

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



Vol. 67, No. 8

UNCHRISTIAN FRONT

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THIS LAWLESS AGE

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February 20, 1940

INTERNATIONAL

the flight of TIME



INTERNATIONAL

Canadian troops boarding a transport bound for England. Some of the largest ships of the Royal Navy escorted them across the perilous Atlantic.



THE GREATEST CRISIS

OWING to the apparent stalemate upon the Western Front and the inability of the Allies to deal effectively with their enemy in any other place, some have begun to think that perhaps this war will not amount to much after all. This is not the opinion, however, of some of the leading statesmen of the day. A few weeks ago we quoted Mr. J. L. Garvin's statement that the present lull "is like the quiet and orderly compounding of high explosives," which will be "exploded soon enough like a volcano bursting from quiescence into eruption." Now General Smuts of South Africa has added a similar warning. Addressing the commandants of the women's auxiliary services in Pretoria, he said: "I am not taking a light view of the circumstances we are in today, for I think this war may prove the greatest crisis in human history, the most upsetting event which ever happened in civilization."

"We hope and pray that we may be spared the worst calamities; but, judging by all the signs, this is a struggle to the death. Nations will disappear and others will rise, and the world emerging from

A SURVEY of WORLD EVENTS

by the EDITOR

this war will be very different from the present one."

General Smuts has judged correctly. We have indeed arrived at the greatest crisis in human history, spoken of by the prophets of old. This is the time envisioned by Jeremiah, when he wrote: "Evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth." Jeremiah 25:32. This is the beginning of the time of trouble "such as never was since there was a nation," foreseen by the prophet Daniel. Daniel 12:1. This is the time described by Christ Himself as filled with "distress" and "perplexity," with "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Luke 21:25, 26.

Yes, we are viewing the very condi-

OUR COVER PICTURE

Dressed in white, and carrying light machine guns on their backs, these gallant Finns go forth on skis to defend their country.

tions all the prophets have warned us to expect just before the revelation in glory and power of the returning Christ.



UNCHRISTIAN FRONT

A FEW weeks ago the country was startled by the arrest of eighteen men accused of conspiracy to create a revolution in the United States. According to revelations made by J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI, plans were already on foot for the seizure or destruction of post offices, banks, armories, railroads, and communication lines of all kinds. A small arsenal was unearthed, including bombs, rifles, and ammunition.

But perhaps the most shocking discovery was the fact that this subversive organization was working under the title of "The Christian Front."

Now it may be a "Front" of some kind, but it is certainly not "Christian," and has no right to use this holy name.

"Unchristian Front" would be eminently more suitable.

The word "Christian" implies following Christ—teaching and living in harmony with the principles set forth by Him in His word.

How can anyone call himself a Christian who preaches class hatred, foments racial antagonisms, fosters revolution against the powers that be?

Today, as everybody knows, there are prominent religionists doing this very thing. Even priests are prostituting their powers to this end. Yet they dare to call themselves "Christian;" they claim to be in sympathy with the "Christian Front"!

There is nothing Christian about any such program, and it is an outrage that the name should be travestied in this way.

If Christ were here today to form a truly "Christian Front," how different it would be from that of these fire-eating revolutionaries seeking power for themselves and their organization!

It would be revolutionary, no doubt, but in such a different way. It would be a revolt against many customs and traditions and widely tolerated evils; but it would be conducted by peaceful, not violent, methods. Mr. Hoover and his gallant men would find no arsenals in the homes of Christ's followers. Nor would any plans for destruction of property or assassination of opponents be discovered among them.

They might be found praying, but not plotting.

They might be found preaching the gospel, but not proclaiming some political panacea.

They might be found giving their lives in the slums, in the hospitals, even on the battlefields, wherever the need was greatest, but not killing or planning to kill.

One of the most dangerous tasks of modern warfare—removing the fuse from a floating mine during mine-sweeping operations.



Mr. Neville Chamberlain, Britain's Prime Minister, visiting a gun emplacement during his tour of the Western Front.

They might be found counseling how best to aid refugee Jews and Poles and Czechs and Finns—indeed, the poor and outcast of every nation, but never scheming for the hurt or the discomfiture of anybody, no matter what his race or nationality.

They might be found fighting the liquor traffic, fighting the dope traffic, fighting the white slave traffic, fighting every evil thing that is blighting and destroying human lives, but never fighting people as individuals; rather, loving them and seeking to woo them into the kingdom of God.

A true "Christian Front" is needed today, no doubt. These evil times demand a powerful, united Christian witness for truth and righteousness. They challenge Christendom to rise up in its God-given might against all the ugly forces that are

threatening its destruction; but this "Front" must be Christian not only in name but in word and deed.



SOME people laughed at "all the fuss" made over the eighteen men arrested for supposed revolutionary activities. What could eighteen men do in a community of 130,000,000?

Even if they had ten followers for each man arrested, still what could they do? Surely there could be nothing to fear from just a handful of men like this? Why bother about them?

Yet the past warns us that over and over again it has been the "handfuls of men" who have been responsible for the great overturnings of history.

The majority always prefer to follow the regular routine of their lives. Even if conditions are not entirely to their liking, they would rather endure them than cause a disturbance. It is the determined few, many times an insignificant group of malcontents, who bring the great changes to pass.

Every one of the dictatorships of Europe today was brought into being by a handful of men.

As the editor of the San Francisco *Examiner* wrote: "The people of the German Republic were not unduly excited over Adolf Hitler's beer hall *putsch*, away back in 1923—the conspirators were 'just a handful of men.'"

"Likewise, the rank and file of the Russian people were unmindful of the plottings of Joseph Stalin and his terrorist groups.

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CHRISTIANITY'S COMPETITORS

A FEW years ago a popular writer, whose name is currently well known in magazines and newspapers, ventured the opinion that "the teachers of Christianity must not make the mistake of assuming that the Christian teaching has all the good there is. There is good in other religious systems as well."

Then he went abroad and spent some months surveying the great non-Christian mission fields, as we call them. He was a keen observer, and himself a believer in Christianity. The visit to the Orient changed his viewpoint. He said he had been wrong—that the straight-out teaching of the Christian religion was the only thing that would save men.

Of course; it is not mere teaching that men need. It is teaching attended by the creative power of God—a new life from above. That is the only hope. It is no use talking merely of human teaching.

They tell us that Confucius taught good things in ancient China. Suppose he did; let us grant it. But Confucius is dead. He cannot save us.

They say the Buddha taught some good things in India, centuries before Christ. Suppose we grant it. But Gautama Buddha is dead. He cannot save us.

They tell us of other teachers of a philosophy of life, famous men of old. But they are all dead. They cannot save us. They may have taught some good things, but merely teaching cannot do what needs to be done for us.

That ancient sage of China, Mencius, said a true thing: "Instruction may impart information but not the power to execute."

Instruction Is Not Enough

It is power, it is life, that we need, as well as instruction. There was one other Teacher long ago who gave instruction. He taught true things. And He also died. But when He died, He died for me—for my sins. He died for me; but He is not dead. He rose again! He lives in heaven, and for me. He is alive! He is the Teacher who can help us and save us unto life eternal. He cries from heaven: "Fear not; I am the first and the

Are Other Religions "Just as Good"? The Word That Gives Life

by WILLIAM A. SPICER



The Buddha may have taught some good principles; but he is dead. He cannot save us.

last: I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell [the grave] and of death." Revelation 1:17, 18.

