

Canadian

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# Signs of the Times



# Mid-Century VISTA



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES PHOTO

1950, the mid-century year, provides a good place from which to look at the past and to survey the future. In attempting to look into the future we find the prophecies of the Bible most enlightening; in fact, they are more than enlightening, they are inspired and infallible.

**D**URING the late world war a bomber was shot down over Italy and the crew taken prisoner. When Italy capitulated and released the Allied prisoners, the members of this bomber crew, knowing that the country was filled with German soldiers, started out for the highest mountain peak in order to get their bearings. Obtaining from this vista a clear sense of directions, they began the long journey back to the home base. By avoiding villages and highways and travelling only by night, they finally reached their destination.

In this mid-century year it is well for the human family to pause long enough to look in the only two possible directions, backward into the past and forward into the future, in order properly to evaluate the events and conditions of this modern world and thus get our bearings. This is necessary in order to make the proper decisions and pursue the right course. "Where there is no vision, the people perish," is a scriptural statement that has been proved true in secular as well as sacred history.

The backward glance is not very reassuring. Judging the whole by the first half, Winston Churchill calls it "this terrible twentieth century." In his address last year in Boston before a convention composed of many of the world's greatest scientists and held under the auspices of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the purpose of an "Appraisal at Mid-Century," the British statesman said:

"Science bestowed immense new powers on man, and at the same time created conditions which were largely beyond his comprehension and still more beyond his control. While he nursed the illusion of growing mastery and exulted in his new trappings, he became the sport and presently the victim of tides and currents, of whirlpools and tornadoes amid which he was far more helpless than he had been for a long time. After all our victories, we are now faced by perils, both grave and near, and by problems more dire than have ever confronted Christian civilization."

In reporting this gathering of scientifically trained men, the magazine *Time* said: "The twentieth century had built higher and plowed deeper than any age before it. It had given man more power than he had ever dreamed—or feared—he

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would possess. It had whittled away at matter until the forces released from its core made mankind's general destruction a concrete possibility. It was literally looking for new worlds to conquer in space, but was farther than ever from having conquered disorder and misery in its own. It had the abolition of poverty within sight, yet the painful consciousness of poverty was probably greater than ever before. It knew more than men had ever known—except how to use its knowledge."

### *A Century of Progress*

Viewed from the standpoint of scientific achievements, the first half of the century has witnessed greater advancement than all the centuries of the past combined. It has been a period of great changes and rapid movements in every realm of human endeavour. Invention and discovery have become the order of the day. At the beginning of the century there were less than four hundred crudely built and slow moving automobiles in North America, while to-day the network of paved highways is crowded with half a billion powerfully built and rapidly moving modern chariots which constitute a graphic fulfilment of the Biblical forecast of two and a half millenniums ago: "The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways; they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings." Nahum 2:4. This was to take place in "the day of His preparation." Verse 3.

The development and use of the airplane is confined to the half century which has just closed. From the first flight in the crudely built plane of the Wright brothers, which remained in the air fifty-nine minutes and travelled a half mile, such mighty strides have been made in aviation that great passenger airliners belt the globe and crisscross every continent of the world, carrying almost fifteen million passengers a year. Freight and mail are likewise being hurled through space in ever-increasing proportions and with constantly decreasing cost. Recently a pilot broke all previous speed records in a flight exceeding seven hundred miles an hour, and a jet-propelled pilotless plane achieved the speed of 1,989 miles an hour, which is almost three times the velocity of sound.

The half century has seen the invention of wireless telegraphy, the wireless telephone, television, radar, and the harnessing and use of atomic energy. The wrong use of "the basic power of the universe" could easily depopulate the earth and reduce its

surface to a chaotic state. It has been announced that the United States is now contemplating the manufacture of a new hydrogen bomb which will be one thousand times more destructive than the atomic bomb used at the close of the last war, and one missile will destroy all life and leave uninhabitable an area of three hundred square miles. It is estimated that the first bomb will cost about two billion dollars, and two thousand would literally blow up the world and leave it a barren planet.

The radio commentator, Walter Winchell, recently summed up the happenings of the last fifty years: "In the lifetime of middle-aged people now living, they have seen the world transformed three times—and each of these changes changed the world more than anything which occurred in the last four thousand! . . . The automobile gave each family a daily radius ten times that of an emperor of only a hundred years ago. The radio enabled his mind to circumnavigate the globe at the rate of 186,300 miles a second. The flying machine enabled him to measure latitude by the second hand on his wrist watch! The twentieth century has proved that there's more than a sermon in a stone; there's a world of power in an atom!"

Regarding the rapidity of the changes now taking place in our world, Mr. Lloyd George, British statesman and former prime minister of England, said: "There are times in history when the world spins so leisurely along its destined course that it seems for centuries to be at a standstill. There are also times when it runs along at a giddy pace, covering the track of centuries in a year. These are the times we are living in now." This statement is far more meaningful now than when uttered almost a score of years ago.

### *The Future*

The first half of this century is in the past and cannot be changed. It is now an unchangeable part of the history of the human race under the dominion of sin. Its records are as permanent and unalterable as though they were chiselled in lasting granite. The backward glance is profitable chiefly from the viewpoint of the lessons learned in the great school of experience, which may serve as warnings and guides as we travel the path into the unknown future. It is out of the

background of experience that life to-day and to-morrow is either enriched or debased, improved or retrograded. Character development is never static. Change is inevitable, either for better or for worse.

Being a free moral agent with the power of choice, man is in a sense master of his own destiny. In scriptural language "wisdom is profitable to direct" a man in making decisions that will make life more joyful and worth while. Man has nothing to fear from the future except as he shall forget the lessons of the past. No institutions of learning can compare in value with that of experience, whose lessons are more indelibly impressed and thus more permanently learned. Unless the lessons of the first half of this century have been well learned, the future outlook is dark with forebodings of events more calamitous than those of the past.

A knowledge of the past is essential to a proper perspective of the future. Patrick Henry once said, "I know no way of judging the future but by the past." Knowing the trend of events, one can judge fairly accurately as to what will happen in the future. On this basis a well known radio commentator claims around eighty-five per cent accuracy in his "predictions of things to come." But this is mere guesswork and not prophecy. Prophecy is the unrolled scroll of history, just as "history is the unrolled scroll of prophecy," as Garfield once said. Man cannot actually peer into the future except through divine revelation.

The impotency of man in this respect was well stated by Samuel Gompers a few years ago when he said: "The future lies in the lap of the gods, and into that lap not even the wisest men of earth are able to look," and the historian John Clark Ridpath said that "the tallest son of the morning cannot tell a day before they take place the events that occur." But there is One who is able to see and forecast future events with a one hundred per cent accuracy, and this is one of the evidences of His divinity. He says: "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure." Isaiah 46:9, 10.

Through the same prophet, the Lord challenges the stubborn human race on the basis of His ability to predict future events: "I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of My mouth, and I showed them; I did

(Please turn to page 15)

By

Taylor G. Bunch

**NOTE TO READER:** After you have carefully read and studied Pastor Flynn's Bible lesson, turn to page 18 and see if you can answer the questions of the Bible Quiz. This is your Bible comprehension test.

I CANNOT see that the members of the Wednesday night class are losing interest in Bible study," observed Mrs. Flynn, pulling on her gloves.

"No, it appears that their interest is increasing rather than diminishing," replied her husband. "It is remarkable how a group like that of different nationalities and religious beliefs can study the Bible together."

"Yes, not only that, but the study of God's Word tends to draw them closer together and closer to God, and all these differences are put aside," replied Mrs. Flynn.

"That's right, and it always works that way, too. That is the unifying influence of God's Word. When there is no disturbing element present, all are drawn into a oneness with each other and with God. I believe that is a little sample of how it will be when we all get to heaven."

"We are going to study the subject of 'grace,'" announced Pastor Flynn after the opening prayer. "We are going to see how a mistake in this will mean not grace but disgrace, and even disaster. But first I want to tell you a story that one of the leading evangelists uses:

"Have you ever heard of the thief who could not steal \$500 when there was nobody around to stop him? A coal dealer in Denver was hurriedly called out of his office to talk on the long-distance telephone. When he finished the call, he reached into his pocket for his wallet, and lo, it was gone. He remembered he had left that wallet containing \$500 on the counter in open sight in his office. While he was out telephoning, a man came into the office who had served five years in the penitentiary for robbery. In fact, he had stolen \$40,000 just two blocks from this place some six years before. This man saw that wallet. It was lying there in open sight. There was nobody in the office to stop him from grabbing it and running. But he didn't make any effort to take it. He was not even tempted to do it. Why? The answer is in three words: "Saved by grace."'"

