

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



INTERNATIONAL



Is There Hope
for a
HAPPIER
FUTURE?



TROUBLOUS TIMES

by A. R. OGDEN

IN THE rapidly changing panorama of world affairs, it is interesting to note how statesmen and others occupying positions of governmental responsibility borrow from Biblical expressions to find phraseology for their description of current events. To illustrate: The word "Armageddon" of the Apocalypse (Revelation 16:16) is not in uncommon use today in public addresses, as also in the newspapers, in referring to present war conditions. While this word is used but once in the Bible, it is of such common occurrence today by speakers and writers that a person would imagine that its use in Holy Writ were very frequent.

In the brief address of Queen Elizabeth on November 11, last year, she referred at least twice to "this time of trouble" in which we are living. She also used the expression, "these trying times." Truly, we are living in a world of trouble and peril—"trying times." These expressions find basis in the Book of God, and refer, as the publishers of this magazine sincerely believe, to this very time to which we have come in the history of our race. "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come," we read. "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.

Daniel, statesman of his day, and prophet of God, gave several prophetic

outlines of the world's future history. Though he wrote two thousand five hundred years ago, he forecast "what shall be in the latter days." Daniel 2:28. In the last chapter he penned these striking words: "At that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, everyone that shall be found written in the book." Daniel 12:1.

That we have come to that very time, the "time of trouble" in "the time of the end" (verse 4) is clear to all students of Bible prophecy. The "time of trouble" is to be the climax. Truly, present world conditions confirm that we are in that very time foretold by the prophet.

God's Kingdom Soon to Be

All who have taken the opportunity to trace the rise and fall of earthly kingdoms from the days of Babylon—the time of Daniel the prophet—to this our day, must be thoroughly convinced that we are living in the time so clearly forecast by the prophet in the second chapter of his book, when he said to King Nebuchadnezzar: "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the

brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure." Daniel 2:44, 45. The falling stone clearly represents Christ and the setting up of His kingdom, "which shall never be destroyed."

Detailed study of the context clearly proves that we have come down through the history of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. We are living in the divided state of the old Roman Empire, as represented by the iron and the clay in the feet and toes of the image. Thus, finally, even "the iron monarchy of Rome" was broken up into fragments—to be more exact, into ten parts. Many of the nations of Europe today are the remnants of that once mighty kingdom, which, even in the days of the first advent of Christ, ruled to the extent that "all the world" was taxed by her authority. Luke 2:1.

It is evident, therefore, that we are living in Daniel's "time of trouble," which, according to the prophet, is to be intimately related to the "standing up of Michael." The standing up of Michael signifies the second coming of Christ, which is the hope—the only hope—the blessed hope" (Titus 2:13)—of the world in these times of trouble to which we have come. The world cannot forever go on from bad to worse. How terrible that in one short quarter of a century, within the span of the lifetime of many of us now living, two great world wars should have upset the peace of the world! Twenty-two years ago the nations were engaged in a titanic conflict, "a war to end war." The loss in life and property destruction in that war was terrific. But even before the hospitals are cleared of those injured by the weapons of destruction in that great struggle, we are engaged in another, the destruction of which no one can foresee.

Truly, in such an hour the hope of the world centers in that glad time foretold

by seers, prophets, and apostles, as also by the Lord Jesus Himself. Speaking of these last days to which we have come, Jesus declared: "There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Luke 21: 25-27. And again, the Master, in response to the query of His disciples, "What shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?" said: "Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom." Matthew 24: 3, 7. This is in full accord with the word of the revelator, the seer of Patmos, when, in vision on that rock-bound island, he wrote: "The nations were angry, and Thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that Thou shouldest give reward unto Thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear Thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth." Revelation 11: 18.

These sorrows and woes are coming upon the earth not because God so ordains. No, indeed! God, in His holy word, only foretells what conditions the wickedness of the men of earth will lead the inhabitants of the world to do. Satan—not God—is the instigator of all strife and destruction. On this point, John, in the Revelation, declares: "I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Revelation 16: 13, 14.

End of Sin and Sorrow

Clearly it is the "spirits of devils," which are going "forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world," that will one day bring the earth to its final crisis—the climax of earth's history, the "time of trouble" in all its fullness. In the midst of Armageddon, the glorious return of our Lord will take place, ending the reign of sin and sorrow. When He comes to earth the second time, He will come not to suffer and die as He came two thousand years ago; but to reign as "King of kings, and Lord of lords." Revelation 19: 16.

Dear reader, are you preparing for that kingdom so soon to come? Are your garments being washed and made clean through the blood of the Lamb,

that you may be accounted as a worthy citizen of the perfect kingdom of peace and righteousness of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ? The prophet Isaiah foresaw all this in his prophecy of the first advent of the Son of God. "Unto us a Child is born," he says, "unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." Isaiah 9: 6, 7.

All Christians, yea, all people, should be working now as never before for the hastening of that glad day when "the Prince of Peace," Jesus the Lord, shall come to establish a kingdom where there will be no more hatred, no selfish ambitions, no strife or war; a kingdom in which selfishness will have given place to righteousness, and joy and happiness will be the heritage of the redeemed of the Lord. "In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint

for walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." Isaiah 26: 1-4.

Again the revelator gives to us the blessed assurance, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful." Revelation 21: 4, 5.

Hasten on, glad new day! It will come when Christ returns. Again we repeat it—the second return of our Lord is the hope of our world. It is the only hope. So even in "a time of trouble," we can look forward to a final day of eternal peace. Of that glad day Mrs. E. G. White has written:

"There are homes for the pilgrims of earth. There are robes for the righteous, with crowns of glory and palms of victory. All that has perplexed us in the

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America's Greatest NEED

by GREG C. ROBINSON

THOUGH America has been declared to be a Christian nation, we fear that the inspirational, energizing power of the pure religion taught and practiced by the great Founder of the Christian religion, the Man Christ Jesus, is absent from the lives of too many of its citizens today.

This condition would indicate that the greatest need of America at this time is a return to the faith of the founding fathers—simple faith in God, the Creator and Ruler of all. Nothing short of this can solve the perplexing problems that distress us as individuals and as a nation.

Where do you stand? Have you at some time in the past made a profession of faith in Christ, and through the press of "the cares of this life," lost your hold upon God? Do the cares of life seem too hard to bear? Is the road you travel so rough and tortuous that you feel you cannot go any farther? Do you feel sick and discouraged, even to the border of despair, not knowing what to do or which way to turn for relief?

There is One who knows all about your troubles. He was tempted and tried in every point that distresses you today. See Hebrews 2: 9, 17, 18; 4: 14, 15. He knows

just what you need, and just how to help you most. He can heal the wounds of the spirit that disappointments and sorrow have made, and can provide everything needful for your welfare and enduring happiness. Philippians 4: 19.