That is man's need—a life-giver. And He is the only one.

The fisherman apostle, Peter the outspoken, told men in his day the very thing we need to insist upon now. The power of Jesus had just set a lame man leaping and walking and praising God before all the people. Peter cried out about this Jesus: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

No one else can do it. No one else ever did it. It is not merely a question of teaching. It is a question of life. In the next chapter of this ancient history which we call the Book of Acts, we find the angel opening the prison doors, leading the apostles out and saying to them: "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life."

Dead Formalism Cannot Save

That is it! It was a word that had life and power in it that the people needed, not merely instruction. It was life that flashed through the lame man's limbs and set him leaping and praising God. It is life we need in our palsied hearts—life direct from the Giver of life. There has been on earth but one Teacher whose teaching can give life: "In Him was life; and the life was the light of men." John 1:4.

And the teaching comes through Holy Scripture, the living word. Here is instruction that has life, power in the very word to execute. The apostle Paul said to the Thessalonians, who had "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God": "For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe." 1 Thessalonians 2:13.

The heart that receives this word receives power in the teaching. The word actually works in the heart that believes. It is a "word of life." And as the name of Jesus is the only name under heaven with power to save, so the words of Christ, the Holy Scriptures, are the only teachings that can save. There is one saving Name and one living Book.



Elizabeth, Queen of England, who, by her example, upholds the foundations of home life.

RUSSELL, TOPICAL

The

FOUNDATIONS *Giving Way*

Civilization in Jeopardy

by AGNES LEWIS CAVINESS



IN A small, obscure French newspaper the other day I came across the following picture:

In a spacious drawing room of a magnificent home in the city of London, there gather two afternoons each week a group of women. The apartments are of lofty proportions; there are deep Oriental carpets, where the sound of a footstep is lost to the ear. The chairs and couches are such as might grace a museum; the tables and cabinets are of fine inlaid and costly wood. The glittering chandeliers would pay a king's ransom. It is a scene of luxurious beauty and dignity.

Those who gather here are indebted for their invitations to their husbands' positions. There is Mrs. Jones, wife of the chief butler, and Mrs. Jerrain, wife of the chief groom, and Mrs. Hare, wife of the head chauffeur of the establishment, and still others, and, in their midst, the hostess of these occasions, is Elizabeth, Queen of England. For three hours in this gracious and stately atmosphere, this company plies its tools and wields its weapons of peace and succor—its needles!

Here are fabricated sweaters and scarfs, socks and wristlets, caps and warm gloves, for the soldiers. Here are evolved shirts and warm undergarments for those who are sick or wounded, and for all who are in need.

So the confines of this drawing room encompass the virtues of a great home and the virtues of a great empire; and the two are one, for the foundations of the nation are those of the home. They

are no stronger, no surer, no firmer, and no different than those of the home.

And Queen Elizabeth never upholds these foundations better than when, gathering the homekeepers of Buckingham Palace about her, she leads them and stimulates them to express the virtues that must be the basis of all true national greatness. There are discipline and industry; there are thrift and sobriety; there are courtesy and consideration of others; there are piety and devotion. All these must combine to form the pattern of decent and orderly living. When these virtues characterize the life of a home, or the life of a nation, then is that home, that nation, built upon solid foundations. Then only may we look for a noble and permanent structure.

The question of foundations is one of prime importance. When I was a little girl, the mother of one of my friends was going to build a new house. As we children played about, we saw blueprints and floor plans, and heard architect and builder talk, as a background to our play. One day there appeared on the building site a number of sturdy piles of heavy wood. I did not know what they were for until I heard Mrs. Taylor say they were for the foundation of the house. That was amazing to me.

I must be mistaken. The only foundations I knew were made of bricks, mortar, stone, cement. So one day I asked her what she was using for the foundation. She told me, "I am using bodock." "Bodock?"

That was a new material to me, so, having few inhibitions, I asked more questions. She was a busy woman, but she led Maggie and me over to these huge "stumps," and said sensibly, "What are foundations for, anyway?"

"Why—to hold the house up, I s'pose."

"Then what kind of material must it be to hold a house up?"

"Why, strong,—solid,—so the house won't break it down."

"And what else?"

The "stumps" by this time had been "planted" one after another in the form of a hollow square, and a few had been set up in lines crossing the square where the room partitions were to intersect. They had all been set in holes in the ground; and this gave Maggie the additional idea: "Whatever it is, it has to be something that won't rot in the ground nor in the sun or rain."

"Now you have it!" cried her mother. "A foundation has to stand wind and rain and sun and weight; it has to bear time, and not rot when left in the soil. So now you can see why we use bodock. It bears all those tests; and, in this country, it is more easily available than brick or stone. That is why we use bodock!"

I can see the place where we stood. It was warm in the summer sunshine—two little bare-foot girls in sunbonnets and a woman who had not been too busy to answer an apparently useless question. It is a long time ago. Even the ageless bodock may have



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We may know when Christ's coming "is even at the doors" by the signs He gave—the great tribulation, the dark day, and the falling of the stars.

WHEN CHRIST WILL COME

*"This Generation" to
Behold His Advent*

by

CARLYLE B. HAYNES

God's new social order is near at hand, nearer than many of us are ready to believe.

On this earth some of the mightiest movements of all history are taking place.

So in heaven there are taking place today the most important events in all the history of God's dealings with the human family.

All heaven is astir with vast and magnificent preparations.

And these great events in heaven and on earth are preparatory to "the kingdoms of this world" becoming "the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ."

There has been much futile speculation regarding the time of the second coming of Christ. The sensational predictions that have been made by fanatical enthusiasts on this subject have served only to arouse the scorn of the world. The opinion prevails quite widely that it is useless to study the subject of the nearness of the coming of Christ. We are told that we can know nothing of the time of His coming; that He may come today, and He may come in a thousand years; that we know nothing at all about it, neither can we know.

It is most deplorable that so much fanaticism has surrounded the preaching of this subject in the past that this great

teaching of Scripture has come to be looked upon with reproach. This ought not, however, to cause those who are seeking for the truth to overlook the fact that the Bible has a great deal to say about "the time of the end," "the last days," and "the days of the Son of man," nor the additional fact that the Bible so fully describes the character of those days just preceding the coming of Christ that only those who are willingly ignorant will fail to recognize them.

Jesus spoke to His disciples on this matter of time, the time of His return to earth. They asked Him the question, "What shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?" And He gave them an answer.

In that answer Jesus directed their minds over the course of history, the history that was still to come. He described the great period of persecution that was to take place during the Dark Ages. He pointed forward to the dark day of May 19, 1780, and farther on to the falling of the stars in 1833. And then He said:

"When ye shall see all these things, know that He is near, even at the doors." Matthew 24:33, margin.

