

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

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INTERNATIONAL

the flight of TIME



INTERNATIONAL



GOD'S OPINIONS

HAS God no opinion concerning all the sorrow and suffering in the world today? asked the Rev. Roy L. Smith, well-known Methodist minister of Los Angeles, in a recent address.

Has He no opinion about unrestricted submarine warfare, about the shipment of scrap iron to Japan, about the bombing of open cities?

Has He no opinion as to the right or the wrong of the unprovoked attacks upon Abyssinia, Albania, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Finland?

Of course He has. He must have.

Indeed, we would no doubt be right in concluding that God has very strong opinions upon a number of subjects that concern mankind at this time.

He has opinions about war, about the spirit of aggression, about persecution; and He also has opinions about the drink traffic, the drug traffic, the vice traffic, and all the thousand and one other unholy things that are dragging men down to perdition. He has opinions about the crime situation, about divorce, and Sabbathbreaking, too. No one could read the Bible and not be sure about that.

Some people seem to think that because there is so much evil about nowadays God can't possibly care any more.

A SURVEY of WORLD EVENTS

By the EDITOR

As Solomon said long ago: "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." Ecclesiastes 8:11.

But God does care. His all-seeing eye beholds every infringement of His commandments, and He will "bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." Chapter 12:14.

Perhaps we wonder sometimes whether God takes note of all the blustering boastings and blasphemies of the propagandists in certain European countries; but the Lord has assured us that for every idle word that men shall speak they "shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Matthew 12:36.

Shocked by the appalling sufferings of little children in the war zones of the world, we may have secretly doubted whether God could possibly be heeding

German mine sweepers, equipped with anti-aircraft guns, in action somewhere in the North Sea.

their frightened cries, their heartbroken sobs; but we have this word to console us: "Whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in Me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea." Matthew 18:6.

That does not sound like indifference.

Then there is all the loathsome persecution of racial and religious minorities. Surely God could not have beheld it. If He had, then—but Jesus interrupts our questionings with this stirring pledge of everlasting vigilance and ultimate vindication: "Shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily." Luke 18:7, 8.

We may therefore rest assured that God does see and hear and understand; and that those who are defying His will and impiously trampling upon the principles of His kingdom are but treasuring up wrath "against the day of wrath." Romans 2:5.

Centuries ago the apostle Peter predicted that in the last days some people would begin to scoff at God's seeming inactivity and isolation from world affairs. They would begin to ask, "Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue

OUR COVER PICTURE

These mighty guns on the Soviet battleship "Yakov-sverdlov" were employed to bombard fortresses on the Finnish coast.

as they were from the beginning of the creation." 2 Peter 3:3, 4. Peter warned us, however, not to be deceived by appearances, for "the Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." Verses 9, 10.

Certainly God has opinions. And He will as certainly act upon those opinions when the right time comes.



THE WATCH-DOGS BARK

IN THESE perilous times, when in many countries the foundations of the temple of liberty are being undermined, and burglars are breaking in at every window, citizens of the United States may well be thankful for the wide-awake watchdogs of Washington provided by the authors of the Constitution.

So quiet and unobtrusive are they that most of the time we forget their existence; yet they are there, silently keeping guard over the nation's most precious possessions.

Now and then they bark, and when they do it is well for all to give attention. Something is amiss. Somebody is trying to raid the vaults and steal the treasure.

Recently they barked again.

The trouble? Briefly this: In one city after another innocent-appearing ordinances had been passed forbidding the distribution of literature on the streets or even to the homes of the people. The reason given was the plausible one that promiscuous scattering of literature caused unnecessary littering of the streets and so added to the cost of cleaning.

This fine building in Helsinki, Finland, built largely with American dollars, is the seat of Parliament in this gallant little country. Modern to the last degree, it even has an electric voting system.

INTERNATIONAL



An appeal has been launched in England for 100,000 women to join the Civil Nursing Reserve, aided by advertising methods illustrated above.

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Thus it was in Los Angeles, Milwaukee, and Worcester. In Irvington, New Jersey, a city ordinance actually required a person to secure a license before he could distribute literature from house to house.

Many thought these ordinances were "progressive." They would stop much foolish and hurtful propaganda, and save busy people being annoyed by strangers with chips on their shoulders—and packets of pamphlets in their pockets. They would muzzle all the small, aggressive sects and save "orthodox" priests and pastors the trouble of trying to answer many a puzzling question. And, of course, they would keep the streets clean.

But the watchdogs of Washington, with a nose for infringements of the liberties of the people, scented an intruder. They growled. They barked.

Such ordinances, said the Supreme Court, were utterly unconstitutional. They were opposed to the very funda-

mentals of freedom. They might accomplish some slight measure of good, but the advantages could not be weighed in the balances with the incalculable evil they would cause if allowed to stand as law.

Dealing with the plea that the regulations were needed to assist in keeping the streets clean, it said: "Although a municipality may enact regulations in the interest of the public safety, health, welfare, or convenience, these may not abridge the individual liberties secured by the Constitution to those who wish to speak, write, print, or circulate information or opinion. The purpose to keep the streets clean and of good appearance is insufficient to justify an ordinance which prohibits a person rightfully on a public street from handing literature to one willing to receive it."

As to the Irvington ordinance, requiring persons wishing to distribute literature to obtain a license from the police chief after submitting photographs, fingerprints, and personal data, the court said:

"It bans unlicensed communication of any views or the advocacy of any cause from door to door, and permits canvassing only subject to the power of a police officer to determine, as a censor, what literature may be distributed from house to house and who may distribute it. The applicant must submit to that officer's judgment evidence as to his good character and as to absence of fraud in the 'project' he proposes to promote or the literature he intends to distribute, and must undergo a burdensome and inquisitorial examination, including photographing and fingerprinting. In the end,

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. . . Ancient Dust Heaps Speak

How Their Voices Corroborate the Bible Story

by

WILLIAM A. SPICER



The efforts of Rawlinson and others made intelligible this story of Nebuchadnezzar's building of Babylon. This slab of black basalt is now in London.

WHO that was born in the country does not remember the thrill that came to a child searcher at the finding of the first wild flowers of spring, peeping out from sunny spots made bare by melting snows? But such thrills are no greater than the emotion of delight and expectancy that comes to the searcher after fragments of ancient history that may help to make Bible times live again for these latter days.

What a gift to the ages was made by the writer of serious history! The old records come forth again and again to echo the voice of Sacred Scripture.

Yes, it is a joy to light upon every useful fragment of old-time writings. The searcher recalls just where he found every item of value. Down in Brazil, many years ago, marooned in a little fishing village, I picked up an old copy of *Chambers's Journal*, which had in it a quotation from an essayist that I have always counted a treasure. It was entitled, "From an Old Bookshelf." Read this paragraph that I copied:

"I go into my library, and all history unrolls before me. . . . I see the pyramids building; I hear the shouting of the armies of Alexander; I feel the ground shake beneath the march of Cambyzes. I sit as in a theater—the stage is time, the play is the play of the world. What a spectacle it is! What kingly pomp! What processions file past! What cities burn to heaven! What crowds of captives are dragged at the chariot wheels of conquerors! . . . The silence of the unpeopled plains, the outcomings and ingoings of the patriarchs, Abraham and Ishmael, Isaac in the fields at eventide, Rebekah at the well, Jacob's guile, Esau's face red-

dened by desert sun heat, Joseph's splendid funeral procession—all these things I find within the boards of my Old Testament. What a silence in those old books as of a half-peopled world! What bleatings of flocks! What green pastoral rest! What indubitable human existence! Across brawling centuries of blood and war I hear the bleating of Abraham's flocks, the tinkling of the bells of Rebekah's camels."—"Essays," by Alexander Smith.