"Do you know, we were discussing the subject of grace to-day at the office," interposed Joyce Clement; "but we did not reach any very satisfactory conclusion. I should like to know what grace is."

"Grace is commonly defined to mean pardon, or unmerited favour. That is to say, when a person receives that which he does not merit or deserve, he is said to be a recipient of

# Grace or Disgrace — Which?

By  
Dallas Youngs

grace. Sometimes when a criminal is pardoned there is written across the face of the pardon itself, 'Saved by Grace.'

"I have a definition here from a modern writer that I think is very good: 'Grace is an attribute of God exercised toward undeserving human beings. We did not seek for it, but it was sent in search of us. God rejoices to bestow His grace upon us, not because we are worthy, but because we are so utterly unworthy. Our only claim to His mercy is our great need.' —*Ministry of Healing*, Mrs. E. G. White, p. 161.

"It has sometimes come to pass that a man justly sentenced by the law to die for his crimes has been pardoned by the governor. He was guilty, and according to the law must die. He did not deserve mercy. Therefore, when he received pardon he became an object of grace. The governor, by virtue of his office, chose to be merciful. The prisoner, then, came under the governor's grace or unmerited favour.

"That illustrates how it is with God and man. Normally we are all under the death sentence of the law. The Word of God assures us: 'All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.' Romans 3:23. We are told: 'There is none righteous, no, not one.' Verse 10. We are given to understand that 'the wages of sin is death.' Romans 6:23. We are all guilty. We have all sinned. None of us de-

serves mercy, but God in His infinite goodness extends His mercy to us. He has provided a plan whereby we may become recipients of His grace.

"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. When the sinner comes to the place where he will believe in and accept God's Son as his Saviour, when he comes to the place where he will confess his sins and turn away from them with genuine godly sorrow, then He is forgiven and passes from under the condemnation of the law to be under God's grace or unmerited favour."

"When we began attending these studies, Mr. Hoover was an unbeliever, and I was just about one, too; but now I think we have both come to the place where we want to be Christians," said Mrs. Hoover.

"Yes, that's right, Pastor Flynn," spoke up Burt Hoover. "When I started attending these Bible studies I didn't believe a thing, but I see it all differently now. As my wife has said, we want to be Christians."

"As far as we are concerned, we began attending these meetings as Catholics; but I'll confess that I have learned more about the Bible in the last few weeks than I ever learned in all my previous life, and I think I am speaking for my wife when I say that we want to live according to all that

Surprising as it may seem, everyone is either under divine grace or disgrace. Faith and obedience obtain grace. Disbelief and disobedience obtain disgrace.

H. A. ROBERTS



God teaches in the Bible," said Mr. Ryan with deep feeling.

"That is the way I feel about it, too," added Mrs. Ryan.

"As you know, my wife and I are Jewish," said Mr. Goldstein. "When I first came to the meetings it was mostly out of courtesy to Mr. Saunders, and there was a little curiosity on my part. But I want to tell you that I have come to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. I can speak only for myself, but that is the way I feel about it."

"We have never talked about it," spoke up Mrs. Goldstein; "but for a long time I have felt that Jesus was the Messiah, and I have wanted to accept Him and be a Christian. I have been praying that my husband would want to be one too. I am so happy."

"I think we shall interrupt our Bible study right now and seek God in prayer," said Pastor Flynn, as he recognized the presence and work of the Holy Spirit. "We are going to kneel,

and after I pray I want all of you to pray and confess your sins and accept Christ as your Saviour."

The half hour that followed was such a precious occasion that no one present could ever forget it or be the same afterward. The Holy Spirit was present to convict of sin and to give repentance. After Pastor Flynn had finished praying, some who had never prayed audibly before sought the Lord with tears for the forgiveness of their sins. Mrs. Flynn, having passed through similar experiences, moved over and put her arm around Joyce Clement and urged her to make a complete surrender of her heart to Christ. At last she yielded, and with a choked voice said that for a long time she had felt that she was just a hypocrite because she was not living as she knew she should. In the meantime Mr. Saunders had been pleading with Harry Pierson to give himself to Christ. At last the young man yielded and prayed with much sincerity.

When they had arisen from their knees, Pastor Flynn said: "You don't know how I rejoice at what you have done to-night. You have made decisions for Christ that will affect both this life and eternity. God will bless you as you take up your new life of service for Him; but do not imagine that you will not have trials and discouragements. Satan will try to dishearten you. He will call attention to mistakes that you make and that others make, but when he comes in as a flood, God will come in and raise a barrier against him as you pray. Remember that Jesus is an ever-present help in time of trouble. Now, I suppose, we had better go on with our Bible study."

"I was talking with one of the neighbours a few days ago," said Mrs. Saunders, "and she said that when one is under grace one does not have to keep the law any more. She said that once a person is under grace he is always under grace. Frankly, I didn't know very much about it, but I wondered if that were right."

"Suppose we let the Bible answer that question, Mrs. Saunders. I am going to read now from Romans 6: 1, 2, 14, 15: 'What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? *God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*' For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. *What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.*'

"These verses are sometimes misapplied. When it says here that Christians are not under the law, but under grace, it means that they are no longer under the condemnation of the law. It does not mean that they are no longer bound to obey the law. There is a sense in which everyone is under the law. Adam and Eve were under it in that sense before they sinned. They were under the dominion or control of the law. We are all under the dominion of the laws of our country, but we are not under their condemnation, because we have not broken them. It was that way with Adam and Eve. Before they sinned they were under the dominion of God's law, the ten commandments, but after they transgressed the law they were under its condemnation and must die.

"When the sinner confesses his sins and obtains forgiveness, he is no longer under the law in the sense that he is condemned by it, but he is still under its dominion. He is still under its control. He is not free to break it again any more than Adam and Eve were at the beginning. If he does

break it while he is under grace, then he ceases to be under grace and comes again under the condemnation of the law, and he must again seek the Lord for forgiveness. That is what Paul means when he uses that strongest of negatives in answer to the question: 'What then? shall we sin [transgress the law, 1 John 3:4], because we are not under the law, but under grace?' Here is the answer: *'God forbid.'*

"Does the fact that a man is under grace give him the right to break the ten commandments? Does it give him the right to break the eighth commandment, which says, 'Thou shalt not steal'? Of course not. You all agree that there is and can be but one answer to that question. Grace does not give any man the right to steal.

"It is the design and purpose of grace to bring every man into harmony with the law. Therefore, when the Christian violates the law of God, instead of continuing in grace he comes under disgrace. It is indeed a matter of disgrace for the Christian to lie, to swear, to break the Sabbath, to steal, to worship idols, or to trample underfoot any of the commandments of God."

"Do I understand, then," said Harry Pierson, "that one of the purposes of grace is to save us so that we can be obedient to God's law?"

"You have the idea exactly. In fact that is what David says in Psalm 119: 146: 'I cried unto Thee; *save me, and I shall keep Thy testimonies.*' We

should connect with this Romans 3: 31: 'Do we then make void the law through faith? *God forbid: yea, we establish the law.*' When the sinner is born again, and comes to have faith in Christ as his personal Saviour, this does not make void the law of God. It does not in any way release the individual from his obligation to obey the law. The fact is, the coming of faith establishes the keeping of the ten commandments."

"Would I be correct in making the statement that God manifested His grace through Jesus Christ?" asked Mrs. Saunders.

"I would say so very definitely," replied Pastor Flynn. "Here are some quotations that I believe establish that point: 'The law demands righteousness, and this the sinner owes to the law; but he is incapable of rendering it. . . . When the sinner believes that Christ is his personal Saviour, then, according to His unfailing promises, God pardons his sin, and justifies him freely. The repentant soul realizes that his justification comes because Christ, as his substitute and surety, has died for him, is his atonement and righteousness.'—Ellen G. White, in *Review and Herald*, Nov. 4, 1890.

"By the law is the knowledge of sin." The knowledge of sin; not the deliverance from sin. The law points out sin. In so doing it declares the whole world to be guilty before God. Romans 3. But the law cannot deliver from sin. No effort of the sinner to

obey the law can cancel his guilt or bring to him the righteousness of God. . . . It is through faith in the blood of Christ that all the sins of the believer are cancelled and the righteousness of God is put in their place to the believer's account.'—*Christ Our Righteousness*, Arthur G. Daniells, pp. 14, 15."

"Are there any texts in the Bible that show in so many words that those who are finally saved, the saints, keep the ten commandments?" inquired Mrs. Ryan.

"There are, Mrs. Ryan. I am going to read first, Revelation 14:12: 'Here is the patience of the saints: *here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*' Again: 'Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.' Revelation 22:14.