Whatever, then, we may not know about the time of the coming of Christ, we can certainly know this: we may know when His coming "is even at the doors." This may be known by the signs He gave—the great tribulation, the dark day, and the falling of the stars. When these things are seen, and when the attention of the world is directed to them in a world-wide message, then we may rest assured that His coming is "even at the doors."

And when a person is at the door, he is so near that one more step will bring him inside.

To make this, the time of His coming, still more definite, Christ said: "Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." Matthew 24:34.

This is not the first time the Master had used this expression, "this generation." And we can gain some idea of its meaning here if we can learn what He meant when He used it before.

It will be remembered that when Christ said the guilt and punishment for all the righteous blood shed upon the earth was to be visited upon the Jews He used these words: "Verily I say unto you,

All these things shall come upon this generation." Matthew 23:36.

Thus in both these chapters, the twenty-third and the twenty-fourth of Matthew, certain things are predicted to take place in certain generations. Just as the destruction of Jerusalem was certain to come upon a definite generation, so the second coming of Christ will take place in a certain generation.

Can we know with certainty what generation will witness the second coming of our Lord? Surely we can.

What Is a Generation?

The first use of this expression, "this generation," in Matthew 23:36, is most certainly a prediction that the destruction of Jerusalem and the Jewish nation would come upon the very generation that heard and rejected the message of the gospel. This prediction was literally fulfilled. The destruction of the city and temple took place in 70 A. D., about thirty-nine years after Christ made the prediction regarding "this generation."

This does not mean that a generation is just thirty-nine years long. What, then, does it mean?

The second use of the words, "this generation," in Matthew 24:34, has reference to an entirely different generation from the one that saw the destruction of Jerusalem. The generation referred to by Christ as the one that would see His return is definitely located as the generation that "shall see all these things," that is, the tribulation, the dark day, the falling of the stars. The generation pointed to is the one that would see these things—not see them literally necessarily, but see them as signs of the coming of Christ.

There are those who have connected "this generation" with a date, and tried to find a calendar beginning. They have fixed on the last sign, the falling of the stars, and begun their reckoning with that date, November 13, 1833. Others have preferred October 22, 1844. But it is not dates that are important in this connection; it is a message and its rejection.

The teaching of this passage clearly is that when the people of this earth hear a great message of the coming of Christ, a message that will set before all the world these signs of the second coming, the generation hearing that message, and rejecting that message, will not pass away until the actual appearance of the Saviour.

The message will never have to be taken to the world a second time to be heard by another generation. One generation will span the giving of God's final message, the message of warning and truth that will prepare those who accept it to enter His kingdom.

Do not attach "this generation" to cal-

endar dates. Attach it to the giving of the last message of warning.

That message of the Lord's coming, containing the signs referred to, using

Flashlines

by W. L. Emmerson

NEARLY HALF A MILLION Since the beginning of the war the British and Foreign Bible Society has issued more than 400,000 Bibles and portions for the use of soldiers and sailors, either free or at very low cost.

TOWARD ARMAGEDDON? "It may well be," says the *Round Table*, in a survey of the international situation, "that the final and decisive stages of the war may be fought in the Balkans or in the Middle East, and not on the Western Front."

SUBSIDIZING FRENCH BABIES To encourage the birth rate in France, a new "Family Code" came into operation on January 1, which institutes a bonus of from \$50 to \$90 for each child born, increases various family allowances, and provides for loans to peasant families who will guarantee to stay on the land for not less than twenty years.

NEW "ALEXANDER" To divert Russia from further advances into Western Europe, Germany is urging her to emulate the campaigns of Alexander the Great through Turkey, Iraq, Iran, to India. "Men like Napoleon I and Field Marshal von der Goltz," writes the *Völkischer Beobachter*, "have again and again been attracted by the example of the conquests of Alexander the Great, Baber, and Nadir Shah. With modern means of communication, there is no insuperable difficulty, although the task is not a light one, and calls for vast means and careful preparation. The power which might carry it through is Russia."

SPIRITUAL MEASURES NEEDED "Surely," writes the bishop of Chichester to the *London Times*, in the course of a letter on the European situation, "in these tremendous days we are relying far too exclusively on political and military measures. We behave once again as we behaved after the last war, as though, after defeating the enemy in the field, we could produce a new Europe simply by organization and machinery and new constitutions. But if there is one thing more than another which the experience of the last twenty years teaches us, it is this: Organization by itself is not enough. The supreme need of men and nations today is a vital religious faith. . . . Without religious faith, the best instruments will prove but hollow shams when put to the crucial test."

these signs to make people understand the nearness of the end, is even now being preached in all the world. This generation, the present generation, the generation in which you live, is the one that is hearing the message of the coming of Christ.

That fact brings us face to face with the most solemn truth of all our lives: *The present generation is the one that is destined to witness the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Just as surely as the great period of tribulation foretold by our Lord came to pass, just as surely as that period was followed by the dark day of 1780, just as surely as this in turn was followed by the falling of the stars in 1833, just as surely as this in its turn was followed by taking to all the world a great message pointing to these signs as evidences of the nearness of His return, just so surely will the coming of Christ take place in this present generation, the generation that now is hearing the message of His coming.

The coming of Christ in this generation is certain. Will you make just as certain your entering into the kingdom He will establish?

The Flight of Time

(Continued from page 3)

"Mussolini's rise to power began in a modest, unalarming way.

"In each instance, a 'handful of men,' working underground, arose to take over their respective governments and impose their wills on millions of astonished and bewildered people."

Yet it is not only in political affairs that a "handful of men" have exerted an influence altogether out of proportion to their numbers. Did not Christ change the course of history with only twelve disciples, and one of them a traitor?

The lesson might well be remembered by Christian people today. The tendency to cherish a spirit of defeatism in regard to the church's relationship to "the world, the flesh, and the devil" is far too prevalent. There is too much of the feeling that the opposition is too strong; that it is useless to attempt to do anything, futile even to protest.

What the church of Christ needs today is a "handful of men," determined men, courageous men, God-filled men. Every community naming the name of Christ might well pray that such a nucleus of power might appear in its midst. Then indeed might we hope for a great forward movement of the hosts of God.

Did not John Wesley say that if he could have twelve truly consecrated men to work with him, he could convert the world?

It is not numbers that count, but spirit and purpose and undying zeal.

THE greatest threat to the welfare of the United States today is disregard of law and order. It is a most alarming fact that during the past year, in some form or other, crime visited one fourth of all American homes. One criminal offense was committed for every ninth person in the land.

The nation's annual crime bill has now reached the staggering sum of fifteen billion dollars. This is equal to the amount spent for food, and four times the expenditure for education. Last year the police forces handled 1,500,000 serious crimes, such as murder, banditry, and aggravated assault, and 14,000,000 lesser offenses, like frauds, forgeries, embezzlements, disturbance of the peace, etc.

The "black army" of crime now numbers nearly 5,000,000, which is more than three and a half times the number of students in all universities and colleges in the United States. About 4 per cent of these are incarcerated in the penal institutions of the land; while the vast majority of the clever, fortunate "crooks" walk the streets, mingle in society, ride in good automobiles, and live in respectable homes or apartments.