And in this generation of ours a new thing has come to pass touching this matter of the study of history. We have not only the long-treasured volumes of the "old bookshelf," with their story of the past, but we have a new "bookshelf"—historical sources that students of a century ago never dreamed of. The uncovering of buried cities has brought forth

records that give a new setting to the history of early empires. We hear the voices of the Pharaohs of Egypt. Here Sennacherib of Assyria boasts of shutting up Hezekiah in Jerusalem, "like a caged bird." In the great museums we see reconstructed the very monuments and statues that prophets of God looked upon in Babylon and Nineveh.

And how recently has all this testimony from the buried cities been given to us! As this generation was opening, the infidelity of higher criticism was pouring in like a flood. So-called scholarship laid unholy hands on Holy Scripture. In the name of learning the great university centers showed up the alleged mistakes of the Bible. Then we saw fulfilled the promise of Scripture: "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." Isaiah 59:19.

Like a burst of light came the opening up of the buried cities of antiquity, which yielded evidence that overturned the arguments of the critics.

Yes, how recent it all is! In the great museum of Berlin, in one of the halls filled with Babylonian and Assyrian finds, is a little casket fixed to the wall representing the size of a case that would have held all the remains of Babylon and Nineveh known to the world in 1840.

By the side of the inscriptions of Darius the Great of Persia on the mountainlike rock of Behistun, Jackson, author of a fairly recent history of Persia, found cut into the rock the date "1844." It was the date mark cut there by the late Sir Henry Rawlinson, then young Lieutenant Rawlinson of the East India Company's Service. In 1844 he was at his sometimes perilous work of copying that three-language inscription which really was the starting point of the decipherment of languages that have given us a new view



Insight

MAY COLE KUHN

Broaden my vision, Lord,
That I may look above
Each hard, unlovely circumstance,
And recognize Thy love.

This little mind of mine
Is slow to comprehend;
But Thou canst see finality,
The origin and end.

So, since I cannot know
The road marked out for me,
Help me to understand Thy love,
And leave the way with Thee.

of the ancient history of early Bible times. When Sir Henry's clergyman brother, Canon George Rawlinson, in our time, gave us his "Five Great Monarchies," what an awakening call it was to the study of the past! Well do I remember, as a youth in school, when reprints of those volumes brought new interest in Bible prophecy and ancient history into our classrooms. It is all so recent.

In 1887, I had gone over to London. An Orientalist, teacher in a London college, took me to lectures in the Assyrian chamber of the British Museum. We heard men discussing the problems raised by the newest finds of archaeological expeditions. Boscawen was discussing Babylonian tablets. Hormuzd Rassam, gray-haired, was listening in. Rassam, an Assyrian, born in Mosul, on the Tigris, within sight of the mounds of ancient Nineveh, had been a helper to Sir A. H. Layard in 1845 and onward, when the first great monuments of the Assyrian capital were being dug out. At the lectures, also, was Ernest A. W. Budge, keeper of the Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities, later Sir Ernest, given knighthood for his studies. All about were other men whose names were to become well known for their work in giving to ancient records a voice to speak in our day. In our own time these records have come to light.

Bulwarks Against Unbelief

As someone said long ago, the very stones cry out today in protest against unbelief. When the scribes in old Jerusalem wanted Jesus to silence the hosannas of the multitude, He pointed to the fact that prophecy had foretold just such a welcome. He said that if the people held their peace in such a time of fulfilling prophecy, the very stones would cry out. So today, when unbelief sweeps in like a flood, Providence has raised up new witnesses in the inscribed monuments and stonelike tablets brought forth from buried cities of ancient days. The stones are indeed crying out.

As the prophet Daniel, in old Babylon and Persia, was given visions of the future, and wrote prophecies foretelling events even now taking place before our eyes, it was fitting that the uncovering of some of the very sights and monuments that Daniel must have looked upon should have been reserved to our generation. Now it is that all the lines of ancient prophecy are converging upon the great final event of all events—the coming of Christ again, this time in power and glory.

Let us ring out the message from the pages of Holy Scripture, and thank God for all the voices from the ancient dust heaps that witness to the integrity of the "sure word of prophecy."

What Is a CHRISTIAN?



by GENTRY G. LOWRY

IN THESE days of changing ideals and standards, when many things pertaining to religious beliefs and practices are so different from what they were a generation ago, the question often arises as to what Christianity really is. What is a Christian? What does one have to do, what does one have to believe, to be a Christian?

The view held by almost all non-Christian peoples is that the religion of the parent, like his nationality, affects the religion of the child. So, if a man is a Hindu, his children must be Hindus; if a Moham-medan, his descendants must be Moham-medans; and if a Christian, then, of course, they must be Christians.

This principle may hold true so far as non-Christian religions are concerned, but not so with Christianity. One's being a Christian or not is an individual matter. It makes no difference what his parentage may have been, or what his nationality is. The question of whether he is a Christian or not depends upon his own personal choice. The fact that he was born in a Christian community, and of Christian parents, and perhaps was baptized at infancy into a Christian church, does not make him a Christian.

The thing that makes a man a Christian is his personal choice of accepting Jesus Christ as his individual Saviour, placing full belief and confidence in Him as the only one, in heaven or on earth, who can atone for his past sins and keep him from the power of sin in the present and future. He voluntarily forsakes the world and all worldly enterprises, and henceforth follows the example and teachings of Jesus Christ as set forth in the Christian Scriptures.

A Christian is one who has had the "new birth" experience. The Spirit of God has touched his heart, convicted him of sin, and caused him to be dissatisfied with living a life of sin, and has created in him a desire for better things. He is born again. He has had a spiritual experience. He becomes a new creature. He is "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." 1 Peter 1:23. "Old things are

passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17.

A Christian is one who ceases striving to earn salvation through his own good works, and depends wholly upon Christ's righteousness being imputed to him. He recognizes that any good thing he may do is prompted by, and accomplished through, Jesus Christ. Therefore, to him is due no credit for what good he may accomplish.

Further, a Christian is one who shows by his daily life and conduct that he has obtained salvation through Jesus Christ. He has given himself to Christ. Since he is Christ's man, to keep Christ's commandments is his supreme delight. Christ is dwelling in his heart by faith; therefore the life he now lives is the life of Christ. The thoughts he thinks are the thoughts of Christ. The words he speaks are the words of Christ. Christ "gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." The words of the poet are his continual prayer:

"Live out Thy life within me,
In all things have Thy way!
I, the transparent medium
Thy glory to display."

Again, a true follower of Christ is one who confesses Him amongst his fellows. He is never ashamed of the fact that he is a Christian. On all suitable occasions he is ready and happy to tell others what Christ is to Him, and what He has done for him. He does not forget the fact that "with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:10.

Finally, a Christian is one who loves Christ supremely; serves Him continually; and looks and longs earnestly for His return to this earth. His life is hid with Christ in God, and his greatest desire is to see Him coming in the clouds of heaven to gather His earthly children unto Himself; for he knows that it is at that time that he, with the faithful of all ages, will receive his eternal reward.

JESUS CHRIST TO Return!

*The Most Stupendous
Announcement of
Human History*

by CARLYLE
B. HAYNES



"Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh" was the lesson Christ drew from His parable of the wise and foolish maidens.

NINETEEN centuries ago a Person from another world visited this planet. He was here about thirty-three years.

