

# *Our* TIMES

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DECEMBER  
ISSUE



The Season's Greetings





# STANDING BY

*The Saviour Is Always Near*

By INEZ BRASIER

Men need a pilot to guide them through life's troubled waters just as surely as does the ship at sea. (Authenticated News photo.)

IT WAS a year of troubles that came one after the other, and sometimes more than one at a time. There was grief that tore the heartstrings until it seemed that never again would they vibrate. Misunderstanding came, and life was all but crushed from the soul. But with it all a friend was standing by, one whose tender encouragement was a ray of purest light through all those long slow months.

Standing by! So many times have I thought of it. An earthly friend standing by with prayer and sympathy, a representative—shall I say?—of the Friend of all friends, who was even there in the shadows watching so tenderly, though the gloom seemed to hide His face. But He was there, according to His promise: "Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isaiah 43: 1, 2.

Yes, He is standing by in these days of confusion and perplexity. He is standing by, closer and nearer, when troubles come as a whirlwind to buffet. His love that brought Him even to Calvary for you and me surrounds us, and there will come not one thing for which this love is not sufficient.

No tears are ever too great to be borne when He is near, and when His arms are underneath to hold us steady as they come, whether of trial or of grief. In the great steel mills pieces of steel are placed on special platforms and pounded over and

and me; but, oh, His strength is our strength, and we need never go down in defeat.

The story is told of a ship in great distress at sea. For many hours mountainous waves had pounded across its decks. Its call flashed through the wild darkness. At last the answer came, "Standing by!" Again and again until dawn broke over an angry sea, the comforting message was flashed, "We are standing by!" And in the light of dawn the weary sailors were taken from their sinking vessel.

How many times we despair when the load grows too heavy for our hearts, and the burdens press until we faint and are about to fall! How many times we cry out when the thorns along the way have pierced our feet! How we need to remember that Christ is near. He is here, close to us, if we but accept it in all these experiences which come. We may know His sustaining, comforting presence.

"The blessed Saviour stands by many whose eyes are so blinded by tears that they do not discern Him. He longs to clasp our hands, to have us look to Him in simple faith and permit Him to guide us. His heart is open to our griefs, our sorrows, and our trials. He has loved us with an everlasting love, and with loving-kindness has compassed us about. We may keep the heart stayed upon Him, and meditate upon His loving-kindness all the day. He will lift the soul above the daily sorrow and perplexity, into a realm of peace."—E. G. White, *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 26.

Standing by! A little child awoke during the night, frightened in the darkness. "Are you here, Father?" he called.

"Yes, Son, I am here."

(Continued on page 15)

## Two Worlds

By MARY LOUISE STETSON

It's a beautiful world that God has made,  
A world of flowers and trees,  
A world of majestic mountain peaks,  
A world of fathomless seas.

It's an ugly world that man has made,  
A world of leafless trees,  
A world of shattered mountain peaks,  
A world of blood-stained seas.

But who can say what a world might grow  
From the chaos man has wrought  
If in every nation throughout the world,  
The will of God were sought?

over with a huge weight. They are closely watched. Will they come through as perfect pieces or will they reveal hidden defects? It may be that it is even so for you

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UP TO NOW when people talked of the end of the world, they were looked upon as cranks or religious fanatics. The very idea of a catastrophic finale for this planet was considered fantastic. It brought ridicule from the learned and the scientifically informed.

The scoffing has ended. The ridicule has stopped. Men have covered their mouths. The world's great men, its scientists, its statesmen, its educators, its literati, its savants, the intelligentsia of the race, have awesomely muted their reproaches against the "prophets of doom," and themselves are discovered among the prophets.

That atomic bomb which dropped down over Japan has violently altered the thinking of the world.

Men look forward today with profound fear—a shattering, benumbing fear—of the primordial forces of the universe and what they may bring upon mankind and the world.

Men are *talking* peace. That is not what they are *thinking*. Foreboding and profound apprehension occupy the minds of men. What this Frankenstein monster of atomic energy will do, and what to do with it, so that it may not get out of control, has agitated the thought of the world. A rushing, tumbling torrent of gloomy comment by world observers, churchmen, statesmen, and scientists has filled the organs of public opinion.

Suddenly man has broken into the powerhouse of God, and finds himself in possession of awesome secrets. He is trembling before them and is fearsomely wondering what they will do to him if he tries them out.

#### *Tremendous Power*

He has learned how to liberate and unleash energy—atomic energy, cosmic energy—the energy locked up in the material of which the universe is made. The discovery has put him in possession of tremendous power, power such as he had not dreamed of before.

But he is not God. That power was safe in God's control. Is it safe in man's control?

That question was in the minds of the men who witnessed the first public demonstration of the release of the vast energy locked within the hearts of atoms of matter in the rehearsal for Hiroshima and Nagasaki which took place in New Mexico on the morning of July 16, 1945.

The record of that historic event was written by William L. Laurence, a skilled observer and writer, a staff member of *The New York Times*, who was detached for service with the War Department at its

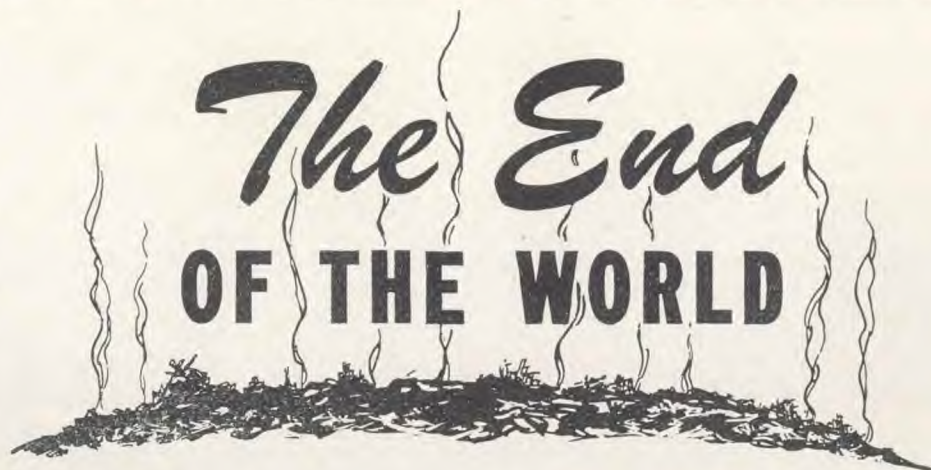
request to explain the atomic bomb to the lay public.

He witnessed that "burst of flame such as had never before been seen on this planet, illuminating earth and sky for a brief span that seemed eternal with the light of many super-suns." And he describes it in language which reveals how deeply he was impressed with the solemn sense of mankind entering into the awful

orange, expanding, growing bigger, rising as it was expanding, an elemental force freed from its bonds after being chained for billions of years.

"For a fleeting instant the color was un-earthly green, such as one sees only in the corona of the sun during a total eclipse.

"It was as though the earth had opened and the skies had split. One felt as though he had been privileged to witness the



#### *As Prophesied by the Scientists*

secrets of deity. His vivid description is a classic of fine writing. He wrote in *The New York Times* of September 26, 1945:

"I watched the birth of the Era of Atomic Power from the slope of a hill in the desert land of New Mexico.

"A green flare flashed out through the clouds, descended slowly, opened, grew dim and vanished into the darkness.

"The voice from the clouds boomed out again:

"Zero minus three seconds!"

"Another green flare came down. Silence reigned over the desert. We kept moving in small groups in the direction of Zero. From the east came the first faint signs of dawn.

"And just at that instant there rose

birth of the world—to be present at the moment of Creation when the Lord said: Let there be light.

"On that moment hung eternity. Time stood still. Space contracted into a pinpoint.

"To another observer, Professor George B. Kistiakowsky of Harvard, the spectacle was 'the nearest thing to Doomsday that one could possibly imagine.'

"I am sure," he said, 'that at the end of the world—in the last milli-second of the earth's existence—the last man will see what we saw!'

"A great cloud rose from the ground and followed the trail of the Great Sun.

"At first it was a giant column that soon took the shape of a supramundane mushroom. For a fleeting instant it took the form of the Statue of Liberty magnified many times. . . .

"It touched the multi-colored clouds, pushed its summit through them, kept rising until it reached a height of 41,000 feet, 12,000 feet higher than the earth's highest mountain.