"You notice that 'commandment keeping' is one of the points upon which the saints are characterized. They are an obedient people. If they were not they would not be saints. You could not conceive of a disobedient saint. They are further characterized by being people of faith and patience. To be identified as a saint, a person must possess patience, obedience and faith."

Now that you have read and studied the lesson on Grace or Disgrace—Which? turn to page 18 and fill in the answers to Pastor Flynn's Quiz.

# The POWER of INFLUENCE

An Article for Youth by Gordon W. Frederick

I WILL cause them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh." Jeremiah 15:4. This is a startling accusation. It says that God is fixing the responsibility for the downfall of the Jewish nation upon one individual. Can it be possible that the fact that the Jews are scattered in all the nations of the world, as we see them to-day, is the result of one man's doings? Manasseh was only a young man at the time this verdict of "guilty" was rendered. How could one youth exert such a wide and far-reaching influence for ill?

This charge is all the more astonishing when we remember that Manasseh in the last years of his life was a

good man. It was only when he was young that he did wrong. As he grew older he became a very righteous man. When in his later years he came to know God and to live for Him, he did all he could to undo the evils of his ill-spent youth. How is it, then, that this terrible record remains chalked up against his name?

Every young man and woman should take the time to read his life story. It is not only interesting but it also illustrates one of the most basic and vital principles of life, which if a young person appropriates in his early days and continues to apply throughout his life, will not only prevent him from being a curse to others but will also save him many a sad re-

gret. This example of Manasseh's gives lie to our false and easy conception of sin. It demonstrates so vividly the truth that the only salvation that can mean the most, is the salvation that grips us from life's earliest moment to its very last.

Manasseh began to reign when he was only twelve years old. Shortly after he took the throne he began to indulge in every known kind of sin. Manasseh's guilt was aggravated by the fact that he was repeatedly warned. God sent him message after message in an effort to save him. But the worst part of all was the fact that he did not sin alone. When he degraded himself he took a kingdom with him.



H. A. ROBERTS

*"Wherewithal shall a young man [or young woman] cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word. . . . Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee." Psalm 119: 9, 11.*

Inevitably there came a time when this young sinner began to pay the penalty for his sins. Retribution slipped up on him and jarred the throne from under him and knocked the crown from his proud head. It bound him with chains and delivered him into a foreign country. What effect did this have on young Manasseh? Penalty for wrongdoing has very different effects on different types of characters. With one it only serves to harden, while with another it softens. With this young man it served to make him think. God has accomplished much for us if He succeeds in getting us to think. This experience not only made Manasseh think, but it brought him to his knees in humble and sincere repentance.

Manasseh sought God for forgiveness, and God forgave him. He had come to hate the sin that had been his ruin, and God not only forgave him but brought him again to his throne. For the remainder of his life he followed God's will. Then it was that he tried to rectify and remedy the situation in the kingdom that had come as a result of his former example. But with what result? He did not succeed. He found that it was far easier to lead men astray than it is to bring them back. It was the sad experience of this good man to have to stand by utterly helpless and see his nation go down

to ruin and know that it was but the fruit of his early seed-sowing. He was not able to save even his own son. Amon was born only to grow up to be a godless idolater.

Thus we are brought face to face with this tremendous fact. Repentance will bring us salvation whenever we repent, but there is one thing repentance cannot do. It cannot save us and others from the consequences of our sins. Go out into the field of life and sow tares for half a century, if you dare. Even then God will forgive you if your repentance is genuine, but remember what God cannot and will not do. He cannot change into wheat the tares that you have sown.

God will never, in His mercy, permit us to go this dangerous way without warning us as He did Manasseh. In the experiences of everyday life God sends us messages of warning and counsel even as He did to the youthful king. He calls us through our conscience. He speaks to us through our wretchedness and restlessness and hunger of heart. He appeals to us through our longing for usefulness. And He wants us to remember such examples as that of Manasseh so we will understand what He is trying to do for us.

Retribution does not always come as it came to this man Manasseh. It does not always come so promptly,

but it comes surely and inexorably. There are some superficial souls who think that because sin does not pay off every week end there is no pay-off at all. One time a friend of a certain minister took his little baby to an eye specialist. The child's eyes were very bad. When the physician examined them he shook his head solemnly. "Her eyes will never get better," he stated, "but they will get worse. She will be blind before she is grown." The father's face went white as he asked, "Doctor, you know my youth wasn't what it ought to have been. Is that the cause?" And the doctor answered, "You needn't have reminded me. Yes, that is the cause." It was a brokenhearted, praying and penitent father that kissed the dim eyes of his baby girl to sleep that night. Oh, of course, God forgave him and pitied him, but there was one thing that that forgiveness did not, could not, include. That was daylight for his little girl.

It is so profoundly true that no man ever sins alone. Your influence will not be so wide, perhaps, as Manasseh's, but however obscure your life may be, it can set in motion influences that will literally outlast the world. Remember this, you have control over your action before it is done, but after it is done you will seek to control it in vain. Like the ripples from a stone thrown into the mill-pond, it will spread to its unknown limit. Like a fiend, it laughs its devilish and decisive sneer in your face and says, "Control me now, if you can."

"I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth because of Manasseh." Yes, Manasseh turned out to be good, but the influences that he set in motion went beyond his reach forevermore. What a fearful fact is this! What poignant proof of the working out of this principle God has given us in the history of the Jews!

I am talking to young men and young women—you who have your lives before you. Stop and think before you act. Do not throw your lives away for one temporary and imaginary desire. Remember Esau's pathetic experience? He sold his birthright for one mess of lentils. Nor was he displeased with his bargain—that is, not for awhile. But eventually there came the time when he was sorry. There came a time when the thought of his foolish barter broke his heart.

Think for a moment of that startling chapter in the life story of David. Yes, his repentance for the deed itself was wholehearted. God heard his prayer and forgave him, but beyond that, God, with all His love and mercy,

*(Please turn to page 15)*



# WORLD AS WE SEE IT!

**A Prophetic Interpretation  
of Current Events!**

## **Don't Give the Injured a Cigarette**

THAT is the advice of the Mayo Clinic after prolonged experiment on "The Effects of Smoking Cigarettes." "The habit of giving an injured soldier a cigarette is not advisable if arterial injury has occurred, as segmental spasm of the artery is common in such trauma, and the vasoconstriction in a person sensitive to tobacco may cause irreparable damage."

Experiments showed that on the average the pulse rate increased thirty-six beats per minute because of smoking. On the average, also, blood pressure showed an average of a nineteen-point rise. Therefore, the recommendation is, and it is an inflexible one: "No smoking for those with heart disease or high blood pressure."

The argument is that the healthy heart can readily stand the strain imposed by cigarette smoking, but the diseased heart just can't take it. It is the humble opinion of this writer that if nicotine and its poisonous by-products are injurious to the diseased heart, they are of no benefit to the healthy heart. In fact it would seem altogether reasonable to conclude that they would serve to weaken and injure the heart and affect the blood pressure.

Many people are disturbed, and their worries about the injurious effects of the cigarette are allayed due to the fact that many doctors smoke. They think cigarettes can't be very harmful or those who are supposed to know would not use them. What is the answer? This: Nicotine is a drug. And, once the habit is started, the doctor, who is a human being the same as the rest of us, cannot quit. It is not that the doctor does not know the detrimental effects of the "weed," but he is bound by the nicotine drug habit, and in order to justify himself in the use of cigarettes, he minimizes their injurious effects.

It is not uncommon to hear the smoker boast, "I can quit any time I want to." But the amazing thing about it is that he never comes to the place where he wants to badly enough to make the victorious effort. Perhaps he has made the effort and has failed—many have. There are many we believe, however, who would gladly be freed from this costly, injurious habit. But it takes a determined effort of the will to break it. Yet it can be done. This writer knows. He did it many years ago. Then, I experienced the so-called pleasures of smoking; but since quitting

I have experienced the far greater pleasures of not smoking.

To smokers reading this editorial, I would say that if you want to get freedom from the cigarette master, and if you are willing to put forth a determined effort on your own part, the CANADIAN SIGNS OF THE TIMES makes the following free offer to you: We will send you without cost Dr. Kress's prescription on "How to Cure the Cigarette Habit." Dr. Kress, a physician of fifty years' standing, will give you helpful advice as you battle the cigarette monster. Address your request to: The Editor, CANADIAN SIGNS OF THE TIMES, Oshawa, Ontario.



S. CAMPBELL

SIGNS of the TIMES



MILLER

The Mosque of Omar and the Garden of Gethsemane are but two of the many "holy" places in the area of Jerusalem, the city held sacred in the minds of millions.