While here, His presence was little noticed. Men refused to believe His heavenly origin. His claims were rejected; He was charged with criminality, and executed.

Shortsighted, unbelieving humans thought this disposed of Him permanently. It did not. He rose from the tomb. He returned to the heavens whence He had come.

Since then His importance to humanity has grown with the centuries. Men have seen more clearly what that first coming of His meant and is still to mean to this world.

Without any exaggeration at all, it is now admitted that this Being from another world has become the greatest figure in human history. He has wielded a greater influence in human affairs than any other person.

And the news is—the greatest news of the immediate hour—that Jesus Christ, the divine Son of the living God, is about to appear the second time on earth.

His first coming has proved to be the greatest event that has ever taken place in the affairs of this world.

His second coming, now immediately impending, bringing, as it will, an end to human history, will be the culminating point of the entire history of this planet and the race upon it.

The "one, divine, far-off event," sung of by poets, foreseen by prophets, an-

nounced by angels, and eagerly hoped for by saints, is now no longer "far off," but about to take place.

The announcement has come from heaven, from Jesus Christ Himself, that His second coming, His return to earth, to close up human affairs forever, is about to occur.

He has made it plain that His return is to take place in the present generation. It will occur in our time.

Such an announcement transcends in importance everything, no matter how great, that is now taking place among men. It is the most stupendous announcement in human history.

There are mighty movements on foot today. Kingdoms and nations are toppling into the dust. The whole world is in a state of fear. Things are taking place all about us that are staggering in their immensity.

But far superior in importance to them all is this stupendous news that the Son of God, the Saviour of the world, is coming back to this earth to take over the rule of this planet.

When He was here the first time, He laid the foundation of human salvation.

To Establish Justice and Peace

When He comes again, He will carry to completion that divine plan of salvation. He is about to put into effect the eternal principles of His kingdom, and establish righteousness, justice, equity, and peace, in all the earth.

The positive certainty of the second coming of Jesus Christ to this earth rests upon the most substantial and absolute authority the world has ever known. That authority is the infallible word of Jesus Christ Himself.

There is something altogether unique and startlingly different about the words of Jesus Christ. There has been, there is now, nothing in the world like them.

We are only now beginning to realize the striking significance of His own statements when He said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but My words shall not pass away." Mark 13:31.

Jesus Christ was the Son of God. He came down from God. He was the teacher sent from God. He spoke with authority. This authority was not of Himself; He spoke as God gave Him utterance. Absolute reliance can be placed on what He said. For nineteen centuries His words have proved true.

The words He spoke were miraculous words. They have lived through all the centuries. They live today.

Ordinarily there is nothing quite so transient and evanescent as words. People use them all the time. People have been using them from the beginning of the world. Millions and millions have talked from childhood to the grave, and the words they uttered are not remembered. Other millions are talking now, and what they say is forgotten five minutes after they say it.

But of the words He spoke, Jesus said they should not pass away. He did not record words. He wrote no books. His speeches were not reported in public journals.

But His words have lived. They live today. They live in the records of His apostles. They live in the literature of the ages. They live in the hearts of His people. They live because the power of life is in them.

Jesus actually claimed that the words He spoke were given Him of God. He claimed that they would outlast the world. He claimed that they would judge men at the last day.

These claims have been fulfilled. They have been proved true. They have demonstrated their truthfulness. The words of Christ have lasted through the centuries. They will continue to last until

men are on earth no more. Not one of them can ever fail.

Consequently the words of Jesus can be relied upon. They are dependable. They constitute the most substantial and absolute authority on earth.

So if Jesus said that He is coming again the second time, that alone settles forever the whole question of the certainty of His return. And Jesus has said just that.

Shortly before His death, He said to His disciples, "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, *I will come again*, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2, 3.

Here, in the words of the greatest authority on earth, is a clear-cut, unequivocal promise and pledge, the meaning of which there is no possibility of mistaking. Jesus Christ Himself said, "I will come again."

In the 28th verse of John 14, He repeats it: "I go away, and come again unto you."

To the unbelieving Pharisees and scribes just before His betrayal, He declared, "Ye shall not see Me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord." Matthew 23:39.

"With Power and Great Glory"

Replying to the question of His disciples as to what should be the sign of His coming and the end of the world (Matthew 24:3), Jesus said, "Then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: . . . and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Matthew 24:30.

On another occasion He said to His disciples, "The Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels." Matthew 16:27.

On the occasion of His trial, when adjured by the high priest, Jesus replied, "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Matthew 26:64.

In the last chapter of the Bible this same Jesus repeats three times to His servant John this great truth of His second coming. "Behold, I come quickly;" "And, behold, I come quickly;" and, "Surely I come quickly." Revelation 22:7, 12, 20.

Certainly every person who accepts Jesus Christ as his guide and teacher must have a conviction created in his heart regarding the certainty of the second coming of Christ by this uniform testimony of his Master. These things admit of no doubt. Jesus is coming again.

Not only did Jesus Christ make these plain, positive statements, giving assurance of His second coming, but during


His public ministry He uttered many parables in which He forcefully presented this same great truth.


He spoke the parable of the ten virgins. Matthew 25:1-13. In this He admonishes His people, "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh," and appeals to every disciple to be ready for that great day.


He spoke the parable of the talents. Matthew 25:14-30. In this He represents Himself as the "man traveling into a far country." Before going away, He delivered His affairs in this world—the work of human salvation—to the stewardship of His servants, giving them

Flashlines

by W. L. Emmerson

 **THREE ACRES OF GLASS** It is estimated by the Ministry of Fine Arts in Paris that at least three acres of historic stained glass have been removed from cathedrals and other ancient buildings in France as a precaution against damage during the war.

 **THREE MILLIONS** "The Catholic population of England and Wales at present is almost certainly more than three million," Bishop McNulty of Nottingham declared in a recent sermon. "One hundred years ago," he added, "there were about 450,000 Catholics. . . . In other words, the Catholic population of England and Wales during the past one hundred years has increased at twice the rate of the general population."

 **WAR'S AFTERMATH** "What of the future," asks Pope Pius XII, in his first encyclical, "which, according to the promises of the mighty, is to consist in a new order founded on justice and prosperity when the present conflict is over? Will that future be really different or better? Will the peace treaties be animated by justice and equity, or will there be a lamentable repetition of old and recent errors? To hope for a decisive change exclusively from the shock of war and its final issues is idle, as experience shows. The hour of victory is an hour of external triumph for the victor, but it is equally an hour of temptation. The warning voice of humanity and equity is all too easily drowned in the inhuman cry of '*Vae victis*.' There is danger lest settlements and decisions born under such conditions be nothing else than injustice under the cloak of justice. The new order of the world must rest, not on the quicksands of ephemeral standards dependent on selfish interests of groups and individuals, but on the unshakable foundation of natural law and divine revelation."

special privileges and opportunities to carry forward His work. "After a long time," now very near at hand, He will come again and reckon with them all in a final judgment. They will be required to render an account of their stewardship, as a result of which they will receive reward or punishment according to their works.

He spoke the parable of the tares. Matthew 13:37-42. The teaching here of the coming of the final judgment is connected with His second coming.

He spoke the parable of the forgiven servant. Matthew 18:23-35. This is to receive its fulfillment at the time of the judgment and the return of our Lord.

He spoke the parable of the laborers in the vineyard. Matthew 20:1-16. Here, too, the lesson is regarding the future accounting with reference to the work of the Lord's servants when "the burden and heat of the day" is finished, the labor assigned is finished, and the time of reward comes.