If at some time in the past you promised to follow Him, but have lost your way, come back to Him now. If you have never surrendered to Him before, surrender to Him now. He has promised never to forsake the soul that trusts in His love and grace, and claims His promises. Hebrews 13: 5; 1 John 1: 9. Bow down at His feet until you have gotten rid of your heart burden; then arise and go forward in His service, humbly and trustingly, day by day, as He reveals your duty, and gives you strength, guidance, and protection. Psalms 32: 8; 34: 7, 8, 9; Isaiah 41: 10; 43: 2.

If you fulfill the conditions of these promises, they will be fulfilled to you in just the way and at the very time that will best meet your need. There is no other way to obtain lasting peace of mind, and that inward, all-satisfying joy and heart comfort. Surrender to Him now. This is the great need of every struggling soul. This is the greatest need of America today.

The Impending Conflict

WHY speak of an impending conflict when the world is already filled with conflict? It is true that the world is an arena of conflicting philosophies of life, conflicting theories of government, and conflicting religions; and vast districts of the earth echo the sound of conflicting armies, and of fleets by sea and air. But the conflict that has outclassed all others in importance and duration, and in its effect upon the human family, is that between spiritual truth and spiritual error, the conflict between sin and righteousness, between the kingdom of Christ and the kingdom of Satan.

All other conflicts from the beginning of time are outgrowths of this one great conflict, which has molded the beliefs and shaped the conduct of the nations of mankind.

This conflict is in progress now as it ever has been since the fall in Eden; but this controversy of the ages has now reached the time of its climax, which will bring such new developments, and such added intensity of warfare between the followers of Christ and the forces of evil that it may fitly be termed "the impending conflict."

The prophet John saw in vision this final conflict, and wrote of it: "The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17. The "dragon" is identified in this chapter as Satan, and the "woman," as the Christian church. See verses 1-5, 9. The "remnant" of the seed of the "woman" is the last of her seed, the last church, or the church of the last days, prior to the return of Christ.

Of the scenes that will mark this final conflict we are told in 2 Thessalonians 2:8-10. There the apostle Paul speaks of the coming of Christ as occurring "after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."

For all this the world is ripe today.

by LEON A. SMITH

Man has forgotten God. In the temples erected for His worship false gods have been set up. There has been a recrudescence of paganism, until pagan ideals and practices have become predominant in modern civilization, and have penetrated into the church in Christian guise. Paganism utters its voice today in many a Christian pulpit.

God, on the other hand, has not forgotten man; He has not abdicated the throne of sovereignty nor come to look more leniently upon sin. His judgment day, which men ignore, will not ignore them. But while the twilight of mercy's day still lingers on the world, while woe is coming upon mankind, causing distress of nations with fear and perplexity as men look to the future, God is sending a message to the dwellers of earth to fear Him and trust not to themselves or to the wisdom and power of man.

Strife the Result of Paganism

Pagan ideals and pagan worship have brought civilization to the edge of the abyss. The world is full of war because its peoples are at war with the Prince of Peace. In some of the greatest nations of today people are taught from childhood to hate Christianity and its ideals. They are taught to glorify brute force, and to give to man homage that should be paid to God only. This cannot lead to peace, but only to its opposite. Peace and righteousness go together; strife is the companion of sin. "The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." Isaiah 57:20, 21.

So far has paganism with its war-inciting ideals overspread the earth that the most that can be done in the cause of peace is to achieve an armistice, bringing a temporary lull in the work of slaughter and devastation. Now it is seen that the supposed peace treaty of 1918-19 was only an armistice, and the



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maelstrom of war is again in action, threatening to engulf most if not all of the weaker nations of Europe as well as the great powers already engaged.

All this is the work of the "god of this world," whom Scripture declares to be Satan. 2 Corinthians 4:3, 4. He it is who incites the nations to war. It is the interests of his kingdom that are served thereby. His purpose is to bring confusion and chaos upon the world, and thus to prevent or greatly hinder the progress of the gospel among all nations. War brings the violence and bloodshed and destruction in which he delights, and brings mankind more and more into subjection to dictatorial rule.

Satan has marshaled his forces for the final conflict. He hates the truth of the gospel, and hates those engaged in its promulgation. He has established dictatorships, which suppress liberty of conscience, over a great part of the civilized world. Over still more territory he has brought the confusion and upheaval of armed conflict. He has everywhere established pagan ideals and practices in so-called Christian lands. His aim is to make a black-out of Christian truth throughout the world, and an end of those by whom it is maintained.

The situation is one regarding which Christian men who are students of world conditions cannot keep silence. "Modern paganism is preparing for a decisive battle with Christianity," says Dr. Adolf Keller. John C. Bennett, theological seminary professor, affirms: "The forces which have most momentum in our society are pagan forces." A. J. Cronin writes in *The Reader's Digest*: "False gods as evil as the golden calf of old stand upon the altars of the Christian

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The Holy Spirit

by

WILLIAM C. JENSEN

THE first mention in the Bible of the Holy Spirit is in the very beginning, at creation. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." "And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness." Genesis 1:1, 2, 26.

In the first chapter of John we read: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." Verses 1, 14.

In these scriptures we see that God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit collaborated in creation.

Many titles are given to this third Person of the Godhead. In Romans 8:14 He is called the Spirit of God. In Romans 1:4 He is called the Spirit of holiness. In Matthew 1:20 He is called the Holy Ghost. In 1 Peter 1:11 He is called the

"Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Spirit of Christ. In Romans 8:9 He is called both the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God. In John 16:13 He is referred to as the Spirit of truth, while in Hebrews 10:29 He is called the Spirit of grace.

In John 14:26 Jesus promises: "The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." And again: "If ye love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Verses 15-17.

Now the Greek word, from which this word "comforter" is translated, is "paraclete." This is the first instance of its use in the Bible. The word is used five times in the New Testament—four times by Jesus in this discourse to His disciples, and once in 1 John 2:1, where it is translated "advocate," and refers to Christ.

The Spirit a Helper

Much light is thrown on the position and work of the Holy Spirit by a study of this word "paraclete." I will send you another Paraclete, said the Master. And, If any man sin, we have a Paraclete with the Father, said John.

In the Standard Revised Version, although the word "Comforter" is used in John 14:16, the margin reads, "Or, Advocate, or, Helper, Gr. Paraclete."

"Paraclete" is traced back to the two Greek words "*kalein*," which means "to call," and "*para*," which means "beside." "Paraclete," therefore, means one who is called to help another.

Suppose a man is called before a court of justice to answer a charge made against him. He is ignorant of the law, and unable to plead well before the judge. Therefore another is called to help him.

There is no charge against this helper; but he knows the law, and is able to state the case well. The one called to help is the paraclete.

In this case the word "advocate," which means one called to another's aid, corresponds both in etymology and meaning to the Greek word "paraclete," and expresses the function that the paraclete is expected to perform.

