from any church or place of public worship,” or “going to call a physician, surgeon, or midwife,” or “carrying mail to

or from any post office, or going express by order of any public officer.”

A few years since, a forward-looking state senator sought the repeal of this measure. But when hearings were announced, more than one hundred clergymen went to Trenton, demanding that the sanctity of the “Sabbath” (Sunday) be preserved. This demonstration given about a dozen years ago shows that many of the clergymen of the twentieth century

have not changed much from their spiritual forebears of the seventeenth century.

Every citizen of this land has a right to observe the first day of the week as devoutly as he wishes, and the state may properly protect the individual in the exercise of this right. But it is a poor religion that must depend upon the arm of the civil authorities—the policeman's club—to protect and preserve its teachings and ordinances.

Religious tests for holding public office, or for serving as jurors or witnesses in criminal cases, are applied in a number of states.

Dangers, however, do not all lie in the old laws that clutter up our statute books. In the present session of Congress a bill has been introduced to recognize Good Friday as a legal holiday. This particular time has no significance whatever except a religious significance. To single out a religious day and make it a national holiday is to depart entirely from the principle of the separation of church and state.

The danger of giving aid from the tax funds to any sectarian institution was so apparent to the founders of the nation that practically every state in the Union originally provided that no public funds shall ever be used for the aid of any sect, directly or indirectly. Now the tide is turning. The Empire State last year, at



The LIBERTY MAGAZINE

A unique journal. Over fifty years a guardian of religious liberty in the United States. The only magazine of its kind in the country. Devoted exclusively to seeking to preserve the heritage of religious freedom received from our nation's founders. Recognizes no difference between the rights of Catholic, Protestant, Jew, or unbeliever in matters of religion before the civil law. Ably edited. Contributors include clergymen of many denominations, public officials,—state and national,—and editors of religious and secular journals.

Published quarterly. 50 cents a year. Order from your nearest agency or direct from “Liberty,” Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

its Constitutional Convention, changed its constitution so that public funds may be used to help parochial school children.

There is before the present Congress a bill to provide Federal aid for state educational systems. One of the provisions of the measure is that nothing in it may be construed to debar state or city authorities from giving aid to private and parochial schools.

The Dickstein bill, which failed of passage last year, is again before the Federal Congress. This bill would ban from the mails "all papers, pamphlets, magazines, periodicals, books, pictures, and writings of any kind, and every article and thing designed or adapted or intended to cause racial or religious hatred or bigotry or intolerance, or to, directly or indirectly, incite to racial or religious hatred or bigotry or intolerance." The penalty for violation would be a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both fine and imprisonment.

Seeking to be charitable, one can concede that the author's intentions might have been good. But his method is to be deplored, for, if this bill ever becomes a law, it will be impossible to send a history through the mail that tells of the excesses of the Dark Ages and the work of the Inquisition. Any Roman Catholic might claim that such a history was "adapted" to causing religious bigotry or hatred. Protestants have not always had clean hands either, and to send a history through the mail that told of the persecution carried on by Protestants might cause some of them to charge intolerance or bigotry. This Dickstein measure is the most drastic attack upon the freedom of the press that we have ever seen.

There is danger. Eternal vigilance is still the price of liberty.

"Life is made up of little things. It is but once in an age that occasion is offered for doing a great deed. True greatness consists in being great in little things."



The Cross Was His Own

They borrowed a bed to lay His head
When Christ the Lord came down:
They borrowed the ass in the mountain pass
For Him to ride to town:
But the crown that He wore
And the cross He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

He borrowed the bread when the crowd He fed
On the grassy mountainside:
He borrowed the dish of broken fish
With which He satisfied:
But the crown that He wore
And the cross He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

He borrowed a ship in which to sit
To teach the multitude:
He borrowed a nest in which to rest:
He had never a home so rude:
But the crown that He wore
And the cross He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

He borrowed a room on His way to the tomb
The Passover lamb to eat:
They borrowed a cave for Him a grave:
They borrowed a winding sheet:
But the crown that He wore
And the cross He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

The thorns on His head were worn in my stead.
For me the Saviour died:
For guilt of my sin the nails drove in
When Him they crucified:
Though the crown that He wore
And the cross He bore
Were His own—
They rightly were mine.
—L. M. Hollingsworth.

The Flight of Time

(Continued from page 8)

tells of a letter he received last Christmas from a lifelong atheist friend. Part of it reads as follows: "As I grow older I am less confident in my denials of your position. I am beginning to feel all that you believe, but you are a lucky beggar to be able to believe. Anyway, put on your phonograph that prelude of Bach, 'I call on Thee, Jesus,' and know as you sit through it, that all you feel I feel, and forget the arguments, and let us have communion in the feeling."