He spoke also the parable of the marriage of the king's son. Matthew 22:2-14. Here the invitation of the gospel is sent out, and not answered. It is sent out again, and made light of. It is sent out again with great urgency, and good and bad are gathered in, furnishing the wedding with guests. Wedding garments are furnished the guests, representing Christ's own righteousness, and only those having these on are allowed at the marriage supper, those not having them being cast "into outer darkness."

So in parable after parable Jesus Christ set before the world in His public teaching the truth of the coming of His kingdom, at which time final judgment of the world and ultimate rendering of rewards and punishment take place.

Plainly, then, the immutable word of God teaches the second coming of Jesus Christ. This great event will yet take place. Nothing can prevent its occurrence. Unbelief will not hinder it; opposition will not prevent it, fear of it will not keep it from coming. It is predicted in the infallible word of God. It is bound to come.

Do not quarrel with your lot in life. Above all, do not resent temptation; do not be perplexed because it seems to thicken around you more and more, and ceases neither for effort, nor for agony, nor for prayer. That is the practice which God appoints you; and it is having its work in making you patient, and humble, and generous, and unselfish, and kind, and courteous. Do not grudge the hand that is molding the still too shapeless image within you. It is growing more beautiful, though you see it not, and every touch of temptation may add to its perfection.—*Drummond*.

"ISRAEL is crushed, his seed is no more." This is not a recent dispatch from Berlin, Rome, or Warsaw, but is an inscription chiseled thirty-two centuries ago on a slab of black granite by a court chronicler of Pharaoh Merneptah. By the heel of oppression, by infanticide, and finally by military force, the kings of Egypt sought to crush the Hebrew spirit. But while the empire by the Nile has long since disappeared, the Jew is still with us.

Assyrian and Babylonian monarchs overran Palestine, laid waste their cities, and carried unknown multitudes into captivity. In New Testament times Claudius Caesar "commanded all Jews to depart from Rome;" while a little later the Roman general, Titus, after one of the most fateful sieges in history, ruthlessly destroyed Jerusalem, putting to death a million Jews, and throwing the survivors upon the world's slave markets until they were overstocked. In this was fulfilled the ancient prediction, "Ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you." Deuteronomy 28:68.

Fifteen centuries prior to this catastrophe, God had foretold through Moses that "secretly in the siege and straitness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee," even cultured, refined men and women would eat the flesh of their own offspring. Verses 53-57. True to this forecast, the historian Josephus relates numerous instances of precisely such unnatural and heartless cannibalism. See "The Wars of the Jews," book 6, chapter 3.

How aptly, too, their Roman oppressors are delineated in the phrases, "a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand;" "a nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor show favor to the young." Deuteronomy 28:49, 50. Not only were the Jews unacquainted with the language of the Romans, but the orthodox Hebrews have ever regarded Latin as an unholy, profane language, which they refuse to acquire.

The edict of long ago continues: "The Lord shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other." Verse 64. How unique and pathetic the fulfillment! For nearly nineteen centuries Israel has existed as an exiled race without a homeland; yet there is not a country on the face of the globe to which the Jew is a stranger. In the snows of the arctic and on the burning African sands, among jungle tribes and on the plains of Central Asia, as well as in more favored lands, regardless of political boundaries and natural barriers, these hardy "citizens of the world" establish their homes or blaze a new trail for commerce.

"And among these nations shalt thou

The TRAGIC Plight of the JEW

find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the Lord shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind: and thy life shall hang in doubt." Verses 65, 66. From the time of their dispersion in 70 A. D. to the present, with but brief periods of respite, the Jews have experienced a long, dark night of tragedy. They were even forbidden by some Roman emperors to set foot in their once holy city. They were brutally persecuted in Persia. A hundred thousand were exiled to Spain, and later driven out before the horrors of the Inquisition. In England and France they were subjected to massacres and expulsion.

Jews Denounced by Luther

On the shores of Lake Geneva in Switzerland Jews were burned alive. In Poland, six thousand perished in a day; while, in Germany, they were often the victims of riotous bands and the sport of the populace. Even so pious a religious leader as Martin Luther reproached them bitterly. "To this very day," he said, "we know not what devil brought them into our land. . . . Besides that, no one keeps them. The country and the roads are open to them. . . . We will gladly give them presents if we can get rid of them, for they are a heavy burden upon us, a plague, a pestilence, a sore trial." Accused of practicing sorcery and offering human sacrifices, of being the "unholy leaven" that brought calamities upon Europe, they were compelled throughout the greater part of the Middle Ages to wear a distinguishing mark, or "badge of shame," upon their garments.

During the eighteenth century, nearly half of the Jewish population of the world became Russian subjects, and were crowded together in the Jewish Pale, a district averaging some three hundred miles in width, and extending from the Baltic to the Crimea. Here they were confined to designated ghettos, sections of towns or cities usually enclosed by a wall. Prohibited from owning real estate, or from educating but a small percentage of their children, limited to a few specified trades and pursuits, subject to special taxes and oppressive regu-



The Wailing Wall at Jerusalem. By the workmen, Hebrews today

lations, liable at any time to be moved about at the caprice of the government, the object of suspicion and frequent massacres by the Russian people, their struggle for existence has been unspeakably desperate.

During the World War the districts of Central and Eastern Europe, where resided some 8,000,000 Jews, were transformed into great battlegrounds of destruction. With the close of that strug-

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An Indestructible Race Testifies to the Fulfillment of Bible Prophecy

by

ROY F. COTTRELL

ing stamped upon, hounded and driven out of one country after another. He is hunted as if he were a wild and ferocious beast, not for what he has done, but for what he is, a Jew. . . . Jews are suddenly brought to the level of outcasts and undesirables. . . . All over Central and Eastern Europe, the Jew is sinking into a state of destitution and misery hardly conceivable in the West. . . . At no other time in their long and melancholy history has the future loomed darker and more forbidding to the Jewish people than it does in our day. Blood and tears and still more blood and tears seem to be Israel's portion."

Status of Jews in America

Even in liberty-loving America there are said to be nearly a thousand anti-Semitic organizations who denounce the Jews as a menace to the welfare of our country. Our hearts yearn in sympathy for the persecuted and downtrodden. Intolerance is a wicked and dangerous thing. But, irrespective of our feelings or views, notice the tragic fulfillment of the prophetic words spoken so long ago, "Thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed away." Deuteronomy 28:33.

Another divine prediction declared, "Thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations." Verse 37. Here they are "among all nations," a wonder of sociology! Where are the mighty and warlike nations that surrounded and oppressed them in ancient times—the Amorites, the Hittites, the Moabites, the Philistines, or the Babylonians? Not a single individual of any of those races can positively

be identified today; while, scattered throughout the world, there is a Jewish population estimated at 16,000,000, most of whom are virile, hardy, and long-lived. Here again, we observe a remarkable fulfillment of the prophecy which declared that the seed of Israel would remain forever. Jeremiah 31:35-37.

Hebrew Finance Foretold

The rare financial talent of the Hebrews was also foreshadowed in the words, "Thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow." Deuteronomy 28:12. During the Middle Ages Christians were forbidden by canon law to lend money on interest. Availing themselves of this opportunity, the Jews, who, similarly, were forbidden to take interest from those of their own race, gradually became moneylenders and bankers. Wherever equal opportunity is offered, they rapidly win their way to prominence in high finance and statecraft. From among this people, the nineteenth century produced Baron Rothschild and Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, England's great financier and prime minister respectively; while at the other extreme of society came Karl Marx, the father of Sovietism.

