

# SIGNS *of the* TIMES

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WORLD EVENTS IN THE  
LIGHT OF PROPHECY

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“THE connection of the visible with the invisible world, the ministration of angels of God, and the agency of evil spirits, are plainly revealed in the Scriptures, and inseparably interwoven with human history.

“We are informed in Scripture as to the number, and the power and glory, of the heavenly beings, of their connection with the government of God, and also of their relation to the work of redemption. Says the prophet, ‘I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne.’ In the presence-chamber of the King of kings they wait—‘angels that excel in strength,’ ‘ministers of His, that do His pleasure,’ ‘hearkening unto the voice of His Word.’ Ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands, were the heavenly messengers beheld by the prophet Daniel. The Apostle Paul declared them ‘an innumerable company.’ As God’s messengers they go forth, like ‘the appearance of a flash of lightning,’ so dazzling their glory, and so swift their flight.”

## Who Are the Angels?

★ J. L. SHULER

THERE is real help and comfort, assurance and encouragement, for every soul, in the Scriptural doctrine of angels. Angels are mentioned two hundred and eighty-five times in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Hence this is one of those important truths that every Christian needs to understand and accept.

Angels are not the spirits of the departed righteous dead. The angels were in existence before the first person ever died. The idea quite generally prevails that every good person who dies becomes an angel. Many a

mother has sung her little babe to sleep with the nursery rhyme,

“Hush, hush, little baby, don’t you cry;  
You’ll be an angel by and by.”

This sounds well, and rhymes nicely, but it is not according to the Scriptures of truth. Anybody can see with just a moment’s thought, that if the angels are the spirits of the departed righteous dead, there would not and could not have been any angels in existence till the first good person died. But the Word of God shows that the angels were in existence before anybody died. In

the very beginning, when the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve, were expelled from the garden of Eden because of disobedience, angels from one of those angelic orders known as “cherubim” were stationed at the east of the garden of Eden to guard the way of the tree of life.

Thus it is written: “Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim, and a flaming sword which



turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." Gen. 3: 23, 24.

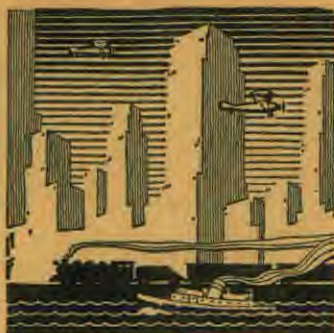
Scripture shows that the angels were in existence even before this world was made and the first man was brought into existence. In speaking of the creation of man, the Psalmist says: "Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels." Ps. 8: 5. This shows that the angels were in existence before Adam, the first man, was created, and that the angels are a different order of beings from man. No human being ever has become an angel, and none ever will. In Luke 20: 35, 36, Jesus tells us that when the redeemed of earth are taken to heaven at the resurrection day, they will be made equal unto the angels, in that they will never die any more, but He does not say that they will be angels, or that they will take the place of angels.

We learn in Job 38: 3-7 that the angels were present at the creation of this world. When the Creator laid the foundations of the earth, and fitted up this planet as a habitation for man, "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." In the symbolism of the Bible, angels are often referred to as stars. Even today people speak of outstanding personages as stars. When the angels saw that mighty exhibition of God's wisdom, love, and power in the creation of this world, their hearts burst forth in an adoring song of praise to their Creator. "The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy."

#### ORIGIN OF THE ANGELS

SOME will ask, "If angels are not the spirits of the departed righteous dead, where did the angels come from?" Our answer is that the Bible shows that the angels are an order of created beings created by Christ, the eternal Son of God, before He made this world and placed the first man in it. The Apostle Paul, in speaking directly of Christ as the One "in whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins," declares, "By Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible." Col. 1: 14-16.

In speaking of Lucifer, who prior to his rebellion was one of the highest of the angels, one of the covering cherubs of the throne of the Almighty, the Lord declared: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." Eze. 28: 15. Note that Lucifer was created by the Lord. As with Lucifer, so with all the rest of the angels. They were brought into existence by creation at the word of God.



#### ANGELS REAL BEINGS

ANGELS are called spirits (Heb. 1: 7), but that does not mean that they are disembodied creatures without form or parts, but rather that they are spiritual beings. They have spiritual bodies. Paul tells us that there is a natural body and a spiritual body. 1 Cor. 15: 44. We who live in this present world have natural bodies. The angels have spiritual bodies. All the human family who are finally saved will be made equal to the angels, in that they will be given spiritual bodies at the resurrection day.

While this spiritual body is of an infinitely higher order than our present natural bodies, yet it is as real a body as the one we have now. Angels are not disembodied spirits, or incorporeal phantoms. They are not imaginary beings like fairies. Angels do not consist of beautiful thoughts. They are real tangible beings—just as real as any man or woman who walks the earth today.

In Gen. 18: 1-8 and 19: 1-3, is recorded the visit of two certain angels to Abraham in his tent on the plains of Mamre, and later to Lot in his work at Sodom. The record shows that these angels were as real as any person who has ever come to your house to eat dinner with you. In the case of Abraham, the angels washed their feet and then ate a dinner of roast veal, corn bread, butter, and milk. We may be certain that anyone who can sit down at our dinner table and eat veal and corn bread and drink milk is not some imaginary spirit, or phantom, or merely a happy passing thought, but on the contrary he must be as real a being as we are. In talking about the cherub angels, the Scripture speaks of "their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings." Eze. 10: 12. This proves that angels have real bodies.

Some will say, "If the angels have real bodies, and they still come to this world as in Bible times, why don't we see them or hear them?" It is because they have power to make themselves visible and invisible at will. Num. 22: 22-31.

#### MODERN SCIENCE

SINCE modern science is now daily accomplishing miracles, things that were considered impossible fifty years ago, it is really unwise for any man to rule out as impossible the existence of millions of angels in the unseen realms of the spirit world, or the many other supernatural things of which the Bible speaks, merely because those things strain his imagination or are beyond the power of his natural eyesight.

The scientist tells me that the head of a common pin is a universe, and that inside it millions of atoms move in regular cycles, like the planets in our solar system. Some scientists claim that it would take 25,000 years to count the atoms in the head of a pin. To me that is inconceivable; it transcends the powers of my imagination. But we do not reject the scientist's statement as untrue merely because we find great difficulty in imagining it.

We do not deny that the air all around us is filled with music, even though our ears cannot hear it without the aid of a radio set. We do not deny that there are countless red corpuscles in a tiny speck of blood the size of a pinhead, even though our eye cannot see them without the aid of a microscope. We do not deny that the stars of heaven are innumerable, merely because without a telescope our unassisted eye can see only a few thousand. On the same basis, no man ought to attempt to rule out as impossible the existence of angels, or the many other supernatural things of the Bible, merely because they appear impossible or are beyond the power of his natural eyesight.

You cannot be guided altogether by the appearances of things in this world. You dip water from a brook and remark how clear it is. You observe the bark of a tree and think it smooth. Yet a powerful microscope shows that each drop of water is swarming with animal life in a jungle of vegetation, and it reveals mountains and valleys on the smoothest bark.

While you are reading this article you may think you are sitting still, but in reality you are travelling at the rate of hundreds of miles a minute. The earth rotates at the rate of twenty miles a minute. It revolves around the sun at the rate of 1,140 miles a minute. Our solar system is travelling toward the constellation Lyra at the rate of 720 miles a minute.

#### THE UNSEEN WORLD

If the limitations imposed upon our eyes in these natural bodies could be removed, and the curtain drawn back, we would see Jacob's dream of



the bright, shining ladder of ascending and descending angels as something that is going on every day. The angels of God are the connecting link between the visible and invisible worlds. Angels are ascending to present the cries of God's needy children to the great Father above, and other angels are descending with help, hope, and comfort from our Father to those who put their trust in Him.

When God opened the young man's eyes, as recorded in 2 Kings 6: 15-17, he was able to see the angels who were guarding him and Elisha. But the angels were there before he was able to see them. They were present when he could not see them, just the same as when he was given additional seeing power to behold them in all their glory.