## Holy Places

"THE eternal city of the Jewish people has been proclaimed the capital of Israel. On Tuesday, December 12, the Knesset (Israel Parliament) decided to transfer the seat of government from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Premier David Ben-Gurion has announced that the government is determined to carry out the transfer of all Israel administration to the Holy City, moving all government departments and the parliament.

"Ben-Gurion made public this decision in the face of a United Nations resolution to set up an international regime for the Jerusalem area. In a statement at Tiberias, the Premier declared that 'no vote of the United Nations can alter the historic fact that Jerusalem is an inseparable part of Israel, and her eternal capital.' Announcing the dramatic move Ben-Gurion told the session of the Knesset: 'We cannot lend ourselves to enforced separation from Jerusalem . . . as for the State of Israel, there always has been and always will be one capital—Jerusalem the Eternal. So it has been for the past 3000 years and so it will be, we believe, until the end of time.'"—*The California Jewish Voice*.

After the death of Saul, David was anointed king over Judah, establishing his capital at Hebron. After a reign of seven years and six months he was anointed king over all Israel, and transferred his capital to Jerusalem. From that time to this in the Hebrew mind, Jerusalem has been the holy city, the nation's capital, the centre of Israel's hope.

News of the transfer of Israel's seat of government from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, therefore, comes as no great surprise. Zionists the world over rejoice in the move.

Scores and more of "holy places," places sacred in Jewish history, are located at Jerusalem. It was on Mount Moriah that Abraham offered Isaac. It was here that Solomon built the house of the Lord. It was here that the captives returned after the exile and rebuilt it. Jerusalem was the centre of the na-



MILLER

tion's worship for a thousand years before Christ and for seventy years afterward. It is therefore understandable that this place is to this day the most sacred spot on earth to the Jewish mind.

Yet the significant, and we might say, the dangerous, thing about it is that this city contains also the "holy places" of the Christians and of the Mohammedans. To the Christians, Jerusalem is the place where Christ spent much of His ministry, where He was crucified, where He was buried in Joseph's tomb, where He rose from the grave, where He first appeared to His followers; and from the Mount of Olives, near at hand, He ascended to heaven.

The Mohammedan Arab, as the Jew, claims Abraham as his father. To him as well as to the Jew and the Christian, Jerusalem is a hallowed spot. It was from here that Mohammed reputedly ascended to heaven. A Mohammedan mosque is built on the very site of Solomon's temple.

It was these same holy places that inspired the crusades, which were an attempt on the part of the European Christians to free the holy places from the dominion of the heathen. Tens of thousands perished in the attempt.

Bible prophecy tells us of the coming battle of Armageddon, in which the kings of the East will meet the kings of the West on the plains of Megiddo. We conceive that the "holy places" of the Holy Land may be a contributing cause of the final great conflict.



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*Many earnest Christians think that the New Testament contradicts or supersedes the Old. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The Old Testament is the "solid foundation" upon which the New is built.*

**A**MONG many people who are well disposed toward the Bible there has developed during recent years a feeling of doubt and unbelief in the Old Testament which causes them to reject it as reliable or as a part of the Word of God. They accept the New Testament, so they insist, but reject the Old. They believe the two Testaments to be contradictory and in conflict with each other.

The God of the Old Testament, they say, is different from the God of the New Testament. They consider the God of the New Testament to be presented as a God of love—full of mercy and pity and tenderness. To them the God of the Old Testament seems a God of wrath and anger.

Such an objection is the result of a profound misunderstanding of the teaching of the New Testament as well as the Old.

It is true that the New Testament presents God as a God of love. It does not stop there, however. It also presents this God of love as a God of justice who will punish sin.

All the passages of the New Testament which set forth the love of God also disclose the dark background of the wrath of God against all ungodliness. "The gift of God is eternal life." Nothing sounds more satisfying than that. But do not fail to observe that it is immediately preceded by, "The wages of sin is death."

"God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." Wonderful! But notice, the next phrase is "that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish." And instantly there comes to the front the fact that the God who out of love gave His Son, is the God of holiness who must turn away from sin, and that it is the very

love of God which must react against sin, because God is a consuming fire against it.

Consequently, the very thing which makes the New Testament so acceptable, that is, the atonement of Christ, His sacrifice for sin on the cross, can never be understood at all except on the basis that God must punish sin, that the wrath of God abides on it, and that it must be destroyed and removed before unregenerate men can be the recipients of the blessedness of the gospel, and return to communion with Him.

### *The Wrath of God*

"The wrath of God," the expression which is so abhorrent to men to-day, and because of which they reject the Old Testament, is nevertheless the leading idea in the New Testament from its beginning.

What was it John the Baptist preached? Wrath against evil.

What is declared to us in John 3: 36? "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: but he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

And what is the whole culmination of the Revelation? The Son of God is at last to come again in order that He may take to Himself those who have chosen Him as Saviour and Lord, while the judgment of God must be executed on those who have rejected Him.

Clearly, then, the Old Testament conception of God is the very basis on which the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ glows from all the pages of the New Testament. The Testaments are not in opposition.

The difference consists only in method and form of presentation. The Old declares, God is holy; you are sinful; the wrath of God abides upon you. O that the Redeemer would come and provide salvation!

The New announces, He has come; He has provided salvation; the holy God finds no other way to save you save through the expiatory death of His Son; understand then how terrible a thing sin is that it required the sacrifice of God's own Son to remove it.

### *The Judgments of God*

Another objection urged against the Old Testament to-day is that it contains record upon record of God's judgments. The primal pair were banished from Eden because of their disobedience; the earth was cursed because of the transgression of its inhabitants; the flood swept the race off the earth; the builders of the tower of Babel were punished by the

## ARE THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

# Contradictory?

By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

confusion of tongues; judgments fell upon the Egyptians and other enemies of Israel; similar judgments fell upon Israel itself; and other judgments in much detail are recorded in the Old Testament.

So, it is concluded, the Old Testament God is a God of judgments. The conclusion is right. He is a God of judgments. But the reason is that He is also a God of mercy and of love. He had in mind always in His dealings with men and nations the sending of His Son to lay the groundwork of human salvation. He did not purpose that the race which He planned to save should be brought to an end by pollution, defilement and apostasy. The ultimate judgment He would postpone as long as possible in order to bring in redemption. So He sent preliminary judgments in order to make it possible for mankind to carry on.

If Adam and Eve had remained in Eden in a state of sin, the race would shortly have ended. The race would have perished in Noah's day, poisoned by its own corruption. God's judgment on it made it possible to make a new beginning. Such judgments were sent in order that God might continue His dealings in mercy.

In the Old Testament as in the New there are many expressions of loving-kindness and tenderness from God. He "will abundantly pardon." "With the Lord there is . . . plenteous redemption." "Can a woman forget her sucking child? . . . Yet will I not forget thee." "The mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but My kindness shall not depart from thee." "How shall I give thee up, Ephraim?" "There is forgiveness with Thee, that Thou mayest be feared." "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters." "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

### *The Severity of God*

As a matter of fact, the severity of God against sin is more pronounced in the New Testament than in the Old. And that is so because sin is seen more clearly in its enormity because of the increased light of the

gospel. God did, indeed, tell His ancient people how awful sin is, but He was unable to make plain to them what He has made plain to us; namely, the substitutionary atonement of His Son, and His sacrificial death. God was unable to say to Israel what He has said in the gospel, Sin is this—that you would destroy God; you would kill Me! Nothing compared with that was revealed in the Old Testament. But when men crucified Jesus, sin stood forth in its real character.

The Old Testament does not contain such a severe definition of sin as that it is enmity against God. It is the New Testament which should make men tremble. It is not out of the Old Testament, but out of the lips of Jesus, that the words issue: "These shall go away into everlasting punishment."

Another objection which is urged against the Old Testament is that in its records the followers of God, and even God Himself, are vindictive. The

friends of God are represented as calling on God to visit judgments on their enemies. It almost appears as if they wanted and prayed for the annihilation of the ungodly, rather than their salvation. This is not commendable, we are told, in the light of the New Testament's teaching of forgiving and loving our enemies.

There are those who attempt to reply to this by admitting that such a spirit is wrong, and was wrong when manifested by Old Testament saints. But, they add, there was nothing to do but record it because it was true. Those ancient worthies did possess those feelings, but they were wrong.

Another explanation is equally inadequate. It is that humanity was then in its infancy, and allowance must be made for such feelings because of the immaturity of the race; but now these things have disappeared, and nothing in the gospel or the New Testament corresponds with them. Such an explanation is simply not true. If it were true, then, indeed, the Old and the New Testaments are at odds.