In our day, when infidelity and atheism arise to wage war upon the Bible and extinguish the light of true religion, God has miraculously preserved this people to repulse the onslaught of unbelief. In the face of perennial persecution and slaughter, the permanence and indestructibility of the Hebrew race stands forth as a towering monument. Here are 16,000,000 living witnesses to the inspired word of God.

And what of the future? Will the Zionist movement toward Palestine solve the age-old question, and bring to this people rest and security? In reply we turn to the impressive drama of Jeremiah and the potter's earthen bottle: "Then shalt thou break the bottle in the sight of the men that go with thee, and shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again." Jeremiah 19:10, 11. The God of heaven, who overthrew the city and nation and dispersed the inhabitants to the ends of the earth, forever settles the question of a complete return and restitution in old Canaan by asserting that it "cannot be." Likewise Christ declared, "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Luke 21:24.

But many inquire, "Are there not numerous Bible predictions that foretell the return of the Hebrew people to their ancient land?" Yes, one group of these prophecies foretold the restoration from



KEYSTONE

tic stones, possibly quarried by Solomon's
the glory that has departed.

gle, totalitarian philosophy gained the ascendancy, and today, in numerous lands, the Jew is subjected to "a new barbarism, and a slavery far blacker than the bondage of old-time Egypt." Says the well-known journalist, Pierre Van Paassen:

"His daily life is regulated by the police whistle and the revolver. He has lost the freedom of his hands, his intelligence, and his conscience. . . . He is be-

Babylonian captivity at the end of the seventy-year period, and was fulfilled when the Persian kings, Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes issued the decrees that liberated the Jewish captives and encouraged eager multitudes to return and re-establish their homes in Palestine. Jeremiah 25:8-14; 29:10; Ezra 1:1-6, etc.

The other group of divine promises points forward to the great gathering of God's people in the eternal homeland. In vision, Ezekiel saw a great valley of dry bones, which represented "the whole house of Israel." As the breath of God came into these bones, "they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army." Ezekiel 37:1-11. The Lord Himself gives the interpretation of this impressive panorama: "O My people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves. . . . And My servant David shall be their prince forever. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set My sanctuary in the midst of them forevermore." Verses 12, 25, 26. This language cannot refer to the so-called Zionist Movement, or to any similar human enterprise. It can have but one

meaning. It points unmistakably to a gathering beyond the grave, made possible through the great resurrection.

Are these promises given to the literal descendants of Abraham? The inspired apostle answers: "He is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God." Romans 2:28, 29. Upon an equal footing, he addresses those of every race and nation, "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29.

"A Peaceable Habitation"

In the Bible vision of a restored Zion, there are to be no bitter persecutions or cruel injustice, no racial jealousies or undesirable outcasts, no wailing wall or armed guards. By faith the shepherd king of Israel viewed Mount Zion as "beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth," that would abide forever. Psalm 48:2, 8. "My people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation." Isaiah 32:18. Abraham "looked for a city," not built

by Solomon, beautified by Herod, or laid out by twentieth-century engineers and architects; but one "which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Hebrews 11:10.

To that celestial metropolis of the glorified new earth, Christ is soon to welcome His redeemed people of every age, race, country, and clime.

"It shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people. . . . And He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." "Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Isaiah 11:11, 12; John 10:16; Matthew 24:31.

In this way the divine program of Zionism is ere long to be gloriously consummated. May God hasten the glad day when all His loyal children shall be secure and happy residents of that untroubled and eternal homeland.

NEWSGRAMS

by BENJAMIN MAXSON

NOTES AND QUOTES FROM FAR AND NEAR

Chinese Aid In addition to the production of surgical dressings for use in the European war zones, Red Cross chapters in the Pacific Coast area recently have completed 20,511 dressings, which are being shipped to Hong Kong to meet needs arising from the Chinese-Japanese conflict. Approximately \$825,000 has been spent by the Red Cross for Chinese relief since hostilities broke out two years ago.

The Cross the Only Way Out

Charles A. Wells offers the cross of Christ as the only way out of the present international muddle. "Throughout the world men are desperately hoping we will emerge from the despair and discontent of the present into a happier, more equitable tomorrow. But everywhere we look, yawning chasms of racial and class hatred spread before us merged with depths of greed and poverty. Time and again we have stretched out some frail structure across these barriers, hoping for a way of deliverance; but collapse and wreckage mark man's efforts to save himself. Yet there is a way, and some day men will find it. Anchored in divine will, paved with sacrificial love, it offers a victorious fulfillment of man's dearest hope for a world of liberty and justice."

Windowless Factory The world's first windowless factory, delayed by the depression of 1931, is completed. Inside this great five-acre partitionless building at

Fitchburg, Massachusetts, steel is forged and heat-treated, saws and knives sharpened, drawings made, letters dictated and written, accounts kept—all dust-free and cool-air-conditioned, with uniform light day and night. A blanket of "cold" light is provided by 14,000 100-watt fluorescent tubular lamps, which are shadowless. Visitors can see operations from a raised walkway, four feet wide, a quarter of a mile long. All machines are bright yellow; furnaces and benches, aluminum; columns, stairs, and walkways, green; ceiling, light cream.

America's Sins Lee Vrooman, a former missionary in the Near East, points out that "settlements perpetuating bitterness and greed can only be temporary, with another war in the offing," and that we must have a permanent answer by beginning immediately to live out and preach those principles that underlie a just and lasting peace. He says: "Let us see our sins as Americans clearly. We would rather remain neutral to save our necks than to give moral and spiritual support to a sin-sick world in a way that would make war unnecessary. Our own internal political and industrial bitterness rends us into warring camps so we have no demonstration of national unity to show a disrupted world. We meet international crises either with sentimentality or with toughness, because we are thinking primarily of our own skins."

The Flight of Time

(Continued from page 5)

his liberty to communicate with the residents of the town at their homes depends upon the exercise of the officer's discretion.

"As said in *Lovell vs. City of Griffin*, supra, pamphlets have proved most effective instruments in the dissemination of opinion. And perhaps the most effective way of bringing them to the notice of individuals is their distribution at the homes of the people. On this method of communication the ordinance imposes censorship, abuse of which engendered the struggle in England which eventuated in the establishment of the doctrine of freedom of the press embodied in our Constitution. To require censorship through license which makes impossible the free and unhampered distribution of pamphlets strikes at the very heart of the constitutional guaranties." (Italics ours.)

Obviously, freedom of the press must include not only liberty to write and to print but also to distribute. The three processes are part of one whole. They cannot be separated. If one phase may be restricted, so may the others. Thus one of the most vital and precious possessions of the American people was threatened by these insidious city ordinances.

We may well thank God for the sweeping decision of the Supreme Court, and for the watchdogs that barked in time.



Round the World With the Gospel

"IF I BE LIFTED UP"

A Message From India

by ROBERT H. PIERSON

*Superintendent, Tamil Mission,
Ootacamund, Nilgiri Hills, India*

"I DON'T want to hear anything more about it! I'm tired of being spoken to about Christianity, and I don't want to hear another word about it—ever!" With this Ahmed bolted from the preceptor's study and dashed up the dormitory stairs to his room. Banging the door behind him, the obdurate youth threw himself contumaciously against the wall, pounding it mercilessly with clenched fists.

"I'll not become a Christian! I'll not! I'll not!" he sobbed disconsolately. "No matter how much I've wanted to and felt I should, I can't! I won't! I won't! Why do they have to keep speaking to me about their Jesus? I don't believe! I can't! I won't! I'll throw myself from the window and over the cliff if they don't stop!"