If grouped together in one city, this sinister army would form a metropolis nearly as large as Chicago and Detroit combined, or more than four times the size of Los Angeles. Says Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation: "Every time the clock strikes in your town, it tolls off the fact that at least one murder has been committed in the last forty minutes; and this, too, goes on day and night without ceasing. It was necessary for officers of the law to shoot to kill at least six hundred times last year because of the vicious nature of the desperadoes with whom they dealt.

"Criminals of the most flagrant type are found living in the best of neighborhoods, enjoying the fruits of their crimes in an atmosphere of respectability.

"More than 700,000 mothers in the United States mourn the fact that their boys and girls, all under voting age, either are or have been in jail, in reformatories, in prisons, or have met death in the electric chair or by the hangman's rope. The files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation abound with instance after instance of criminals who came from average American homes, but who in early childhood chose a career of lawlessness."

Under the caption, "The Woman in Crime," the same authority states: "In practically every outstanding instance, it was found that gangs lived because of their women. The feminine members of the gang arranged hide-outs; they looked over the scene of the robbery, thus allowing its careful planning by the masculine members; they made getaway

charts for easy escape; they hired lawyers; they acted as go-betweens—in fact, they performed almost every highly necessary duty in the commission of a crime, except the actual perpetration of the offense itself." Not infrequently it is found that a queen of the underworld furnishes the brains for the gang.

In the newspapers, the cheap magazines, and on the screen, the gangster is too often pictured as a hero to be admired. The vicious and indecent are frequently crowned as lords of the modern world. Lads and lasses live in an unreal world by day; by night they dream of lawless adventure; while ere long many of them feel the urge to re-enact their vicious dreams in the drama of real life.

Is it any wonder that such environ-

P ROPHECY *Points to This I*

Eighth in the S

*Menaces to
Need for S*

by ROY

ment and association tend to develop the nervous, excitable boy bandit? With a marijuana cigarette in his mouth, and a gun trembling in his hand, he is an enemy to be feared; and many are the victims to die at this "pagan altar of criminal youth."

Mr. Hoover advises parents to give more attention to the "high chair," so that officers of the law may have less use for the electric chair. How sorely this advice is needed! Every year nearly a quarter of a million children are caught in the dragnet of the law and brought before the juvenile courts of the United States. Many other child criminals are handled by the police, and do not reach the courts. Some escape the immediate penalty of wrongdoing; but all these, unless transformed, are on the highroad to reformatories, jails, or penitentiaries, and some to the lethal chamber.

Youthfulness of Criminals

And here is another disturbing fact: In the past, hardened criminals were usually of middle age: today the penal institutions house multitudes of youths with extended prison records who calmly confess the most cold-blooded planning and execution of ruthless crimes. The greatest responsibility for this reign of juvenile terror lies with parents, many of whom spend their leisure hours at the club, the motion-picture show, the cocktail party, and the dance hall, while their children are allowed to find their own pleasures and to climb haphazardly into life.

The United States is the greatest liq-

uor-producing, liquor-consuming country on earth. Since repeal, the nation's drink bill has reached the staggering total of some \$15,000,000,000; and this vast sum has been used in "transforming American youths into 'Dillingers,'" and in producing "bumper crops of alcohol-damaged minds," which are said to constitute 30 per cent of the admissions to psychopathic hospitals and institutions for the insane.

Tobacco, with its deadly nicotine content, is a bosom friend and ally of King Alcohol. It stunts the growth of children and robs the intellect of its keen edge. A pound of tobacco contains enough poison to kill 3,800 dogs in ten minutes; yet the people of this country smoke more than a million cigarettes every passing minute.

Another champion wrecker of human lives is dope. According to Courtney R. Cooper: "Nearly every large city in the United States has one or two drug rings, dominated by sly and inconspicuous overlords of crime, whose nefarious traffic in dope is sometimes unsuspected even by their friends and neighbors. These men take an estimated annual toll of \$50,000,000 from the weakest and most wretched creatures of the underworld—





UNDERWOOD

prophecies of the Bible

WLESS AGE

ern Youth

r Home Training

OTTRELL

the victims of the narcotic habit. One man or woman in every 2,000 persons in the nation is caught in the coils of drug addiction."—*American Magazine*, December, 1937.

Dope destroys the will power, obliterates the sense of right and wrong, awakens the most vicious passions, breeds crime and lawlessness, blasts the most brilliant prospects, and leads to insanity, the gutter, and the grave. Friends, ponder the tragedy of thousands of Americans every month being lured to a living death. Of all this odious family of destroyers, marijuana is the most "deadly assassin of youth;" and bear in mind that every dope addict is a potential criminal.

Increase of Gambling

We are told that gambling, "the new national disease," is "growing at such an alarming rate" that it has now reached a total of \$10,000,000,000 a year. After wide investigation, Mr. Thomas Sugrue, brilliant young news reporter, says: "Anyhow, law or no law, everybody is gambling: in the casinos, on the gambling ships, at the race tracks, on the golf course, in the bleachers, at the cigar store, in their homes. I found it all as

gay and as carefree and as abandoned and illegal as was drinking during Prohibition."

While playhouses boast of a daily attendance of 20,000,000, a well-known judge declares that the "film producers are fouling civilization." In racy, picturesque language numerous storybooks and magazines recount the sordid details of wild parties, kidnaping, social vices, and murder until the reader's mind is saturated with crime. Moral bolshevists arise to place their sanction upon trial marriage and "tandem polygamy," and to boast of those "more sacred alliances outside of wedlock than within." The noble and sacred ideals of home life are shattered until one marriage in every four ends in divorce or separation, and the normal standards of our civilization lie in ruins.

Of such a time as this Inspiration sounds the prophetic warning: "Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths." "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant." Isaiah 59:7; 24:5.

Observe also the index finger pointing to our day and describing world conditions as they now exist: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." 2 Timothy 3:1-5.

These words were entered upon the scroll of prophecy nineteen centuries ago; yet what language could more vividly portray the picture that daily greets us in the current newspapers and magazines?

In the phrase "disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy," juvenile delinquency is clearly indicated. The terms "without natural affection" and "incontinent" point directly to the battered ideals of wedlock, and the alarming social trends of our day. There is also the indictment, "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." When the people of the United States spend nineteen cents out of every dollar for amusement, and but four cents for

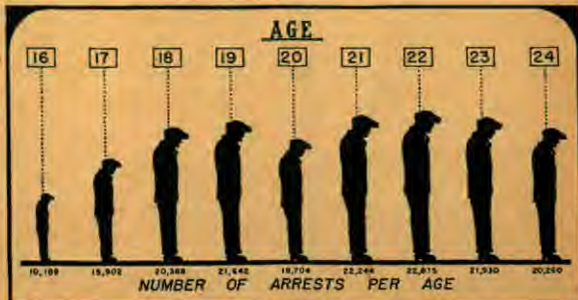
education and religion; when they erect nine theaters to every new church building; when twenty frequent the playhouse for every one attending divine service; and when, in spite of modern education, government, and law-enforcing machinery, the reign of crime and lawlessness continues unchecked, it is evident that God's preview has met its fulfillment, and that we live in the perilous times of the last days so strikingly and vividly foretold.