Again, say a man is called to do a certain piece of work required of him, which he finds is utterly beyond his power to do alone, and another of greater strength is called to help him. This one called to help is a "paraclete."

A "paraclete" may be called to help as a comforter or by pleading as an advocate, by helping as a fellow worker, or by assisting in some other way according to the needs in the case.

That the Holy Spirit is equal to every occasion is clear from Isaiah 40:13-15: "Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being His counselor hath taught Him? With whom took He counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught Him in the path of judgment, and taught Him knowledge, and showed to Him the way of understanding? Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, He taketh up the isles as a very little thing."

Note further, then, some attributes of the Spirit, as recorded in the Scriptures:

In Romans 8:27 we find that He has a mind: "He that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit."

Revelation 14:13 tells us He speaks: "Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

Romans 8:26 says He prays: "The Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

John 14:26 tells us He teaches: "He shall teach you all things."

2 Peter 1:21 tells us He inspires prophecy: "The prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

1 Corinthians 12:11 tells us He distributes gifts to the members of the church: "But all these [gifts] worketh

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A MASTER KILLER LOOSE

Sinister Forces Unmasked

by

CARLYLE B. HAYNES

THERE is something going on in this world which is not reported in the public press, but which, nevertheless, is the root cause that is poisoning all human relationships, and causing the present world-wide distress.

In spite of the universal desire of all people for peace, there is an unseen agency that is deliberately preventing peace. Notwithstanding the "will to peace" manifested among all the suffering people of the world, there is a stronger "will to war" on the part of secret forces that are controlling and shaping world events.

Every desperate effort toward peace is brought to failure. Nations are feverishly spending more on armies and navies now than ever before. Prophecies of danger and coming doom are heard from every quarter.

Mankind is approaching the point of complete exhaustion under the staggering load of debt and taxes it is made to bear. There are serious-minded, thinking men who realize, and do not hesitate to state, that there is danger that mankind is going to be wiped out, and

not merely disappear in defeat but in the silence of exhaustion.

Many societies still clamor for peace, for disarmament, for limitation of lethal methods. There are many noble-minded statesmen who are working for peace; there is much public agitation for peace.

And it all comes to nothing.

The best minds of humanity are helpless. The church is helpless. There is no lack of a fine idealism, noble purposes, sincere desires; but in every remedy suggested, in every plan proposed, there is a fatal lack, a vitiating principle, an unconsidered factor. And this unconsidered factor is certain to doom each program of peace and reconciliation to failure and defeat.

Something is going on in this world that all men engaged in dealing with this problem of peace have failed to consider. And this is that there is a mighty

combination of unseen agencies who are working intelligently and determinedly for the ruin of the world.

These agencies are more powerful than the combined forces of men. They have been organized into "principalities" and "powers," and have become "the rulers of the darkness of this world;" and they are set upon world destruction and ruin.

There is only one explanation for this inability of mankind to attain his goal of world peace, and that explanation is that the devil is in it.

This is the explanation given by the Bible. These secret forces overthrowing every plan for peace and making for war are described in Revelation 16:14: "They are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." That is the sanest, the most reasonable, and the most completely understandable explanation that can be given of the world situation today. It answers every question.

Plainly there are hidden subtle, super-

human agencies and personalities and intelligences operating on the minds and hearts and judgments of men and stirring up situations that must issue in war. Behind the wars and tumults of earth there is a malignant, malicious, devilish personality plotting the evil for which we blame men, and which evil is threatening the overthrow of all that is finest and best in the life of the race.

There is no other explanation of the folly, the unreason, the suicidal actions of the nations and their leaders today as they persist in their course to make force—the “reeking tube and iron shard,” the deadly gas bomb—the arbiter of disputes instead of righteousness, and justice, and brotherly love.

Whole nations today are picked up and hurled, against their own will, against the will of their people, by a most malignant force, to their doom. Human judgment and reason are against war. Yet war goes steadily on.

There is no human power that can stop it. There is no program of national procedure, no philosophy of national life, that is able to prevent the breaking out of these devastating forces of destruction.

There is evidence all about us, and we see and hear it all the time, that subtle, supernatural, satanic forces are influencing this world to its destruction.

No progress can be made toward disarmament or peace for this world so long as “the spirits of devils, working miracles,” go forth to gather the kings of the earth to battle.

In other words, there is a *master killer* loose in the spiritual realm, and he is bringing all his malice and superhuman power to bear upon the affairs of men. He thwarts their best-laid plans, makes havoc among the nations, is driving the world to its final ruin.

Behind the scenes of this world, the things we can see with our eyes and hear with our ears, behind the news broadcasts and the newspaper reports, there is a powerful personality who is entirely given over to evil and to rebellion against God.

He it is who is behind the persistent and unreasonable actions of men and nations that today are so inevitably leading to another world conflagration of war and hatred in spite of all that world courts and leagues of nations and Christian opinion can do.

World peace hasn't a chance. World war is inevitable. Humanity cannot save itself. It is plunging headlong to the end of its history on this planet. The whole world is rushing on to Armageddon. It does not want to take that course, but it is forced to do so. It has no choice. Unseen agencies have gone forth to the kings of the whole world,

and are gathering the nations to “the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”

Stunned by the malignity and malice of it all, we inquire, Whence this world phenomenon? What men and forces are behind this world unrest? What subtle power is it that has, almost before the world was aware, dynamited the foundations of society and civilization and so promoted the spirit of revolution in the world that governments tremble, not only for their own life, but for the life of every valuable institution of civilization as well?

What strange powers are they that compel whole governments to contribute to the damage and devastation of their own citizens rather than to their joy and peace and well-being? What subtle obsession is it that, so quickly after the former World War, stirs again the nations to racial hatreds, to class conflicts, to ideological cleavages?

What insanity is it that compels the impoverished nations of the world to bleed their people for additional billions of dollars so that it may be all blasted away in the explosions of war, rather than to pay these amounts on their debts and so start the commercial activities of the world again, so that poverty, distress, and despair may be relieved?

There is but one answer. “They are the spirits of devils, working miracles.”

Flashlines

by W. L. EMMERSON

HOW MANY JESUITS? According to the “Irish Jesuit Directory and Year Book” for 1940, the Society has 29,000 members throughout the world today. England has 652, while Ireland has 256.

PARDONABLE APATHY “Dwellers in Utopia are loud in their praises of Mr. Clarence Streit’s proposal in ‘Union Now’” says Percy F. Asher, discussing American opinion on peace aims; but the realists are apathetic toward these blueprints for a new world order. They cannot forget the fate of the League of Nations, of the Paris Peace Pact, and of M. Briand’s idea of a United States of Europe.”

A SIX-YEAR WAR According to the New York Times, the well-known war correspondent H. R. Knickerbocker recently stated that “after six years, or so,” the Allied forces will break through on the Western Front. “A Bolshevik state in Germany will then exist. After that the real war begins. It is my absolute conviction that none of us will ever live to see peace again.”