Angels with their spiritual bodies have powers that far exceed anything that man can even think of doing. In Rev. 18: 21 an angel had power to pick up a mighty millstone and hurl it into the sea as a boy would hurl a small pebble. Probably a half dozen men could not have moved that millstone even a foot, to say nothing of tossing it about.

Men have dreamed of death rays to slay thousands in an instant, but in Isa. 37: 36 we learn that one angel had power to breathe death to 186,000 Assyrian soldiers in one night.

Angels have power to move faster than the lightning (Eze. 1: 14), which travels at the speed of 186,000 miles a second, or eleven million miles a minute. Such are some of the powers of these angels that excel in strength, who have been assigned by our Father to watch over His children, to minister to their needs, and to defend them from the adversary.

But while one angel can do so much for weak human beings, God is not limited by what one angel can do. Myriads wait to do His bidding. Daniel in vision saw the throne, with the Ancient of Days seated upon it. And he adds, "Thousand thousands ministered unto Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him." Dan. 7: 10. And John in the Revelation tells us, "I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne: . . . and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands." Rev. 5: 11.

And this immense throng of heavenly beings is intensely interested in the welfare of the dwellers on this earth. Many of them have been assigned responsibilities in connection with human beings, and they wait to carry out the Lord's wishes in regard to this earth. May they ever be our helpers, and not the emissaries of punishment for an offended God in our case.



## When War Was Near

**H**ERE in Australia and New Zealand we live far removed by broad, rolling seas and wide continents from the scenes of momentous happenings in Europe. We read the news day by day in the local newspapers, but it is often necessary to read the newspapers published abroad to be brought, as it were, a little closer to the throbbing pulse of life in Europe.

In one of the English weekly papers we read the following concerning the anxious days when England was preparing for the threatened war, which happily was averted:—

"Already we have had some memorable days. It was with astound indeed that one heard the public crier in a quiet square summoning the householders to set out at once and have themselves measured for their gas-masks!

"It was a moving thing to see men making deep furrows in our lovely London parks, where on any fine afternoon of the year the children from the poorest parts of the city play without restriction, as though

these lovely fields and flowers were their own—as indeed they are.

"Most affecting, however, to ourselves it was to stand in a long queue with others waiting to be measured for our gas-masks. There they were, old men and women, husbands and wives, who had survived the earlier war, bestirring themselves to do what the authorities asked them to do.

"The quite obvious good feeling of the younger people to such elderly ones; the quiet behaviour of younger couples, waiting arm in arm, not without a certain moisture in their eyes, which, if they had spoken, might have overflowed; the quick and dainty young girls on their way back from business; the young men glad almost of the opportunity to show by small acts of assistance or concession, that gallantry might be a deeper thing than they had supposed: these were amongst the impressions and incidents which disposed an observer to lift up his heart or to let it down in sudden grief."

These words help to make more realistic to us the experience of Lon-



Sport & General Photo

The crowd in Whitehall, London, at night, during the recent international crisis, when war came so perilously near. The Cenotaph is in the background.



donors during the trying and anxious days mentioned. It is indeed a mercy that war was restrained. Had it occurred, Great Britain and the Empire would now be engulfed in a struggle for very life—in a life-and-death grapple that would be threatening civilization itself. Had war occurred, the lives of hundreds of thousands of people now living would have been lost, and leading towns of all the belligerent countries would have shown ghastly evidences of the deadly work of bombs.

The tragic and sorrowful scenes that always follow on the outbreak of war have perhaps never been more rhetorically and touchingly described than by an American orator, in speaking of his own country's terrible Civil War in the early sixties of last century. Speaking of the recruits as they left their homes and loved ones for the grim and dreadful scenes of the battlefield, he said:—

"We see them part with those they love. Some are walking for the last time in quiet woody places with the maidens they adore. We hear the whisperings and the sweet vows of eternal love as they lingeringly part for ever. Others are bending over cradles, kissing babes that are asleep. Some are receiving the blessings of old men. Some are parting with mothers, who hold them and press them to their hearts again and again, and say nothing; and some are talking with wives, and endeavouring with brave words spoken in the old tones to drive from the hearts the awful fear. We see them part. We see the wife standing in the door with the babe in her arms—standing in the sunlight sobbing; at the turn of the road a hand waves; she answers by holding high in her loving hands the child. He is gone, and for ever."

Thank God that His beautiful plans for man envisage and provide for a kingdom in which war's alarms will never come. In the plans of the Almighty Father, who rules the universe, this sin-cursed and war-stricken world is finally to be made new, and made the home of God's people for ever. More than one scripture tells us of the new earth, which God will eventually bring into being when sin and sinners are no more. See 2 Peter 3: 13; Revelation 21.

The root cause of war lies in sin—in the sinful nature of the human heart. Did the human race the world over yield itself to the Christ, to love Him and to serve Him, the danger of war would be completely removed. In the happy earth made new, where the righteous will dwell, there will be no sin, no pain, no parting, no sorrow, and no more death—and, praise God, there will be no more war!

K.



Sport &amp; General Photo

*The famous economists (left to right), Dr. F. R. Moulton, the Permanent Secretary of the American Society for the Advancement of Science, and Mr. H. G. Wells, at the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Cambridge, England. Despite the great increase of knowledge in our times, the world is facing the most colossal economic and other problems in all history.*

## NEED OF HIGHER POWER

THE topsy-turvy, menacing conditions in our world today are assuredly in themselves a powerful homily concerning the limitations of humanity. For years past every reader has witnessed conditions in the world becoming worse—fear increasing, armaments multiplying; and despite the fact that never before in all the world's history was there so much knowledge as is in existence today, yet the combined wisdom of all the statesmen in the world does not seem to be sufficient to bring about a cessation of the homage given to Mars, or to put out of existence the fiery chariot of war.

Obviously statesmanship today seems to be bankrupt of any plan that will banish fear and suspicion, stay the march of armaments, bring sanity to the world, and put it on the road to peace, trustfulness, happiness, and prosperity.

The human race is obviously in need of wisdom more than human. Man is in need of a power outside himself to control and guide him.

This thought was well expressed by an English writer recently. He said:—

"Now, if ever, it is surely easy to believe that man needs some power outside himself to rule him and guide him. It is surely obvious that this universe is made according to certain divine laws, and that one of them, quite as definite as the force of gravity, which no one would think of questioning, is that man needs

God. If he thinks that he does not need God, that he can get on quite well with his own mind and heart and soul and body but without God, then he is not merely unenlightened but just plain wrong. Without God he is like a drifting ship. No matter how seaworthy the ship is, sooner or later it will find itself on the rocks, if it continues to drift. With God the ship is safe."

Man is so constituted that God is a necessity to him. He cannot get past that need, try as he will, or delude himself as he will. "My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God." Ps. 42: 2. Man is so made that only the Godhead can satisfy that thirst.

"If any man thirst," Jesus once cried at the great feast of tabernacles in Jerusalem, "let him come unto Me, and drink." John 7: 37. The world cannot satisfy the thirst of man's heart, but the Lord Jesus Christ can abundantly satisfy it.

All need Christ as a personal Saviour, and all need divine guidance in their lives and affairs if they are to be in the truest sense successful. Only as God guides the life does it move in right paths. Unless the Heavenly Pilot be aboard one's craft, it can never make the port of heaven. There are vast depths of wisdom in the words of Inspiration:—

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him." Ps. 37: 5. "In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Prov. 3: 6.

K.



## DAYS OF PERIL AND FEAR

“GREAT BRITAIN,” says the *Melbourne Herald* in a leading article, “continues to arm herself with haste, and her people answer to their country’s need. The United States, alarmed at the prospect of aggressive foreign powers gaining an over-lordship of the Pacific, is building battleships and armaments, sparing nothing in the outlay.”

We are truly living in days of peril—perilous times. “In the last days perilous times shall come.” 2 Tim. 3: 1. They are truly with us now!

We are living in times of unprecedented, unparalleled fear. And that, also, according to the Lord Jesus’ own words in Luke 21: 25-27 is another of the many signs of the approach of the Lord’s second coming.

“We are living, we are dwelling  
In a grand and awful time;  
In an age on ages telling—  
To be living is sublime.  
Hark! the waking up of nations,  
Gog and Magog to the fray;  
Hark! what soundeth? Is creation  
Groaning for her latter day?”