Ahmed moved resolutely to the window ledge, hesitated a moment as he looked at the rocks hundreds of feet below, thought better of his decision, and turned and threw himself sobbing upon his cot.

Ahmed was the son of a rich Indian landowner and had been attending this Christian school for a number of years. During his early days in the institution the influence of godly teachers and the association of Christian young people had awakened within his youthful heart a longing to accept their Jesus as his Saviour. But when he returned to his non-Christian home, his father was so highly incensed that Ahmed was persuaded to give up all his "foolish ideas" about becoming a Christian. From that time forward his heart was steeled against all appeals of a spiritual nature.

The occasion for his most recent rebellious tirade was the advent of a Week of Prayer—a week of revival—at the school. Hoping to help the young man, the preceptor had called him to his study for a little visit. Again Ahmed was approached with an appeal to give his heart to Christ. The Holy Spirit had witnessed to the earnest entreaty of the burdened preceptor, and at first his words were greeted with a flood of tears as if the

moment of surrender were near at hand. Then the old hostility returned; and, with the words already recorded, he vowed that never would he be a Christian. He determined anew in his heart to resist steadfastly any attempts on the part of interested teachers or fellow students to influence his decision.

Wednesday evening came—the Week of Prayer was half over. The evening service was in progress. The preceptor, knowing that Ahmed was leaving the next morning to enter the hospital for a tonsillectomy, prayed earnestly, as he sat on the rostrum, that the speaker would be impressed to make an appeal for those who had not yet accepted Christ to do so that evening. His prayer was answered. During the closing minutes of the sermon an appeal was made—the invitation was given. The Saviour in all His beauty and loveliness was lifted up before the student body. The Holy Spirit was at work on the hearts of the young people. Several came forward, tears in their eyes, making their first stand for Jesus. Others followed in re-consecration. A fervent prayer in the

heart of the preceptor that Ahmed might win the struggle this time ascended to the throne of grace. A young man near the rear of the chapel arose after a bitter struggle. There was a hint of determination in his walk as he came down the aisle. Thank God, it was Ahmed. A murmur of fervent "Amens" came from throats choked with emotion as faculty members acknowledged the workings of the Holy Spirit. Another struggle had been won. Once more the strong bonds of custom and tradition had been broken. The simple story of the Saviour had conquered another heart! "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me." John 12:32.

The scene changes. We leave behind us the halls of learning amid the rocky slopes of the Himalayas, and sweep southward hundreds of miles to where the warm emerald waters of the Indian Ocean lave the white sands of old Travancore's palm-studded coast. Here in a humble thatch-roofed hut so common in South India lives a little boy twelve years of age. His father and mother are Hindus of the most orthodox type, but little Jebamoney has been attending the Christian mission school, and the seeds of truth have been planted in his young heart.

On this day little Jebamoney comes rushing home from school and dashes in through the low door of his house, nearly upsetting the dish of cold rice his mother had left sitting on the floor for him. Breathlessly he tells his mother of his determination to be a Christian and work for Jesus. His announcement is met with a resounding smack from his buxom mother's strong right arm, and a flogging follows. When his father returns from his day's work in the paddy fields, he is informed of his son's decision, and another sound thrashing is administered.

The little fellow is given one day to decide to stop going to the mission school and get "that nonsense" out of his head.



(Continued on page 14)



CHINESE LEGENDS

Confirm the FLOOD

by BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ALLEN

"THE Chinese believe the earth to have been *wholly covered with water*, which, in works of undisputed authenticity, they described as *flowing abundantly*, then subsiding, and separating the higher from the lower ages of mankind; that this division of time, from which their poetical history begins, just preceded the appearance of Fo-hi on the mountains of China."—*"Discourses on China; Asiatic Researches,"* by Sir William Jones, vol. 2, p. 376.

Fo-hi was their Noah.

Speaking of the high-minded and mighty men before the Flood, of the marvelous climate, and of the far brighter sun and moon, the record states: "While the first state of heaven lasted, a pure and perfect tranquillity reigned over all nature. There was neither labor, nor pain, nor sorrow, nor criminality. Nothing made opposition to the will of man; the whole creation enjoyed a state of happiness; everything was beautiful, everything was good; all things were perfect in their kind. In this happy age, heaven and earth enjoyed their virtues jointly, to embellish nature. There was no jarring in the elements, no inclemency in the air; all things grew without labor, and universal fertility prevailed. The active and passive virtues conspired together, without any effort or opposition, to produce and perfect the universe. In this state of the first heaven man was united inwardly to the Supreme Reason, and outwardly he practiced all the works of justice. The heart rejoiced in the truth, and there was no mixture of falsehood."

"The four seasons of the year succeeded each other regularly and without confusion. There were no impetuous winds, no excessive rains.

"The sun and moon, without ever being clouded, furnished light purer and brighter than at present.

"The five planets kept on their courses without inequality. There was nothing which did harm to man, or which suffered any hurt from him; but a universal amity and harmony reigned over all nature."—*"Horae Mosaicæ,"* by George Stanley Faber, pages 108, 109. London, 1918.

The same conditions at the first are

spoken of elsewhere, as we shall see. It also appears from several sources that man at first worshiped only one God, the Creator. Polytheism was only a later and degenerate development. The most ancient Chinese sacred literature abounds in psalmlike passages.

An ancient Chinese classic, the Hih-king, says that Fo-hi, the founder of the Chinese peoples, escaped the waters of the Flood, with his wife, his three sons, and three daughters. Note the correspondence to Noah's family.

On a Buddhist temple Mr. Gutzlaff, a traveler, says he saw, "in beautiful stucco, the scene where Kuan Yin, the goddess of mercy, looks down from heaven upon the lonely Noah in his ark amidst the raging waters of the Deluge. Dolphins are swimming around him, and the dove, with an olive branch in its beak, is flying toward the vessel."—*"Beginnings of History,"* by Francois Lenormant, pages 383-385.

The Flood in Action

The most detailed Chinese account, however, goes straight to the fundamental causes and actions of the Flood. It is especially valuable for its reference to crustal convulsions, to earth-wobbling, and to alterations in the heavenly bodies.

"The pillars of heaven were broken. The earth shook to its very foundations. The heavens sank lower toward the north. The sun, the moon, and the stars

changed their motions. The earth fell to pieces; the waters inclosed within its bosom burst forth with violence and overflowed it. Men having rebelled against heaven, the system of the universe was totally disordered. The sun eclipsed, the planets altered their courses, and the grand harmony of nature was disturbed."—*"Mythology of the Pagans,"* Ramsey and Chevelier, pages 266, 267.

The expression "the pillars of heaven were broken" appears to us perhaps to mean the sudden collapse of the atmosphere. It is at least an interesting theory, and perhaps a promising line of study, to bear in mind the possible connection between this and the many legendary references to the suddenly dimmed sun and moon. Mighty rain, of cloudburst intensity, would result, as well as earth-quaking, because of the suddenly withdrawn heat which alone could keep the moisture suspended in the atmosphere.

The crust of the earth today is fault-blocked into hundreds of thousands or millions of irregular blocks. Some of them are still slightly active at times. They nudge one another. There was a time, according to our conception, when these blocks rose and fell, tilting, bending, breaking, with molten granites and volcanoes oozing up under them and between them, often forming mountains and various uplifts. It is easy to see, once we are reminded to look for it. Because we find that mighty raging waters over all, totally unlike any today, tore at and

Coming Next Week

in addition to the regular features:



- Fulfilling Prophecies Make Men Think . . . W. A. Spicer
- Why All This Rush? . . . J. M. Marks
- The Coming World Government . . . Carlyle B. Haynes
- Amazing Predictions Fulfilled in Christ . . Roy F. Cottrell
- God's Magna Charta for All Nations . . . G. G. Lowry
- Was Mexico Covered by the Flood? . . . Benjamin F. Allen
- Flowers at the Market . . . Elva Zachrisson

intermingled all of these remains while this was in progress, we say it was *all* of the one Flood period. This is one of our general theories of the geology of the Flood period. We find that all the earth's surface, its every feature, tells a well-blended and harmonious story.