Lucky to believe! Yes, indeed, in these dark and turbulent days it is fortunate to have "a faith that will not shrink," a calm, undaunted confidence in the wisdom and power of God.

As Jesus said to doubting Thomas, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." John 20:29.

There is a wonderful blessedness in believing, and God grant that this satisfying joy may come to all who, long Sundered from the faith, are now "turning wistfully toward heaven."

"I call on Thee, Jesus," is a prayer that will never leave the heart of God unmoved.

Liberty Worth Saving?

(Continued from page 4)

The adoption of the Constitution signalized the triumph of civil and religious liberty and the equality of all men before the law. The greatest achievement of any people at any time was the incorporation of the Bill of Rights in the fundamental law, and the crowning glory of that palladium of human rights and liberties was the inscription of these imperishable words: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

That torch of human liberty enlightened the world and swept away the dark clouds of the Middle Ages, when governments had restricted and regimented all the activities of life in harmony with the will of a single dictator. It flashed the spirit of freedom into the hearts of men and caused tyrants to tremble on their thrones. With the recognition of equal justice for all men disappeared the union of church and state with its consequent evils.

The ideals of our forefathers which blossomed forth in the creation of the American democracy resulted in a mighty national purpose to preserve the sovereignty of the people that the herit-

Coming Next Week

in addition to the regular features:

God Knows the Way!	R. Alan Anderson
The Gospel in War-Torn China	Raymond H. Hartwell
The World of Tomorrow	M. I. Fayard
Man Before the Mountains	Benjamin Franklin Allen
Promises of Divine Healing	Roy F. Cottrell
"Watchman, What of the Night?"	Walter P. McLennan
The Problem of "Relief"	A. L. Tomlinson
"Conformed" or "Transformed"	Glenmore R. Carter
The Two Sons	Charles G. Bellah
Adorning the Doctrine	F. L. Abbott



age of liberty might not perish from the earth.

Is this heritage worth saving? In view of what is happening today in those lands where dictators are supreme, where no man may call his soul his own, where men are no longer citizens but subjects, where all activities of life are regimented and restricted, where individual liberties and inalienable rights are sneered at, where men are mere pawns and serfs, where government officials are masters, where the sovereignty of the people is denied, where religious freedom is a legal fiction, and where religious persecution is shocking the world—we answer it is worth saving a thousand times over. We owe an incalculable debt of gratitude to those who died on the scaffold, on the guillotine, on the rack, at the stake, in gloomy dungeon cells, for their faith—a debt we can never pay in any better way than by defending and preserving inviolate that precious heritage of civil and religious freedom they have handed down to us.

[The Religious Liberty Association of America, whose general secretary is the writer of the above article, is also editor of the *Liberty* magazine, published quarterly in Takoma Park, Washington, D. C. This unique magazine is devoted exclusively to the defense of the American ideals of government, and the rights of all men as vouchsafed to the individual under the Federal Constitution. We encourage our readers to subscribe for this important magazine with its timely message. A single subscription is only 50 cents yearly; or 30 cents each for a club of three or more to separate addresses.—EDITOR.]

God Gave Us Freedom

(Continued from page 3)

is stated thus: "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness." Ezekiel 28:12-17.

Lucifer was "the anointed cherub that covereth." Because of his exalted station, his beauty, and his glory, his heart became lifted up with pride, and he aspired to be equal with God. This led him to conspire against the government of God; and in this state of mind he left his station by the throne of the Highest and went forth to spread his disaffection among the angelic host. God could have restrained him by the exercise of His omnipotent power; but He did not do so.

He did not forbid him to do what he contemplated doing; He permitted him full liberty of action. God knew what Lucifer's purpose was, and what would result from his pernicious influence over other beings; but the Omniscient left this disaffected angel perfectly free so far as restraint by force was concerned. No compulsion was exercised upon Lucifer and his sympathizers in heaven until it became necessary to cast them out of that abode.

In the light of all this, individual freedom of choice and liberty of action are seen to be priceless value.

There is a reason why the Omnipotent did not forcibly restrain Lucifer when the great rebel began his devastating course of warfare against the divine government. It is a strong reason, as strong as God Himself. That reason is love.

Loyalty Through Love, Not Force

God would have no beings worship and serve Him from any other motive than love. The Creator would have a universe attuned to perfect harmony with Himself, pervaded by the spirit that actuates Him in all that He does. Hence the supreme place of love; for "God is love." 1 John 4:8.

The Almighty might have created a race of beings who would never sin because they did not possess the power to do wrong. But if human parents could not be satisfied with such forced obedience and service, much less could God be. He does not desire the service of robots, or service rendered from fear or compulsion.