K.

## CHRIST’S KINGDOM OF PEACE

WAR is a terrible and horrible thing. It means vast destruction of life and property, dreadful wounds, mutilations, and disablement, the dislocation of normal life, suffering and discomfort of all kinds, and the most tragic and heart-breaking grief. It is as horrible as its author, Satan.

An article in one of the newspapers, describing scenes during the crisis week in London, remarks:—

“Women and girls who could drive cars or who owned cars were given definite jobs to do immediately they enrolled when the crisis was at its very height.

“While trenches were being dug in Hyde Park and smart Mayfair women stood in queues alongside their maids to have their gas-masks fitted, these car drivers were busy taking the children of poorer London out into the country out of the bomb area.

“So they evacuated thousands of youngsters, and so the villages of England became so crammed with Londoners that in hundreds of cases mothers and their children had to sleep on floors.”

Thank God that in the gladsome and blissful kingdom that Christ, the Prince of Peace, will establish, there will be no wars nor alarms of war, but peace for evermore! K.



## WHO OWNS THE WORLD?

A BOOK entitled “Who Claims the World?” which puts the missionary case in the modern world, is being circulated by British missionary societies. The cause of missions is a great one, and it is well that the missionary societies put their case before the world.

It is certainly a sad thing to see so much money spent on the unprecedented multiplying of terrible, death-dealing armaments, while so very little, comparatively, is being spent on winning souls to Christ.

The wealthy are often tempted to feel that their broad acres and other properties are all their very own, but the Bible reveals other claimants. After all, man’s own tenure of his properties is always comparatively short, and in any case, as far as he is personally concerned, is terminated by death.

No one can take his estates and other wealth with him when he passes through the portals of the tomb.

Though Satan claims to be “the god of this world” (2 Cor. 4: 4), yet the ownership of the world really lies with God, the great Creator. “The earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.” Ps. 24: 1.

“For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

“I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are Mine.

“If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is Mine, and the fullness thereof.” Ps. 50: 10-12.

One of the greatest lessons that a man can learn is the ownership of God. K.

## WONDROUS FAIR IS GOD’S EARTH

THE English writer, Miss Jane T. Stoddart, mentions in the *British Weekly* that when she crossed the Clifton Suspension Bridge for the first time in 1884, she saw on the side of the Leigh Woods a large villa built in the Swiss chalet style, overlooking the gorge of the Avon; and on the villa this inscription in German was placed in conspicuous lettering:—

“O wunderschön ist Gottes Erde,  
Und schön darauf ein Mensch zu sein.”

Which, translated, means:—

O wondrous fair the earth of God,  
And good thereon a man to be.

When God made the world in the beginning, He pronounced it to be “very good.” Gen. 1: 31. It was indescribably lovely. But sin entered through disobedience, and on the heels of sin came the curse. Yet even though blighted by sin and smitten by the curse, our earth still maintains innumerable traces of loveliness. Beautiful trees and shrubs and flowers abound, and there are countless vistas of beauty. Charming scenes abound. God gives health and vigour and the keen senses to enjoy earth’s loveliness, and it is a joy to be alive!

And yet sin abounds, and the marks of the curse are all too plainly evident in our fair world. How glorious, however, will it be when the new-earth state comes, when sin and wickedness is for ever passed away, and there is “no more curse”! 2 Peter 3: 13; Revelation 21; Rev. 22: 3. Then Eden will be restored, and perfection will once more reign—and reign for ever. “Affliction shall not rise up the second time.” Nahum 1: 9. Never again sin nor the curse throughout the eternal ages!

Throughout the long, unending years perfect loveliness, perfect or unalloyed happiness, and perfect health for evermore! No more sorrow, parting, pain, nor death. No weeds nor thorns nor thistles. No disappointments nor heart-aches. Transcendent loveliness abounding everywhere, with never a fault to mar it. Perfect beauty everywhere, in colour, form, and music! Perfect companionship, perfect speech, song, and music. Glorious harmony on all sides. Every day the thrill of perfect health, the thrill of perfect joy and happiness, and life for evermore! New delights unfolding day by day—and all through the unending years! What a glorious place the kingdom of God will be! Ah, indeed, what will it be to be there! K.



# SIGNS *of the* TIMES

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## COMING—A Royal Governor

IN the midst of the gloom spread by the tragedy of the air disaster, and the anxious forebodings of war in Europe, came a gleam of joy that did much to brighten Australia's outlook. Word came through that His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, the brother of the King, had accepted the appointment of Governor-General of the Commonwealth.

With his charming and beautiful wife, who was the Princess Marina of Greece, and their two children, he will make his home with the Australian people for a period of about two years.

The Melbourne *Argus*, commenting on the appointment, stated:—

"His Royal Highness will be the first royal Governor-General of the Commonwealth, and also the first member of the royal family who has been appointed Governor-General since the status of the dominions was altered by the Statute of Westminster, which provided for the appointment of Governors-General by the King on the recommendation of Prime Ministers of the dominions."

The Duke and Duchess of Kent may be confident of a warm welcome, and though they will not arrive till November of next year, plans are already being made to assure them of a fitting reception, and to provide them with dwellings suited to their station.

While the attitude of many may be summed up in the words, "It seems too good to be true," all are delighted to think that one who stands so near to the throne of the great British Empire should be chosen to come out and represent his brother the King. The coming of the Duke will do much to strengthen the ties that bind the Motherland to the dominions overseas.

### ANOTHER ROYAL GOVERNOR

ANOTHER royal Governor has been appointed to rule this world, and soon He will be coming to take office. How the thought should thrill our hearts with pride and joy! For the coming Prince is none other than the Prince of heaven, the Son of God.

That appointment was made long centuries ago; it was made when this

world cast off the dominion of God, and rebelled against His wise and kindly rule. The purpose of the appointment is to link earth to heaven by a tie so strong that it can never be broken.

But though when the Son of God comes to rule the kingdoms of this world He will come in power and glory, and will receive honour and homage from all, yet it was a way of suffering and humiliation that finally led to this glory. For the dominion of God is extended not through force of arms, and by the conquest of battle and war, but by the force of love, and by the conquest of peace and gentleness. Men and women must be led to accept the rule of God through understanding and love, and not through force and fear.

To make this possible, He who is soon to come as Governor came long ago in the guise of humanity, and lived the life of toil that is common to the vast majority of the human family. He mingled daily with all classes of men, being equally at home with the rich and the poor, the high and the low, the cultured and the illiterate. And as He mingled with them, He spoke much of His Father in heaven, and of the principles of His rule. He made clear to all the way that He Himself had prepared whereby all who would might be free from the tyranny of sin, and might return to the allegiance of Him whose subjects live in perfect freedom.



As was to be expected, the false ruler, the one who had usurped the throne, did all in his power to thwart the plans of the Deliverer. Constantly that humble life, moving about the dusty pathways of Palestine, and spreading wherever it went the fragrance of loving-kindness and gracious service, was beset by fierce temptations and bitter trials.

At last when the hour of the power of darkness had come, the strong Son of God, in the lowly garment of humanity, was captured, and subjected to such cruelties and indignities as only devils could devise. Then He was crucified, bearing all the odium of the lowest of criminals.

But this very act, the crucifying of the Son of God, which seemed to mark the defeat of the principles of righteousness, and the triumph of evil, was in reality the reverse. In the words of Francis Thompson:—

"'Twas on a day of rout they girded Me about,

They wounded all My brow, and they smote Me through the side:

My hand held no sword when I met their armed horde,

And the conqueror fell down, and the Conquered bruised his pride.

"What is this, unheard before, that the Unarmed make war,

And the Slain hath the gain, and the victor hath the rout?

What wars, then, are these, and what the enemies,

Strange Chief, with the scars of Thy conquest trenched about?"

The conquest of Christ was something foreign to human experience. Never before had the Slain had the gain, and the victor had the rout. But by treating the Son of God with such fiendish cruelty, when He had showed nothing but love and pity for all, the devil overstepped himself, and revealed his true spirit. Never again would the watching universe believe his lies.