The only reasonable explanation to the popular and governmental insanity that today rules the world is that which unequivocally attributes the appalling situation of this hour to Satan and Satan-controlled demons, and Satan-inspired men.

This is Satan’s hour. He knows that he has but a short time in which to work; consequently he is working with all power and lying wonders. And his sole purpose is one of devilish malignity, that of world destruction.

The closing period of this world’s history is to be marked by the ascendancy of Satan. This is plainly taught in the word of God.

The accumulated wisdom and knowledge of six thousand years’ experience in leading the human family into sin is being brought to bear by Satan on the last generation of the human race.

And all this is preliminary to the kingdoms of this world becoming the kingdom of our God and His Christ. That is the next great development of modern times. Make no mistake about it.

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providences of God will in the world to come be made plain. The things hard to be understood will then find explanation. The mysteries of grace will unfold before us. Where our finite minds discovered only confusion and broken promises, we shall see the most perfect and beautiful harmony. We shall know that infinite love ordered the experiences that seemed most trying. As we realize the tender care of Him who makes all things work together for our good, we shall rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

“Pain cannot exist in the atmosphere of heaven. In the home of the redeemed, there will be no tears, no funeral trains, no badges of mourning. ‘The inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.’ Isaiah 33:24. One rich tide of happiness will flow and deepen as eternity rolls on. . . .

“We are homeward bound. He who loved us so much as to die for us, hath builded for us a city. The New Jerusalem is our place of rest. There will be no sadness in the city of God. No wail of sorrow, no dirge of crushed hopes and buried affections, will evermore be heard. Soon the garments of heaviness will be changed for the wedding garment. Soon we shall witness the coronation of our King. Those whose lives have been hidden with Christ, those who on this earth have fought the good fight of faith, will shine forth with the Redeemer’s glory in the kingdom of God.”



The LOST HORIZON of RELIGION

How It May Be Found Again



by MERLIN L. NEFF

WITHOUT a positive message for the world in perplexity, the Christian church stands today inconsistent and disillusioned. This is the indictment by the editors of *Fortune*, authoritative magazine of business, in the first issue for 1940. This penetrating challenge comes not from the ministry, but from the laymen. It is a plea for power in the religious institutions of the twentieth century.

Admitting that America owes its rise and progress to the influences of Christianity, the magazine article points out that in the last one hundred years the spiritual leadership of the church has disintegrated. Of the century *Fortune* says: "It cannot be said that this period, characterized by the greatest material progress that man has ever made, is characterized by an equivalent spiritual progress." Materialism has sprung up to gigantic proportions to crowd out the horizon of religious faith.

"As laymen dedicated to the practice of Christianity, we can merely record our certainty that in order for humanity to progress it must *believe*; it must have faith in certain absolute spiritual values, or at least have faith that absolute spiritual values exist," these men of business emphasize. "The church, as teacher and

interpreter of those values, is the guardian of our faith in them. And as laymen we do not feel that faith is being guarded." How tragically true these words are can be ascertained only as one studies the trends of modern Christianity.

Disillusionment in the church after the World War was admitted by a large percentage of clergymen polled in the magazine's questionnaire. Commenting on this postwar condition, the editors write: "Disillusionment, indeed, might be expected of the laity, who had tangible hopes for a better world, which were not fulfilled. But is disillusionment a proper plea for *the church*?"

America must receive a positive message from the church today. "By no conceivable set of circumstances will it be possible to solve by materialism the titanic problems, domestic and international, with which humanity is faced today." Here is an admission by men in secular affairs who see the paramount place for religion in life; but when they turn to the church for spiritual power, they are disappointed. They continue: "We find that the voice of the church is not inspired. . . . This is a profound and absolute spiritual disillusionment, arising from the fact that when we consult

the church we hear only what we ourselves have said."

Why should such a denunciation be written against the Christian church of the twentieth century? What has happened to produce this plea from astute businessmen for leadership in religious principles? The answer comes as we review the Christian church in the last half century.

Foundation Undermined

Trace back through the decades, and you will find a time when the modernist began to proclaim a new doctrine for the church. No longer were the old faiths, the old laws, and the ancient landmarks to be honored. The Bible was ridiculed by the student of higher criticism. Before many years had passed, the "absolute spiritual values" of Protestantism had been lost.

The foundation upon which Protestant churches were established was undermined. During the Reformation, Chillingworth had straitly said, "The Bible, I say, the Bible only, is the religion of Protestants!" At Spire the Protestant princes had taken their stand upon the word of God by declaring, "We are resolved, with the grace of God, to main-





Christ's triumphal entry, His last appeal to Jerusalem, was in vain. Now, as then, those who are determined to reject Him will be brought to judgment.

tain the pure and exclusive preaching of His only word, such as it is contained in the Biblical books of the Old and New Testament, without adding anything thereto that may be contrary to it. This word is the only truth; it is the sure rule of all doctrine and of all life, and can never fail or deceive us."

As long as the Christian churches maintained their belief in the Bible, they had an absolute spiritual standard. But when the Scriptures were regarded as a mere human classic, when the law of God was considered a relic from an age of superstition, what message did the churches have for the world? In like manner the divinity of Jesus Christ was denied, and with this denial went the hope of salvation from sin by a Redeemer.

The church has substituted trivial illusions for the eternal faith that was once the heritage of Protestantism. No wonder the editors of *Fortune* call for a dynamic message today! "The way out is the sound of a voice, not our voice, but a voice coming from something not ourselves, in the existence of which we cannot disbelieve."

There is a Christianity that can answer

the challenge of these business leaders. It is fundamentalism. Instead of doubt, the fundamentalist accepts the Bible as the inspired word of God. There is a voice for human guidance, and it is not from within man, but it is from God. With Paul he can say: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.

Again the fundamentalist finds an absolute standard for life in the law of God as given from Mount Sinai, and as amplified and enlarged through the teachings of the Son of God. The Decalogue has not been improved upon by twentieth-century lawmakers. "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." Psalm 19:7.

Can we blame this modern magazine for declaring the church to be uninspired when it will not accept the inspiration of the Bible or absolute allegiance to the Ten Commandments?

Furthermore, the fundamentalist is not disillusioned in a world of doubt and

perplexity. Our day has been prophetically described as a time when men's hearts are "failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." But the Christian whose faith is in God knows that the promises are certain of fulfillment. Jesus told His disciples to lift up their eyes to the spiritual horizon of life and prepare for the second advent of their Lord. "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:26, 28.

A Sure Promise

Business leaders have declared that human problems are too complex to be solved by materialism. The hand of God must move in the destiny of the world, or it will go down to ruin. As the pagan world in ancient times tottered on the abyss of self-destruction, even so two thousand years later a materialistic age is about to destroy itself. As Jesus Christ came to be the world's Messiah, even so He has promised to return again with "power and great glory." This is the blessed hope of the Christian. His faith is certain, for it is embedded in the prophetic word of the Bible.