"All through this very short but extremely long time-interval not a sound was heard. I could see the silhouettes of human forms motionless in little groups, like desert plants in the dark.

"The new-born mountain in the distance, a giant among pigmies against the background of the Sierra Oscuro range,

(Continued on page 17)

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By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

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from the bowels of the earth a light not of this world, the light of many suns in one.

"It was a sunrise such as the world had never seen, a great green super-sun climbing in a fraction of a second to a height of more than 8,000 feet, rising ever higher until it touched the clouds, lighting up earth and sky all around with a dazzling luminosity.

"Up it went, a great ball of fire about a mile in diameter, changing colors as it kept shooting upward, from deep purple to





# The Sky Blazed at Night!

NOT ONLY the people of modern times, but also the disciples were vitally interested in the signs of the second coming of Christ and the end of the world. The coming of Christ has been the hope of the church of God since the days of Enoch.<sup>1</sup> It is therefore not surprising to find the disciples asking Christ the following question: "Tell us, When shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?"<sup>2</sup>

Immediately the Master answered this question about the signs of His second coming and the end of the world. He told them of the evidences that would be seen on earth that would testify of His return. Christ then turned from the things that would be seen on earth to the signs that would appear in the heavens. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven."<sup>2</sup>

## "For Signs"

At creation God intended the "lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years."<sup>3</sup> God has used these "lights in the firmament" for signs of His second coming. In former articles we have seen how the Lisbon earthquake on November 1, 1755, was to be followed by the darkening of the sun May 19, 1780 and the full moon was not to give her light on the evening of May 19, 1780.

The last sign in the heavens, as mentioned by Christ as an indication of His second coming to the earth, was the falling of the stars. John the Revelator tells us just what this falling of the stars would look like: "And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind."<sup>4</sup>

There have been many meteoric showers, but the shower of November 13, 1833 was outstanding, and "Meteoric astronomy really began with this shower."<sup>5</sup>

Two astronomers have written about this rain of stars as follows: "An exceptional—and we might say, terrifying—shower of meteors was seen on this continent during the small hours of Novem-



N. A. Niswonger, Artist

## THE WORLD'S GREATEST METEORIC PHENOMENON

By GEORGE S. BELLEAU

ber 13, 1833. Single reliable witnesses estimated that they saw thousands of 'shooting stars' hourly, some of which left trails that persisted for minutes."<sup>6</sup>

"A magnificent display of shooting stars started the inhabitants of the Americas on November 12, 1833. Beginning before midnight the meteors increased in frequency until at dawn they were as thick as snow flakes. A single observer often saw 20 appear within a second. Many superstitious people thought this marked the end of the world, and as bells tolled they prepared for the future."<sup>7</sup>

It has been my privilege to look through the old newspapers following November 13, 1833, in the libraries of New England. There I found what the eye witnesses wrote of this fiery shower of stars. I shall give a bird's-eye view of the

newspaper reports of this great display that foretold the near coming of Christ.

The editor of *The Old Countryman*, a paper published in New York, recognized the shower of stars as fulfilling the prophecies of the sixth seal of Revelation. "We pronounce the raining fire which we saw on Wednesday morning last an awful type, a sure forerunner, a merciful sign, of that great and dreadful day which the inhabitants of earth will witness when the sixth seal shall be opened."<sup>8</sup>

*The New York Commercial Advertiser* also recognized the fulfillment of prophecy in the falling stars. "The whole heavens seemed in motion, and little need have been borrowed from a morbid sensibility to imagine, that the opening of the sixth seal was indeed at hand, when 'the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs when she is shaken of a mighty wind.' Never before

(Continued on page 19)



**A**BOUT 35 years ago my wife and I attended a series of evangelistic meetings. We both accepted Christ as our personal Saviour, gave our hearts to Jesus, to live and work for Him. A short time afterward our two-year-old daughter, Freda, died. Her death brought intense grief to our wounded hearts. It was so very hard to bear. However, the minister's funeral sermon gave us hope and brought comfort to our sorrowing hearts.

He took his text from Jeremiah 31: 15, 16, which reads: "Thus saith the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not. Thus saith the Lord, Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy." He told us the Bible story of King Herod, who planned the death of all the male babies in Bethlehem, and all "the coats thereof, from two years old and under." Matthew 2: 16-18. He called our attention to God's precious promise to those grief-stricken women—that their children would come again from the land of the enemy, that they would be resurrected and placed in the arms of their mothers.

The minister taught us that in the Scriptures death is likened to sleep. He said that more than 25 times it is stated in the Old Testament that some one "fell asleep" and was "buried." He told us the story of Martha and Mary and Lazarus. (John 11: 1-45.) Jesus told His disciples

that Lazarus was "asleep," and the disciples thought that he was recovering; but Jesus said, "Lazarus is dead." The Lord also said: "But I go, that I may awake him out of sleep." Then Jesus went to the tomb of Lazarus, called him from the grave, and gave him back to his sorrowing sisters—Martha and Mary. My mother used to call me to wake me up to go to school when I was a boy. Jesus called

sleep the sleep of death." Psalm 13: 3. I said to my friend, "We are not afraid of sleep. We go to bed at night, enjoy a good rest, wake up in the morning, and begin life anew. So in death, we go to sleep—we die—to wake up in the resurrection morning to begin life anew, if we are His redeemed. From this time onward throughout eternity we will be with Him in His kingdom."

## "They Shall Come Again"

### GOD WILL FULFILL HIS PROMISE

By JOSEPH H. CAPMAN

Lazarus. He called him from the sepulcher.

Then the minister gave us the Bible picture of Jesus' second coming, with all the holy angels, to resurrect the righteous dead, and to translate the living righteous. (1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18.) Truly this sermon gave us comfort, hope, and peace, and through this Bible truth I have been able to help and bless others.

When I was the chaplain of a large sanitarium, I met a man who had been given up to die of cancer. We talked of death and the future life. I told him that death is compared to, or like, sleep. I read David's prayer: "Consider and hear me, O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I

"Why!" he said, "I never understood it before. Why, that isn't half bad! I am not afraid to die now."

We had further Bible studies. He accepted Christ as his personal Saviour, and fell asleep in Jesus.

I often think of the second coming of Christ, when He shall come to claim His own. I think of those little baby boys of Bethlehem, my own little girl, and all the righteous who have died, as well as those who will live to meet Him in peace. I want to live for Him now, and live eternally with Him and all the righteous. I want to be with my daughter and with all my family again.

There have been some great gatherings, but the greatest of them all will take place when the dead in Christ shall awake and arise from their dusty beds. At this time the living righteous will be caught up together with the risen saints to meet the Lord in the air to be taken to the New Jerusalem, where they will be united with their loved ones for eternity. (1 Thessalonians 4: 16-18.)

Dear reader, let us plan for that great day when the family chain will be relinked, when we may have an endless life in a beautiful world where there will be no sin, strife, sorrow, or death; but peace, happiness, pleasure, and plenty. There will be everlasting joy when the righteous shall come again from the land of the enemy. (Jeremiah 31: 15, 16.)

One day when looking for a man, I learned that he was working at the cemetery. I found him, and while we were talking, I noticed an inscription on a tombstone. It contained the deceased one's name, the date of his birth, the date of his death, and his age. In addition there

(Continued on page 17)

The promises in God's word give comfort and assurance to the sick and sorrowing. (S. C. Eldridge photo.)







tolerate in their midst an evil that hangs more crepe on the doors, breaks up more homes, causes more divorces, produces more felonies, wrecks more lives, blasts more bright hopes, handicaps more promising youth, defeats more armies, and ruins more nations than nearly every other

By C. S. LONGACRE

detrimental factor in life. Liquor never helped any one to climb the ladder to success. It never builds any character of nobility. It never produces genuine happiness. It never sweetens the disposition. It never creates greater skill. It never makes a man more industrious. It never adds any glory to the family pedigree. It never made any community more peaceful. It never made any town more desirable to live in. It never added any efficiency to the workers in a factory. It never made the public highway more safe

# Moderate DRINKING

**T**HERE are some professed Christians who believe that they can drink liquor moderately without suffering any harm and without violating any moral principles. In fact, observation and experience have taught me as a chaplain in a prison, and as an evangelist, that there are many professed Christians who attend cocktail parties and indulge in the social glass, card playing, dancing, and gambling. There are some professed Christian churches that hold bingo parties and bazaars where all kinds of gambling, dancing, and drinking go on for the purpose of raising funds for the churches.