Again, it was by His death that Christ paid the ransom price for humanity. He tasted death for every man, and henceforth all who would receive Him could have His death counted for theirs, and claim the promise of eternal life.

It was by coming the first time as a little babe, and going the way of poverty, humiliation, and death, that Christ prepared the way to come again in triumph and glory to rule over His everlasting kingdom.

### "UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN"

THE government was finally to be given to the Son who should be born to the human family: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulders." Isa. 9: 6. He who came out of Bethlehem as a little babe was



finally to bear rule: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be Ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5: 2. Of the Son who was to be born to Mary it was said: "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David; and He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end." Luke 1: 32, 33.

Yes, He who is coming to govern this poor old world is the Son of God, though He became the Son of man. Though linked to the human family by ties that shall never be broken—the ties of human kinship, and of divine love—the coming Governor is linked also to the throne of the universe.

#### THE SIGNS OF HIS COMING

He is coming soon. All the signs that were promised to show when His coming was near are fast fulfilling. The selfishness and hatred of those who have rejected the rule of God are becoming more pronounced, and are giving rise to dreadful wars, which the increased knowledge that the prophecy said would characterize the "time of the end," has made more frightful than any known in previous ages. Selfishness and hate are being manifested, too, in the class tensions, the strife between capital and labour.

And another great sign is that the gospel of the kingdom is being preached in all the world for a witness. Christ will not come to establish His kingdom of peace until all have had an opportunity to accept or reject Him. The heathen strongholds, the habitations of cruelty, are being opened and enlightened by the entrance of the Word of God. Those who lived in fear and dread are rejoicing in the glad tidings of freedom, and are looking for the blessed hope of the returning Lord.

When the Son of God comes in His glory and power to receive His kingdom, He will find many who have waited for Him through suffering and hardship and persecution. They will immediately be delivered from those who hate them; "delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." Triumphant, immortal, and filled with everlasting joy, they will rise to meet their Lord in the air, ever to be with Him.

But there will be some who persist in their rebellion against God, who refuse all offers of eternal life, and who cling to sin in spite of all calls to forsake it. These must be destroyed

before the kingdom can be made safe and happy.

A sublime picture is given of the coming of the Son of God in power to receive His kingdom:—

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness doth He judge and make war.

"His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself.

"And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God.

"And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

"And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treadeth the winepress of the wrath of God.

"And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING

OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." Rev. 19: 11-16.

We in Australia rejoice, and rightly, that a prince of the royal family is coming to be our Governor-General. But how much more should we rejoice to think that the Prince of heaven is coming soon to rule over His kingdom! His coming will mean peace and joy for His people; it will place them beyond sorrow, pain, suffering, and death. His reign will wipe sin and all its traces from the universe of God.

Should we not make suitable preparation to meet the coming Governor? For whether we meet Him in peace, and at His coming receive immortal life and everlasting joy, or whether we are ashamed at His coming, and receive the everlasting destruction that must be meted out to the devil and his angels, and to all who choose to follow him, depends entirely upon ourselves. God has set before us the way of life and the way of death; He does not force anyone, but calls upon us to "choose life." Can we refuse so great a gift?

H.



## FORGIVENESS --not REVENGE

★ M. Leslie Rice

One must always lower himself to "get even" with one who has done him an injury.

A monument erected in memory of Booker T. Washington stands on the campus of that great school he founded in Tuskegee, Alabama. The inscriptions carved on this stone are statements taken from his writings. This one impressed me: "I will allow no man to drag me so low as to make me hate him."

Revenge is never sweet. Spoils won at such cost are always bitter. Those who live by the rule of vengeance are never happy.

Solomon, the wise man, said: "Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work." Prov. 24: 29.

Jesus said: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matt. 5: 43, 44.

THE natural heart when wronged seeks revenge. It is not born in man to forgive. It takes something entirely aside from man's natural desires, when a person has struck him on the right cheek, to "turn to him the other also." The desire to "get even" manifests itself in individuals, in families, in nations.

Christ came to this world to teach reconciliation instead of retaliation. From first to last, by word and example, His life shines forth as a noble example of this doctrine.

"Getting even" is not getting ahead.

"Getting even" is not getting up.

"Getting even" is always a step downward.



# The Power Behind the Seance

★ FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SPIRITISM  
CAN THE DEAD TALK WITH US?

John Ford

IT is a belief among many people that the souls of the dead are fluttering around in the air about us, and can communicate with the living through mediums. In all the islands of the South Seas, you will find natives believing in the spirits of the departed. The stories of the Indians of North America are full of tales about the spirits. The Indians of South America believe that the reason a dog howls at night is that he sees the spirit of some person who has just died, walking around. In India, the fakirs will tell you that their power for magic depends upon the spirits of the dead. While aboard an Oriental steamer, I saw a Chinese buried at sea. Into the water where the body was lowered, food was thrown. This was done that the spirit of the dead might have something to eat. The Japanese worship the spirits of their ancestors.

Spiritism, the belief that departed spirits communicate with men, is not a new religion, but one of the oldest religions in the world. Its beginning dates back to Adam and Eve. The serpent asked Eve, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Eve replied: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." Gen. 3: 1-3. Who is this serpent? "The great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world." Rev. 12: 9. God said to the pair in the garden that in the day when they ate of the forbidden fruit they would surely die. The devil said, "Ye shall not surely die," and the world has been believing the devil's lie ever since.

## SPIRITISM NO NEW THING

THE theme of the song, "There Is No Death," was composed by the great deceiver in the garden of Eden. The philosophy of natural immortality was taught by the pagan philosophers of Egypt and Greece. Thales, one of the seven Greek sages who lived six hundred years before Christ, dismissed the whole question of life and death by saying, "There

is no difference between life and death." Heraclitus, another pagan Greek philosopher, taught that man's divine being was bound up with the baser substance until death, and then set free.

Professor James H. Hyslop, formerly of Columbia University, became a great spiritist leader. In commenting upon the belief in the immortal soul, as taught by the pagan Greek philosophers, he admitted that it was "pure and unadulterated spiritualism even of the modern type"; also that the teachings are *totally opposed* to the Bible, and were probably arrived at through *mediumship*. Thus instead of the immortal-soul teaching coming from the Bible, it came from the seance room of spiritism.

Other spiritistic writers teach today exactly what the devil taught back there. Professor Alfred Wallace says: "Ye shall not surely die." It demonstrates as completely as the fact can be demonstrated that the so-called dead are still alive." But he took for his authority the lie of Satan. Emma Britten, another of these writers, says: "We found beyond a shadow of a doubt or peradventure that death had no power over the spirit, could never touch the soul, or destroy one attribute or property of the soul life. In a word, we found our so-called dead are all living, aye, and living so near to us that they breathe our very atmosphere, share our very thoughts."

## BORN IN DECEPTION

NOT only did the devil introduce the idea of the survival of the soul after death, but in the garden of Eden he gave a demonstration of the first seance. Spiritists admit that the speaking of the serpent in that instance was a demonstration of a seance. I believe so, too. But who was the one who spoke? Some dead loved one? That could not have been, *for nobody had ever died*. It was the devil himself who spoke.

Is it at all possible for the dead to come back and speak and act as the spirits do in the seance? What does your Bible say? "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." Eccl. 9: 10. The dead cannot act, think, or talk, the text says. "David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David." 1 Kings 2: 10. Some would have us believe that David is still alive, but the Bible says that he is sleeping. Where does a man go when he dies? "Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust." Ps. 104: 29. Man came from the dust, and he returns to the same place. How long will he stay in the dust? "The hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5: 28, 29. Everyone will stay in the dust until Jesus comes back to this world, and then He will raise the righteous to life everlasting. The wicked will go to destruction. But isn't it just the body that rests in the grave, and not the soul? "God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave." Ps. 49: 15. So the grave also has power over the soul. Both soul and body rest in the grave during death. If anyone should have gone to heaven when he died, it certainly should have been David, for God called him a man after His own heart. But did David go to heaven when he died? Peter, while he was under the power of the Holy Spirit on the great day of pentecost, said, "David is not ascended into the heavens." Acts 2: 34. Thus the Bible is very clear that it cannot be the spirits of the dead that operate in spiritism.