No better summation of this challenge has been made than that which appeared in *The Christian Century*. It reads: "These men from the world of business take the church's pretension at its face value and say in effect: 'If you have a word from God, speak it, in God's name, and speak it now! Shout it forth with no uncertain sound so that we, the laity of Western civilization, may hear it. No one else has a saving word for us. The church has so far not given us a word; indeed, it seems to be as much in confusion as we are ourselves. Surely the church has forgotten something, something which belongs to its own genius as the savior and guardian of the soul of civilization. Can you not awake to our plight and show us the way out?'"

The apostle Paul called for the leaders of the church to "preach the word." Looking ahead through prophetic inspiration, he added: "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." 2 Timothy 4:3, 4. Today the fables of modernism are proving to be ashes in the mouths of those who hunger for the Bread of Life.

(Continued on page 11)



What INDIA Owes to Missions

by H. G. WOODWARD

*Superintendent, Telugu Mission
of Seventh-day Adventists*

I WAS sitting in the office of a businessman in one of the large towns of India, and our conversation drifted to the subject of missions. There were only two of us there, and we were on quite friendly terms. In response to my efforts to interest him in missionary work, he turned to me and snapped out: "Why should I have any interest in missionary work? I am under no obligation to help the people of this country."

To this frank statement, I replied: "Friend, I think you are wrong there. I do not believe that there is an intelligent man in any uncivilized land who will not acknowledge that he is indebted to the work of Christian missions. Why, you sit here today surrounded by a measure of comfort and with no fear of molestation because, long days ago, a man with an impelling motive left his homeland and came to the shores of your native Scotland. All the peace, all the culture, all the contentment, you enjoy can be traced back to that fact."

After a thoughtful pause, he replied: "Well, Woodward, I guess you are right."

The trouble with most of us is that we take for granted the comforts with which we are surrounded, and give little consideration to what would have been our plight had not pity for the condition of our ancestors induced someone to carry to them the blessings of the gospel.

A story is told of a world tourist who one time visited an island in the South Seas. He was a man of education and erudition, and thought himself in a position to speak with authority. Meeting a Christian chief one day, he felt an impulse to pass on to him his modernistic ideas. It so happened that the chief was on his way home from church, and carried a Bible under his arm. Here was the very opportunity the tourist was seeking; and, as the chief had received his education in a mission school, he was able to reply in English to the questions put to him.

Said the stranger: "I see that you carry

a Bible under your arm. We in the West have outgrown that. Times have changed, and I advise you to be rid of such out-of-date superstition."

This was too much for the Christian chief. Pointing to a large boulder, not far away, he responded with some spirit: "It is a good thing that you did not persuade my ancestors years ago that this Book and its teachings were out of date. See that stone? That is where you would have been done to death. Do not come here telling us those things. Find some savage island where the message of this Book has not gone, and see how the inhabitants will treat you."

The Missionary a Pioneer

The impelling force of the gospel is such that it knows no national or geographic boundaries, and has spread from continent to continent and from island to island, carrying with it an uplifting power and a culture that can be matched by no other religion. In the spirit of contempt it has been said of missions: "First the missionary, then the trader, then the soldier." This is but a half-truth, for the missionary is a messenger of peace. It is true, however, that in the wake of the missionary follow

trade and the introduction of all that is worth while. Even the non-Christian would recognize the fact that the Christian mission exerts a force unknown in secular enterprises.

Some years ago a petty raja in India desired to give his people the benefits of modern medical science. He made a beginning, but soon found that he was attempting something he couldn't carry through. There was no difficulty in obtaining fully qualified nurses and doctors—securing a capable staff was easy. But to make such a proposition a success he needed that mysterious something which accounts for the phenomenal success of foreign missions. The result was that he was glad to hand over his hospital to a missionary society; and in its hands the project is a success.

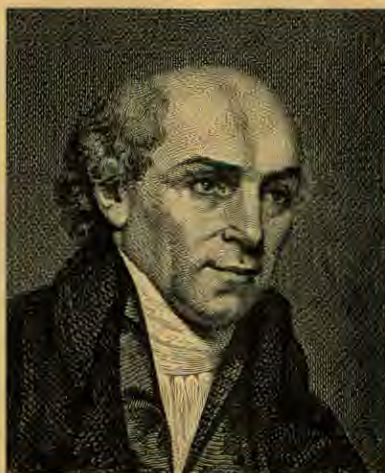
In the reception room of a large medical missionary institution some time ago, I fell into conversation with a wealthy and cultured Indian woman who was a paying guest there. "I cannot account for the splendid attitude of the staff here," she said, "their service seems to be a joy to them." Knowing as I did the inner working of that institution, I was able to inform her that the spirit of wholehearted service resulted from the fact that the institution was under the control of Christians.

Dr. E. Stanley Jones tells of visiting a home for unwanted Indian children in one of the large cities of India. Knowing how foreign was such an attitude in an orthodox Hindu, he expressed his surprise to the Brahman superintendent that he should be engaged in such work.

"Sir," replied the Brahman, "I learned to do this from the teaching of Him who said, 'Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.'"

Not so long ago a raja determined to have within his domain a perfect model village. The cottages in which the people lived, the manner in which the crops were cultivated, the way in which the

William Carey, father of modern missions.



cattle were fed and cared for, were matters in which he manifested a personal interest. It was not long, however, before he felt that he needed help in sustaining his pet hobby. For such help he sent his prime minister to a Christian mission, and one of my friends was designated to visit the place and interview the gentleman.

Seeing that everything was in such splendid order, my friend expressed astonishment that, with so good a start, the raja felt compelled to seek assistance from the missionaries. The prime minister replied: "Well, you see, it is like this. We can erect buildings and establish new rules, and offer prizes to our people for cleanliness and tidiness; but we cannot do more. We seem to lack that something which the missionary has."

The Gaekwar of Baroda evidently felt very much the same when he stated that he was thinking of calling the missionaries together to ask their advice as to how best to improve the quality of his native priesthood. "Look at the missionaries," he said to the priests; "see the sacrifices they are making to help my people. You ought to go out and do the same kind of work."

Thus it is that people in all walks of life admit that from the Christian mission radiates spiritual, moral, and educational uplift.

The beneficent work of missions in the East was seen quite early in its establishment. The overthrow of the self-immolation of widows in India, known as suttee, was the direct result of the work of the father of modern missions, William Carey. Long did he cry out against it to the people and preach against it in the pulpit. The East India Company, the governing body at that time in Bengal, declined to interest itself in such matters.

At last the efforts of the noble missionary prevailed; and, as the official interpreter of the company, he was called upon to translate the new regulation into the vernacular of the people. Carey received the document just as he was about to prepare his sermon for Sunday. "Someone else must preach the sermon," he cried; "I have something far more important here. If I should delay this translation even one day, who can tell how many poor women will go to a terrible death?" What a debt do the women of India owe to missions!