God warns His children in order that they may find in Him a sure refuge and an eternal deliverance. Beyond the dark deeds of the present evil world is the undefiled homeland of the redeemed. There, no blasted romances or broken hearthstones, no wayward youth or grief-stricken parents, no wanton pleasures or mad revelry, will invade or menace their happy estate. There will be no bandits or racketeers, no penitentiaries or poorhouses, no drunkards or dope addicts, no suicides or murders, and the inhabitants will be forever free from the menace of a plotting underworld.

That deliverance, that home, is for you and for me. Christ, the Comrade of the lowly, the Friend of the discouraged and erring, stands ready to cleanse the darkest stain and to give divine strength for a victorious life. He alone is able to rebuild the sin-ruined character. He dwelt in old Nazareth, notorious for its wickedness, a living demonstration to all the world that, regardless of surroundings and circumstances, there is divine power to live a pure, unsullied life. And the promise is unlimited: "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.

Go to the cross, and meet there God in sacrifice. Behold Him as Jesus bearing your sin, receiving the shafts of your enemy! Embrace Him, believe in Him, take Him to your inmost heart. Do this, and you shall feel sin die within you, and a glorious quickening, Christ the power of God, Christ in you the hope of glory, shall be consciously risen upon you, as the morn of your new creation.—*Horace Bushnell*.

This official photograph from the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicates the great number of youthful criminals.





Round the World With the Gospel

The Advent Message to All the World

by G. G. LOWRY
Superintendent, South India
Union Mission, Bangalore

--and **INDIA!**

IN AN intimate talk with His disciples one day on the Mount of Olives, Jesus said: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." In these words, He predicted the rise and development of a great religious movement that would take place in the world just prior to His second advent.

The apostle John, who was present at the time Christ made this prediction, was, about sixty years later, given a vision of the last generation to live on the earth, and he saw many things that would take place in the last days. He saw the rise and fall of nations; the bitter persecution of the early followers of Christ by non-Christians; the rise and development of the Mohammedan religion; the Dark Ages, when the great apostasy came into the Christian church; the Reformation of the sixteenth century; the imprisonment of the pope of Rome by the French in the eighteenth century, and the crippling of his power; war and bloodshed among the nations of earth; the darkening of the sun and the falling of the stars. He saw the last generation of men and the terrible times through which they would pass; the final judgment; the coming of Christ; the binding of Satan in the bottomless pit; and the saints finally saved in the kingdom of God.

A Great Movement Foreseen

While all these events were passing one after the other like a great drama before his eyes, he also saw going to the world the last warning message, of which Christ had spoken. In relating what he saw and heard, he said:

"I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. And there followed another an-

gel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb." Revelation 14: 6-10.

The Final Warning

Here is a great threefold message. It is one of reformation. It calls upon people, the world around, to turn from the worship of idols to the worship of the living God who made heaven and earth. And the reason given for the necessity of turning to God is the fact that "the hour of His judgment is come."

This message, then, is the closing proclamation of the gospel, and is to be delivered to the world just before Jesus comes. It is the last call to sinners to turn from wickedness and sin, and to plead with God for forgiveness and mercy; for, just as soon as it has been given, the prophet sees the Lord Jesus Christ coming to the earth in power and great glory. He describes the coming thus:

"I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud One sat like unto the Son of man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in Thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for Thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And He that sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped." Revelation 14:14-16.

Before the Lord Jesus comes to the earth the second time, therefore, there will be an announcement made to all the earth regarding His coming. Summed up in this announcement will be the full-

ness of the gospel of Christ. It will be the everlasting gospel with all its saving power, with special emphasis on the return of Jesus—the "gospel of the kingdom."

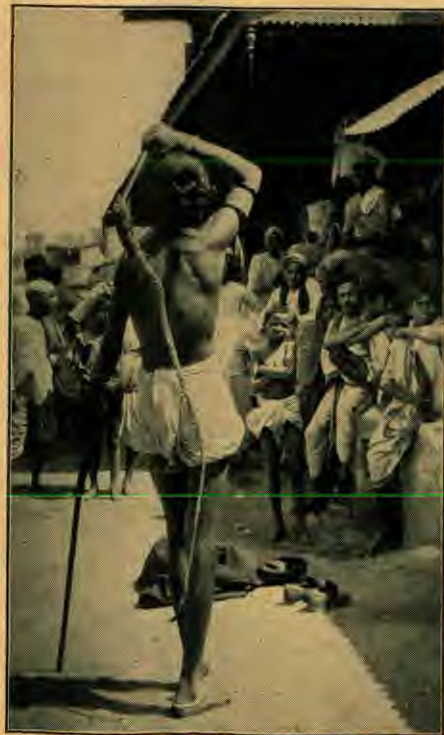
Prediction Being Fulfilled

In fulfillment of this prophecy there has been, during the past one hundred years, such an awakening, such an opening of doors in all parts of the world, as has never been witnessed before.

Surely the prediction of Christ when He said that the "gospel of the kingdom" should be preached unto "all nations" included such countries as India with its nearly 353,000,000 souls. When John, in holy vision, saw the movement developing and spreading to all nations, he must also have seen India. And when he saw those who believed the message gathered out of the earth and taken to heaven at

(Continued on page 14)

A devotee of Kali, the goddess of destruction, publicly whips himself to appease her wrath. God requires no such cruel worship.



HERBERT

SIGNS of the TIMES



This sign, "Religion is the opiate of the people," appears on a one-time church in Russia; but the knowledge of God cannot forever be suppressed.

You Can't GET RID OF GOD

He Always Comes Back

by

BENJAMIN MAXSON

God is not always a comfortable companion. It is not always altogether pleasant to know that He is near. His reality often has a very disturbing effect on everyday life and conduct. For this reason men try to hide from Him, to force Him out of their lives. This effort started in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve had eaten of the forbidden fruit and felt so ashamed of their weakness and of the results of disobedience that they tried to hide from the presence of God.

Men of the present generation still think it is possible to get rid of God, to banish Him from the picture. Unwilling to make terms with Him, they would eliminate Him. There are four ways by which the attempt is being made today: the way of force, the way of reason, the way of indifference, and the way of worship.

The effort to be rid of God by force is very old. Nero, who burned Christians at the stake, and Julian the Apostate, who thought to crush Christianity by restoring the mythological deities, were but following a common practice far older than they. Today in Russia something of the same thing has been tried. Because of a distorted image of God, which represented Him as the foe and not the friend of common people, the Communists have said, "Let us outlaw God." A similar endeavor under a different guise is being attempted in other countries in Europe.

But brute force cannot for long keep God out of the hearts of men and women who desperately need Him. God always comes back. It is said that after Napoleon had escaped from his first exile, a murmur went throughout the land, electri-

fying his countrymen to whom he had become a symbol and a hero. "He is back!" they whispered in the market place. "He is back!" they whispered wherever people congregated. Something like that is believed to be happening in Russia today. Men and women are whispering to one another of God, "He is back!"