## AN INTELLIGENT PROMOTER

SOME say that the good angels are the ones who operate in the seance room. I do not believe, friends, that a good angel would be a faker and purport to be the spirit of a dead loved one when he is not. I am also very sure that a good angel would



never lie. There is only one class of beings these spirits could possibly be: they are the devil and the imps of hell. When the devil started the first séance, he found that it worked so charmingly to deceive people that he has kept it up to the present time.

Who is the devil? "There was war in heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was there place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Rev. 12: 7-9. Do we have any idea as to how many angels fell with him? "And his [the dragon's] tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven." Verse 4. The stars referred to are not the planets and the worlds that we see, for not one single planet of the starry heaven has ever fallen to this world; but the term "star" is used in the same way that we use it today, that is, an outstanding personage. And with millions and millions of angels still in heaven after one-third of them fell with Satan, there must have been millions of angels that were cast down to this world with the devil.

Of course, you can imagine how the devil felt toward God when he was defeated. No defeated foe feels very good about it. As the devil came reeling down toward this world, he undoubtedly hissed back vengeance against God. When he and his angels landed in this world, the scene of the conflict between God and Satan was changed to this spot, and the battle has waged here ever since. Now, the devil is not the half-witted, forked-tailed, cloven-footed creature that the artist depicts; he is one of the keenest-minded personages in all the universe. He does not present himself and his angels in the form of demons, but most often he shows himself in the form of an angel of light. "Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness." 2 Cor. 11: 15. A minister of righteousness is one who operates in religion. The devil and his imps have set themselves to the task of teaching false religion, and the first doctrine that they taught was the principle of the immortal soul. They have been so successful that they have injected their doctrine into nearly every religion under the sun.

The devil is not content with this one deceptive teaching, so he is, at the present time, teaching and imitating the genuine outpouring of the Holy Spirit. He is imitating the genuine gift of the Holy Spirit in the

healing of the sick and speaking in tongues. Healing the sick and speaking in tongues have accompanied spirit manifestations in all the world. Even the heathen possess the power of miraculous healings and power to speak in unknown tongues. Then how are you going to tell which is the genuine and which is the false, if they both appear the same in the outward manifestation? An easy way to test whether the supernatural demonstration is from God or from the devil is to find out whether the demonstration is accompanied by the teaching of the devil's first lie, that was first uttered in Eden, that man "shall not surely die." A person

*To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them."*



under the influence of the genuine Spirit of God will never teach the devil's lie that nobody ever really dies.

#### THE PROPHETS WARNED OF IT

THE Bible prophesied the coming of such beliefs in the last days. "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy." 1 Tim. 4: 1, 2. Christians are to be led astray by the doctrine of devils that have seducing spirits and that teach lies hypocritically. You find the seducing spirits in the séance room where the dead, who know not anything, are personated by hypocritical spirits that profess to be ministers of righteousness.

Why does the devil do such things? "There shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matt. 24: 24. It is the studied plan of the devil to deceive and destroy the very men and women who are Christians waiting to be saved when Christ comes. The devil cannot touch God; but if he can

destroy, with false doctrines, everybody for whom Christ died, the death of Jesus would be in vain. Satan would be content if Christ came to this world and suffered and died in vain. Religious deception is the mightiest weapon of the devil. The only way that anyone can miss being deceived is by studying the Word of God and believing it entirely just as it is written. God placed in the Bible a mighty text to help us: "When they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits [spirit mediums], and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter [unknown tongues]: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony [the entire Bible]: if they speak not according to this Word [and the Bible teaches that man is mortal and has no knowledge, wisdom, or power in death, Eccl. 9: 5, 6, 10], it is because there is no light in them." Isa. 8: 19, 20.

You hear the doctrine that the spirit of the dead person comes back and talks—no light! You hear people preach that man has an immortal soul—no light! Over the door of the immortal-soul doctrine God has written—NO LIGHT! The Christian cannot afford to be where there is no light.

#### LIGHT IN PLACE OF DARKNESS

A BLIND man was once sitting by the side of a building reading his Bible aloud. As he was reading, an ex-convict happened to pass along, and heard him read: "If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1: 7. The criminal asked him to read the text over again. "Will the blood of Jesus wash my sins away if I walk in the light?" he asked. The blind man assured him that it would. "Then would you pray to that Christ, so that I might walk in the light, and pray that His blood will wash my sins away?" And there in the little alleyway, a blind man and a criminal bowed their heads. The blind man, looking through the darkness of the world into the shining face of Jesus Christ, asked forgiveness for the passer-by. The man who came by on the darkened pathway of sin stepped out into the light of Jesus Christ, and his sins were all washed away.

How thankful we should all be for the blessed blood of Jesus Christ, the only thing that can wash away the stain of sin! What a dark world this would be if there were no chance for forgiveness of sin and for cleansing in the blood of Christ! But the devil has sworn vengeance on the blood of

(Concluded on page 11)



# The Everlasting Gospel

## of the JUDGMENT HOUR

THE message that announces the judgment hour is termed the everlasting gospel. This is the name used by the message itself. Listen: "And 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." Rev. 14: 6, 7.

Going out to all the world with the stirring announcement of the coming of the King in the clouds of heaven, this message is wrapped up in the gospel. Yes, it is the gospel. The everlasting gospel. That is very plain. And the King to whose glorious second advent attention is directed by this message is none other than the Saviour. He it is who is "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." He is the One of whom the angel spake in the long ago: "Thou shalt call His name Jesus; for He shall save His people from their sins." Jesus is that Saviour. "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

The gospel takes that name to all men, so that all men may come to the knowledge of that Saviour, Jesus Christ, and be saved. That is the purpose of the gospel. That is why Jesus Christ came down from heaven and was born in Bethlehem. That is why He walked among men teaching them that "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3: 16.

Down from heaven, Jesus brought the gospel of salvation to men. When His baby cry broke the stillness of the Bethlehem stable, the song of the angels took up the refrain: "I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2: 10, 11.

### CHRIST'S MISSION

THAT gospel purpose grew and developed and unfolded with His life. Hear Him as a child among the

*Address given by Evangelist J. W. Kent from Radio Station 2HR, West Maitland, October 23, 1938.*

doctors declare: "Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" Luke 2: 49. That business of the Father was the salvation of men through the gospel of His Son. That is still the Father's business. And it is summed up in the everlasting gospel now being preached in the judgment hour. We must never lose sight of that. Jesus never lost sight of it through all His ministry. It was the sole reason of His mission among men. He declared by the Sychar well: "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work." John 4: 34.

Jesus went out from His home in Nazareth, and that purpose was firing His life and dominating every impulse of it. Every sermon unfolded it, and every miracle revealed it. He lived to bring men to God, and He died to save them. Never did He lose sight of that commission from His Father to save men. It was born with Him. It lived with Him through all His ministry. He entered Gethsemane with it throbbing in His heart. There the greatest battle of all the ages was fought. And it was fought over His commission from His Father to bring salvation to man. That was the cup of salvation which Jesus refused to surrender. To have Him do so was the studied purpose of the devil.

Into that garden the legions of darkness came down, and the forces of hell, marshalled and led by Lucifer, went out to meet the Son of God beneath the old olive trees in the garden. The destiny of the world hung in the balance then. It was decided there. Evidently the Saviour sensed it all when He chose three of His disciples from among the twelve to stand by Him. Peter, James, and John went with Him to the crisis. Read the record in Matt. 26: 37-44 and Luke 22: 41-46. It will stir your heart. Even then He could not permit the chosen three to witness the struggle, so terrible was that conflict. But bidding them to pray, He went on to meet the challenge alone.

### THE AGONY IN GETHSEMANE

A LITTLE removed from His disciples, Jesus fell to the ground. "Let this cup pass from Me," He gasps. That was the cup of salvation Christ received from the Father for lost mankind. Then He thought of a world eternally lost; of you and me, and of millions of men who would go down to the grave of the ages without hope. Lost! Eternally lost! Remembering that, He clung to that cup that brought salvation to you and to me and to all lost sinners down all the ages.