While it is true that illiteracy in India is only too common, it must not be forgotten that colleges and high schools are in every town and city. Calcutta has the highest enrollment of college students of any city in the world. At the present time, it seems that there is a great renaissance sweeping over the whole land.

It is not only the upper castes, but also the so-called "untouchables," who are passionately availing themselves of the facilities that a beneficent government and some of the more enlightened of the Indian rulers are making available. The low-caste youth—boy or girl—who has the mental ability can obtain a college degree at no cost to himself.

How did this come about? The answer is to be found in the fact that a young Scotsman, named Alexander Duff, came to India as a Christian educational missionary more than one hundred years ago. Western education in India is the direct result of missions. Even the very name for "school" in some of the vernaculars is, "a lean-to by a church."

And what can be said of modern medicine in the East? The many thousand government and mission hospitals are the offspring of the first hospital that

dispensed Western medicine, opened a century ago by Dr. John Scudder. Even today descendants of this man of God, and bearing the same name, are carrying on the same noble work for India.

The debt that India owes to missions is greater than she will ever be able to comprehend. In the words of John Lawrence, one-time governor general of India, "the missionaries have done more to benefit India than all other agencies combined."

The Lost Horizon

(Continued from page 9)

The message of the church in America has been humanistic, social, and philosophical; but it has lacked spiritual power. It has not presented the voice of God in the inspired Holy Writ.

In answering the editors of *Fortune*, we who believe in the fundamentals of Protestantism can declare: First, all the Christian churches have not failed to preach a positive message. The men and women who hold fast to the inspiration of all the Bible have an absolute spiritual standard. Second, fundamentalist leaders have preached and shall continue to teach and to preach the word. The prophecies and doctrines of the Bible have been written "for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." 1 Corinthians 10:11. The wider horizon of truth can be found in the light of God's word. Third, the Christian whose faith rests in the message of God does not know disillusionment or doubt. He looks from a chaotic world to the city of God that has foundations, "whose builder and maker is God." Finally, the church that maintains faith in the word and in obedience to the law of God points to Jesus Christ as the only Saviour. "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

The eternal quest for spiritual values cannot be satisfied with human philosophy, with business enterprise, with a social gospel, or with blatant materialism. The demand is for absolute spiritual values outside of humanity. For decades the majority of the Protestant church has been groping in doubt. The chart and compass that was the guide of the apostolic church and of the Reformation church has been cast aside.

Shall we not pledge anew our faith in the word of God? Shall we not take its truths into our minds and know the doctrines that shall build faith and character in our souls? With humility of heart let us take courage in the light that shines from the cross of Christ to illuminate every page of the Scriptures. Let this be our answer to those who have lost the horizon of faith.



NEWSGRAMS

by BENJAMIN MAXSON

NOTES AND QUOTES FROM FAR AND NEAR

Cultural Lag in U. S. Of present-day America, the report "Religion and Children in a Democracy" makes this analysis: "In scientific discovery, technology, and material achievements there has been phenomenal progress, but in appreciation and achievement of values—in art, morals, and religion—there is a great cultural lag."

Wartime Needs In time of war the armed forces of the U. S. A. will need some 600,000 items that must be supplied by industry. Most of these are things that are produced in time of peace, but 7,300 are of such importance that special arrangements will be made to see that the army has a sufficient supply.

World's Industrial Arsenal

A recent issue of *United States News* declares that "war business today has reached such volume that in some armament industries—airplanes and explosives—the Government is taking steps to allocate production." In spite of our avowed concern for the peace of the world, "the United States has become the industrial arsenal of a world largely concerned with fighting." This is easily substantiated when it is discovered that in December the largest dollar volume of exports since March, 1930, was shipped from American ports, and the prospects for further increases are very bright. Therein lies food for thought. Are we, or are we not, concerned with peace, except in our own back yard?

The Counterfeit Memorial

by

MURL VANCE

Fifth in a Series Tracing the Rise of Many Un-Biblical Doctrines and Practices Still Held by Christian Churches.

EVERY student of the Scriptures is acquainted with the memorial God set aside to commemorate His work as creator. The record of the memorial of creation is found first in Genesis 2:1-3. "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made."

So necessary did the Creator feel this day to be for the physical and spiritual good of the human race that at the time when His instructions were put in writing—when Moses led the children of Israel out of Canaan—the command for this memorial was, along with the rest of the Ten Commandments, both spoken and written by the Creator Himself. It is set forth in Exodus 20:8-11: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Lucifer made an immediate attack upon this memorial, substituting for it a day that still bears the pagan name given to it by the Babylonians. Turning to the 1928 edition of Webster's New International Dictionary, we read: "Sunday—so called because this day was anciently dedicated to the sun or to its worship." Dedicated by whom, and how anciently? we at once ask. When we go to the encyclopedia to find out

who named the days of the week as we have them today, we find that, just as we expected, the ancient Babylonians named this day, and dedicated it to the sun. But we learned in the first article of this series that the sun was only a symbol, the real being who was worshiped being Lucifer himself. When we find the sun-god pictured with horns, hoofs, a tail, and a pitchfork, being addressed in worship as "the evil one," "the destroyer," and "the great dragon," we need have no doubt as to who it is that is being worshiped.

Other historians also add their support as to the source of the day of the sun. Salomon Reinach, the French historian, declares in his "Orpheus, a History of Religions," English translation, page 39: "In their calendar, the Babylonians distinguished between propitious and un-

propitious, working and nonworking days. Among the latter, it is believed, were the first days of every septet, to the number of four per lunar month. This constituted the Babylonian Shabbatum, analogous to the Biblical Sabbath."

The Century Dictionary and Encyclopedia declares, under the article "Sunday": "The name Sunday or 'day of the sun' belongs to the first day of the week on astrological grounds, and has long been so used, from far beyond the Christian Era, and far outside Christian countries."

Day Dedicated to the Sun

The best possible source for deciding this matter permanently, however, would be a Babylonian temple text in which the first day of the week is specifically dedicated to the sun. Such a temple text, translated in detail on pages 71-75 of Sayce's "The Religion of the Ancient Babylonians," lists each day of the week for an entire month. On this temple text we read:

"1st day. Dedicated to Anu and Bel [both sun-gods]. A day of good luck. . . . He shall make his freewill offering to the sun, the mistress of the world. . . . He offers sacrifices. The lifting up of his hand finds favor with the god."

"8th day. The feast of Nebo [identified by scholars as being another manifestation of the sun-god]."

"15th day. Sacred to the Sun, the Lady of the House of Heaven."

"22nd day. Festival of the Sun, the mistress of the palace."

"29th day. The day of the resting of the moon-god. The day when the spirits of heaven and earth are adored." (The moon—as also the planets—was considered as an emanation of the sun. The Babylonians had but one god, declares Sayce on page 268 of the book quoted above.)