The teachings of the Old Testament, however, about our relation and duty to enemies is not different from the teachings of the New Testament on the same point. In writing to the Romans on this subject, Paul discloses that he knows of no higher, better, or more perfect injunction to express than one which he goes to the Old Testament to quote: "If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink." Romans 12:20; Proverbs 25:21.

Israel was taught from the beginning that vindictiveness is wrong, and they were not to take vengeance in their own hands, but commit it to God. They were instructed, "If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again. If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under his burden, and wouldest forbear to help him, thou shalt surely help with him."





## Equations of Destiny

What the experts think may be the most important scientific development in many decades has been recently announced by the world-renowned mathematician, Albert Einstein. This was revealed in the publishing of four equations which, Einstein believes, express the correlation between electromagnetism and gravitation.

Scientists have for a good while believed that these two forces are inter-related, since their properties touch at many points. Einstein thinks his equations—incomprehensible to even most mathematicians—express completely this interrelation. His new theory will be much harder to prove correct than his earlier theory of relativity. If it does prove to be correct it will be the crowning work of his career thus far.

## Fearful Promise

Few people will be cheered by news that United States scientists now definitely believe that they can manufacture a hydrogen atom bomb, thus utilizing the same sort of titanic energy that gives the sun its heat. A hydrogen bomb could be at least 1,000 times as powerful as the bombs dropped during the war, and might devastate 100 square miles each. The cost of development is estimated at two to four billion dollars. The cost to the world, if it is developed and used, may be many times that. Originally shelved because of the cost, and the resulting danger of the expenditure's upsetting the national economy, the project may be pushed ahead now because of the knowledge that Russia has the atom bomb.

## Alcoholism, Of Course

Rated as the most serious cause of behaviour illnesses known to modern man, alcoholism is on the increase in spite of all the efforts being made to combat it—all the efforts, that is, excepting stopping its manufacture and sale. No less an authority than the *Journal of Clinical Psychopathology* is responsible for the above rating, in an article by Dr. Robert V. Seliger, chief psychiatrist of the Neuro-psychiatric Institute of Baltimore. He says that the toll in money, happiness, lives and alcoholically induced accidents is incalculable.

## PAS

Para-aminosalicylic acid is the name of a drug used in a new treatment of tuberculosis. Used in Europe for this purpose first, the drug has been viewed with skepticism by U. S. doctors. However, recent tests have been made in a California sanatorium and results are so promising that it is likely its use will spread. Altogether, 150 patients have been treated, some with striking improvement. Only one got worse. The drug reduces fever, spitting and the toxic effects of tubercle bacilli in the body of the patient. PAS is the abbreviation for this promising new compound.

ONE evening following a revival service in Chicago an elderly Scotsman made his way to the inquiry room for a personal interview with the great Evangelist Moody.

He said, "Mr. Moody, when I was but a small laddie I began to read my Bible and as I read along in the Old Testament I realized that if a person were to keep the law perfectly for fifty years and then break it a great curse would rest upon him. Though I was but a child a terrible distress of soul burdened me. But I kept on reading. I finished the Old Testament and commenced reading the New. One day I came to the beautiful provision of John 3:16 and the great truth dawned upon me that God had provided a wonderful way of escape from the curse of the law through the death of His Son Jesus. The burden that had weighed so heavily upon my young heart for many months rolled away and I found peace and joy in my newly found Saviour. Mr. Moody, do you think I was converted?"

The evangelist looked the old man straight in the eye and replied, "It sounds to me as though you had a wonderful conversion!"

"I thought so, too," the Scotsman continued, "but as I grew older I fell into bad company. The boys I ran with drank and gambled. It was easy for me to fall into the clutches of evil, and now to-day you see me a confirmed drunkard and gambler. Now my question, Mr. Moody, is, 'If God could save me in the first place and forgive my sins, why did He not keep me in that original saved condition and give me the victory over every temptation that came to me?'"

"The trouble with you, my friend," replied Mr. Moody, "is that you have only half the gospel. You believed that Christ died for your sins and that you were justified. But that is only half the gospel. Christ not only died for you but He came forth from the tomb a living Saviour into whose hands God had given all power in heaven and in earth. Do you believe that?"

"I do," the Scotsman replied.

"Then, my friend, the other half of the gospel is that in the living Christ there is power to live the life of victory over sin. You need the other half of the gospel."

Are you one of the countless sinners or halting Christians to-day who need to know the blessed truth about the other half of the gospel? Are you feebly and ineffectively struggling for release from the vice-like grip of evil habit or conscious sin?

If so then these words are for you!

One Christian writer who had found the secret of victorious living says, "The plan of redemption contem-

# The OTHER HALF

By Robert Pierson

plates our complete recovery from Satan."—*The Desire of Ages*, E. G. White, p. 311. Not only will Christ forgive our sins when first we come to Him, but day by day He can and will impart to us the help and strength we need to meet every temptation the evil one brings to us. We cannot hope to enter heaven until we have gained the victory over those sins that so easily beset us. The thief must stop stealing. The murderer must leave his killing. The profane man must gain the victory over his evil tongue. The unruly child must learn obedience and respect for his parents. The twentieth century idolater must rid his heart temple of those idols of wealth, position, pleasure or whatever it may be. We cannot enter the gates of pearl and inhabit the mansions of God while we are still clinging to our sins. "The plan of redemption contemplates our complete recovery from sin."

How does that victory over sin come? Paul answers the question for us: "The victory is ours, Thank God! He makes it ours by our Lord Jesus Christ!" 1 Corinthians 15:57, Moffatt.

There is the secret of victorious Christian living. Were we all millionaires we could not buy it! Though we possessed the ceremonial finery of a Saul of Tarsus we could not merit it. But thank God it is given to us, without money and without price, through our Lord Jesus Christ!

The Lord of heaven who loves you interposes on your behalf in your great struggle against Satan. He has promised that never will He permit Satan to come to you with any temptation that must overwhelm you. This is part of the other half of the gospel! Listen to these words: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able." 1 Corinthians 10:13.

That is a blessed promise, is it not? Sometimes we feel we have more than our share of temptations and that we cannot possibly meet them all successfully. Listen, my friend: God will never permit Satan to tempt you more than He will help you to bear!

You have seen a little dog on a leash out for exercise with its master. It may strain and tug for all it is worth but it can go only as far as the hand of the

master permits. Similarly God has Satan on a leash, as it were, and he can go only as far as God will allow.

This was true in the experience of Job. God permitted Satan to attack Job and tempt him sorely. But Job's heavenly Father also said, "Thus far can you go, Satan, and no farther." (See Job 1:6-12.) So it is with every child of God. Tests and temptations come to us that our characters may be perfected, but our Father in heaven keeps the evil one in check and will not allow him to tempt us more than we are able to bear.

The gospel prophet Isaiah also gives us this blessed assurance of help in the hour of temptation: "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." Isaiah 59:19.

If Satan has been overwhelming you with his onslaughts, there is a promise for you, my friend, that will help you. Pray earnestly that the Lord will lift up a standard against the evil one on your behalf! Cling to the promise, and your heavenly Father will fulfil His Word to you!

A little story I heard some years ago beautifully illustrates this blessed truth we all must learn and make our own:

A young man whose past exemplary life bespoke a deep Christian experience found himself slipping as he was thrown with a group of godless, profane fellow workmen. Almost ready to give up under the pressure of his surroundings, he sought his pastor and

poured out his heart, asking for counsel.

"How can I live the Christian life, working as I do in such an atmosphere of infidelity where every conversation is filled with smut and profanity?"

Sitting on the table by the minister's side was a beautiful pure white lily. Pointing to the graceful flower the minister asked:

"Do you know where this lovely flower came from?"

"Why, yes," the young man replied, "it came from a dark unlovely bulb that had been planted first in the black, rich soil brought from the marsh."

"That is right, my friend, that lovely pure white blossom came from the black marsh soil. But what has kept it pure and white coming from such a place?"

"Why, God kept it so!" the young man replied unhesitatingly.

"Exactly," the minister agreed, "and He will keep you so, too, if you will but let Him!"

Yes, and He will keep you too, if only you but learn to "let go and let God." The battle is in the hands of a Captain who has never known defeat. It is He who promises you the victory for which you long! Paraphrasing the words of Paul, "The victory is yours, thank God! He makes it yours by our Lord Jesus Christ."

Won't you accept by faith the other half of the gospel now—yes, right now? If you will, God will bless.