The second method of getting rid of God—reasoning Him out of existence—is modern but at the same time ancient. Philosophers and teachers of times gone by have declared that because by reason they could not apprehend Him, there is no God. And in our time certain learned men who could not trap God in a test tube have boldly asserted that He is not in the universe. But science itself is finding that it can never explain the whole, even of the physical universe, without God. And so God, exiled by scientific reasoning, comes back.

Ignoring Him—Unsuccessful

The third method of getting rid of God has been far more successful. That method consists of assuming that there is no God, ignoring every evidence of Him, remaining totally indifferent to His presence. It is what we might term practical atheism. There are many today who will not assert a disbelief in God, but for all practical purposes have no belief. They may, if questioned, profess to believe in Him; but He makes no difference to them, affects their living not at all, influences their adjustment to the universe not in the least.

Now, if we ignore a thing long enough, it eventually comes to mean nothing to us. In this way men delude themselves into ignoring the stubborn realities of life. But they never succeed in changing reality itself. Whatever they may think of God, however they may ignore Him, the reality of His existence is not modified. The fool may say either in his heart

or in his life, "There is no God," but sooner or later God manifests Himself; the fool awakes to his folly.

The fourth method by which men have lost God, paradoxical as it may seem, is by rendering Him lip service while their hearts are far from Him. They have cried, "Lord, Lord," while refusing to do the Lord's will.

Many have thus lost God without knowing that they have lost Him. Talking about God, singing about God, thinking about God, feeling high admiration for God, is not really knowing God. One never truly knows Him until one has surrendered to Him his will and has begun to practice the will of God. God can never be driven out of human experience by force or by reason, but God can be lost by constant indifference to His clear commands.

Yet even through indifference and hollow worship, God comes back. There are indications today that, despite the sweeping tide of secularism, God is on His way back into the affairs of men. "Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?" cried the psalmist David. But honesty compelled him to admit that there is no escape. "If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold Thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me." And so, because there was no escape, this ancient poet determined to adjust his life to the reality of God and to live righteously. In concluding his meditation, he prays: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:7-10, 23, 24.

Since man cannot get rid of God, perhaps we should all take Him more fully into account.

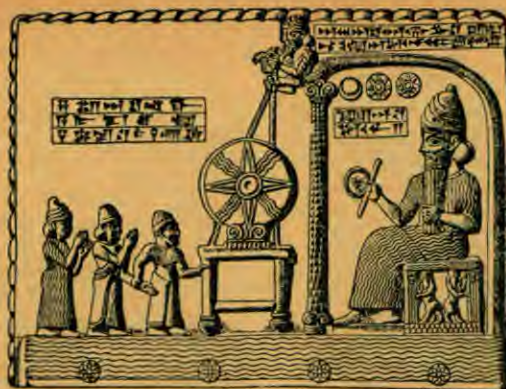
IT ALL began about four thousand years ago. Shortly after the Flood a revolution against God led to the building of the Tower of Babel and the establishing of a monarchy instead of the theocracy under which man had previously lived. Since the Divine Being was no longer recognized by the Babelites as their ruler, and since it seems to be a part of man's very nature to worship something, it was natural that they should have accepted a counterfeit deity of some kind. The identity of man's new god is not hard to discover when we examine the evidence.

Everyone who has studied into pagan religions knows that the sun is one of the chief deities, though it may be called by many names. Even in a single kingdom we may find one name for the "male" sun, one for the "female," one for the rising sun, one for the midday sun, and so on. There is one name for the winter sun, one for the spring sun, one for the hot summer sun, and another for the fall sun. We find one name for its rays, another for its disk, and still another for its heat. We find men worshipping its life-giving qualities and its death-giving powers.

Then on the earth we find fire being worshiped because, being hot and having the appearance of the sun, it is declared to be the sun spirit. We find the storm being worshiped as a divine being because thunder was declared to be the voice of the sun-god—and so on into an unlimited number of symbols, manifestations, and names.

A peculiarity, however, soon appears in these multitudinous manifestations of the sun-god. Almost invariably, no matter where we find sun worship on the face of the earth, either ancient or modern, we find a sacred serpent accompanying such worship. Take ancient Egypt, for instance. On Egyptian inscriptions we find the sun always pictured in the sky encircled by the cobra. The cobra, likewise, is pictured as being a part of the headdress of the queen and of the Pharaoh, who was deified as the sun-god on earth. We also find the sun temples everywhere containing their sacred serpent.

This holds true likewise among both ancient and modern Indians of America, and among the most savage tribes of Africa, the Orient, or the islands of the sea. Everywhere the sun-god is accom-



Records of sun worship are to be found in the very beginnings of history. Shamash, the Babylonian sun-god, in his shrine. To him a high priest leads the king and queen of Sippar.

The MASTER Counterfeiter

How the Devil Has Sought to Supplant God

First of a Unique Series of Articles Tracing the Rise of Many Un-Biblical Doctrines and Practices Still Held by Christian Churches

by

MURL VANCE

panied by his sacred serpent. Why? Can it be that back in the cradle of sun worship, in ancient Babylon, the serpent meant more to the apostate worshipers than merely an earthly reptile? Fortunately for the student desiring an answer to such a question, various scientific organizations have recovered and translated thousands of the clay Babylonian temple texts, so that anyone who desires can read these strange facts in his own language.

When the Devil Made Himself God

That the devil himself, not the sun, should become the real deity of paganism, at first seems almost unbelievable, but such proves to be the case. The reason for such devil worship soon becomes apparent when one interviews the modern followers of this ancient religion. Worship, they declare, has no other object than to appease the evil spirits. A

good being needs no appeasing—he is naturally kind and good. It is the evil one that man must fear; worship him, and he will bless you and give fortune in place of misfortune. That the conclusion is not true is evidence when one observes the degraded, superstitious, fear-crazed followers of devil worship today; but at any rate the reasoning must have sounded fairly plausible to the ancients who turned their back upon God and accepted Lucifer as their deity.

That the sun as an object of worship is merely considered as a visible manifestation of Satan by so-called sun worshipers becomes at once apparent when one examines the titles by which the sun-god is addressed. Here are a few of them, taken primarily from the translations of Babylonian temple texts by Jastrow and Sayce: "Lord of the lower world," "sword," "god of fire," "raging king," "the violent one," "the one that lies in wait," "the oppressor," "the soul of the sun," "the spy," "prince of Hades," "the ruler over the great city" [Babylon?], "the lightning flash," "the plague demon," "the serpent," "the solitary monster," "the goddess of reptiles," "the fire flame," "lord of swine," "the evil face," "the evil eye," "the evil breath," "the tormentor," "the reptile," "he that hath many names."

We find this same unmistakable demon connection with the sun in other nations that imported their sun worship from Babylon. In Egypt we find Ra, the sun-god, pictured with a tail, a tined fork in one hand, a sun on his head, with a cobra coiled around the sun—unquestionably the source of our modern concept of the devil. In Persia and India we find the sun being called Mithras in one breath and Ahura-Mazda in the next, the latter term being best translated "light-demon."

In one Babylonian hymn the sun-god is described thus: "Desire for rulership seizes his heart." And then he is represented as saying, "I will take the tablets of the gods and decree the decisions. I will establish my throne, I will proclaim laws, I will give orders to all the Igigi (spirits)." Every student of the Scriptures will note the similarity of these words of the sun-god to those of Lucifer found in Isaiah 14:13, 14: "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the

mount of the congregation: . . . I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High."