In Mithraism, the name by which Babylonian sun worship was known in Persia, and later in Europe, Sunday, the first day of the week, was the weekly holyday for centuries preceding Christ. Likewise in Buddhism the first and fifteenth days of each month are sacred, many Buddhists keeping the intermedi-

Constantine the Great



ate Sundays also, according to Charles Allen Clark in "Religions of Old Korea," page 75.

The pagan origin of the sun-day is generally recognized, though seldom spoken of, by the leading scholars of the church. Declares Cardinal Gibbons: "You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify."—"The Faith of Our Fathers," page 111. Baltimore: John Murphy & Co., 1893.

Bernard Conway of the Paulist Fathers, in his "Question Box," page 179, gives a similar testimony: "If the Bible is the only guide for the Christian, the Seventh-day Adventist is right in observing Saturday."

Going With the Crowd

I once asked the man at the head of the Bible Department in a Midwestern denominational college the reason for the existence of two weekly days of worship in the Christian church. The doctor replied: "I am surprised that Protestants did not start keeping the seventh day of the week when they broke away from Catholicism. We all know that Sunday is not the Bible Sabbath, and we know who changed the day. But everybody else keeps Sunday, so I am going to do the same."

In the *Sunday School Advocate* for Dec. 31, 1921, we read: "In the very long ago the people of the world began to give names to everything, and they turned the sounds of lips into words so that the lips could speak a thought. In those days the people worshiped the sun because it was kind to them and gave them heat and light. By and by, after many words were made to tell of many thoughts about many things, the people became Christians and were ruled by an emperor whose name was Constantine. This emperor made Sunday the Christian Sabbath, because of the blessing of light and heat which came from the sun. So our Sunday is a sun-day, isn't it?"

The Catholic Church, to whom Protestants are indebted for their sun-day, frankly admits the pagan origin of many of the church's holydays, but claims the power to sanctify these products of paganism. Cardinal Newman declares: "It is not necessary to go into a subject which the diligence of Protestant writers has made familiar to most of us. The use of temples, and these dedicated to particular saints; . . . holy water; asylums; holy days and seasons, use of calendars, processions, . . . are all of pagan origin, and sanctified by their adoption into the church."—"Development of Christian

Doctrine," page 373. London: Longmans, Green, & Co., 1906.

Without questioning the sincerity of the church's leaders, most surely every Christian has strong reason to question the power of any human being, or of any group of human beings, to sanctify or to make anything holy, least of all the day set aside by the master counterfeiter as a memorial of his power and authority, "the venerable day of the sun" established by the worshipers of the great serpent in ancient Babylon. Since the sun-day has been established upon human, not upon divine authority, and since we are told in Matthew 15:13 that "every plant which My heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up," surely the seeker for truth will do well to search the Scriptures for light on this question.

The commonly accepted belief that Sunday was set aside by divine command or example as a day commemorative of the resurrection of Christ has no Biblical foundation. Christ was crucified on Friday, the sixth day of the week; He rested in the grave on the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week; and He arose to resume His duties on Sunday, the first day of the week. And, although the greatest and most frequently referred to event in all history—the vicarious sacrifice of Christ, His death that the sinner might not have to die—occurred on Friday, still it seems never to have entered the mind of the Christian church to set aside the sixth day of the week as a weekly day of rest.

The Christian church regards two weekly days of rest, Sunday and the Sabbath. One of these days must be a counterfeit, the other must be God's holyday of worship and rest. One, as we have seen, originated among the devil worshipers of ancient Babylon, and entered the Christian church by way of Mithraism; for we find that Constantine was an ardent votary of this branch of demon worship before his so-called "conversion." We also find that the next day

after he passed his law calling for men to revere "the venerable day of the sun," he passed another law regulating the manner of cutting animals open and examining their entrails to foretell the future. Also, after his "conversion," he murdered his wife, and also his son, who he thought was becoming too popular with the army, his crimes finally raising such a stench in Rome that it appears that this "Christian" emperor, who passed the first law setting aside Sunday as a holyday, had to flee to a new capital, which he built and named after himself—Constantinople.

Christ's and Paul's Example

The Sabbath, on the other hand, has the authority of the entire Bible behind it. It was established by God at creation (Genesis 2:1-3); it is commanded in the Decalogue (Exodus 20:8-11); it is the sign by which one may know that he is a child of God (Ezekiel 20:12, 20); and it is to continue to be God's holyday even after the destruction of sin and the establishing of the new earth (Isaiah 66:22, 23).

In Luke 4:16 we read that it was the "custom" of Christ, our example, to worship upon the Sabbath day; in Acts 17:2 we read that it was the "manner" of Paul to do likewise. The nearest suggestion that can be accepted in favor of the first day is found in 1 Corinthians 16:2, regarding the gathering of money, food, and clothing for the poor at Jerusalem, a collection that was to be laid aside "by one's self, at home," as reads the Greek. Since on his previous visit of a year and a half to Corinth Paul was found worshipping in the synagogue "every Sabbath" (Acts 18:4, 11), it would indeed be inconsistent for him now to ask the Corinthians in his letter to them to start holding religious gatherings on the first day of the week, as some people claim he did.

In the very last book of the Bible we



COMING NEXT WEEK

in addition to the regular features:

Power!	G. G. Lowry
Christ Is Coming	Ernest Lloyd
Spiritual Darkness Spreading	Leon A. Smith
With the Master on the Mountainside	Leonora Lacey Warriner
Is World Disaster Inevitable?	Carlyle B. Haynes
The Book That Lives Forever	Merlin L. Neff
What Women Owe to Missions	H. G. Woodward
Counterfeit Baptism	Murl Vance
Beauty for Ashes	Inez Brasier

find the "saints" described as those who "keep the commandments of God." Revelation 14:12. One of those commandments requires the keeping holy of the seventh day of the week. Furthermore, Christ specifically claims this day as His holyday, for it was the Son who made all things, according to John 1:1-12; and in Matthew 12:8 He declares, "The Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day."

The Sabbath is, then, Christ's memorial of creation, His holyday. We have our choice between the Sabbath of the Scriptures and the rest day of Babylonian devil worshipers. Knowing the source of the latter, shall we not do well to heed the injunction found in Revelation 18:4, "Come out of her [Babylon], My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues"?

The Impending Conflict

(Continued from page 4)

people. Paganism bestrides the modern earth." "The whole aspect of Western culture, in its political, economic, intellectual, and ethical aspects," says *The Christian Century*, "is seen as ruled by ideologies which have no affinity with the Christian faith." Testimony of this kind might be cited at great length.

A Call to True Worship

The issue will be drawn between the worship of false gods and the worship of the true God. This is clearly stated in the language of the final gospel message to mankind, which is now going to all nations and peoples. It says: "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." With this comes the announcement of the fall of modern Babylon, and then the warning: "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." Revelation 14:6-10.