There was a time when drinking alcoholic beverages was considered a moral turpitude, and church members were disciplined for indulging in any beverage that led to intoxication. The use of such things was considered incompatible with a profession of Christianity. The church, above all institutions, should stand for sobriety and all things that make for decency, yet some religious bodies encourage drinking and gambling at social functions in order to replenish the church treasury. There is many a pastor who laments the drinking and gambling by the members of his flock,

## ARE PROFESSED CHRISTIANS JUSTIFIED IN INDULGING OCCASIONALLY?

yet he dares not speak against these practices in public for fear that his church members who thus indulge will tighten up their purse against his financial appeals.

There are many church members who go to the polls and vote for the legalization of the liquor traffic in the hope that their taxes will be reduced by means of the revenue derived from the sale of alcoholic beverages. This idea is as foolish as was that of the old miser who used to travel 10 miles to buy a pound of nails because he could get them there a cent cheaper than he could from the store next to his dwelling. In going the 10 miles to buy one pound of nails, to save one cent, he was required to pay a seven cent toll for traveling over the pike, which he failed to take into account. Likewise, the American public paid out five times more tax funds to liquidate the evil results of the liquor traffic last year than the total amount of revenue received by the government from the liquor business.

It is difficult to understand why people

to travel on; it never reduced our crime record. It never stood for any standards of moral decency. And it never inspired any man or woman to aspire to noble and high ideals in life. While it debauches, corrupts, and despoils the drinker, it strikes its most devastating blows at the drinker's loved ones. Only those who have had to suffer the dreadful consequences and abuses at the hands of a drunken husband and father, can know anything of the heartaches and humiliation that have to be endured in a drunkard's home.

The one thing above everything else to be shunned and dreaded in connection with the drinking habit is the social glass. Practically every confirmed alcoholic started with a social drink. No person would ever have become a drunkard if he had not indulged in the first glass. In that first drink is couched a potential inferno. It is like the tiny rill that trickles through the dike, which unless stopped at its source may later open the floodgates to a mighty torrent.



To those Christians who would justify moderate drinking, and believe that so long as they do not drink to excess they are not suffering any harm and are not violating any Christian ethics, moral principles, or scriptural injunctions, the wise man Solomon says: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Proverbs 20: 1. "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder." Proverbs 23: 31, 32.

Some Christians are confused when they read certain texts in the Bible which condemn the use of wine and others which sanction its use. This difficulty is cleared up when one realizes that the one English word "wine" in the Bible is translated from 11 different word forms in the original Hebrew text. The Hebrew people had a different word for each kind of drink, and they made a differentiation between forbidden drinks and the beverages which were sanctioned by the Lord. In the English translation the one word "wine" is used to refer to both fermented and unfermented beverages.

It was the unfermented wines that had a "blessing" in them (Isaiah 65: 8), and made "glad the heart" (Psalm 104: 15). Wine that "moveth itself" (Proverbs 23: 31) was fermented wine, and was forbidden for beverage purposes. We are commanded not to "look" upon it, much less to drink it even moderately.

### *Alcohol a Poison*

Alcohol is a poison and a habit-forming narcotic. It has no value as a food, nor is it prescribed any longer as a medicine by reputable physicians. The effect of alcohol is to benumb the senses, to impair the judgment, to dethrone the reason, to becloud the memory, to slacken responsibility, and to deceive the drinker as to his true condition. No one has yet discovered any real and permanent virtue in the use of alcoholic beverages, even when used moderately. Its only effect upon the individual is to harm him physically, mentally, morally, spiritually, and economically. This is the universal verdict of reputable and experienced men. There was a time when physicians believed that alcoholic beverages were helpful in curing certain diseases, but the medical profession now regards the use of alcohol in medicine as generally non-essential, and as doing more harm than good to a patient.

When a Christian indulges in the social glass, even moderately, he is violating Paul's injunction: "It is good neither to



### **How to Find Help From Bible Reading**

- 1—Read quietly and slowly, not as you race through the daily newspaper. "Not snap shots but time exposures" should be the rule.
- 2—Read alertly, not mechanically. Visualize the scenes; "taste" the words.
- 3—Read searching for the personal message each day's passage has for YOU.
- 4—Your inner response to God's message is important. When He condemns, bow penitently; when He offers help, rivet your hope on that assurance; when He commands, obey.
- 5—Underline passages which strike fire. Copy them and repeat them aloud. Jot down a list of ideas these passages start going.
- 6—Memorize one key verse daily.
- 7—Set aside and keep a definite daily time for reading.
- 8—Make it a habit; enter the New Year as a daily reader of the Bible.

eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak." Romans 14: 21. We, as Christians, should never exert an influence or set an example which may lead a weak brother to go astray or to stumble. The apostle has said: "None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." Verse 7. The Lord holds us responsible for our influence on others, if that influence opens the door to temptations to do evil.

The wise man said: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Proverbs 14: 12. It makes no difference how clean we are, if we play with mud we are going to get dirty. The counsel of the wise is to let liquor alone. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." Psalm 1: 1.

The psalmist says: "I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked." Psalm 26: 4, 5. We should steer as far as possible away from the margin of danger.

Liquor as a beverage is injurious to the human organism, and anything that defiles and corrupts the body, which the Bible says is the temple of God (1 Corinthians 3: 16, 17; 6: 19, 20) is forbidden to the Christian, who seeks only the glory of God. Whoever defiles the body as the temple of the living God, him will God destroy. On the resurrection morning God will not give such another body to corrupt and to defile.

### *Responsible for Influence*

For a Christian to give his influence and franchise to legalize the nefarious, soul-and-body-destroying liquor traffic is deplorable, and such individuals cannot expect to go blameless in the judgment day. God will hold every voter responsible for the proper exercise of his franchise. Unless that influence and vote is on the side of virtue, righteousness, and temperance, we will not be held blameless in the day of the Lord's vengeance against evildoers. He sends this challenge to you and to me: "Who will rise up for Me against the evildoers? or who will stand up for Me against the workers of iniquity?" Psalm 94: 16.

Again God asks us Christians the question: "Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?" Psalm 94: 20. The legalizing of the liquor traffic is to "frame mischief by a law."

It is a shame that clergymen of some denominations employ fermented wine as a symbol of the Lord's blood at the communion services. It was the unfermented wine which Christ used as a symbol of His blood when He instituted the Lord's Supper, and He promised that He would not partake of it again until He should drink it "new" (Matthew 26: 29) with them at the Lamb's Supper in the New Jerusalem (Revelation 19: 9). It is a well known fact that some clergymen drink all the wine themselves at every communion service instead of giving it to the people to drink as did the Saviour. When, under

(Continued on page 19)



# How DID

By  
PAUL WICKMAN

The Arch of Constantine, shown at the left, still stands in Rome as a memorial of the Roman emperor (below) who issued the first civil Sunday law. (Gendreau photo.)



THE LAW of love need never be enforced through intimidating penalties for malefactors nor by a threat of imprisonment or death or any other means of law enforcement. Love itself is the strongest assurance of obedience to a divine will. Jesus has said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Matthew 22: 37-39.

Love to God is revealed by keeping the first four commandments, and love to man by heeding the last six. The language of love is the language of heaven, "For God so loved the world, that He gave." John 3: 16. Because of this divine principle, the church and state were kept separate throughout Jesus' teaching. He taught: "Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's; and unto God the things that are God's." Matthew 22: 21.

The history of the Christian church reveals a gradual decline from the Master's teachings until the majority accepted error, and a minority group struggled to keep aloft the standards of divine truth.

The first century following the ascension found the Christians adhering closely to the teachings of Christ and the apostles in the matter of Sabbath observance. No record in the New Testament scriptures can be found of Christ or His disciples teaching or observing any other Sabbath than the seventh day. It is written of Christ, "that He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue

on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read." Luke 4: 16. His followers imitated His example. (See Luke 24: 56; Acts 13: 13-16, 42, 44; 16: 12, 13; 17: 1-4; 18: 1-4, 11; Revelation 1: 10; Hebrews 4: 9, margin.)

The falling away from the apostolic faith was gradual after the first century A. D. The innate hatred among the Romans for everything Jewish caused many of the Gentile Christians to avoid any religious practices which seemed Jewish. As a result, the seventh-day Sabbath gradually fell into increasing disfavor. The rising tide in the baptism of half-converted pagans tended to liberalize the general views of religious teachings.