With these words in mind, we are not surprised that Lucifer was not content to be worshiped only as a demon—he had higher aspirations than that. He wanted to be worshiped as a god as well as a devil. That his ambitions in this respect were gratified is likewise shown by the titles addressed by the Babylonians to their demon sun-god. For just as we find almost every title by which we know the devil, applied to him by Babylonian sun worshipers, so also we find practically all the titles rightfully belonging to the true God similarly used in addressing the sun.

Here are a few, likewise primarily taken from the translations of Jastrow and Sayce: "judge," "mediator," "son," "redeemer," "the only son," "judge supreme of heaven and earth," "light of the world," "the merciful," "creator," "the intercessor," "the only-begotten one," "divine prince," "supreme counselor," "lord of the covenant," "preserver," "the sin bearer," "savior of the world," "branch of God," "god the son."

The jealousy with which Lucifer had viewed the work of Christ the Creator, and his desperate efforts to destroy Christ's work as the Redeemer, are startlingly revealed by these titles which the serpent's demon-inspired worshipers addressed to him. And most certainly he took full advantage of his knowledge of the plan of salvation—a knowledge he undoubtedly received directly from God after his sin, or which he could have received when the plan was revealed to man in the Garden of Eden—to attempt to destroy the work of Christ by setting up himself, the destroyer of the world, as its redeemer!

Thus it was that Lucifer established himself as a counterfeit god, the supreme deity in a false system of worship that was to spread over the entire world. As could be expected, Lucifer would never be content to leave a single genuine doctrine among his worshipers. His set task was to establish a nonscriptural counterfeit for every truth ever given by God to man. That he succeeded, and that many of these same counterfeits are today to be found in the creeds of practically every professedly Christian church on the face of the earth, is one of the most astonishing facts to be uncovered by modern archaeology.

So widespread, in fact, have become these counterfeits that the chances are a hundred to one that every reader of this article has among his beliefs and practices some which have their origin, not in the Scriptures, but in the devil worship of ancient Babylon.

(Next Week: *The Serpent Coils Around the World.*)

Foundations Giving Way

(Continued from page 5)

rotted down or been pulled out by this time, but the idea of solidity for foundation material was something fixed in my small mind.

Perhaps it was this instinctive longing for permanence, for dependability, that the writer to the Hebrews ascribes to Abraham when he says that "he looked for a city which hath foundations." And, as if to assure us that these foundations were to be imperishable, he adds, "whose builder and maker is God." Hebrews 11:10.

Jesus used a parable to tell us the essential characteristic of foundations when He said, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: . . . and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." Matthew 7:24, 25.

The True Foundation

This cry after solidity is echoed in the comforting hymn, "Rock of Ages," which is evidently based upon the words of Isaiah 26:4: "Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength," or "a Rock of Ages" (R. V., margin). Wrote the psalmist, "They remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer." Psalm 78:35.

Now, what are the foundations of civilization, anyway? Can we understand and recognize them better now when we see them vanishing? Is our comprehension clearer because we see what their going leaves us? Like the young roomer who stood awkwardly greeting the mother of a house who had returned from a hospital sojourn and, awkwardly turning his hat around and around in his hands, said, "Now I understand, ma'am, what it is that makes this house as it is; it was your not bein' here that made me know, ma'am."

Perhaps Herbert Hoover had the accurate analysis when he expressed his distress at the situation of the sturdy little Baltic republic, now finding herself in such straits: "It is terrible! It is unthinkable, that this great nation should be in such a plight! Finland is a great nation. It is not size that makes a great nation. It is courage; it is force; it is industry and integrity and responsibility!"

What are these foundations of civilization that we are talking about? They are all that stand for the Old World as our parents and grandparents knew it. This civilization may not have been a very perfect article; in any case it was a man-made product. And for some reason it seems not to have been able to bear the strain of the years. Its foundations were all manifestations of respectability—the church, society, commerce, government. They are all undergoing changes these days. Is the difficulty that they were all man-made and that in the world's storm and confusion of shifting standards and values they are giving way at their weak points?

Or are these manifestations only the faulty man-made institutions that stand for the great eternal verities that are the true foundations of greatness—religion, the family, human brotherhood, honest dealings, and just authority?

Surely these are valid and essential. A world in which law has no authority, where human society is not hedged about by laws of human conduct, man bows not his head in prayer, gathers no family about his hearth and shuts the door to keep out cold and intrusion—such a world is but a chaos, like that out of which God spoke the world into being in the beginning.

SEE that each hour's thoughts and feelings and actions are pure and true; then will your life be such. The wide pasture is but separate spears of grass; the sheeted bloom of the prairies but isolated flowers.—Beecher.



Coming NEXT WEEK

in addition to the regular features:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| The East Invades the West | W. A. Spicer |
| Destroying the Foundations | Agnes Lewis Caviness |
| How Christ Will Come | Carlyle B. Haynes |
| Prophecy Speaks, and Millions March | Roy F. Cottrell |
| In the Steps of the Master | H. G. Woodward |
| The Serpent Coils Around the World | Murl Vance |
| Just Nervous! | Ruth Coopridge |

The Name of Jesus

by F. L. ABBOTT

It is said that the old Greek orators, when they saw their audiences inattentive or slumbering, had a word with which they roused them to the greatest enthusiasm. They would stop in the midst of their orations and cry out the word "Marathon!" and the people's enthusiasm would be unbounded.

There is a grand, royal, imperial word that should rouse every soul to infinite joy and to the greatest enthusiasm, and that is the word, "Jesus."

The name of Jesus is above every name in its world-wide influence; and there is transforming power in that name. The names of Xerxes, Alexander the Great, Napoleon, occupy prominent places in history; but speak these names unnumbered times to a disconsolate soul, and they will not remove one pang of sorrow or suffering. But not so with the name of Jesus. That name is above every name. It is "far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come." Ephesians 1:21.

"His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6.

What the Name Implies

Justly is He called "Wonderful," for He is both God and man. His love is the wonder of angels, as well as of saints. He was wonderful in His birth, wonderful in His life, wonderful in His death, wonderful in His resurrection, and wonderful in His ascension. A constant series of wonders attended Him, and great indeed was the mystery of godliness concerning Him.

He was intimately acquainted with the counsels of God from eternity, and He is well able to be our great "Counselor." He is made of God wisdom for us.

He is "The mighty God." He not only has wisdom, but strength to accomplish any undertaking. It was He who

brought all things into existence. He upholds all things by the word of His power. He is able to save to the uttermost.

He is "The everlasting Father." The prophet says of Him: His "goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2. His love, care, and tenderness as a Father for His people are everlasting.

He is "The Prince of Peace." He creates and preserves peace in His kingdom. His peace is our peace, for He said: "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you" (John 14:27); and the prophet said: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee" (Isaiah 26:3).

His name stands for wisdom, strength, everlasting love, tenderness, and peace. How reverently we should regard that name! "Hallowed be Thy name."