*The gospel of Jesus Christ has power to save a man from sin, and power to keep him from sinning after he is saved. It is an omnipotent gospel.*

H. M. LAMBERT





# BIBLE ANSWERS

by your Bible Answerman

Send your Bible and religious questions to "The Bible Answerman"  
Box 398, Oshawa, Ontario.

**Dear Bible Answerman: Why did not God kill the devil as soon as he sinned in heaven?**

That is a good question, and one that perplexes many people. It is certainly true that God had power to destroy the rebel at once, and He would have done so had it been best for the universe in its future peace and happiness.

In considering this question we must remember that Satan had made certain charges against the government of God and against the law of God. God's government is one of love, but Satan claimed that it was unjust, and that if he had a chance to demonstrate his form of government he would execute justice and give the angels the full liberty that they deserved. It must also be kept in mind that Lucifer occupied a high position in the heavenly government. And another thing to remember is the fact that none of the angels of God had ever before had the slightest experience with sin and rebellion. They were unable to discern it as the awful thing that it is.

Had God exercised His power and destroyed Lucifer and his rebellious followers at once, the loyal angels and the rest of the inhabitants of the universe could not have discerned the issue clearly. There would ever have remained in the minds of some the thought that perhaps, after all, Lucifer was right in his contentions, and there would have been repeated rebellions down through the aeons of time.

There was but one thing that God could do, and that was to confine the rebellion to one place in His vast universe, and allow Satan time to demonstrate the nature of his government of force. Therefore, God cast the rebels to this earth and has given Satan six thousand years to show the brand of justice and freedom that he claimed was superior to God's government of love. The angels of heaven and the inhabitants of all the other worlds of the universe have been privileged to look upon this earth during the period of Satan's rule and to see for themselves

the awful nature of the angel who came to be the god of this world.

This world has been an object lesson to the rest of the inhabitants of the universe. They saw the Son of God lay aside His great glory in heaven and come to this earth, take upon Himself sinful flesh, and live here in the very land of the enemy for more than thirty-three years. They saw the temptations and persecutions to which He was submitted by Satan. They saw the devil inspire sinful men to cry out for the blood of the Innocent One. They saw the mob demanding of Pilate that He be crucified. They saw the robber Barabbas preferred to their beloved commander. They saw Him mocked, scourged, smitten, spit upon. They saw wicked men under the motivating influence of Satan nail Jesus to the cross.

They heard the tender, forgiving

words of the Redeemer as He said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." At the cross they saw—painfully contrasted—God's government of love and Satan's government of coercion. Having seen this exhibition of Satan's cruelty they could know and did know the character of his government. However, it was necessary for the security of the universe in the ages to come that they see the terrible lengths to which a course of disobedience would lead. And that is the reason why God did not and could not kill Lucifer immediately when he sinned. The promise now is that affliction shall not rise up a second time. Once the present sin problem is ended, the peace and tranquility of the universe is secure for all time to come.

**Dear Bible Answerman: I am a young woman and want to be saved. What must I do? J.B.**

This is a most important question. It was asked of the apostles Paul and Silas, by the Philippian jailor, as recorded in Acts 16:30-33: "[He] brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the Word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway."

The first essential of salvation is to recognize yourself as the sinner that you certainly are. "There is none righteous, no, not one . . . For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:10, 23. It is only after the sinner sees himself as the sinner that God recognizes him to be, that he has any anxiety about his corrupt, polluted condition, and only then will he take steps to obtain forgiveness.

Confess to God that you are a lost sinner; confess your sins to Him, and then believe that according to His Word, He has forgiven you. You may not feel any different than you did before, but remember that it is not by feeling that you are saved—it is by

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faith. "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8. "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.

Owing to the fact that you are sinful, you have no righteousness to present to God. All our righteousness is as filthy rags. However, when you accept Christ as your Saviour, His righteousness is imputed to your account.

## THE POWER OF INFLUENCE

*(Continued from page 7)*

could not go. He could not save David from the consequences of his sin. His bloody and lustful deed became possessed of a power beyond his control.

"Down!" he cries to it in helpless horror. But it will not down.

"Then where are you going?" he asks, all a-tremble with dread.

The fiendish deed answers, "I am going to steal the purity of your daughter Tamar. I am going to make your son Amnon into a rapist. I am going to turn your handsome boy Absalom into a murderer."

An evangelist tells of a meeting held some years ago in a city in Kentucky. A girl was converted in his meetings. She belonged to a wealthy and prominent family. She wanted to join the church, but to this her mother objected. The minister went to see the mother and to plead with her. But she said she wanted her daughter to have her coming-out dance soon, therefore she didn't want her to

It covers you as a garment. "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9, 10.

Having accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour and obtained forgiveness of sins, it is necessary to turn away from every wrong

change her associations and standards of living just yet. The preacher left that home with a sad heart.

About three years later he was holding a series of services in a neighbouring town. One morning a long distance phone call came to him asking if he would conduct the funeral of this young woman. She had especially requested it before she died. When the minister arrived at the funeral home he was told that the remains would not be viewed by the friends. However, the mother herself took him in to see his young friend of a few years past.

Leaning on the minister's arm, the mother showed him her daughter. There, lying upon her breast, was a little bundle of shame. Nothing was said. The casket was closed, and after the service was over the minister tried to comfort the stricken mother. Finally the penitent and heartbroken mother found Christ a real comfort. And she turned to her other daughter and said, "Mary, I have found the salvation that I rejected three years ago."

The daughter was silent for a moment and then replied, "Not quite,

thing and follow Christ wholly. It is necessary to become obedient to the law of God—not to be saved, of course, but because you already are saved. Said Jesus, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." John 14:15. We find that those who are characterized as saints by the revelator are those who have both faith and obedience. "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12.

Mother. You have found salvation it is true, but it is not the salvation that was offered to you three years ago. Your salvation then would have included my sister. Now it means only the salvation of yourself."

Dear young person, you may be saved at any time. Many a father is saved after he has wrecked his boys. This mother was saved after she had destroyed her daughter. Manasseh was saved after he had ruined his kingdom. But I submit to you that it is not the largest salvation. It is a salvation that may yet leave you with a burning hell in your own heart, the hell of the memory of evil you can never undo, the wrongs you can never right, and of lost men and women, led away from God by your influence, whom you can never lead back again.

In the light of these startling facts, I repeat this word of our Lord, "Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Make it so in your young life. Give God your life now and in so doing you will save both yourself and those subject to your influence. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve."

## MID-CENTURY VISTA

*(Continued from page 3)*

them suddenly, and they came to pass. Because I knew that thou art obstinate, and thy neck is an iron sinew, and thy brow brass; I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I showed it thee: lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them, and my graven image, and my molten image, hath commanded them." Isaiah 48:3-5. The boast of modern man would be that his own ability, power and scientific skill are responsible for the events that occur and the achievements made.

It is estimated that there are more than one thousand prophetic utterances in the Scriptures, and that fully eighty-five per cent have been fulfilled and that the other fifteen per cent are being fulfilled or pertain to the near future. The students of the

prophetic Word can say with Joshua of old concerning the first group of predictions that, "all are come to pass" and that "not one thing hath failed thereof," and therefore we can depend on the forecasts of the future meeting their fulfilment, and that with certainty they too "shall come to pass." (See Joshua 23: 14, 15.)

The leaders of men in this age would demonstrate greater wisdom if they would draw more from the fountain of divine revelation. A noted writer said that "it isn't safe to prophesy unless you are inspired." But we can make our predictions on the basis of the revelations of the prophets and in that sense share their inspiration. Someone has said that "the greatest need of the modern world is a prophetic message," but that will have to be given by a prophetic people, and both are now in the world in fulfilment of a score of Bible predictions. All who ignore or disbelieve the

divinely inspired revelations of Scripture will one day be greatly embarrassed and hang their heads in shame. This also is a Biblical forecast: "The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the Word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them?" Jer. 8:9.

Those who would properly evaluate the second half of the twentieth century and thus make proper decisions, should heed the admonition of the apostle: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the Day-star arise in your hearts." 2 Peter 1:19. Bible prophecy fringes the dark clouds and the future with a silver lining and forecasts a brighter day.

In further articles we will look into the future from the vista of the half-century point through the telescope of Bible prophecy.



# The DOCTOR'S VOICE

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# RELAX for Health

By

W. H. Roberts, M.D.

## Losing Weight

**Question:** I have lost twelve pounds' weight during the past three years. My fingers get numb and white at times, particularly when exposed to cold. I have been working in a plant with a damp concrete floor. Is there a way to regain my normal weight, and what should be done for the hands?