The church becoming more and more worldly, sought legislation to enforce her religious practices. The first Sunday laws were enacted by Constantine in the fourth century. As we endeavor to analyze his motives, we see that no doubt his desire to preserve the Roman empire made him attempt to unite his people, Christians and pagans alike, in the matter of religion.

"Constantine, the first Christian Cæsar, the founder of Constantinople and the Byzantine empire, and one of the most gifted, energetic, and successful of the Roman emperors, was the first representative of the imposing idea of a Christian theocracy, or of that system of policy which assumes all subjects to be Christians, connects civil and religious rights, and regards church and state as the two arms of one and the same divine government on earth. This idea was more fully

developed by his successors, it animated the whole middle age, and is yet working under various forms in these latest times; though it has never been fully realized, whether in the Byzantine, the German, or the Russian empire, the Roman church-state, the Calvinistic republic of Geneva, or the early Puritanic colonies of New England."—Philip Schaff, *History of the Christian Church*, fifth edition, Vol. 3, p. 12.

It is evident that Constantine recognized and catered to the growing influence of the church that was directed by the bishop of Rome. "The Constantinian toleration was a temporary measure of state policy, which, as indeed the edict expressly states the motive, promised the greatest security to the public peace and the protection of all divine and heavenly powers, for emperor and empire. It was, as the result teaches, but the necessary transition step to a new order of things. It opened the door to the elevation of Christianity, and specifically of Catholic hierarchical Christianity, with its exclusiveness towards heretical and schismatic sects, to be the religion of the state. For, once put on equal footing with heathenism, it must soon, in spite of numerical minority, bear away the victory from a religion which had already inwardly outlived itself.



# SUNDAY LEGISLATION ORIGINATE?

"From this time Constantine decidedly favored the church, though without persecuting or forbidding the pagan religions. He always mentions the Christian church with reverence in his imperial edicts, and uniformly applies to it, as we have already observed, the predicate of catholic. For only as a catholic, thoroughly organized, firmly compacted, and conservative institution did it meet his rigid monarchical

Sunday legislation was perpetuated through the centuries. Had men accepted Sunday worship as a matter of heart appeal and love to God, no legislation would have become necessary.

"By the edict of Constantine the keeping of the day in the same manner as Christians kept it was enjoined by making physical labor unlawful on that day. Sixty-six years later, 387 A. D., in another

forced by the civil power."—*The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, Vol. 11, p. 147.

Thus we see how each emperor added amendments or renewed the laws when the people became lax in their observance. "Though the decrees of the seventh and eighth centuries were obviously part of a Sabbatarian movement, the term 'Sabbath' was not applied to Sunday until Alcuin had written: 'Cujus observationem mos Christianus ad diem dominicum competentius transtulit.' (Homily 18, post Pentec.) Under his inspiration the new feeling, long fluid in society, was crystallized in Charlemagne's decree of A. D. 789, which forbade all ordinary labour on Sunday as a breach of the fourth commandment."—James Hastings, *Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics*, Vol. 12, p. 106.

From about 900 to the Reformation, Sunday was observed more like a holiday. The only limits on pleasures and sports

(Continued on page 15)

## Historical Data On a Man-made Institution

interest, and afford the splendid state and court dress he wished for his empire. . . . He . . . enjoined [in A. D. 321] the civil observance of Sunday, though not as *dies Domini* [day of the Lord], but as *dies Solis* [day of the Sun], in conformity to his worship of Apollo, and in company with an ordinance for the regular consulting of the haruspex (soothsayers)."—*Id.*, pp. 30-31.

Constantine's endeavors to unite the world on religion were not based on a fundamental acceptance of the Scriptures.

"But the Sunday law of Constantine must not be overrated. He enjoined the observance, or rather forbade the public desecration of Sunday, not under the name of *Sabbatum* or *dies Domini*, but under its old astrological and heathen title, *dies Solis*, familiar to all his subjects, so that the law was as applicable to the worshippers of Hercules, Apollo, and Mithras, as to the Christians. There is no reference whatever in his law either to the fourth commandment or to the resurrection of Christ. Besides he expressly exempted the country districts, where paganism still prevailed, from the prohibition of labor, and thus avoided every appearance of injustice."—*Id.*, p. 380.

Constantine "reverenced all the gods as mysterious powers; especially Apollo, the god of the sun," and consulted the soothsayers. "He retained the title and dignity of a *Pontifex Maximus*, or high-priest of the heathen hierarchy. His coins bore on the one side the letters of the name of Christ, on the other the figure of the sun-god and the inscription 'Sol invictus' [the Invincible Sun]."—*Id.*, pp. 14, 15.

Constantine never formally renounced heathenism by receiving baptism until just before his death in A. D. 337.

As a result of Constantine's precedent,

Roman decree, Sunday is called 'The Lord's Day.' This constitutes legal recognition of the Christian name for the day. . . . The Sunday legislation of the Roman empire never went backward. The decrees of Valens, Valentinian I, Gratian, Valentinian II, Theodosius the Great, Honorius, Arcadius, Theodosius II, Leo I, and Athenius, between 364 and 467, added other inhibitions, but also made from time to time exemption from certain prohibitions of the law.

"In the time of Justinian, 685 A. D., the laws of the empire on the subject were gathered into the codes, which contained the law of the Roman empire, and from the year 800, when Charlemagne was crowned, this code was of force and effect all over the 'Holy Roman Empire' (as it came later to be known), that 'complex Frankish empire,' a state composed of many states. During the Middle Ages there were decrees and canons of popes and of councils concerning the observance of Sunday, which, though ecclesiastical, were of civil force because en-



## No Room

By GEORGE C. HOSKIN

Aside, the inn, a low-roofed building, stands  
And anxious footsteps quicken their approach,  
The cheery rays that pierce the twilight glow  
Portend a welcome will be found therein.  
"May we lodge here?" an eager voice inquires;  
"There is no room," unkind is the reply.  
"Where shall we go?" The night is dark, and fear  
Each moment shrouds with strange anxiety.

"Where can we go?" The weariness is pain;  
There is no friend to bid them enter in;  
No doors swing open for their sheltering;  
No friendly greetings for the stranger pair.  
Pathetic circumstance! No room for Him!  
No room for Him of whom the Psalmist sang,  
And whom the eager star-led shepherds sought,  
And whom the angels, chorusing, adored.

Anon, a sheltered rest was found for them  
Within the humble place of lowly herds  
And the Christ child was born, and voices swelled  
Their praises to the skies. The Christ is born!  
The shepherds from the east with joy beheld  
And from the angel host there came a song  
That cheers the hearts of men in every land:  
"Peace on earth, Good Will to men."





# The ALPHA

JESUS said: "I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last." Revelation 22: 13. Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet. And the word "alphabet" in English is a compound of the Greek letters A(alpha) and B(beta).

By the above statement from the Bible is expressed the fulness of Jesus, which is "the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Colossians 2: 9. The meaning of this fulness may be conveyed more intelligently by Paul's statement that "Christ is all, and in all." Colossians 3: 11. He is not only the Beginning and the End, but He "is all, and in all." So completely is He the First and the Last of the Book of God that He is called "the Word of God." Revelation 19: 13.

It has been said that Genesis is the beginning or beginnings, and that the Revelation is the ending or endings, of the word of God, for what begins in Genesis is finished in the Revelation. For example, Genesis tells the story of Eden lost and the Revelation tells of Eden restored; Genesis records the entrance of sin into our world, and the Revelation reveals its exit; Genesis begins with the creation, and the Revelation closes with the new creation of God. Thus the Revelation, while revealing the culmination of sin and a world of sin, foretells also the ushering in, or beginning, of the glorious new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Christ is not confined to the books of Genesis and the Revelation. He is not only the Alpha and the Omega, but His glory is seen throughout all the books of the Bible from the first to the last. He "is all, and in all."

One author has said: "In every page, whether history, or precept, or prophecy, the Old Testament Scriptures are irradiated with the glory of the Son of God."

