



*"Will She Come
Again?"*

Supers of the Times
W. H. L. R.
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WILL SHE

Come Again?

ON the eve of Her Majesty's departure from our shores, this is a hopeful question in the minds of many Australians. Her coming has for several months filled our thoughts and provided the ground of all our planning. The countryside has been a riot of colourful welcome. In one place the hunting was so prolific that it far exceeded habitation and people. Months previously, our own gardeners had planned their floral display, so that when the Queen passed by, flaming red blooms contrasted with the white and the blue. Thus artificially and by nature did we welcome the advent of our Queen.

Her stay in our midst has done many things for us and to us. Before her coming we had given lip service to the British crown. We had gladly assented to the ideals and liberties it stands for. But now the Crown is to us a person—a very lovely girl, who has by her smiles and her queenly bearing won both our hearts and undying loyalty. The impression made by her presence among us has translated her from a figurehead to a person. Far more than any words she has spoken, what she obviously is herself—one who apparently lives without emotional strain or tension—a Christian of poise and power, this has captured our respect and devotion.

The visit has meant much toward the assimilation of new Australians, and the unifying of many sectional interests. Surely "the Crown which is the symbol welding the diverse parts of the British Commonwealth into one British family" has been "the most powerful factor uniting the component parts of the Australian community." It has been seen in the way that differences of religion, social status, political persuasion, and ways of life have been dissipated in the atmosphere of loyalty to the Queen. Representatives of these widely divergent groups have worked together as brothers on decoration and reception committees. Class warfare has declared an armistice for the duration.

It was in Newcastle that the first intimation was given of another visit. In response to a regret expressed that time did not allow for an inspection of the Hunter Valley, the Queen intimated that on a future occasion she might have that pleasure.

The newspapers quickly made headlines of that passing remark. That the

R. PAVITT BROWN

Queen had uttered no mere passing pleasantry was made clear in her well-considered speech at the state banquet in Canberra.

"I hope that I may be given opportunities to see more of Australia in the future," she said. "Until recent years it was not always easy for a reigning sovereign to leave the United Kingdom to visit the nations of the Commonwealth. Time alone was a factor which barred such an enterprise.

"My father, however, created a precedent when he visited Canada in 1939 and gave assent to bills in Parliament at Ottawa. He hoped indeed to see, as King, all the countries of the Commonwealth. He travelled to South Africa in 1947 and opened the Union Parliament, and, as you know, he had every intention of coming to Australia; but fate intervened.

"Now the Crown has devolved upon me, and I determined to make the acquaintance of the Australian people in their own land at the earliest opportunity. . . .

"The continuing conquest of time and space is making it easier than it has ever been before for me to be with you here as Queen of Australia. For such meetings with the peoples of the British Commonwealth of Nations, not only give great pleasure to my husband and myself; they also illustrate more fully how close is the association between all the members of the family.

"Though vast distances divide them, our peoples hold together—not because of constitutional ties, but because they inherit the same traditions of political freedom, and look to the same ideals for the betterment of mankind."

The betterment of mankind!

Au Revoir

The date-line of this issue is close to the scheduled time for the Royal departure from Fremantle. The publishers of this journal wish Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh "Bon Voyage" and a happy reunion with their little ones. We sincerely hope they will come again.

Without doubt the hope of the future might well lie with a nation headed by such a Queen and walking in the power of her example. Future visits could be well calculated to strengthen those ties and weld the great commonwealth as the instrument in the hands of the divine to bring to all mankind the ultimate in liberty and peace. Such a dream is a treasured hope of many religious folk. But it has no basis in Scripture. While we join with the nation in the hope that in a few years' time we may again welcome Queen Elizabeth to these shores, we are sure that Her Majesty agrees with us that the hope of mankind lies in the coming again of a greater than she.

The coming of our beloved monarch, her brief stay, and the promise of return, bear a close analogy with the story of the coming of the Son of the Eternal, His brief ministry in service to men, and the imminent fulfilment of His promise of glorious reunion. With the evidences clear on every hand, it seems amazing that the millions of earth, in the midst of all their woes, are not preparing for His advent. We gave our beautiful first lady a splendid welcome. What kind of reception will the King of all kings get in the day of His soon return? That is the question that should be paramount in the thinking and planning of this last generation.