"Jesus" is the most thrilling word in all the Bible, and in the world to come that name will be in the foreheads of God's people; "they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads." Revelation 22:4.

But should His name not be in our foreheads now? Is He wonderful to us? Do we marvel at His love for us? Is He our counselor? Do we seek Him for wisdom; and do we submit to His counsel? Is He "The mighty God" to us? Have we experienced His power in our lives—His creative and upholding power? Does He save us to the uttermost? Are we abiding in His everlasting love? Is He our "Prince of Peace"? Does His perfect peace reign in our hearts?

It means all this to have His name in our foreheads now; and, if He means all this to us now, in the world to come we shall see Him face to face, and forever have His precious name written in our foreheads.

Truly, there is no other name like "Jesus."

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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The Message to India

(Continued from page 10)

the coming of Christ, he must also have seen representatives from this vast country.

Comparing India with other countries in the world, we may say that it is equivalent to four and a half German Empires, to five Japans, or to seven British Isles. And yet India is not very large in point of territory. Its area is only about one half that of the United States of America. When, however, we take the population into consideration, India is a continent in itself. According to the latest census, the total population of India, including Indian states, is 352,837,778. This is three times the population of the United States, and over eight times that of England. Indeed, India heads the list of all the countries in the world in the number of her inhabitants.

India Not Overlooked

In sending His warning message to all the world, God has not overlooked this great and important continent. Years ago messengers were sent to this country from the west with the news of the soon coming of Christ, and at the present time hospitals, medical dispensaries, schools, colleges, and printing plants are being operated for the sole purpose of spreading the gospel message. Books, tracts, and magazines, containing the news of the soon coming of Christ and kindred truths, are being scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Through the influence of the Spirit of God working on the hearts of those who hear the message for these last days, people from all walks of life in India have embraced the message, and are now uniting their efforts with those of the missionaries and other workers in making it known to others.

According to the prophecy, we are to look for such a movement in all lands; and when "this gospel of the kingdom" shall have been "preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations,"

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Jesus will come. In that great day many from India will be represented among those who will be saved in God's eternal kingdom, and will stand with the redeemed of all the earth on the sea of glass with Christ their Lord.

In lands everywhere souls are stretching out their hands for light. They are perturbed by conditions around them—they know not what "these things mean." Shall we not hasten to them with

the glad tidings of a soon-coming Saviour, who will usher in a time of satisfaction, joy, and peace?

THE heart which can carry the burdens and sorrows of even the most forsaken, which can make room for the griefs and toils and cares of the hapless multitude, is filled without measure with the life and love of God.—*Charles Miel.*

WE are going to be through this life before very long. The longest life is short when it is over; any time is short when it is done. The gates of time will swing to behind some of us soon, but behind all of us before long. And then the important thing will not be what appointments we had, or what rank, or anything of that sort—not what men thought of us, but what God thought of us, and whether we were built into His kingdom. And if, at the end of it all, we emerge from life's work and discipline, crowned souls, at home anywhere in God's universe, life will be a success.—*B. P. Browne.*

IF-

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GETHSEMANE, garden of bitter loneliness and trial, has become a synonym for deep trouble, for a time of severe personal suffering; and—

"There lies

Somewhere veiled under evening skies
A garden which we all must see—
The Garden of Gethsemane."

There is no escaping Gethsemane; it is the proving ground through which all must pass sometime—and pass alone. Indeed, some will pass through it many times. To all the question is not, "How can I avoid Gethsemane?" but, "How can I pass through Gethsemane and come forth strengthened and purified, having learned the lesson Gethsemane was designed to teach me?"

Gethsemane's ground is not uncharted territory. It has been already trod by those who have gone before, and by Him who suffered deepest there; indeed, to tread in silence with grief-bowed head and breaking heart is but to walk in the footsteps of the One who knew that garden and its purpose most intimately.

In preparation for the inevitable Gethsemane there must be a calm recognition of the constant love of God, of His care and purpose in every experience that comes to the human heart. The knowledge that a loving heavenly Father holds the cup of bitterness—to the ultimate good of the one who must drink it—must be accepted; and there must be a sure faith in the words of Him who best knows the purpose of Gethsemane: "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." Revelation 3:19.

Four years ago Bill—a young friend of mine—was one of those fortunate "well-to-do" people. He was happily married, and blessed with two splendid children; life's fullness seemed to shine upon him. Material possessions came his way—money, home, cars, luxuries of all sorts. A few days ago I met him again—in the tuberculosis ward of a charity hospital! His home, his money, his luxuries, had long before been liquidated. Since he had been hospitalized, his brooding wife had died a tragic death, and now his children were many miles away; and he was suffering intense physical pain from spinal and bone complications incident to his disease.

While talking to him I thought:



YOUR GETHSEMANE

by
FRANK LEMON

"How much this man has borne! He must surely be embittered by his reverses—pleasure-loving youth that he was."

Instead, his testimony was: "Tragedy upon tragedy has been my lot; but out of the darkest hours a light has led me to such peace as I had never known. I have come to know that there is a *purpose* in everything that has befallen me. I have learned at last the longing and the meaning of life—to know God."

Then, what is the purpose of every Gethsemane? To have passed through the garden without seeing in proper perspective the tawdriness of human desire, the ultimate worthlessness of material possessions, is to have missed the whole lesson; for we must be disillusioned of the stability of worldly substance in order that we may lift our eyes up, up, up to God. When those earthly things upon which we have fastened all our hopes, all our dreams, and all our love have been swept away, we look up to find something upon which we may safely set our affections, and of which we may not be dispossessed. When we find Jesus, we have in that moment realized the deep-lying purpose of our trial. "This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus

Christ, whom Thou hast sent." John 17:3.

No better example of conduct during Gethsemane's dark hours has been left us than the experience of Christ. He entered into the garden at the end of three years of intensive service for His people, bowed with grief at their rejection of His love. On every side humanity had turned its back upon Him. Even then the leaders of God's chosen people were seeking to put Him to death, and one of His disciples was set on betraying Him. Upon Him weighed heavily the awful fear that the burden of sin He bore might eternally separate Him from His Father's love.

In the garden Jesus' longing for human sympathy and tender regard prompted Him to urge the three disciples—Peter, James, and John—to watch and pray with Him, and for Him. But they were heavy with sleep. He prayed alone. And His prayer for help has been the guiding light for all who have followed Him into Gethsemane: "O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt." Matthew 26:39.

Thus prayed the Son of God. No matter what came, His Father's will was supreme. And herein lies our only way to endure personal suffering, to pass through our Gethsemanes. Unquestionable acceptance of His Father's will, complete trust in His Father's love and guidance—that was what buoyed up the Saviour throughout the painful experiences of His trial and crucifixion. His peace was that peace which comes from the Father, and passes all understanding.

None who have accepted their Gethsemane as from a loving Father have been unthankful that God so loved them that He saw fit to "rebuke" and "chasten" them. Life after Gethsemane becomes for them a richer, fuller, more purposeful, existence. By pain, by discouragement, by sorrow, they have discovered the *love of God*. They have found a sanctuary. No calamity that may come successfully assails their hearts; for with Paul they can say, "I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God."