The inspired apostle calls Christ "the Author and Finisher of our faith." Hebrews 12: 2. We may think of Alpha as the Old Testament, and of Omega as the New Testament. Prophecy is, in a certain sense, the beginning of things, and history is the fulfillment of prophecy. To

my mind Alpha is prophecy, and Omega is history. Alpha and Omega, as related to Christ, His birth, His work, and His dominion, comprehend prophecy and history. The Old Testament, the Alpha, contains the prophecies of His birth, work, and kingdom, and the New Testament contains their fulfillment, or the history. History confirms prophecy, and by the mouth of these two witnesses Christ stands revealed in all of His glory as the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Ruler of this world.

When Christ and His apostles preached Christ and His Messiahship they had the writings of the Old Testament only. The New Testament was not compiled until late in the first century of what is now called the Christian era. So "beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He [Jesus] ex-

## The Saviour Set Forth in the Old Testament

By W. ROBERT FRENCH

pounded unto them in *all the Scriptures* the things concerning Himself." Luke 24: 27. Again, He said unto them: "All things *must be fulfilled*, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning Me." Verse 44.


In order to prove that Jesus of Nazareth was the Messiah sent of God, both the Old and New Testaments are needed. Neither is sufficient in itself. Jesus said: "Had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed Me: for he wrote of Me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe My words?" John 5: 46, 47. Paul wrote: "Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those *which the prophets and Moses did say should come*." Acts 26: 22. Note that the prophets and Moses had foretold things concerning Christ.

When Jesus came into this world, He





# and OMEGA



*The Bible presents Christ as the Saviour of the world in the Old as well as in the New Testament. (T. K. Martin, Artist.)*

had a program to fulfill. That program had been arranged previously by Him and His Father. It had been given in advance. It had been heralded to the world by the prophets and Moses. No part of it could be omitted. Confidence and faith in His Messiahship depended upon the faithful, accurate fulfilling of that program.

Jesus said, "All things *must be fulfilled*." Luke 24: 44. If any minor detail of that foretold program for Him had been omitted, then infidels and skeptics would find just reason to exult and deny His divinity and mission.

This explains the very common expression found in the New Testament, "That the Scripture might be fulfilled." John 17: 12; 19: 24, 28, 36. This purpose was ever in the mind of Jesus even to His dying moment. Almost with His dying breath, "that the Scripture might be fulfilled, [He] saith, I thirst." John 19: 28. One prophecy, one part of His program, yet remained to be fulfilled, namely: "In My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink." Psalm 69: 21. The record of His suffering says that when He "had received the vinegar," He expired. John 19: 30. Hence His life fulfilled every specification that had been set forth in prophecy concerning His first advent.

The program which God gave for His Son as the Messiah inspires faith and confidence in Him, not only because of its accurate fulfillment, but because of the impossibility of its being counterfeited.

The program of events which God foretold by the prophets for His Son required a period of preparation continuing over a period of years. A nation had to come into being, a town had to be built, and a long line of ancestry was required, for the fulfillment of His program. An impostor or false christ would be compelled to begin years before his birth, more years than any average life would permit; he would have to choose his own mother and his birthplace, and would have to develop his ancestral line. Christ was no impostor! He was, indeed, the Christ of God as witnessed to by Moses and the prophets and verified by the testimony of His apostles.

God's program of events for His Son comprehended His birth, His work, and His death. He was "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." Revelation 13: 8. Genesis records the beginning of sin by man, and how death came by sin. The gospel begins in Genesis by pointing to deliverance from sin and death by means of a vicarious lamb offered as man's substitute. Abraham offered the ram "for a burnt offering in the stead of his son." Genesis 22: 13. God "preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed." Galatians 3: 8. (See Genesis 18: 18; 22: 18.)

The sanctuary service of the Old Testament revealed and foretold the death of Christ for the sins of the world. Moses foretold His death by crucifixion when he lifted up the serpent in the wilderness. (John 3: 14-16; Numbers 21: 9.) Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John testify to the accurate fulfillment of every detail of the forecasts which had been made by the prophets concerning His death. He died, and that by His own choice, a death which no impostor would ever have elected. Christ was no impostor!

Genesis reveals the Alpha of our Redeemer's suffering—the Lamb slain; the Revelation reveals the Lamb triumphant, standing on Mt. Zion in the Holy Jerusalem, surrounded by the trophies of His sacrifice and honored by all the angelic host.

Genesis foretells our Saviour's first advent as the suffering Seed of the woman (Genesis 3: 15) and of Abraham (Genesis 12: 3; Galatians 3: 16). The Revelation describes the glory and majesty of His triumphant second coming and the deliverance of His people. (Revelation 1: 7; 6: 14-17; 14: 14-16; 19: 11-21.) His first coming with the cross and His sufferings guarantees and makes possible His second coming with its final triumph. (Hebrews 9: 28.) The accurate fulfillment of the prophecies of His first advent in His life, death, and ascension not only inspire, but compel, faith in His glorious, triumphant second coming. As we close this article, we say with the beloved John, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Revelation 22: 20.





## Pestilential Diseases

A DESPERATE battle against polio is being fought in the United States. However, the United States Public Health Service reports that the rate of increase reached an all-time high in 1945. The number of cases recorded total about 7,000. (See *The New York Times*, August 15, 1946.) In spite of all that is being done, the disease is reaching epidemic proportions in some areas.

While we read of the efforts of medical scientists to find and develop preventative measures to combat the pestilential diseases, we hear, at the same time, of the development of methods in biological warfare. How contradictory it seems to be fighting germs, and contemporaneously perfecting plans to fight with germs!

Senator Elbert D. Thomas, Democrat of Utah, recently asserted that "America and all other nations possessed biological and chemical agents of undreamed effectiveness which could bring death, disease, and star-

vation to an entire country." (See *The New York Times*, August 1, 1946.)

In *Time* (August 12, 1946), under the heading "Planned Pestilence," we find some of the gruesome facts on this diabolical method of warfare as reported in the *Journal* of the American Pharmaceutical Association. American physiologists and bacteriologists are working in secret laboratories with 3,800 army and navy men, and are producing the world's most vicious germs. In flasks of cloudy liquids and blobs of nutrient jelly are contained the makings of a horrible pandemic.

According to the report, "biological warfare may be defined as the use of bacteria, fungi, viruses, rickettsias (e.g., typhus fever, Rocky Mountain spotted fever), and toxic agents derived from living organisms . . . to produce death or disease in men, animals, or plants." The fearful truth has also been revealed that the scientists have produced and isolated the most deadly biological poison known to man called *Clostridium botulinum*, type A, that many of us recognize as the

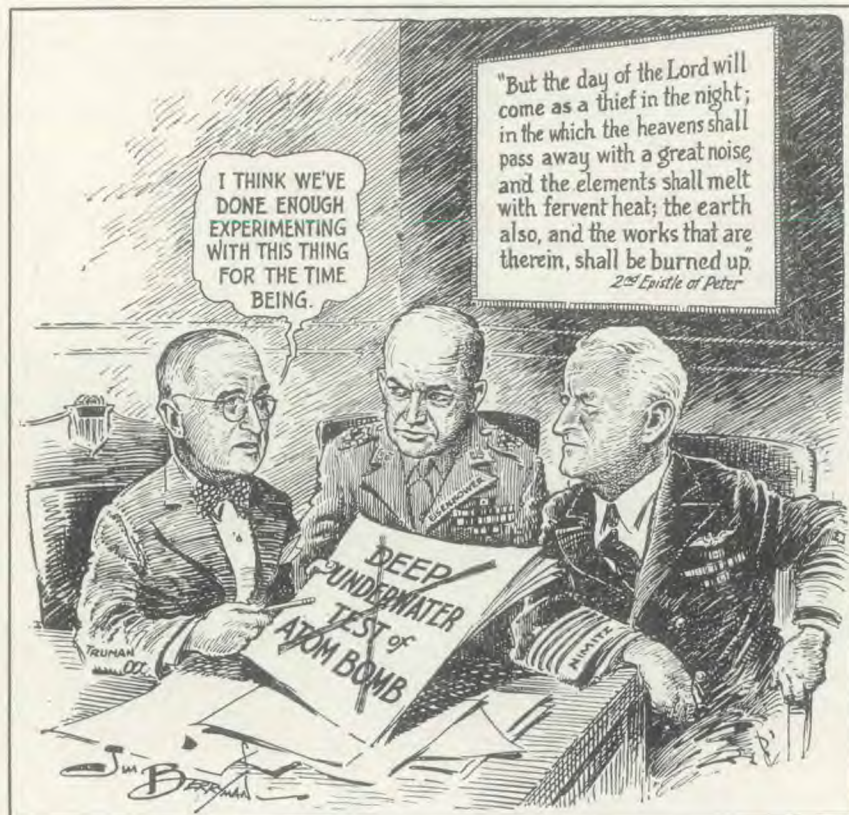
poison that sometimes grows in home canned vegetables.