It is reported that there were some rather incongruous scenes at a garden party in Sydney. Certain gentlemen in top hats and formal dress were observed climbing trees in order to get a glimpse of royalty. It is true that many thousands had only a passing view, many more did not even get a look. When the King of kings arrives in this atmosphere the Book declares: "Every eye shall see Him." It will be a compelling sight in every sense. All classes of society, high and low, will attempt to hide themselves from His presence. On the other hand there will be those of every class who will welcome the glory of that scene as the most precious fulfilment of long-cherished hope and diligent preparation. On their lips will be the heart cry: "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us; this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation." Matt. 24: 30; Rev. 6: 15-17; Isa. 25: 9.

Contrary to the wonderful reception Australia gave her Queen, first on Syd-



The Queen waves farewell to Canberra.

ney Harbour, then in Hobart, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Perth, and all along the way between, our Lord had only a few shepherds to attend His advent and a stable for His bed. But next time it will be different. Attended by the countless millions of His royal angels, surrounded by the glory always associated with His Father's presence, the stupendous cavalcade will one day soon burst upon human vision. The trumpet shall sound a note never before heard in heaven or earth. All the dead who have in life cherished the truth of God's revelation will then respond to that thrilling key and spring to life as to a morning summons from a refreshing night's sleep. In the possession of the vigour of eternal youth they are ushered by their millions into the presence of the God made man.

Jesus Himself will receive them personally and instantly. No queuing. That has gone with time. Eternity has dawned. Wonders beyond and surpassing our present comprehension or imagination are the order now.

But again we look back and realize that the promise is not yet. "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14: 1-3.

That promise is to men of troubled hearts the most precious text in all the Bible. Millions have lived and died in its blessed assurance. More millions to-

day live in anticipation that it shall be fulfilled in their own lifetime. To them resurrection means translation. In a moment, a twinkling of an eye, they confidently anticipate that at the return of the King they will part company with the problems of mortality to partake of the unlimited capabilities of an immortal body. They expect to join the millions who have died and then live, at the same moment, in the divine presence.

Should Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth return again to Australia as we hope she will, her stay must perforce again be brief. But when our Lord returns, we shall have the joy of His presence with us for all eternity. With Him are His awards. All who today accept the blood of His covenant take upon themselves the qualifications necessary for reception of His bounties then. With the bestowal of titles, as in ancient days, go the possession of royal grants. A mansion in the capital, a rich benefice on the recreated earth are just part of the picture. So long as we are in time the majority of mankind can expect but little by way of material wealth. Titles likewise are for the most part of an honorary nature. The marvel is that so many will spurn the offers of the heavenly King in favour of those of temporal will-o'-the-wisps.

It is not so with our gracious Queen, to whom we now regretfully bid farewell. In the tradition of her father, she has made the hope of the church her own. It is said that at one time the chaplain of Queen Victoria preached a moving sermon on this glorious theme of the return of our Lord. Toward the close of his address he noticed that the Queen was quietly weeping. As soon as the service closed he hastened to her side enquiring as to what he had said that might have been the cause of her distress. To which the Queen replied that her tears were of joy and longing that the Lord Jesus should return in her lifetime, so that she would have the privilege of kneeling at His feet and yielding earthly sovereignty to His own benign reign. That privilege was not given to Queen Victoria, but it well may to Elizabeth II.

What joy should then enter Her Majesty's heart if she could realize that so many who shouted their loyalty from behind the barriers on her Australasian tour, were now joining her in welcome to Christ because of the example of her own dedicated life! What joy might now be hers if she could realize that her visit among us has lifted our thoughts from the temporal to the spiritual. And it has. This journal is the mouthpiece of what tens of thousands of her loyal Australasian subjects are thinking at this very moment. In setting the thought in print, we trust that many thousands more may recognize in it the expression and answer to their own hitherto intangible, yet present, deepest, heart's desire.