That battle was so bitterly waged, and the struggle so intense that "His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." Luke 22: 44. That is what the everlasting gospel cost the Saviour to bring to us. God help us to understand and appreciate its meaning.

Rising from the ground, He staggered back to the disciples for some comfort. He found them asleep. The adversary against whom He contended had seen to that. He was alone in the conflict. He trod "the winepress alone," wrote Isaiah, "and of the people there was none with Me." Isa. 63: 3.

When He awoke the disciples, they knew Him not. His face had changed so. His furrowed features revealed the anguish of the struggle. Said the prophet: "His face was marred more than the sons of men." Gethsemane did that.

"Tis midnight; and for other's guilt  
The Man of Sorrows weeps in blood;  
Yet He that hath in anguish knelt  
Is not forsaken by His God."

From the struggle in the garden, the Master went out to meet the challenge of Calvary. "Rise, let us be going," He bade His disciples; "behold, he is at hand that doth betray Me."

### ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY

FROM the time that Jesus fell into the hands of His tormentors, and all through that terrible night to the morning light, the cruel persecution of evil men and devils never relaxed for one moment.

At last He was uplifted upon the cross, and a curious, mocking throng gathered to see the last. While from



the scene, with its cruelty and shame, even nature veiled her face. The sun refused to shine, and darkness came down over it all. The cry rang out in the darkness. The Saviour's head fell forward on His breast, and this cry parted His pain-parched lips, "It is finished." And, my dear fellow sinners, the cup of salvation was in your hands and mine. Jesus carried it from the skies for sinners, even through the revolting scenes of shame and suffering. That cup is filled with the everlasting gospel of salvation for lost mankind. And today, like Paul, we glory in "preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ."

### JESUS COMING AGAIN

THANK God, that everlasting gospel speaks of an hour when that same Jesus will come back again. Acts 1: 9-11.

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Heb. 9: 28.

Calvary is not an end in itself. It is a means to an end. That end is the eternal kingdom over which Jesus will be King. "Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power." 1 Cor. 15: 24.

To deliver that kingdom from the hand of the devil, from the power of cruelty and wrong, Jesus endured the cross. Gethsemane's struggle was fought over that. "The prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience," and the Prince of Peace contended for supremacy there. For such a deliverance the Master taught a lost world to pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

The suffering, the shame and spitting, the thorn crown, the blood sweat, the cross, and the broken heart were the price paid for the re-purchase of that kingdom to come. It was the suffering of Jesus according to the gospel that made it possible. The prelude to that time when "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God," is this, and it is all told in the preceding verses of the Philippian letter: "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness

of men: and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name." Phil. 2: 5-11.

Jesus, in the hour of His humiliation before Pilate, declared the purpose of His mission to earth: "Pilate therefore said unto Him, Art Thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth heareth My voice." John 18: 37.

Born to be a king—thank God for that truth. May we, as the blessed Master says, be of the truth, so that we may understand His words. The hour is fast approaching when He will return as King of kings, and Lord of lords. And when He shall appear, He will take His people to be with Him in His kingdom. "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

"He's coming once again,

To set His people free;  
That where He is in glory bright,  
His saints may also be.  
Then lift the drooping head,  
Look up, rejoice and sing;  
He comes, in majesty sublime,  
Salvation's glorious King."

To make all that possible, Jesus went to the cross. That is the message of the everlasting gospel. We have reached the time of its last call. It is even the supper-time hour. The hour of the judgment. And this message of Rev. 14: 6-12 is going out to all the world, bidding mankind everywhere to prepare to meet their God; "for the hour of His judgment is come." May God prepare our hearts to meet the issue of the great judgment hour.



### The Power Behind the Seance

(Concluded from page 9)

Christ. It was the blood that cast him and the imps of hell out of heaven. We read in the Scriptures: "They overcame him [the devil and his angels] by the blood of the Lamb." Rev. 12: 11. It is the devil's studied plan through his religion to get rid of the blood of Christ. The late Sir Conan Doyle said, in a lecture given in London some years ago, that spiritism would "sweep the world and make it a better place in which to live. When it rules over the world, it will banish the blood of Christ." Friends, stay away from a place where people are taught to hate the blood of Christ. The greatest punishment that God has in store is waiting for the man or woman who fights against the blood of Christ. "He that despised Moses' law died without mercy: . . . of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden underfoot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant . . . an unholy thing?" Heb. 10: 28, 29.

You may tell me that you do not believe in spiritism and its fundamental belief in the immortal soul. But merely not to believe is not enough. You *must believe the truth*. Satan will work "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. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should *believe a lie*: that they all might be damned who believe not the truth." 2 Thess. 2: 9-12.

The greatest crisis of Christianity is just ahead. The devil has succeeded in making millions of people, Christians and others, believe that the wages of sin is not death; that man came into existence by evolution—that he is growing better. This prohibits the belief in the fall of man. If there were no fall, there is no need of atonement by the blood of Christ. Thus the immortal-soul idea and evolution are the two great lies that will be forced upon everyone who does not love the truth of the Bible. Wherever they go, they are constantly at war with the blood of Christ.

All the world is again standing before the cross raised on Golgotha's hill. The imps of hell are crushing out the life of Christ. On which side will you stand—with them or with the Lamb of God?



# GOD'S TENTH and MAN'S MITE

ASHLEY G. EMMER

**M**ANY years ago a lad of sixteen was obliged to leave home because his father was too poor to support him longer. So he trudged away with all his worldly possessions in a bundle dangling from his hand, resolving, as he journeyed, to set up in business as a soapmaker in New York.

When the country boy arrived in the big city, he found it hard to get work. Remembering the last words of his mother and also the godly advice given him by the captain of a canal boat, the youth dedicated his life to God, determining to return to his Maker an honest tithe of every dollar he earned.

So, when his first dollar came in, the young man sacredly dedicated ten cents [five pence] of it to the Lord. This he continued to do. And the dollars rolled in! Soon this manufacturer became partner in a soap business; and when his partner died a few years later, he became sole owner of the concern.

The prosperous business man now instructed his bookkeeper to open an account with the Lord and to credit to it one-tenth of all his income. The business grew miraculously. The honest proprietor now dedicated two-tenths of his earnings; and then three-tenths, four-tenths; and, finally, five-tenths. It seemed as if his sales increased in exact proportion to his generosity, so that soon his make of soap became a household word throughout the world.

The late William Colgate was this man whom God so signally prospered in return for his faithfulness to his Maker. While this story is not written with the object of advertising Colgate products, it is related because it illustrates so well the blessings that accompany the faithful payment of an honest tithe.

## ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES

God has promised, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, . . . and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground." Mal. 3: 10, 11.

But William Colgate's experience is not an isolated instance of the opening of "the windows of heaven" and the pouring out of a divine blessing upon the one who respects God's ownership of the tithe. About forty years ago Albert Hyde, today reputed the richest man in Wichita, Kansas, found himself bankrupt, with creditors pestering him for fifty thousand dollars. With courage he reopened business, but this time he made the same promise to his Maker that Jacob did: "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, . . . I will surely give the tenth unto Thee." Gen. 28: 20-22.

The name of the ointment made from the prescription of a doctor friend soon came to be known far and wide in the United States, and Mentholatum sales brought Albert Hyde out of the ditch of debt and placed him on the peak of financial prosperity. Rather, tithe faithfully paid on Mentholatum earnings did it—so much so, that, in addition to paying his tithe, Mr. Hyde supported for years a mission school in India, maintained a missionary boat in Africa, and kept three missionaries in China, besides donating to many other charities of which few but Mr. Hyde knew.

Again, the makers of Kerr-Mason jars place in every case of canning jars they sell a pamphlet advocating tithe paying. Somebody in the business has apparently found benefit in returning to God that which is His own. In fact, here is the personal testimony of the writer of the tract. We abbreviate for lack of space:—

"Some time ago the writer of this pamphlet read about Jacob's vow to tithe, and how the Lord blessed him. . . . My attention was called to the fact that the Bible related how Jacob returned to his home in twenty years with riches and blessings as a result of his covenant of tithing. With some doubts and with a desire to test if the Bible is true, and to prove without a shadow of doubt that there is a God, and that His promises are for everlasting and to everyone, I made a special covenant to set aside a certain percentage of my income or increase. At that time I had a mortgage on my home, owed heavily,

and was burdened with cares and worry. I determined to prove God."