These "airborne disease-producing agents" could create such catastrophic effects upon the populous areas of the world as to bring about the end of everything civilized.

This hideous monstrosity of devilish destructiveness, we are told, can be sprayed from the air "in infinitesimal dilution, allowing the crops to grow for awhile, apparently healthy, but they yield no harvest." Not only have the scientists developed a scourge of a killer that brings fever, pain, and torment, but the slow agony of hunger is added to the pestilential curse.

These recent ingenious developments of men might well add to the already desperate plight of the human race in its battle for survival against the insidious spread of diseases under present so-called normal circumstances. It all plays a part in the fulfillment of the prophecy of Christ that "nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places." Matthew 24: 7. H.

The striking cartoon below appeared in *The Evening Star*, Washington, D. C., September 9, 1946. (Courtesy of *The Evening Star*.)



## Divorce Increase

A STUNNING report of the record-breaking increase of divorces in the United States during 1945 has been made by the Federal Security Agency. (See *The New York Times*, September 16, 1946.) According to the report "502,000 divorces were granted in 1945, or 25% more than in the preceding year, which had also set a record."

The FSA revealed that there was a break-up in one marriage out of every three. While it is true that marriages have been going through a boom period, and many will lay the blame for the increase of divorces to this, yet the statistics show that the divorces have maintained a much greater increase than the marriage rate.

These facts are disturbing to all who cling to the marital standards of the Bible. It is quite evident that the laxity in morals and the decline of true Christian living are making their inroads into the American home. Modernism is sowing the wind, and shall surely reap the whirlwind. The movies, the pulp magazines, and the intemperance of this age, are all contributing their part to the destruction of the home.





Such "marriage mills" as the one shown above are largely responsible for the increase in the divorce rate. (Acme photo.)

The youth of today are excited by the glamor and thrills of Hollywood. They are also being fed with a brand of reading that appeals to the sordid and criminal side of their nature. They are subject to the enticements of an elaborate and expensive advertising campaign sponsored by the liquor and tobacco interests. On the other hand their knowledge of the word of God, their religious training, and church attendance are very limited. Many young people are not prepared to settle down to the realities of life. The recent war has also had its influence in unsettling the social tenor of things, particularly the home relationships.

This dissipating, pleasure-seeking, marrying-and-divorcing generation is fulfilling the prophecy of Christ concerning the condition of the world at the time of His coming. "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the Flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark." Christ then revealed what the consequence of the antediluvian wickedness was, and contrasted it with the final punishment of the sinful inhabitants of the earth: "And [they] knew not until the Flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24: 37-39. H.



## Depression Predicted

A BUSINESS depression within the next 10 years is the opinion of many people throughout the United States. A recent Gallup poll found 60% certain of this fact and only 20% who felt otherwise. (See *Time*, September 9, 1946.)

David Lawrence, in *The United States News* (September 13, 1946), warned that

the "endless spiral of wage increases and price rises leads inevitably to depression." He reveals that prices on durable goods have reached the highest point in 25 years. The dangers of a continued increase in prices are plainly expressed by that writer.

In the same issue of that magazine there is a pictogram showing how the cost of food has doubled since 1939. A bundle of groceries valued \$3.96 in 1939 now costs \$7.95.

Many American statisticians and business men are becoming fearful of an im-

pending financial crash. Other nations of the world are also doubtful that the present state of prosperity will continue, and are watching this country very carefully to see what will happen. They know that if a slump strikes here, it will affect the world at large. It would be well-nigh disastrous for such a thing to occur. Men realize that the world situation is bad enough without this frightful problem being added to the plight.

The multiplicity of omens are enough to

(Continued on page 18)

# "The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers"

## A BOOK REVIEW

ONE OF the most illuminating books of the year is *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers*, Volume 3, by LeRoy Edwin Froom. This is the first volume of a set of four in which the writer reviews the various expositions of Bible prophecy throughout the entire Christian era. Volume three is the first of the set to be released. It is just off the press, is impressively illustrated, and is truly a fund of information.

It covers the Colonial American period when such men as John Cotton, Roger Williams, Increase Mather, Governor Burnet, Justice Paul Dudley, Jonathan Edwards, Samuel Langdon, Timothy Dwight, and scores of other notables in American history, were exerting their marked influence in the molding of the new world. These great educators, preachers, statesmen, physicians, and others, were unusual students of the prophetic Word. More than that, their strong convictions grew out of their interpretations of prophecy.

It may not be generally known that among the earliest books printed in Colonial America were many in the field of prophetic interpretation. In fact, the first published reader from which practically all the children received their earlier instruction reveals in a most interesting way the accepted prophetic interpretation of the times. Reading these illuminating chapters gives one a new concept of these pioneer Americans. Another important feature of the book is the manner in which the great religious awakening of the nineteenth century of Europe and America grew into being.

The book falls into two distinct sections and reveals most painstaking research. All who are interested in the origin of the great Second Advent awakening of a century and a quarter ago, will find in this volume a most arresting unfolding of the subject. The great English students of Biblical prophecy since the days of Wesley down to the middle of last century are all introduced, and their positions on prophetic exposition impressively revealed. Such giants in prophetic exposition as Keith, Elliott, Cun-

ingham, and Bickersteth, and scores of others are made to live again in the pages of this book. A short life story introduces each character, and by the aid of charts and diagrams the reader is enabled to quickly discern the particular viewpoint of each on the main lines of prophetic symbolism. Teachers and students alike will find in these volumes a source of information unequalled in any other book we have seen.

Such unique characters are portrayed as Joseph Wolff, the Jewish boy who turned from Judaism to Roman Catholicism, and who by a remarkable set of circumstances later left the city of Rome to become a Protestant missionary, traveling away up to the steppes of Russia and down through the countries of the Middle East proclaiming the message of the Second Advent in some 14 different languages. He later came on a missionary visit to North America, and having preached in some of the most important cities of the Eastern States, was invited by Congress to address a joint gathering of both houses. There, for two hours, before the lawmakers of this country he proclaimed the gripping message of the second coming of Christ. The story is fascinating, and alone is worth the price of the whole book. Scores of others, equally interesting, are brought vividly before the reader.

LeRoy E. Froom, author of a number of books and at present the editor of a large and influential professional journal, *The Ministry*, published in Washington, D. C., has made his greatest contribution in this volume. We commend this book alike to preacher and layman, theologian and historian. It is lucid; it is challenging; and it is accurate. The most painstaking research of the author has been checked and re-checked by experts, and one has only to glance at the tremendous bibliography and the comprehensive index, to become aware that in this volume, *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers*, we have something unusual and most timely. It will find its place among the truly influential books of our day.

R. ALLAN ANDERSON.



**P**OISONS, like hemorrhages, require immediate action if our efforts in first-aid are to be of much value. We have seen that every second of bleeding from the larger blood vessels is dangerous. The same thing is true with poisons, due to their quick absorption when not immediately removed or neutralized. So, very quick action is necessary.

"A poison is a substance which, introduced into an animal body, may produce a harmful or deadly effect." There are so many substances of this kind that only a few can be considered in a short article, but fortunately they fall into general classes, so that many may respond to similar treatments.

Poison emergencies practically all fall under four varieties:

1. *Accidental*: mistaken medicines, children experimenting, spilling them on the body or clothing.

2. *Overdose of comparatively harmless medicines*: most commonly sleeping powders and headache remedies.

3. *Suicidal*: taken with the intention of destroying life.

4. *Contact with poisonous plants, snake bites, and harmful chemicals used in industry and in the home for cleaning.* These will be considered later.

Emphasis has already been placed upon the need for extreme care in the labeling of all medicines, and especially of keeping poisons where children cannot get them. Yet accidents resulting from a failure to carry out these precautions occur almost daily and from carelessness that is sometimes only momentary.

#### *Another Consideration*

Another consideration is the fact that most poisons are either acid or alkali, hence they will respond to the opposite for an antidote. Vinegar is an example of an acid, and baking soda is one of an alkali. These are practically always available in the home. While neither one is very powerful, vinegar serves as an antidote to alkalis, and soda for acids.