**ANSWER:** A physical examination and urinalysis should be done to see if there is any organic basis for the loss in weight. Increase in the caloric intake in the diet will in due time be reflected in the weight. In rare cases whetting agents to increase digestibility of fats are helpful. Sorlate is one of the recent brands that have become available. As far as possible the hands should be kept out of cold water, emotional stress should be avoided, and tobacco should be eliminated if it is used at all. Vasodilating agents to relax blood vessels would have to be prescribed by a physician.

## Overweight

**Question:** I am seventy-seven years of age, considerably overweight, have a blood pressure of two hundred, and have severe aches and pains at night. My limbs swell in the daytime. What can be done for me?

**ANSWER:** There should be a gradual weight reduction. Elderly people tolerate a rapid weight reduction very poorly. More rest is required when one is dieting. Salt should be rigidly restricted, including foods high in salt, such as pickles, sauerkraut, etc.

## Leukemia

**Question:** Would you kindly tell me about, and the name of, the disease in which the white blood cells multiply more rapidly than the red blood cells?

**ANSWER:** Leukemia, for which there is no too-satisfactory treatment at present, may occur in acute and chronic forms. The white blood cells tend to displace the red to the extent that profound anaemia may develop requiring blood transfusions.

In spite of the abnormal number of white blood cells, the general resistance of the patient tends to be low. A condition sometimes confused with leukemia is infectious mononucleosis, which may occur in epidemics and is usually self-limited. There is often a low-grade fever and marked swelling of the glands of the neck. There is probably a chronic form of the condition also.

## Cracked Hands

**Question:** What is a good remedy for cracked hands?

**ANSWER:** Lanolin ointment rubbed well into the hands twice daily is helpful. Gloves should be worn during cold weather, particularly for outdoor work.

## Enlarged Heart

**Question:** Is enlargement of the heart of serious significance? I have been troubled for weeks with a cough which hardly stops day or night. My age is past seventy-five years.

**ANSWER:** An enlargement of the heart itself is of no serious consequence. The fact that you have a persistent cough might indicate a little weakening of the heart muscle. You should obtain as much rest as possible and avoid stair climbing, heavy lifting, etc. It would be well to restrict salt in the diet. Medical examination and an X-ray of the chest would seem advisable.

## Stomach Ulcers

**Question:** I have stomach ulcers. Is there any harm or gain in using corn oil, e.g., Mazola, in cooking or salads? Are there vitamins in corn oil?

**ANSWER:** Mazola oil is soothing to the stomach, as is olive oil, and can be taken with benefit. If one has a stomach ulcer it is best to avoid salads. Corn oil is a good source of vitamin F, which is beneficial to the skin. Two tablespoons of fat daily is all that one requires; so where corn oil is used it should be substituted for butter.

ONE of the baffling mysteries of medical science for many years has been the cause, the mechanism of production, and the treatment of so-called functional disorders which were no more nor less than vague symptoms, and included migraine headaches, spasms of inlet or outlet of the stomach, bowel irritability, et cetera. Certain it was that fatigue, worry, anxiety and dietary indiscretions were often precipitating factors and that they usually occurred in high-strung, nervous individuals who found it difficult to relax.

Russell N. Dejong of the University of Michigan Medical School, writing in the *American Journal of Nursing* of September, 1946, has well summarized present knowledge concerning migraine in particular. He states that migraine is more frequent in the "thinkers" than in the "doers"; that "patients subject to migrainous attacks are apt to be tense, nervous, worrisome, overly conscientious individuals who work hard but fatigue easily."

Before further quoting his alarmingly frank description of the average sufferer it might be well to state that the personality defects he outlines can be corrected in rather short order by taking a philosophical outlook upon life and realizing that we are but mere mortals in an imperfect world.

He adds: "They are often shy, sensitive to criticism, subject to doubts and fears, and react strongly to all stimuli. The woman who is subject to migraine is apt to be a meticulous, fastidious housewife, extremely neat, careful, orderly and efficient. The man subject to sick headaches is often overambitious and exacting, with an exaggerated sense of responsibility and a perfectionistic attitude toward himself and everyone else. Both may be persons who take on many additional responsibilities. They are people who get things done. They take life seriously and feel responsibility keenly. It is often stated that they are rigid and repressed, somewhat imma-

ture emotionally, and are quite dependent upon other individuals."

Concerning precipitating factors he speaks of overwork, fatigue, loss of sleep, worry, hunger, anger, frustration or excitement. He mentions also the unexpected guest, an additional responsibility, a problem that at the time seems insoluble. He does not exclude allergies and endocrine disturbances, which occasionally are mainly responsible. To these should be added the use of tea, coffee (in fact all caffeinated beverages), alcohol and tobacco.

For relief of the headache which is due to initial spasm of meningeal or cerebral arteries, followed by abnormal dilatation of the same, he speaks of ice or heat to the side of the head affected, hot tub baths, enemas, oxygen (or fresh air), and vitamins (particularly nicotinic acid), and the more or less specific drug, ergotamine tartrate (gynergen). These, however, are but expedients, it being realized that one's habits of living and outlook on life have often to be completely changed.

There came upon the scene in 1929 Dr. Edmund Jacobson. He wrote a book entitled *Progressive Relaxation*, in which he introduced scientific approaches to the study of the problem of relaxation. A revised popular work of his is entitled *You Must Relax*. Very briefly some of Doctor Jacobson's views will be referred to and quoted. He suggests that one way to avoid the ill effects of the complexities of modern life is to return to a simpler way of life.

This obviously being rather impracticable, he suggests that his methods may permit one to enjoy modern civilization without burning the candle at both ends. He states that "in the rush of the present day, man has in part forgotten how to live. Joy in sunlight, birds and flowers is left chiefly to the poet; delight in line and curve is sought in the studio; while interest in circumstance becomes the special task of the dramatist. This deficiency in modern living seems at least partly due to the fact that the appreciation of beauty as well as doing things beautifully demands a certain abandon. Lacking this, it would seem, many persons, defeated in the purposes of their special pursuits, become discontented, even to the point of suicide." Further, in time of greatest perplexity patients often admit that even while in health they permitted their businesses to master them rather than not allowing themselves to be continually concerned about them.

Doctor Jacobson feels that too often the fatigue and functional disorders that accompany abnormal tension are

treated with glandular extracts such as thyroid, with not sufficient attention being given to the underlying cause. He affirms that when muscles are contracting, not only when one is busy, but also when one is at rest, nerves are overactive and nervous energy is needlessly being dissipated. He has found that persons living over-tense lives may dissipate nervous energy, as measured on delicate instruments, at a rate almost equal to that of a soldier at the front, an athlete running a race, or a student writing an examination.

Abnormal tension is revealed by talkativeness, purposeless movements, twitchings and jerkings, blinking, staring, stroking the beard, mopping or wrinkling the brow, and fumbling with buttons and the watch chain. Relaxation of skeletal or voluntary muscles will favourably affect tensions of involuntary or visceral muscles.

As treatment he recommends an hour's practice at relaxation, daily, in a quiet room. He is of the opinion that such things as suggestion and auto-suggestion have no scientific basis and can result in injury to the personality. These, by the way, are but modern revivals of mesmerism.

As an example of how his method can be put to a practical use, I think of the statement of Major Bazett-Jones of the American Air Force in speaking of the most critical phase of the Battle for Britain, when men and machines were down to the irreduc-

ible minimum. The strain was so great and so many survivors were invalidated home on account of nervous disorders that some means had to be devised to keep the boys up in the air.

They tried Jacobson's methods, at least they sounded very much like them. In the few minutes between "missions" the men were instructed to lie down in their bunks and stretch out and completely relax. There was to be no purposeless movements of hands or grinding of teeth. If necessary they were to speak to their legs and tell them to relax, also their arms. Abdominal muscles were also to be relaxed, and chest muscles so that they would breathe almost imperceptibly. Facial muscles were to be relaxed, which necessitated a slight smile. This in turn required pleasant thoughts. Finally they were to repeat over and over the words found in 2 Timothy 1:7:

"God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Thus physically relaxed they were enabled to take up again their arduous duties with the confidence that they would have unlimited power at their disposal. They went into battle with a sense of duty rather than of hatred for their enemies, and they had the assurance that in spite of everything, reason would remain on her throne. These principles have their application in the conduct of our routine daily lives.

*Birds, flowers, trees, water—all nature in general helps to relieve nervous tension. It was God's original plan that all men should live in close proximity to all these. Had this been done, nervous disorders would be at a minimum.*

H. M. LAMBERT



# Grace or Disgrace - Which?

(This is Pastor Flynn's Bible Quiz. After you have carefully studied the lesson, see if you can answer the questions.)