God has allowed sin to continue in the world from Adam's day down to the present, with all its terrible accompaniment of evil and woe; not because He had not the power to stamp rebellion out, but because it is His purpose that all beings made in His image should be allowed freedom to choose between loyalty to Him and disloyalty. All true worshipers of God know and testify that it is love for God and for His creatures and for the principles of His government that constrains them to bring their lives into perfect harmony with His will.

The value of individual liberty of choice and of conduct in man's relation-

Advocating a return to the simple gospel of Christ, and a preparation for His imminent second appearing

EDITOR ARTHUR S. MAXWELL

RATES in U. S. A.: Single copy, one year . . . \$1.50
Clubs of five or more to one address, each . . . 1.25

To Canada and other countries taking extra postage:
Single copy, one year \$2.00
Clubs of five or more to one address, each . . . 1.50

Please make all checks and money orders payable to "Signs of the Times," Mountain View, California.

In requesting change of address, please give both old and new address.

No papers are sent except on paid subscriptions, so persons receiving the "Signs of the Times" without having subscribed may feel perfectly free to accept it. J. R. FERREN, Circulation Manager.

ship to God outweighs all the sin that has ever been committed, with all its attendant evil, including the death of God's only-begotten Son on Calvary's cross.

What estimate, then, should we place upon this God-given freedom, and how careful should we be to give it the place in our lives that God designs it to have!

The one who does this will think for himself instead of letting others do his thinking for him. He will read and study God's word for himself that he may know what God's will is, instead of taking his beliefs on the authority of other mortals as human and as fallible as himself. He will act for himself in accordance with his convictions of conscience in that which pertains to his duty to God, whether or not this brings him into conflict with the opinions of the majority around him.

In view of this testimonial of the Creator to the necessity and value of man's individual liberty of choice in his attitude toward God, how abhorrent to Him must be all attempts by sinful man to compel homage to be rendered to God! To try to force men to obey the laws of God is not only wholly contrary to the will of God, but it is an attempt to do the impossible. The natural, or unconverted, heart cannot be brought into harmony with God by any exercise of human power. "The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Romans 8:7. Only by the provisions of the gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation, operating through a new birth and the agency of the Holy Spirit, can a sinner be brought into harmony with the divine will.

One may be deprived of physical freedom without his consent; but soul liberty—the liberty of thought, of belief, and of choice—is of inestimable value, and is to be maintained at all costs.

"THE true Christian is like the sun, which pursues its noiseless course, and everywhere leaves the effect of its beams in blessings upon the world around him."

CUT HERE

FILL IN MAIL TODAY

Circulation Dept., PACIFIC PRESS
Mountain View, California

Date _____

PLEASE send the SIGNS OF THE TIMES for one year to the following address. I enclose \$1.50 (\$2.00 in Canada and foreign).

Name _____

Address _____

None Other Book

NONE other book, none other word,
None other lamp to guide my faltering
feet;
None other message ear hath ever heard
One half so sweet.

Thy word is truth, Thy Book is truth,
Truth that abideth, and can never cease,
Calling with winning voice to age and
youth,
Guiding to peace.

Lord, touch my eyes, that I may see;
Lord, touch my ears, that I may hear
aright;
Lord, touch my lips, that I may speak for
Thee,
Walk in Thy light. Amen.

BENJAMIN I. GREENWOOD.
(After Christina Rossetti.)

Literature Wanted

THE following persons desire late, clean copies of *Review and Herald*, *Youth's Instructor*, *Present Truth*, *Watchman*, and *SIGNS OF THE TIMES*, for free distribution.

Harold Pearsall, 92 Hawthorne St., Brooklyn, New York.

G. Everett Marsh, S. D. A. Church, 2660 St. Mary's Ave., Omaha, Nebraska. Cannot use the *Review*.

E. J. Helms, Route 1, West Fork, Arkansas.

Otho De Witt, 310 W. 5th St., Imlay City, Michigan.

Lester Owens, General Delivery, Purdy, Missouri.

Mrs. Mabel Price, Pengra, Oregon.

Mr. O. S. Owen, 916 E. Oklahoma, Enid, Oklahoma.



Surveys Indicate That of the Youth of the Nation

62% Drink Liquor

Your Boy, Your Girl, Should Have the Facts

THESE BOOKS GIVE FACTS

"Science Speaks to Young Men on Liquor, Tobacco, Narcotics, and Marijuana"—
by George Thomason, M. D.

Dr. Thomason, in his interesting, forceful style, wrote this book especially for boys and young men. Nothing sentimental or preachy, but honest facts of the kind that make a direct hit with the youth of 1939. Liberally illustrated with line cuts made especially for this book.