One of the most serious types of accidental poisoning among children is the drinking of lye solution. When this is prepared for cleaning, it is usually as clear as water; and when left in reach of a child, it is often quickly grabbed and swallowed before a person can stop him. The damage is both that of a burn and a poison. The strong alkali actually burns the mouth and throat, and if it is not almost instantly neutralized, it is likely to do serious damage to the esophagus (food canal), so that swallowing becomes difficult as the child grows. Lye should never be left in reach of a child, not even for an instant, for it takes only seconds to do life-

long damage. Vinegar and milk are the antidotes, but only the greatest speed can do much in limiting the damage.

Sometimes strong acids, such as sulphuric, hydrochloric (muriatic), or nitric are left exposed, and the result is almost the same. Usually strong acids are more severe, for they are even quicker in action. Cooking soda, or better, washing soda, should be given instantly. In both cases give the antidote before doing anything else, but get professional help at the earliest time possible. The danger of these poisons needs to be doubly stressed, for

## BEWARE OF A Dangerous Killer

By COL. GEO. A. SKINNER, M. D.

*Medical Corps, United States Army, Retired.*

their action is quick and serious and much more common than is generally recognized. One example: A boy of three years swallowed some strong lye and was very promptly treated, yet he developed a scar in his esophagus that must be constantly watched and dilated from time to time.

Other serious poisons are those that may be used at times as disinfectants, such as carbolic acid, lysol of mercuric chlorid (corrosive sublimate), wood alcohol, gasoline, and kerosene. There are many others that are used occasionally as medicines, such as morphine and sleeping pills. These are slower in action, and while serious enough, there is a much better chance for treatment and for only limited damage to result.

Only general rules can be given for immediate treatment, and they apply to most poisons, except the strong acids and alkalis. The quicker the poison is diluted and the stomach is emptied, the better it will be. If the throat is sensitive, the finger thrust down it may quickly cause vomiting, and this will remove much of the poison. Several glasses of baking-soda solution, soapsuds, salt water, or dish water should be given at once to assist in the vomiting. Besides causing a rapid emptying of the stomach, they dilute the poison and greatly limit its action. Many poisons, especially antiseptic tablets, (mercuric chlorid) are largely neutralized by milk. A large amount of milk will cause vomiting. In using such drinks as emetics to encourage vomiting, one should be sure



that they are lukewarm and given in large amounts to get the desired results as quickly as possible.

Sometimes we have to guess at what has been taken, especially by a child. If the tongue is white, blistered, or burned, we may be pretty sure that it was a corrosive poison (acid, alkali, or carbolic acid). Here a large amount of warm milk would be a safe emetic. The smell of carbolic acid often tells the story. One should immediately use soapsuds, followed by epsom salts (magnesium sulphate), then milk.

Where such things as sleeping powder, morphine, and paregoric have been swallowed, persistent drowsiness, often unconsciousness, suggests the kind of poison. The stomach should be emptied at once, and efforts should be made to keep the patient awake while the doctor is on his way.

Fortunately many poisons produce immediate vomiting, and this is a great help, often eliminating the poison almost completely. But the stomach should be washed out and vomiting encouraged to make sure that all the poison is gone.

In case there is weakness after vomiting, a cup of coffee every few minutes, if the stomach will endure it, will help to supply strength to the individual. This is especially valuable if morphine or sleeping medicines have been used either accidentally or for suicidal reasons.

Alcohol poisoning (dead drunk) is similar to other narcotic poisons. Especially dangerous is wood alcohol. It con-



tains substances that frequently destroy the eyesight or kill the patient. A serious complication is "delirium tremens," or trembling delirium. This is often spoken of in a joking way, but it is always dangerous, and often it is fatal. Prompt and efficient treatment is necessary if recovery is to take place, especially is this true after one or more previous attacks.

A dangerous and common poison used in ant poisons and insect sprays is arsenic, either as Paris green (copper aceto-arsenate) or white arsenic (arsenic trioxid). Arsenic is also frequently used for poisoning dogs, cats, and rats. For reasons mentioned, it is likely to be carelessly exposed where children can get it. Ant poison, which is often sweet and attractive looking, will very easily appeal to children. Again the danger of exposed poisons is emphasized.

Arsenic is much slower in action than most poisons because it is not very soluble, hence is absorbed more slowly. But it is always serious and requires the quickest treatment possible. When it is swallowed, there are usually severe pains in the abdomen, diarrhea, great thirst, frequent urinations, muscular cramps, and sometimes general blueness of the skin, followed by unconsciousness. The stomach should be promptly flooded with any of the previously mentioned emetics to remove as much of the poison as possible. The antidote most effective is rarely available until the doctor arrives. It is freshly prepared ferris hydrate (iron hydrate) made by mixing iron chloride, or sulphate, with lime water. This mixture causes a dark mass to separate, and this is the antidote.

#### *Danger of Chronic Poisoning*

A second danger from arsenic is that enough may remain in the stomach or system to cause chronic poisoning. Care should not be relaxed until all danger of this has passed.

Next to removal of the poison and its neutralization, the most important thing is to keep one's presence of mind. Coolness is never more valuable than in poison cases. Be sure that someone calls the doctor while active treatment of the emergency is going on, and that they tell him what you think the poison is. This is especially true if arsenic is suspected, as the antidote must be prepared with materials that few homes have available.

Never is prevention more important than in the field of poisons. It is very easily accomplished. Just a little care and foresight is needed so that poisons are not left where one can get them without considerable trouble. Practically all accidental poisoning in the home can be prevented.

## *Standing By*

*(Continued from page 2)*

"Can you see me? Is your face turned to me?" enquired the little one.

"Yes, my face is turned to you," responded the parent.

"Then it's all right. I'm not afraid now."

Father's face was toward him, and fear no longer gripped the boy's heart.

How like this little boy are we, the children of the Saviour's love. He is near, but in the darkness we fail to see Him. His face, so filled with love, is turned to us. He watches over us with greater solicitude than that of earthly parents for their children. Why, then, should we be afraid of earth's troubles and its darkness? Until the sunlight of heaven's morning dawns, dispelling the shadows here, He will stand

by. His promise is sure. His word can be depended on.

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. . . . For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee." Isaiah 41: 10, 13.

## *How Did Sunday Legislation Originate?*

*(Continued from page 9)*

were the prohibition of races, theatrical performances, dancing, ribald songs and the like. This liberty created such laxity that in the sixteenth century it brought the Puritan reaction and strict Sunday laws in English-speaking countries.



## *Replies to Health Queries*

This Information for the readers of OUR TIMES is supplied by Owen S. Parrett, M. D., a physician and writer of wide experience. Address questions to the doctor in care of this magazine.

*My daughter has fainting spells from time to time. Is this an indication of something serious? What would you advise?—L.B.R.*

The tendency to faint on slight provocation is common to certain individuals. Generally speaking, this tendency is more common in persons who are a little more nervous than the average. We are born with a nervous threshold that is either high or low, depending much upon our ancestry. However, this can be improved or lowered according to our health habits and our mental and nervous training. It is well during the period of childhood for the child to be taught to "take it" when the bumps and knocks come. In the book called *Safeguarding Children's Nerves*, by Foot and Walsh, the authors make a great point of the fact that when children learn at an early age to meet life's obstacles, it is a far less shock to their nerves than when they learn these things later in life. Perhaps most of us over-protect our little folks.

*My nostrils never seem clear. I am conscious of a congestion that makes normal breathing difficult. Sometimes I almost seem to be smothering. What is my trouble?—D.K.*

There are two or three possibilities here. This symptom can come either from not getting air freely through the nasal passageways, or from a heart condition, where the oxygen fails to reach the body tissues because of circulatory difficulty. A third possibility is nervousness, which may sometimes cause this symptom.

I shall assume that in your case the real trouble is that of constricted nasal air passages. In such a case, about the only permanent relief that can be had is through a surgical operation to mechanically open

more widely the constricted spaces. The most satisfactory operation for this is called submucous resection, which straightens and makes very thin the nasal septum, and removes any spurs or crooks in this structure. Sometimes small portions of the turbinate bones may require removal, although this part of the operation should be done cautiously, as it is possible to remove too much of the latter structures which serve the useful purpose of moistening and warming the air before it reaches the larger bronchial tubes and the lungs.