How did God bless this act of faith? Listen to the ringing testimony to God's faithful care in return for unselfishness in tithe paid:—

"Within three months unexpected and unforeseen blessings came to me, and God opened my eyes to see His love and faithfulness to His promises. Since that time, I have been blessed beyond my expectations in every way, and prospered in everything I have put my hand to."

The same blessings have come in varying measure to thousands of others around the globe as a result of their returning to God that which He claims as His. I myself can testify to God's care and providence as a result of unswervingly returning the tithe at all times. The fact is that there is no one too poor to pay tithe. We really cannot afford not to return to God the tenth of all our increase.

## FAITH REWARDED

A FELLOW minister of the gospel relates how God rewarded a poor woman who was tempted to think she was too poor to pay tithe. This preacher reports: "Thirteen years ago I held a series of evangelistic meetings in New York City. Among those who attended was an elderly spinster who later came to be affectionately known to us as 'Sister Clancy.'"

"When she learned about tithing, she was troubled. She waited until I had shaken hands with all the others after the meeting, and then she approached me. 'You said that all God's children should pay one-tenth of their income to Him?'"

"'Yes; that is, I read it from the Bible.'"

"'That's what I mean. Now I want to know if you think that I should pay tithe. I am alone in the world. I have no relatives but one niece. I am beyond the age when I can work. And my sole support is furnished by this nephew by marriage. He sends me six dollars a week.'"

"'Well—'"

"'Wait a bit till I tell you more. The cheapest room I can get costs me \$4.50 a week, and it remains that



low because I have lived there a long time and a good-hearted landlord has never raised the rent. And so I have \$1.50 a week to live on; and that's all I have. Now if I pay tithe on my income of \$6, or 60 cents a week, I shall have, after paying my rent, just 90 cents a week to live on. Tell me, do you think God expects me to pay tithe?"

My friend confesses that if he were ever tempted to say, "No, poor soul, God does not need your sixty cents a week," he was then; but, realizing that the old woman would miss a blessing if she disobeyed God, he suggested that she try it. This is

how a loving Father requited the poor woman who paid her mite week after week:—

"Months later she came into my study," the minister relates, "and she told the following story of the remarkable providence of God:—

"That nephew by marriage of mine, bless him, wrote me a letter. Here 'tis. He tells me in it that his income has increased, and as he thought of how to use the extra money, it was borne on him that I might not protest if from now on he sent me \$10 a week. And here is the first ten-dollar payment. And now, praise be, my tithe goes up to \$1,

instead of 60 cents. And instead of having 90 cents a week to live on, I now have \$4.50. Ah, pastor, how faithful the good Lord is to do all His promises!"

#### THE RIGHT MOTIVE IN TITHE PAYING

He surely is, as others will testify who also thought that they could not afford to tithe their meagre incomes. God's word is at stake when He guarantees, "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." Prov. 3: 9, 10.

Abraham practised tithing. Gen. 14: 20. The Bible records his prosperity thus: "Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold." Gen. 13: 2.

However, we must not pay tithe with the object of getting rich. God will not be bribed. Neither does He assure us that all who respect His financial requirements will become Colgates, Hydes, and millionaires. We are required to return a tenth of the increase that God gives us, because "all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord." Lev. 27: 30. To withhold the tithe, therefore, is to rob God. He says: "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed Thee? In tithes and offerings." Mal. 3: 8.

God says, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house." Verse 10. The ministry, which bears the gospel to all the world, is to be supported by the tithe; and when God's portion is withheld, there is a famine in His household. He is robbed. And, moreover, we are deprived of a blessing.

As in the ancient temple of the Jews the priests were supported by the tithe, "so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel," which must go to all the world in these last days, "should live of the gospel." Num. 18: 21; 1 Cor. 9: 13, 14. Those who seek first "the kingdom of God," will have all their earthly needs supplied. Matt. 6: 33.

#### NEVER LOSE HEART

PAY as little attention to discouragement as possible. Plough ahead as the steamer does, rough or smooth, rain or shine. To carry your cargo and make your port is the point.—*Maltbie D. Babcock.*

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## FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE

MRS. TOMPKINS had suffered a slight injury to her ankle in a motor-car accident while her husband was away from home; so a competent young woman, a relative and a teacher, had come to look after the four lively Tompkins children until their mother could get about once more. One day the invalid's mother came to visit her, to see how things were going. She was amazed, since her daughter suffered little pain, to find her weeping silently but bitterly.

"No, my ankle doesn't hurt me," said Mrs. Tompkins. "It's the children."

"The children? Why, Eleanor, they are all well, and I never knew them to be more obedient and contented than they are right now."

"That's just the trouble, mother! Ruth never had any children, and yet she has more influence over my children than I ever had. They tease and torment me until I want to scream, but Ruth can—she—they seem to love her more than they do their own mother!"

The elder lady tried to soothe the young mother, but failing to do so, she wisely let her have her cry out. By this time the children had been driven into the house by a sudden shower, and in subdued tones were discussing some childish matter in the next room. The two ladies listened intently.

"You go and ask Cousin Ruth, Bob, 'cause you're the oldest," urged Amelia.

"Didn't you hear her say no?" demanded Bob.

"Yes; but we can coax her. Maybe she'll change her mind. Mother does," said little Bess, the baby of the four.

"Not a bit of use!" said Helen with emphasis. "When Cousin Ruth says no, she means no. Let's play blockhouse."

"There! You see how it is, mother! I've worked and sacrificed for those

children ever since they were born; yet Ruth actually has more influence over them than I have. Aunt Maria was here yesterday, and she said that if my ankle kept me tied down a little longer Ruth would have my children civilized. You know Aunt Maria prides herself on being 'plain spoken' no matter whose feelings may be hurt. She actually told me, right to my face, that my children are unpopular in the neighbourhood. I'm sure I've tried hard enough to bring them up properly. Maybe I am a little too easy with them, but they tease and torment me until my patience gives out, and then I give them their own way for the sake of peace." Poor Mrs. Tompkins retired again behind her limp handkerchief.

"Now, Eleanor, you are making a mountain out of a molehill," said her mother. "Why not take a few lessons from Ruth, who is a successful teacher and a well-poised young person. Study her methods, and you'll be happier, and so will the children."

"Even my own mother deserts me," wept Mrs. Tompkins. "I want my children to be able to say all their



He who guides,  
The strength provides  
Each day,  
Whate'er the journey.

—H. G. DAVIS.

lives that they had a happy childhood and a devoted mother. I don't believe in harsh methods with little folk."

"Does Ruth use harsh methods, Eleanor?"

Mrs. Tompkins cast aside her handkerchief and sat bolt upright. She did not answer for a few moments. Then she said, "Come to think of it, she never raises her voice, and she never reproaches or scolds. Perhaps I had better take a leaf out of her book of rules, mother. I do want my children to be liked by everyone."

Her mother smiled sympathetically, but said nothing.

"Maybe it is worth a sprained ankle," continued Mrs. Tompkins, reflectively, "to get a lesson like this."  
—National Kindergarten Association.

## "By the Way"

BERTHA G. WOODS

WHAT an odd motto!" Mrs. Smith remarked, with the privilege of the intimate friend. "By the way! What does it mean, exactly?"

"Just what the three words say," smiled Mrs. Bemis. "I'm learning to enjoy the odd leisure moments, the little pleasures that spring up 'by the way'—that are a sort of by-product. If I waited for definite, regular hours for rest and recreation, I'd often wait a long time!"

"Now yesterday, for instance, I had to go into the city on an emergency errand. I didn't see how I could spare the time, and yet I had to. It meant three-quarters of an hour in the bus, each way. So I decided that instead of sitting tense, with my hands clutched tight with nervousness, I'd relax and get all the pleasure I could from the trip.

"The bus goes through a very pretty and interesting part of the city, and I settled down to enjoy it. It was a pleasure to see all the little gardens, and the rambler roses, and even the little rompers and baby clothes hanging in the back yards. With the bus windows open, it was almost as good as riding in the car we don't happen to possess. I did my errand and came home quite rested, and feeling as if I had had an outing."