"Plain Facts for Young Women on Marijuana, Narcotics, Liquor, and Tobacco"—
by Belle Wood-Comstock, M. D.

In this book the doctor, who is a nationally known lecturer and author, tells her young reader just what liquor, tobacco, and dope do to the body, mind, and character of women. The facts are driven home by numerous pictures drawn especially for this book.

"Marihuana, the Weed of Madness"—by Earle Albert Rowell and Robert Rowell

Because the plant that produces this pernicious drug is already growing as a weed in many parts of the country and can be grown almost anywhere, the use of this maddening drug is increasing at an alarming rate. Every man, woman, and young person should read this book.

"The Cigarette as a Physician Sees It"—by D. H. Kress, M. D.

The avowed goal of the billionaire tobacco companies of the land is, "A cigarette between the lips of every young man and woman in America." In this book the doctor tells young men and young women of the danger. He supports his statements with facts and with quotations from men whom the youth of the land know and respect.

Each of the books listed has colorful, attractive covers and contains 100 pages.

Postpaid, each only

25c

Also available in cloth for classroom and library purposes at 75 cents each.

Order from our representative, or from

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSN., Mountain View, Calif.



Are You Afraid of

CANCER?

Then, here is what you should do right away. Send immediately for the July issue of that splendid magazine *Health*, for therein is a very noteworthy article by one of the big cancer specialists of the nation, entitled, "How To Protect Yourself Against Cancer."

Dr. Albert Soiland, M. D., D. M. R. E., F. A. C. P., presents a half dozen points of advice, which if followed by all, would cut the number of cancer victims down to a minimum almost overnight.

★How to Get this Specialist's Advice

Take a penny postal card and tell us that you would like the July issue of *Health* as a free sample copy. In that number you will get not only Dr. Soiland's article but a dozen others on varied health topics, plus a special question and answer feature where many queries are answered by our staff of specialists. Be sure to put your own name and address on the postal card, and then drop it into the next mail, addressed to

HEALTH

Mountain View, California

TWO-MINUTE
MESSAGE



*Stirring is this
recital of God's
care for the desti-
tute.*

The PRAYER of FAITH

by

F. W. ROCHELLE

MR. George Müller, in answer to whose prayers God sent money to build homes for two thousand orphan children, which aid, because of the prayers of that man and his associates, has sufficed to feed, clothe, and care for them for one hundred three years, wrote at one time in his journal as follows:

"FEB. 6, 1896: Day after day, and week after week, the income has been exceedingly small.

"Today again, the first two deliveries, which are the principal ones, though there were fifty-three letters of business of various kinds, contained only £4.1.0 [\$20]. Thus faith and patience are tried day by day, but patient, persevering, believing, waiting upon God brings at last the blessing.

"Thus we have found it for sixty-two years.

"FEB. 7: Here is sent, by the prompting of the Lord, five shillings; but in like manner we receive the checks for £100, £5,000; and thus, in like manner, comes to us the legacy for £5,000, £8,000, and £11,000. All, all comes to us in answer to prayer, from the living God, who now, at the last part of the nineteenth century, is as able and willing to give in answer to prayer as four thousand years

since. We believe this, and act accordingly; and so it comes that we have the thousands of answers to prayer.

"FEB. 8: 'Could you tell me how faith is developed?' I was asked in a letter. My reply was, 'Faith is developed (or increased) by clinging to the word of God, looking for its fulfillment in time of need, expecting answer to prayer, and doing this in spite of all contrary appearances.'"

At another period of Mr. Müller's life he wrote:

"It is impossible to describe the abundance of peace and heavenly joy that often has flowed into my soul by means of the fresh answers which I have obtained from God, after waiting upon Him for help and blessing; and the longer I have had to wait upon Him, or the greater my need was, the greater the enjoyment when at last the answer came, which has often been in a very remarkable way, in order to make the hand of God more manifest."

Mr. Müller died March 9, 1898, at the age of ninety-four.

Since that time the work has been carried on by his fellow laborers, whose prayers still ascend as did Mr. Müller's, and during the more than forty years since his death money has come the same as it did in his lifetime.

That man of faith desired to take care of the orphan children and teach them to be Christians; but the primary reason for desiring to build and maintain the orphan houses, "by prayer and faith alone," was to prove to the church at large, and to the world, that God is as able and willing to give in answer to prayer today as He was four thousand years ago.

Jesus said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." Matthew 7:7, 8. And again: "If ye, . . . being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?" Verse 11.

If we read God's word and pray enough in Jesus' name, the Holy Spirit will show us how to believe and receive His promised blessings.