Of course we are far from taking this old legend as science, or even as history, perhaps. But who would think of *inventing* such a story at that remote time, or even today? And the *persistence* of such things in Flood legends leads us to give them a test at their face value. Why not? We feel that some light will come of it.

Earth wobble seems clearly indicated by the expression, "the heavens sank toward the north," and the sun, moon, and stars "changing their motions."

There are more than thirty statements in the Old Testament alone, outside the Genesis account, giving far more vivid details than these of earth wobble, extreme quaking, crustal breaking, volcanism, mountain upheaving, and water convulsing at the time of the Flood. We shall examine some of these in this series. To us, these scriptures give more light than everything else put together. They lend value and color to all the legendary accounts, and direct our most telling researches in geology.

Milne on Earthquakes, Volcanoes

Dr. John Milne, more than any other man the father and founder of modern scientific knowledge of earthquaking, earth movements, crustal disturbances, and their related causes, gives us just the light we need. He demonstrated that, even when the very slight wobbling now going on is greatest, *earthquaking increases*. Volcanism also increases. Both are known to be influenced by sudden shifting of atmospheric pressure. The regular annual wobble of the earth is known to be caused by the regular shifting of the weight of the atmosphere as the seasons come and go. He demonstrated the influence of sunspots, also, as well as sudden variations and shifting of magnetic storms, as contributory causes of earthquaking and volcanic disturbances.

Moisture suspension is greatly influenced by variation in amount and the condition of electricity in the atmosphere, which are greatly influenced by the sun.

The sudden withdrawal of these powers by the dimming of the sun and the moon could as suddenly precipitate the moisture in the atmosphere.

To produce a climate such as the world-wide tropical fossils indicate, it is commonly supposed by geologists that our atmosphere was vastly thicker than now, with many times more water suspension and perhaps carbon dioxide gas.

Of course our attitude is only to cast about and study these things, with a view to discovering the truth.

This Chinese account, in saying "the earth fell to pieces and the waters in-

POINTED

Paragraphs

ON THE WORLD CRISIS

by MURL VANCE



THE AWAKENING

Spain has recently awakened from a terrible nightmare, with a throbbing headache and a bitter taste in her mouth. With hundreds of thousands of orphans, women in black, and crippled soldiers to serve as a constant reminder as to the price paid for "liberty," both Nationalists and Loyalists dazedly wonder where they are or what the war was all about since Communism and Naziism—the respective enemies of the two sides—have been united by the German-Russian pact.

A FLOOD OF HATE

A recent visitor to Europe declares that so changed is the Old World of today from what it was a few years ago a person can no longer recognize it. The difference, he says, lies in the universal fear and hatred that now control the thinking and actions of the men, women, and children of the nations at war. Suspicion and animosity have replaced trust and neighborliness, and a flood of hate is sweeping over the hearts of men that has as its battle cry, "Destroy or be destroyed!"

WHERE TO?

In his new book, "Since Yesterday," Frederick Lewis Allen quotes a young man as saying: "If someone came along with a line of stuff in which I could really believe, I'd follow him pretty nearly anywhere." This attitude, declares the author, is the attitude of millions today. So many of the things upon which they counted—their present security and their hope for the future—have been dissolved by modern teaching and world chaos that they have been shaken to their foundations. "They wanted to feel certainty and security firm as a rock under their feet—and they did not, and were afraid."

HANDBILL DECISION

Many persons who have endeavored to cover a town with handbills have run afoul of local ordinances forbidding the distribution of such literature either upon the streets or to the houses. Although such ordinances may in some cases have good objectives, they are unconstitutional, according to recent decisions handed down by the Supreme Court. The court contends that liberty of the press presupposes liberty to distribute the products of the press—the printed page. The court decision was 7 to 1 in declaring unconstitutional laws that forbid free distribution of nonsalacious literature.

closed within its bosom burst forth with violence and overflowed it," spoke well. On a small scale this goes on today in case of some severe earthquakes. The valley of the Danube River in Wallachia in the 1838 quake shot water high into the air from deep fissures which were rent in the ground. Remember also the quake and mighty land sinking in the central Mississippi Valley in 1811-1812, which resulted in the great Reelfoot Lake of Tennessee, when floods of water were likewise spewed up. Another example was in the Lake Baikal area in 1862. See "Face of the Earth," by Eduard Suess, vol. 1, p. 31.

The recent mighty quakes in northern India did not kill nearly so many people as did the awful floods of underground waters that burst forth. In several places deep fissures many miles long spouted high, and flooded the country.

This process brings to our minds Noah's words about the breaking up of "the fountains of the great deep." Though this has formerly seemed to refer to the upheaving of the ocean bottom, it may also mean breaking up the land surface also, with the underground waters gushing out. *It would not be possible, of course, geologically speaking, for one to happen without the other, as they both amount to the same crustal upheaval.* The convulsive forces would operate the same regardless of land or sea, as they do today.

The Oceans Slopped Over

Let us bear in mind that only a very slight wobble of the earth, or even extreme quakes, would cause the great oceans to overslop the lands. Ocean earthquake waves one hundred feet high have been set in motion even in modern times.

And have such quakes occurred? Have they left their marks? *Most assuredly.* Millions of such marks! Huge mountain chains split wide open for hundreds of miles and often thousands of miles, the most stupendous displacements, risings, sinkings, all more than testify to the most extreme statements we could make. Take the Great African Rift as an example. In fact, most of the unsolved problems of geology are about these things. Flood geology promises the only solution.

Did you ever see what Sir John Murray, the greatest expert on the oceans, had to say about the amount of water in them? He says: "The volume of dry land above sea level has been estimated at twenty-three millions of cubic miles, and the volume of the waters of the oceans at three hundred twenty-four million cubic miles."—"The Ocean," pages 43, 44. Therefore there is fourteen times more water in the oceans than solid ma-

terial above them! Furthermore, if the solid matter were all leveled down even,—the continents, the ocean bottom, and all,—the water would then stand 9,000 feet, or 1.7 miles, over all. There is plenty of water, and plenty to spare!

Our mountains today, too, are evidently much higher than in Noah's world. In fact, where are the mountains of his day? We are not saying there were none. But from our viewpoint all the mountains we have today were made during the Flood or soon after, for they generally have Flood sediments and fossils all the way to the top. These sediments could have been lifted up only *after* they were deposited by the waters, generally speaking, and must have been deposited at much lower levels. Generally the sedimentary layers are the same as those in the lower lands at the base of the uplifts.

In fact, much even of deep ocean-bottom material caps some of our highest mountains. Geology has been at a loss to explain mountain making, especially the *time* when it happened, and a definite cause. But we think we have a little light to offer, though much research remains to be done.

These matters are far too profound,

and demand far too much detail, to be dealt with here except in this briefest outline. Our purpose in opening up this matter here is only to show up these old Flood accounts in their true significance, as perhaps was never before attempted. We ask patience, and a spirit of investigation. We are using these legends and the Bible account as a basis for scientific research.

A Mountain-Making Myth

We will give an example of the so-called "Cosmic Myths," creation myths. This one is on the relation of the Flood to mountain making. This is an Iranian story. There are many others.