"By the way," Mrs. Smith repeated thoughtfully. "That isn't a bad motto at all. My recreation and rest hours seldom come, labelled, to me! I believe I'll borrow your motto."—Better Home.





## DICK, THE KITCHEN BOY

DICK'S father was a shoemaker. He died, leaving his family poor. Dick went to serve at a boarding-house. He felt sorry to leave his sisters and his mother, and go among people whom he did not know; but he found plenty to do, and was left little time to think.

He made the coal fires in the morning, first in the kitchen, then in the furnace. He blacked the gentlemen's boots, helped to wait on table, and ran errands. Indeed, he was at everybody's beck and call, and had everybody to please, which is not easy to do. "Dick!" "Where's Dick?" you could hear at all times of the day.

But Dick met every call. He was quick, obedient, willing, honest. He often saw change lying carelessly about in the gentlemen's rooms, but he never touched a farthing. He never stole cake or slyly took a piece of pie behind the cook's back. The cook said she would trust him with a pot of gold, or what would have been quite as tempting, a pot of honey.

There was often a fuss with the servants, and a good many crooked steps were taken; but Dick, his mistress said, always walked straight. "Why," said she, "Dick is one of the greatest comforts I have. He never gets into trouble."

Here is the secret of it. After he built the kitchen and furnace fires, which he did early in the morning, early enough to have a short time to himself, he sat down quietly at the kitchen table, took out his little pocket Testament, read a few verses, and tried to think out their meaning. Then he knelt down and prayed for the Holy Spirit to help him to behave like a Christian boy all day long. Cold winter mornings, when everybody else in the great house was fast asleep, Dick was up praying to the great and blessed God. He never grew tired of it; he never lagged in it; he never once thought, "I'll pass this over this once." No. Dick kept to the throne of grace.

And don't you suppose God kept him? Oh, yes! He constantly inclined the poor boy in the path of right. You well know how apt we all are to follow our inclinations; therefore it is important that our inclinations should be ever running in the way God approves.

It is hard for a boy or girl to go astray who tries to follow his or her Bible and do as Jesus did, because the Bible plainly tells you how to go, and your Saviour is ever by your side, to help you to go in that way.

Because of Dick's good behaviour as a kitchen boy, a gentleman connected with a business office spoke for him, took him into his office, and now he is fast rising to posts of trust and influence.

You hear folk speak of going away to "seek a fortune." But the fact is, children, you are all now busy making your fortunes. The habits you are forming, the company you are keeping, the tempers you are indulging, are all helping to make them. What kind will they be?—*Selected.*



## Left in Church

Charles Garland Edwards

LITTLE Billy Miller was afraid of the dark. Of course, there was no reason to be. Mother and father often told him so.

One thing little Billy did like was going to prayer meeting. That is why I will tell you about the time when he was in the dark and didn't know it.

One evening Father Miller got the children together to go to prayer meeting. Mother couldn't go because the baby was sick. The children were very happy to go, because a missionary was going to be there, and he told wonderful stories.

Father Miller harnessed the horse to the buggy, and they were soon bumping over the uneven old road on the way to church.

It was a good meeting; and after it was over, Father Miller gathered his sleepy flock to go home.

When they tucked the children into bed that night, they missed little Billy.

"Why, where is Billy?" asked mother in surprise.

"Oh, he is probably asleep in one of the easy chairs," responded father.

A careful search was made, but Billy was nowhere to be found. They looked all over the house, on the porch, and in all the bedrooms. Then father and mother became greatly frightened. Some of the neighbours began to help in the search.

"Do you think," said one of them, "that you could have left him in the church?"

"Why, maybe I did," answered Father Miller.

So to the church they drove again.

"I wonder if he is there," said father, as he lighted one of the wobbly old kerosene lamps.

There lay the sleeping child on one of the worn pews. He had been more than an hour alone in the darkness of the old church.

Tenderly, but laughingly, he was carried home.

Later, whenever he spoke fearfully of the dark, everyone laughed, and reminded him of the time he had spent in the big, dark church.

## LITTLE THREADS OF GOLD

LITTLE self-denials, little honesties, little passing words of sympathy, little nameless acts of kindness, little silent victories over special temptations—these are the threads of gold which, woven together, gleam out brightly in the pattern of life that God approves.



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## AROUND THE WORLD

THE curious and widespread notion that to break a mirror brings seven years of bad luck originated with the Romans about the first century of the Christian era.

GOVERNMENT funds in the form of salaries, relief, unemployment insurance, or direct maintenance, figure in the support of more than one-quarter of New York City's population.

ALTHOUGH the province of Canar, Ecuador, is only a short distance from the equator, three Indians recently were frozen to death and many cattle killed by an unprecedented cold wave there. Zero weather was reported in the city of Cuenca.

ACCORDING to Dr. T. A. Jagger, one of the world's leading authorities on volcanoes, it is volcanic eruptions that make the sea salt.

He estimates that the active volcanoes of the earth send millions of tons of hydrochloric acid gas into the atmosphere every year.

This merges with water vapour in the clouds and falls as rain. It unites with the sodium in the rivers to form sodium chloride, or common salt.

A NEW British "travelling furnace" for the conversion of earth roads into a brick-like surface by means of intense heat is expected to revolutionize conditions in Argentina, where the area served by the British-owned railways could be doubled if the existing unmetalled roads were rendered fit for goods traffic.

## ADVENT RADIO CHURCHES

THE Sydney Advent Radio Church is on the air from Station 2GB, Sydney, each Sunday, from 5.30 to 6 p.m., E.S.T.

THE Hunter Valley Second Advent Radio Church, West Maitland, N.S.W.: Station 2HR, Lochinvar, from 5 to 5.30 p.m., E.S.T., each Sunday.

DUNBO Advent Radio Church: Station 2DU, each Sunday at 6.30 p.m., E.S.T.

MILDURA Advent Church: 3MA, Mildura, 11 o'clock, E.S.T., each Sunday morning.

GIPPSLAND Radio Church: 3TR, Sale (242 metres), each Sunday, 6.30 to 7 p.m., E.S.T.

ADVENT Radio Church, Kalgoorlie, W.A.: Station 6KG, Sunday evening, from 6 to 6.45 (8 to 8.45, E.S.T.).

THE Hobart Advent Radio Church is on the air each Sunday over 7HO, Hobart, 6.15 to 6.35 p.m., E.S.T.

NORTH QUEENSLAND Home Bible League's Broadcast Service: 4AY, North Queensland, every second Saturday morning at 11 o'clock, E.S.T. Next broadcast service, November 26.

THE Traveller's Aid Society in America reports that native-born Americans who have spent most of their lives abroad are returning to the United States in ever-increasing numbers because of unsettled conditions abroad.

Many of them cannot even speak English; often they have forgotten names of relatives or former friends, yet since they are technically American citizens they are admitted.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

WILL D.L. please accept our thanks for the sum of £1 16s. forwarded to us for tithes.

## CHRISTMAS AIR MAILS FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM AND EUROPE

THE Deputy Director, Posts & Telegraphs (Mr. R. N. Partington), advises that the air mail closing at the Elizabeth Street Post Office, and the General Post Office, Spencer Street, Melbourne, at 6 a.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 1938, is due in London on December 23. This mail affords readers a final opportunity of sending small packets (not over two pounds) and greetings to relatives and friends in the United Kingdom and Europe for delivery before Christmas Day. The reduced air-mail fees are applicable to Christmas mail for the United Kingdom as well as other Empire countries. Post Office officials will be pleased to furnish information regarding the air-mail fees payable.

It should be remembered that small packets for overseas must always be handed in at a post office counter, and must bear a customs label, which is obtainable at any post office.



*Savoury sandwiches*

IN THE MAKING

Thin slices of brown bread with fresh butter and then a thin spread of savoury Marmite—how they do tempt the appetite! And how good they taste. Sustaining, satisfying. Nourishing, too—Marmite is particularly rich in the precious "nerve vitamin." Strengthens nerves, tones up the digestive system. Marmite is the Vitamin Food with the tasty flavour.

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