In the realization that Her Majesty's expressed wish to see us once more must be limited by time and circumstances, we still rejoice, and cherish with it the glad assurance that Jesus is coming again. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

OUR ROYAL VISITORS

1. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II attends the State Banquet in Melbourne.
2. Flinders Street Station through the arch of the Chamber of Manufacturers.
3. The Queen and the Duke lay a wreath on the Tasmanian War Memorial.
4. Our Queen.
5. The Queen knights Lieutenant-General Sir Horace Robertson at Government House, Melbourne.
6. As thousands saw them in Melbourne's streets.
7. Davis Cup player, Ken Rosewall, presented to the Queen at Kooyong, Victoria.
8. The Queen drives along Swanston Street on her way to open the Victorian Parliament.



THE QUEEN VISITS WARBURTON

THE HOME OF THE "SIGNS OF THE TIMES"

From March 6 to 8 Warburton was honoured by a visit from the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, who rested at the Chalet on the O'Shannassy water reserve. Picture No. 2 shows their arrival in Warburton by Royal train. On Sunday they worshipped in St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. The Royal party is shown (3) arriving through cheering crowds; and (4) the Queen upon alighting is welcomed by the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Alan C. Watson, who escorts

her (6) into the church. Nos. 7-9 show the Royal party leaving St. Andrew's—the local minister, the Rev. Alec M. Hilliard, escorting the Duke. Later, the party drove through the grounds of the Warburton Sanitarium and Hospital. Picture No. 10 shows the Queen and the Duke arriving at the station to entrain for Melbourne; and No. 12, boarding the Royal train. Inset is Her Majesty in the observation car. Nos. 1 and 5 show portion of Warburton's illuminations in honour of the Queen.



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The royal progress through Wagga Wagga, provincial city of the prosperous Riverina district of New South Wales.



Exalted--YET ACCESSIBLE

THE royal tour has held many surprises for Australians and New Zealanders. Over long months governments, cities, towns, and hosts of common people had carefully planned the details of decorations and functions, displays and parades, through which they could best express their welcome to our royal visitors.

Of course we felt honoured and excited and filled with happy anticipation as the time of the royal visit approached. But perhaps the best and most surprising part of all was the fact that when the Queen actually did arrive, everything was so much better than the highest hopes and imaginings of the people had pictured. To see the Queen, to have her in our midst, somehow lifted our daily lives above the commonplace. The emotional and spiritual impact was perhaps the deepest and the most unexpected. Her presence has awakened a depth of feeling beyond any mere superficial excitement, more enduring than the transitory pleasure we had expected.

One woman said of her experience in seeing the Queen that she had not expected to be so moved by the sight of her, but found herself with eyes overflowing with tears and heart bursting with feeling. "I think it is the goodness shining

MARIAN M. HAY

from her life that makes us feel like this," she said. Countless thousands of others have felt the same surprise at their response to the Queen's presence.

Our cities and towns, cleaned and decorated, lighted with a thousand lights, and bright with banners and flags, are in their transformation but a picture of the uplift, the light, and the joy that have come to our hearts because we have seen the Queen.

What is it that grips people so? Why are they so lifted out of their ordinary lives and feelings?

Douglas Brass, reporting the royal tour, was conscious of this transfiguring power of the Queen's presence, and endeavoured to unravel the secret of it all. Under the spell of the royal visitors, each place feels itself invested with a new glory, and therefore feels that the Queen must feel that she has never before seen a place so wonderful.

"Some of these things could be true," says Mr. Brass in the *Melbourne Herald*. "I just don't know. But what I do know is that every city the Queen has stayed

in since she set out from London has had just that impression about itself.

"Something big and something subtle happens to a place when Queen Elizabeth comes to stay."

He then describes the interest and affection shown by the Germans and the French, and the tumultuous welcome given her in Panama, where the only British things ever seen are the ships that pass through the canal.

"These considerations always make me unsatisfied with the adequacy of the reasons that are usually brought forward to explain why Australia, for example, is so moved by the Queen's visit.

"Yes, I know she is the first reigning sovereign to visit Australia and New Zealand. Yes, I suppose her new style and titles make her the first (legalistic) Queen of Australia. Yes, I certainly agree that she is young and beautiful, and that our great expectations have been intensified by delays and postponements, and by all the unworldly magnificence with which her Coronation was surrounded. But these factors, though important, do not really provide the answer.