1. Why would not the thief steal the wallet? .....
2. What is grace defined to mean? .....
3. Write false or true after the following statements:
  - a. There was \$550 in the wallet. ....
  - b. Sometimes the words "Saved by Grace" are written across a pardon. ....
  - c. God bestows His grace upon us because we are worthy. ....
  - d. A recipient of grace is one who receives that which he does not deserve. ....
4. Fill in the blanks:
  - a. There is none righteous, ..... "
  - b. We are given to understand that " ..... "
  - c. " ..... , and come short of the glory of God."
5. How many deserved God's mercy? .....
6. How much did God love the world? .....
7. What had Bible study done for Mr. Hoover? .....
8. What had Mr. and Mrs. Goldstein come to believe? .....
9. For what purpose did Pastor Flynn interrupt the Bible study? .....
10. What did Miss Clement confess? .....
11. Fill in the following blanks: "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? ..... How shall we, ..... live any longer therein?" "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? ....."
12. How does one come under the condemnation of the law? .....
13. In what sense were Adam and Eve under the law before they sinned? .....
14. What happens when a person who is under grace breaks the law? .....
15. Is the Christian under grace or disgrace when he steals? .....
16. Does faith make void or establish the law? .....
17. Give two texts which show that the saints keep the commandments. ....
18. Characterize a saint in three ways. ....

BEVERLY SMITH is a little girl who has no sense of pain. Dr. Frank R. Ford of Johns Hopkins Hospital said that Beverly's condition is due to some defect or short circuit in the central nervous system, and does not register pain, as in the case of an anæsthetic which paralyzes the nerves so pain does not register in the consciousness. When Beverly bumps her head she does not cry, or when she puts her hand on a hot stove or in scalding water, she feels no pain. Her mother says that spanking does no good, because she does not feel it. This condition makes it necessary that somebody watch her continually to prevent her from injuring her body, since nature's alarm signals do not register. Otherwise, she might break a bone and continue to use it and do much harm before it was set. An attack of appendicitis would give the child no notice of pain, and there is always the danger that internal disease would go unnoticed until it was too late to operate.

A great deal was said and written in newspapers and magazines, and by medical authorities concerning this case, and even politicians philosophized about this freak of nature. Some of our modern politicians as well as religious reformers have philosophized that it was possible for medical science and for political reformers to create by their own planning and devising a world without fear, a world without want, a world in which there would be no sorrow, no pain, no suffering, and they cited Beverly Smith as an example who will never know any pain or suffering, nor feel any want, or any pang of fear.

But God ordained that pain, suffering and sorrow, and ultimately death, should be the lot of all sinners when sin first entered this world back in the Garden of Eden. "Unto the woman He said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow. . . . And unto Adam He said . . . cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. . . . In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." Genesis 3:16, 17, 19.

There will always be the fear of want among mankind in man's sinful state, for Christ said: "Ye have the poor always with you." The Bible also states that just before Christ's second return to this earth, "there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation," resulting in "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those

# The *Strange Case* of Beverly Smith

by

C. S. Longacre

things which are coming on the earth." Daniel 12:1; Luke 21:26.

God in His infinite wisdom saw that it was not good for a sinner to live without pain, without fear, without want, and without punishment for his misdeeds. No one can violate the moral law of God nor the natural laws of nature, which are also the laws of God, without suffering the consequence of his transgression, and, in God's plan, the ultimate punitive justice for his wilful disobedience to the God of heaven in the great judgment day. Nothing is more definitely and clearly set forth in Sacred Writ than that all men must suffer for the consequences of sin in dying the first death, and that ultimately the wilful and unrepentant sinners must suffer the penalty of dying the second death in the final dissolution of the earth in "the lake of fire." So it is physically impossible for man to be his own saviour and deliverer from pain, fear, want, trouble and death by the improvement of medical science or by reform legislation and political evolution.

To sever the nerves that register pain in a sinner, so that he can violate the natural laws of nature without being conscious of pain, would in a short time spell disaster to him, unless he was constantly guarded against such violations. If all sinners in this world were constituted as is Beverly Smith, incapable of suffering pain when violating nature's laws, the world would be turned into a madhouse.

There is no security in any human planning. We must not be deceived by the fair promises of our modern preachers and politicians who tell us that if we follow their ideologies and submit ourselves to their altruistic schemes and socialized planning, we will have nothing to fear, and they will provide all our necessities with absolute security without our having to decide anything for ourselves. That

*Neither the laws of nature,  
nor God's spiritual laws may  
be violated without pain.*

is the road that leads to the government poorhouse and to government serfdom.

Mankind in its sinful state and carnal nature would soon destroy its soul temple through reckless abuse of the body if there were no sense of pain, and no warning symptoms of approaching disease. Nevertheless we must not forget that God has promised that those who shall be accounted worthy to obtain the world to come and "the resurrection from the dead," at Christ's second coming, "are equal unto the angels," "neither can they die any more," because they "are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection." Luke 20:35, 36.

The inhabitants of the world to come are those who have responded to the call of God, and, as the apostle Paul said, those "whom He called, them He also justified; and whom He justified, them He also glorified." Romans 8:30. On the resurrection morning "death is swallowed up in victory," and "this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Corinthians 15:53, 54.

This does not mean that in the recreation of man in the image and likeness of God, clothed with immortality, the redeemed children of God in the world to come have bodies that are no longer sensible to pain, but that they refrain from the things that cause pain and suffering. They have obtained complete victory over all their sins, and they now live the life of Christ, "who knew no sin," and as



ANNE SHRIBER

the apostle John says, "Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not. . . . Whosoever is born of God [in the resurrection from the dead] doth not commit sin; for His Seed [Christ] remaineth in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." 1 John 3:6, 9.

Free moral agents are always capable of sinning, but they are also made capable to resist temptation and to avoid the commitment of sin. The angels are free moral agents and have the power to resist evil or to choose evil. Some of the angels chose to remain sinless; others sinned and left their holy estate and "first dominion" and were cast out of heaven with Satan, the originator of evil. All of the angels when they were created were given conditional immortality. This immortality they were to retain as the gift of God provided they were obedient to all of God's requirements, but if they sinned by disobeying God, they were to be deprived of this gift of conditional immortality, in the final judgment day.

The prophet Micah predicted that when God sits on His throne to reign over His redeemed people on the earth made new, "nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it. . . . And we will walk in the name of the Lord our God forever and ever." Micah 4:3-5.



STAR PHOTO

# God's "NO"

By

Martha E. Warner

*As a faithful divine parent,  
God must deny some requests.*

IT IS not always easy to believe or to understand that God's "No" is just as truly an answer to prayer as His "Yes," but it is so.

There was Mrs. Burns, a good Christian woman, so good, in fact, that she reminded one of the Pharisee who passed over on the other side of the road.

When you thought of her spotless house, you at once thought of your own in contrast—the mat that covered the worn place in the rug; the scratches and dents in the woodwork and the furniture which the children said were just "axidents."

You also thought of the time when you and Danny made a short call at Mrs. Burns' house, and how Danny, after reaching home, immediately raced upstairs and straightway slid down the banister, calling, "I'm just letting off steam, 'cause I didn't dare breathe or stir in *her* house." And you always treasured in your heart his words as he snuggled up against you and said, "You know, Mom, I just love our house. Don't you?"

There came a day when, by grapevine telegraph, it was learned that Mrs. Burns was to become a mother—mother of a little son, for she had asked God for one. Therefore she was indignant when advised not to set her heart too much upon having a son, for the stork sometimes gets orders

mixed. She asked of God, and had He not said, "Ask and ye shall receive"?

But when the happy day came that a little bundle of humanity was laid in her arms and she heard the nurse say, "You're the mother of a fine little girl, Mrs. Burns," her love for God and His Word turned into hatred. For a time she behaved like an insane person. She berated God—even called Him a liar and said there was no truth in Him or in the Bible.

She did not become calm at once, but when she did she refused to so much as look at her baby. Her husband tried to reason with her, tried to show her how a little girl would brighten their home, but she would listen neither to him, nor to her pastor who had been called to see her, and who tried to make her understand that God had some good reason for sending the little girl instead of the wanted son, and that someday the reason would be made plain. But she would have none of it, neither would she permit her pastor to pray. She was through with God and through with prayer. Her smug Christian experience was shattered.

However, it should not have been, for God gives us to understand that whatsoever we ask we receive of Him because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. It is to be hoped that the time will come when Mrs. Burns will understand that there is a reason or a chain of reasons behind all that happens in God's universe, even if our human limitations prevent our complete understanding. It is in times like these that a refuge is to be found in believing that God understands and cares, and in believing, too, that His "No" is just as truly an answer to prayer as His "Yes."