The issue in the final conflict is between true worship and false worship; between the worship of the Maker of heaven and earth, and the worship of "the beast and his image."

The distinguishing mark of the true God is His possession of creative power—power to bring something out of nothing by His spoken word. "Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him," the psalmist says; for "by the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all

the host of them by the breath of His mouth." Psalm 33:8, 6.

The Creator established and gave to mankind at the end of creation week a memorial of His eternal power and Godhead. He rested on the seventh day of that week, blessed that day, and sanctified it. He commanded it to be kept holy; "for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20:8-11. By keeping the seventh day of the week holy, in the manner God has commanded, men know and testify that they are worshipers of the true God, the Creator. Had all the descendants of Adam kept this day holy, the world would have been spared the fearful blight and curse of idolatry.

It is around Sabbath observance, therefore, that the final conflict will be waged. All the forces of paganism will be directed against the creation Sabbath and those who adhere to it, to sweep it and them, if possible, out of existence. As paganism contains counterfeits of the essential doctrines and institutions of Christianity, it has a false sabbath that it puts forward in place of the true Sabbath, the memorial of the creation. This false sabbath is, naturally, a day dedicated to the chief deity of paganism, which is the sun. Paganism has always exalted the observance of the day of the sun.

The worship of the true God will be marked by the observance of the creation Sabbath; while the worship of "the beast and his image" will be marked by the observance of the pagan sabbath, the day of the sun. Observers of the pagan sabbath who believe it to be the Christian Sabbath are not now worshipers of the "beast," but in the final conflict the issue will be clearly drawn, and all will take their stand intelligently.

A determined effort will be made to compel the worshipers of the true God to bow down to the pagan deity. As stated in Revelation 13:14-17, a mark,

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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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J. R. FERREN, Circulation Manager.

or sign, of allegiance to the false god of paganism will be forced upon all who can be intimidated by the "beast" power; and it will be decreed that all who refuse to do homage to the "beast" shall be killed.

The conflict will be sharp, but it will also be brief. God will arise to vindicate His insulted name and authority. The career of the "beast" power and all the nations dominated by paganism will be terminated in the manner described in Revelation 19. The prophet saw "the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse, and against His army;" with the result that "the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him [see Revelation 13:12-14], with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of Him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of His mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh." Revelation 19:19-21.

On the other hand, the prophet saw "them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass," singing the song of victory. Revelation 15:2-4.

The Holy Spirit

(Continued from page 5)

that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will."

Acts 13:4 tells us He has the prerogative to send men: "They, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia."

Acts 8:39, 40 says that He has the power to transport men: "The Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip. . . . Philip was found at Azotus."

1 Corinthians 2:10 tells us He has access to God, and reveals the deep things of God: "God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."

1 Peter 3:18 tells us that the Holy Spirit is the one who resurrected the Lord Jesus from the tomb. "Christ, . . . being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit."

Ephesians 4:30 tells us that He is the one who seals men for eternity. "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

Recapitulating, we find that this mighty Holy Spirit has a name and a mind. He speaks, He prays, He teaches, He witnesses, He inspires prophecy, He distributes gifts, He has the prerogative to send men or to transport them where He will. He has access to God, and reveals to us the deep things of God. He is the one who raised Jesus from the tomb; and He is the one who seals men for eternity.

In Harmony With God's Will

As these wonderful truths begin to unfold before our eyes, we praise the Lord for the great and merciful provision He made when He said to His disciples: "If ye love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever." John 14:15, 16.

Dear friend, as I appeal to your heart, may I ask the question: Have you personally met the conditions of the reception of this wonderful Holy Spirit?

You say, What are the conditions? They are simply the keeping of God's commandments. Will you not, therefore, begin today to walk in harmony with the will of God, that this Comforter may be with you in sunshine and darkness, in joy and sorrow, in trials, temptations, and times of fear?

Two little girls were riding along in a train, in the seat just behind their father. They were laughing and prattling as they sped along, when all of a sudden the train plunged into a tunnel. The little girls, never having passed through a tunnel before, stopped laughing immediately, and the father, in the seat ahead, felt four little hands stealing over his shoulders, and soon met them with his own strong, assuring, comforting hands. And while the darkness continued, the girls were not afraid, as their hands were now in the strong hands of their father.

Just so every trusting child of God has beside him the mighty Holy Spirit, into whose care he can trust himself utterly in every time of need.



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GALLOWAY

THE LIGHTED CANDLE

by GRENVILLE KLEISER

THERE is charm, romance, almost mystery, about a lighted candle. Somehow it seems symbolic, suggestive, as more modern illuminants are not. It carries with it a wealth of association, calling up, half-unconsciously, ideas of past scenes of beauty, romance, or homely comfort.

Even today, what associations come crowding into the mind when we chance to see the glimmer of a lighted candle behind the windows of a remote cottage! What ideas are born in our minds by the sight of tall tapers set among the roses and ferns of a well-decorated room!

It is for this reason that the symbol of the lighted candle is appropriate when we speak of thought as an illumination.

When, in the lovely moonlight scene of "The Merchant of Venice," Portia sees the gleam of a lighted candle, its symbolism immediately springs to her mind, and she exclaims: "How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world." We might say: So shines a bright thought in a dreary world.

Just as the lighted candle, small enough light in itself, may illumine a rough path or enhance the beauty of massed flowers, so a thought, not startling perhaps in itself, may guide the reader to a train of new ideas, or give added beauty to an already conceived vision.

The candle gleaming in the distant window serves both as a guide and as a consolation to the wanderer. A kindly, loving thought may serve to guide one now straying, and give a touch of consolation to one lost in a maze of difficulty or doubt.

Who that has ever had the experience of the sight of a steady flame, burning, like loyal affection, across a waste of land or sea, can ever forget the responsive glow that springs up in the heart of the beholder? He feels that it is a personal message. "That speaks to *me!*" he thinks.

There are times when an idea strikes with the same personal, intimate force. Sometimes, when we are depressed or worried or ill at ease, when we feel alone in a different world, we come across a thought, a beautiful promise in the Bible, perchance, which strikes home with just that same personal appeal. We feel a sense of reassurance, of welcome, of affection even, and we say to ourselves, "That is meant for *me!*"

The lonely traveler does not despise the brave little light that gleams over the stretch of water or land. He does not say sneeringly, "Only a candle!" and dismiss it as useless because it is not an arc lamp.

And a lonely traveler through life will not despise a thought for being a simple one so long as it brings him that sense of comfort and friendship which means so much to the lonely.

Often the humble candle shows things in a truer and kindlier light than does the great blaze of arc lamps. So, too, the simple thought from the word of God, couched in homely language all may readily understand, may have a stronger appeal, and may mean more, to the ordinary man than does the blaze of great original genius couched in scientific or metaphysical phraseology. It may lead the traveler by a humble path to a haven of rest, peace, and security.