"You see, the Queen's presence has made a terrific impact in towns and countries right across the world. The consti-

tutional background has been relatively out of sight.

"Hardened, cynical men have everywhere fallen under her spell, communities everywhere have been enraptured, and the farewells have been tearful all the way from Balboa to Bluff, and from Bathurst to Burnie. . . .

"There is something here beyond mere legalistic reasoning and admiration for a very lovely person. The more I see of it all the more I feel that Queen Elizabeth is satisfying some deep human urge across the face of the whole Western world. . . .

"Add to the unsullied prestige of sovereign leadership the qualities of purity, modesty, delicacy, and family love, and I think we may be nearer the heart of the matter. Would you agree that this is what stirs us, and puts us under this spell?

"In the rough, anxious, post-war world, in which ideologies clash to the point of disaster and great communities are spiritually at sea, this is what we have lacked, and this is what the British royal family—the Australian royal family, if you like—is now providing for us.

"A focus of purity and decency, sufficiently exalted to touch the romanticism in us, sufficiently accessible (as in this very thorough tour) to affect us in our daily lives. The Queen is perfectly equipped to bring this ideal home to us by showing herself to us, even by being near us. Melbourne today feels this intensely, as Sydney did yesterday, and Wellington and Suva the day before.

"When she goes on to Brisbane and Adelaide and Perth and Ceylon. I believe that Sydney and Melbourne will not have lost this touch of inspiration. The secret is now for everyone to share."

Those who have seen the Queen long to see her again and again. Many thought they would be satisfied by seeing her drive past once; but to their own surprise, they find themselves seeking every possible opportunity of seeing her in her public appearances. A letter in the correspondence columns of the Melbourne Age expressed the feeling of countless common people who have not had invitations to special functions to meet the Queen.

"We have been told through the press that we could help the Queen by not staring at her in public, but on Saturday I stood for two hours and gazed at her in awe and amazement. No doubt that was plain staring, but it had nothing of idle curiosity in it, only wonder and very deep affection.

"Four times I had caught a brief glimpse of the Queen as her car went slowly by, but that was so fleeting. How could I really see her, so that I would have a memory to carry with me throughout my life? . . .

"So I went to the races yesterday, and now I have seen the Queen. I did not see the races, but that was of little consequence. I have seen the Queen. . . .

"I may never again see the Queen in my lifetime, but I now have an image that is indelibly impressed on my mind,

an image of a real Queen—dignified but natural, gracious and charming, but also gay and friendly. And now I am satisfied. That wonderful view of her has deepened my loyalty and affection."

We believe it is the spiritual qualities of her own life—purity, modesty, devotion, and love—that have made our Queen's visit such an unforgettable experience for each one of us. In her is a focus of purity and decency, exalted, yet accessible; at once warm, friendly, and human, yet lifted far above all that is mean, petty, and ignoble.

Exalted yet accessible—these words express in a nutshell the position of our heavenly King, and the secret of His power as our Saviour.

When man fell, a great gulf separated him from a holy God, and nothing that he could do could ever bridge that gulf. But God did not abandon him to despair and destruction. His love and wisdom were deeply exercised to "devise means, that His banished be not expelled from Him." 2 Sam. 14: 14.

His consuming glory must be hidden and veiled that man might bear it. In promise of His coming as a man to this earth, God appeared to the patriarchs in human guise. In order that He might dwell among His people God directed that the sanctuary be built. Its curtains and veils and coverings effectively hid the unapproachable glory of God, and so the tabernacle that housed His glory was pitched among the tents of the encampment of Israel. All the laws and ritual that governed the approach of the common people and the ministry of the

priests were enacted, not to shut the people away from God, but that He might draw near to them.

But this merely typified the coming of God to dwell with men, when through the miracle of the incarnation God was born into the human family as a babe in Bethlehem, to grow up and live a man among men, experiencing the sufferings and the temptations of mankind. His human nature was fortified by prayer and communion with God, and so in His human strength He was able to live a sinless life.

Then, in due time, and according to the divine plan formulated in the councils of eternity, the Son of God laid down His life on Calvary, paying in full the penalty of man's transgression. He rose from the grave in the power of a sinless life, and that life, wrought out in human flesh, He imparts to every one who comes to Him for salvation.