"The third of the processes of creation was the shaping of the world. After the rain of Tishtrya had flooded the earth, and purified it from the venom of the noxious creatures, and when the waters had retired, the thirty-three kinds of land were formed. . . .

"To counteract the work of Ahura-Mazda (the God of light, the Creator), Mainyu (Satan) came and pierced the earth, entering straight into its mid-most part, and when the earth shook, the mountains arose. First, Mount Alburz (Hara Berezaiti) was created, and then the other ranges of mountains came into being; for as Alburz grew forth, all the mountains remained in motion, for they all grew forth from the root of Alburz. At that time they came up from the earth, like a tree which has grown up to the clouds and its root to the bottom."—*"Mythology of All Races,"* vol. 6, p. 280. See also *"Sacred Books of the East,"* by F. Max Müller, vol. 5, pp. 26-35. Note the rapid and convulsive action described. We shall cite Bible statements showing similar convulsive action.

Of course, while the Flood was over all, crustal movements and mountain making could not be seen. But we have this myth and others which indicate that the survivors witnessed some of it afterward. See the writer's series of seven articles on "Man Before the Mountains" in the *Signs of the Times* beginning July 11, 1939. We offer the uplifting of the Sierras as a fair example.

In recent times philosophers have

SIGNS of the TIMES

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

EDITOR . . . ARTHUR S. MAXWELL

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built up a system of earth history based on supposed billions of years of the ordinary erosion, deposit, and the very minute crustal movements of today. We are challenging that system. From our viewpoint it is merely a misinterpretation of the crustal upheavals and layer-by-layer work of the Flood. Skeptics now appeal to the sciences of earth history. We also appeal to the sciences of earth history. The issue is therefore joined.

In our next article we shall outline what are in some respects the most amazing Flood legends in the world—those of Mexico and Central America.

"If I Be Lifted Up"

(Continued from page 11)

But little Jebamoney has made his decision, and nothing can change him. The next day he is driven from his home, with no money, no food, and only an old shirt and a dirty loincloth to cover him. Trudging along the country path through green paddy fields lined by waving palms, beside cactus and brier hedges, the little fellow faces the future courageously. Friends in a distant village provide funds for his schooling for several years, and then once more he is thrown out upon his own. By taking what coolie work he can get, he manages to exist—and all the time he is preaching the message of the Christ he has given up home and loved ones to follow.

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Is he sorry he has made his choice for Christ? Last week at an institute designed to help lay workers do their preaching and soul-winning work in a more effective manner I saw Jebamoney. He is thirty years old now. Does he harbor any regret for the last eighteen years of hardships? Not a bit of it. He is just as zealous as he has ever been.

Somehow, in sending out invitations for this institute, Jebamoney's name had been overlooked, and no invitation had been sent him. But that did not daunt him, neither did the fact that he had no money and that the meetings were being held in a city nearly one hundred twenty-five miles away. All the food he had was a little rice flour some poor friends had shared with him, but he started out on foot, a week before the meetings were to commence, determined to attend. Along the way the sun was hot and the road was dusty, and Jebamoney's stomach wasn't too pleased with the rice-flour-and-water diet, but he kept on going. He had covered ninety-two miles of the distance when he came to the home of the friend who had helped him go to school years before. Here he was given food and sufficient cash to care for his fare the remainder of the distance to the institute.

Why had he come? In order to learn how to win souls to Christ while he made his own living! He had beheld the uplifted Christ and had yielded to His drawing power, and he longed to lift up the Saviour before the souls sitting in heathen darkness all around him. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me."

Does it pay to send Christian missionaries out from the homeland into far corners of the earth? Doubtless this question or a kindred one has entered the mind of every individual who has ever dropped a dime into a Sunday morning mission offering plate. More and more as "modernism" eats its cankerous way into the Christian church, she is losing her zeal for missions. What does this portend? It means failing to fulfill the command of our Saviour, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." It means denying the millions waiting in satanic darkness the light and the life so freely offered by the gospel message!

In decades past, mission work in India has been fraught with hardships and discouragements. This citadel of heathenism has stubbornly resisted the assaults of the Christian cross. Hinduism, Mohammedanism, Buddhism, Zoroastrian-

ism, and the other philosophical religions of the East have strongly resented the intrusion of Christianity, and they have bitterly contested every inch of ground yielded. But, as in Africa and in the primitive isles of the great oceans, the cross has been irresistible, and now it has gathered such momentum that it has been estimated that every month fifteen thousand souls in old caste-bound India forsake their idols of wood and stone to accept the Man of Calvary as their personal Saviour.

The promise of the Saviour is being fulfilled a thousandfold every day in the land of Hindustan. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me."

ANNUAL MEETING of the Pacific Press Publishing Association

Notice is hereby given, to all whom it may concern, that the annual meeting of the members of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of California, will be held at the office of the Association on Villa Street, in the town of Mountain View, county of Santa Clara, state of California, on Monday, January 22, 1940, A. D., at 10 A. M.

The election of Directors for the ensuing year, the advisability of amending, repealing or adopting new bylaws, or such other business as may be necessary or proper to be transacted, will come before the members of the Association.

By order of the Directors.

J. H. COCHRAN, Vice-President.
H. G. CHILDS, Secretary.

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GENDREAU

WHY PRAY?

by

HARRY BEDWELL

"SOS SOS. Rudder damaged. Threatened by storm. Need help." Recently this distress message sped through the air from a disabled vessel in the Pacific.

Immediately two ships changed their course to go to the rescue. Within a few hours assistance had arrived. All would have been lost if it had not been for the radio.

You are sailing on the sea of life in fair weather and foul. Have you tried your radio to see if it is in good working order? Can you get an answer?

Prayer is the Christian's radio. When the dark storm clouds gather, pray for courage. When the angry waves threaten, pray for help. God will hear the prayer of the soul in distress, and will quickly send aid.

Do you wonder if your prayer will be heard?

Man has faith that when he puts on the brake the car will stop; when he speaks into the telephone, he expects an answer. But when spiritual things are considered, he begins to doubt. His simple faith in machines he cannot apply to religion. He wonders if God does hear prayer. But—

If radio's slim fingers can pluck a melody From night—and toss it over a continent or sea; . . .

If songs, like crimson roses, are culled from thin blue air—

Why should mortals wonder if God hears prayer?—*Ethel Romig Fuller.*

A friend is always glad to hear of your joy and happiness; you want to tell him about it. There is One who desires your friendship; One who "sticketh closer than a brother." That One is Jesus. When you are burdened with cares, and temptations seem to overwhelm you, He will quickly answer your call of distress. Your prayer to Him is the opening of your heart to God as to a friend.

"I don't see why it is necessary to pray. God knows our thoughts; why should we tell Him about them? why

rehearse them?" said a young man one day.

"If you do not visit or talk with your friends, you soon forget them; to keep the friendship alive, you must keep in touch with them," replied his friend. "Besides, until you express your desires and thoughts in words, you do not definitely know what they are."

Just as the electric light globe needs electricity to be useful, so the Christian needs prayer. It is the link between heaven and earth that binds Christians to the Saviour.

Prayer is the key to the resources of heaven. No matter what you lack, prayer will supply it. Do you need courage for life's battle? Do you have material wants? Pray; God will hear.

More things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of. Wherefore,
let thy voice

Rise like a fountain for me night and day.
For what are men better than sheep or goats

That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer

Both for themselves and those who call
them friends?

For so the whole round earth is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of
God.—*Tennyson.*