As the Son of God, sharing His Father's throne and glory, He is highly exalted, having a name that is above every name. As the Son of man, He is accessible to all, tender, human, sympathizing with every human weakness and fear and temptation. What a wonderful Saviour!

It has been said that "something subtle and big happens to a place when Queen Elizabeth comes to stay." Something still more subtle and miraculous happens to a human life when the presence of our Saviour and King comes to stay. The whole life is transfigured, delivered from sin, exalted into the heavenly places of spiritual life and power and joy.

Once we have caught a glimpse of the beauty and power of our Saviour's presence, we shall never be satisfied with a fleeting sight of Him. The cry of our hearts will be: "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God." Ps. 42: 1, 2.

It is our high and holy privilege to spend much time in communion with our Saviour and King. Daily we may meet with Him, and share our deepest feelings, our bitterest disappointments, our highest aspirations. Daily He waits to impart His strength, His love, His complete mastery over circumstances.

As we enter into fellowship with Him, we realize that we need never feel lonely again, never be unequal to the daily struggle, never be overcome with weakness and temptation.

Those who have seen our Queen passing by long for the opportunity to see her again, to gaze upon her face until its image is indelibly printed on their memory.

Nothing short of a long, unhurried gaze of admiration and worship will satisfy us as we stand in the presence of the King.

*"Not a brief glance I ask, nor passing word,
But as Thou dwellest with Thy disciples, Lord,
Familiar, condescending, patient, free,
Come, not to sojourn, but abide with me!"*



What all free churchmen regard as an honour is the fact that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her husband H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh chose to worship in the little weatherboard Presbyterian church at Warburton, on March 7, 1954. Pictured here is the Bible used by Her Majesty during the service, and showing her signature and the Duke's, on the flyleaf. The little Book is a miniature of the one presented the Queen by the Moderator of the Church of Scotland at the Coronation. In his words: "The most valuable thing this world affords."





Melbourne Lights in Honour of the Royal Visit.

WHAT inspiration our youthful and dedicated monarch has brought to these sunny shores! *Vivat Regina!* Addresses of loyalty and welcome ring out in the air and adorn the pages of our newspapers. One expression has a special appeal to us. It is part of the affirmation authorized by the Victorian Chamber of Manufacturers:—

"We, too, shall serve, as Her Majesty has pledged herself so to do."

Service has been defined by J. S. Knox, a writer of business books of international repute, as the application of the Golden Rule in individual, business, national, and international affairs. This is the greatest of all laws of human conduct. It is the transgression of this rule that has brought on all the wars of business and nations. These have destroyed so much of the wealth of succeeding generations that a majority of the human race are obliged to live in want and misery.

If every citizen and every loyal organization is prepared to implement the royal example, then indeed a new age of justice, of peace, of the elimination of friction between individuals and nations

"WE TOO..."

is about to dawn. It follows that this must be an age of the greatest prosperity the world has ever known.

World leaders who are prepared to look for the silver lining to present clouds of international gloom are optimistic in their statement of our potential. One such is Sir Winston Churchill. "The world is certainly in an awful muddle now," he remarked in the course of a speech at a recent London Lord Mayor's banquet, "but I am one of those who think there is an improvement and that time and patience and goodwill may bring about a real easement, provided, of course, that what we call the free world does not lose its unity or relax its precautions." The inference is clear that the "free world" is eager to give force to the Golden Rule. It is fitting that Sir Winston, a leading minister of the crown,

should thus translate his Queen's dedication.

No one would disagree that the future lies in men's own hands and not in "the lap of the gods." That divine revelation has foreseen the future is no argument against the foregoing. But it certainly does provide an incentive to make decisions within the framework of the best rules and according to the lessons long centuries of bitter human experience have taught. We are confident that those decisions are being made in high places. Where they fail to work out right is seen a lack of co-operation among colleagues in parliamentary life right the way down to the very grassroots of society.

When churchmen, politicians, business men, unionists, and every other group and class shall be prepared to give more than lip service to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and with her live out in practical fashion the Golden Rule: then, indeed, shall we step forward with her and her consort, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, into a new Elizabethan age of adventure, achievement, and the consolidation of all human rights.