*Is chronic appendicitis dangerous? Would you consider it advisable to have the appendix removed rather than to take a chance on an acute attack?—S.R.*

A few medical men seem to think that chronic appendicitis seldom occurs. Many, however, believe that it occurs quite often, and I agree with this latter opinion. Seven types of appendices have been described as likely to develop chronic pathology. Among these are the kinked, clubbed, and greatly elongated varieties, which conditions tend to interfere with their drainage. I have been impressed with the frequency with which one is told by patients after removal of their appendices that they feel so much better than they have felt for a long time. This suggests that they have had their health depressed by their bad and probably chronic appendices. Now my answer to your question is this: If you are reasonably sure that your appendix has been giving you trouble, and you are having slight attacks from it from time to time, I believe that you will eventually have to have it removed. It would be better and safer to remove it at a time selected by you, when an operation would be more safely and easily performed by your surgeon.



THE QUALITIES you look for in a beverage are not easily combined in any one. You want flavor. That is of first importance. You want something appetizing and inviting. It must have a refreshing quality and an attractive color. When you think of a drink that has all of these qualities—yes, of course, it must be healthful—you will turn instinctively to fruit juice. Never can you say that a fruit beverage grows old or out-of-date. It is one of the values in foods that does not change with style or season.

We spend much to promote health, and a valuable health measure is that of imbibing fruit juice morning, noon, or night, and especially for party refreshments. Once you get the fruit-juice habit, you will not want to discard it. It is so delightful a habit to acquire. You arise next morning with no headache to plague, no dark brown taste, no calling for a pill to carry you through the forenoon's duties.

The pernicious habit of using headache powders is a growing menace. Many times the responsibility for the headache that comes with the morning sun, is the concoction that was called a "refreshment" the evening before. Addiction to drugs found in headache powders too often starts because of unhealthful drinks and foods that bring on the headache.

Our nation's bill for cosmetics adds up

to a staggering sum, yet all will agree that good health is necessary for good looks. America's women crave complexions with the freshness of youth, vitality equivalent to the demands of modern life. But the average woman does not drink much water, and too often is not aware that water, or water in the form of fruit beverages, is essential to a nice skin. A few swallows from a glass or fountain now and then is no way to drink water. It should be taken by the glass, six or eight daily. Cold cream will do little to

erase wrinkles that come from a dehydrated skin. Good elimination is necessary for health and a lovely complexion, and fruit beverages are a very excellent aid.

One quality required in a refreshment that really refreshes is that it contain some element that will bring quick energy and still not leave you ill or with a groggy feeling, that will not cause you to run off the road going home, or incapacitate you for work next day. A successful beverage should leave one in better physical condition than before it was taken. The single sugars in fruit juices are called glucose, the same as found in the blood. Needing no digestion, most of the sugars in fruit are ready to be absorbed and will give a quick pick-up.

One of the primary benefits of fresh fruit juice, especially citrus fruits, is the valuable vitamin C which they contain and without which we cannot enjoy good health. Because of our much cooking, most of this elusive vitamin, so easily destroyed by heat and by drying and aging, rapidly leaves our food. It is not stored in the body, hence the need for a special source to be taken each day. And there is no way so efficient to take care of the needs of this vitamin, which imparts vigor, raises resistance to disease, and promotes general well-being, as to use fruit juices as a systematic daily routine.

Many persons lack appetite, have vague ill health, irritability, muscular weakness, which may not be recognized as a vitamin deficiency at all. These indefinite symptoms precede the more pronounced

# Drink

## *Without Getting Drunk*

### Beverages That Lend Health and Beauty

By CLARA M. KNOWLES

*Fruit drinks are good for your health and never leave you with any of the ill effects that alcoholic beverages do. They contain vitamins, minerals, and other health-giving substances.*





## Delicious Fruit Drinks

### THIRST QUENCHER

1 cup orange juice  
1 cup unsweetened pineapple juice  
¼ cup lemon juice  
¼ cup maraschino cherry juice  
2 tablespoons honey  
1 cup water  
1 pint vanilla ice cream  
2 tablespoons sliced maraschino cherries  
After juices are mixed with honey, chill. Add ice cream. Stir till partially blended.

Makes 1½ quarts.

### STRAWBERRY PUNCH

Mash 2 quarts strawberries. Cover with one cup sugar. Strain. Add:

6 cups orange juice  
1½ cups lemon juice  
3 quarts cold water  
2 cups sugar

Add 1 quart whole strawberries for a garnish.

### CRANBERRY PUNCH

1 quart cranberries  
1 quart water  
2 cups sugar  
2 cups water  
1 cup orange juice

Cook cranberries until fruit is tender. Strain. Boil sugar and water to make a thin syrup. Add the cranberry juice. Chill.

### GRAPE LEMONADE

Freeze grape juice cubes in refrigerator tray. Make a tart lemonade and pour over grape flavored ice cubes. Garnish with mint.

### MIXED FRUIT NECTAR

2 cups canned apricot nectar

2 cups canned pineapple juice  
1½ cups canned pear nectar  
1 cup orange juice  
1 cup water

### FRUIT BEVERAGE

1 quart strawberries  
1 quart red raspberries  
4 cups water  
1 cup sugar  
Juice of 3 lemons  
1 pint lime or orange carbonated beverage

Mash and cook fruit slightly. Strain through cheese cloth. Mix juices thoroughly and when ready to serve, combine with the carbonated beverage.

### RASPBERRY NECTAR

¼ cup lemon juice  
¼ cup sugar  
1¾ cups water  
1 cup raspberry juice

Make a lemonade of the first three ingredients, and add the raspberry juice.

### GOLDEN GATE PUNCH

¾ cups sugar  
1½ cups lemon juice  
1 cup orange juice  
2 cups grape or berry juice  
6 cups water  
Ice

Garnish with lemon slices.

### LOGANBERRY PUNCH

6 cups loganberry juice  
2½ cups grapefruit juice  
2 cups orange juice  
2 cups canned apricot nectar  
Mix all and serve.

not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

I asked: "Now what do you believe?"

He said, "We should believe the Bible."

Yes, friends, let us believe God. Our loved ones "shall come again from the land of the enemy."

## The End of the World

(Continued from page 3)

stood leaning at an angle against the clouds, a vibrant volcano spouting fire to the sky.

"Then out of the great silence came a mighty thunder. For a brief interval the phenomena we had seen as light repeated themselves in terms of sound.

"It was the blast from thousands of blockbusters going off simultaneously at one spot.

"The thunder reverberated all through the desert, bounced back and forth from the Sierra Oscuros, echo upon echo. The ground trembled under our feet as in an earthquake.

"A wave of hot wind was felt by many of us just before the blast and warned us of its coming.

"The Big Boom came about 100 seconds after the Great Flash—the first cry of a new-born world. It brought the silent, motionless silhouettes to life, gave them a voice.

"A loud cry filled the air. The little groups that hitherto had stood rooted to the earth like desert plants broke into a dance, the rhythm of primitive man dancing at one of his fire festivals at the coming of spring.

"They clapped their hands as they leaped from the ground—earth-bound man symbolizing a new birth in freedom—the birth of a new force that for the first time gives man means to free himself from the gravitational pull of the earth that holds him down.

"The dance of the primitive man lasted but a few seconds, during which an evolutionary period of . . . years had been telescoped. Primitive man was metamorphosed into modern man—shaking hands, slapping each other on the back, laughing like happy children.

"The sun was just rising above the horizon as our caravan started on its way back to Albuquerque and Los Alamos. It rose to see a new thing under the sun, a new era in the life of man.

"We looked at it through our dark lenses to compare it with what we had seen.

deficiency that causes scurvy, for a person may go for years on a vitamin intake that is too low, all the time with obscure physical ills that make him a semi-invalid. Fruits are valuable sources of other vitamins also, and no drug or tonic will take the place of these important essentials.

Fruit juices also have an alkaline reaction, leaving the tissues alkaline instead of acid, and contain minerals we need.

So, become a fruit-juice enthusiast. Show partiality to a beverage that brings with it the aroma of orange blossoms, the fragrance of spring, and carries with it the intangible quality of a rejuvenator. To spend money for something that will lengthen life, that will ward off illness instead of causing it—the fruit beverages,

that carry with them so much wealth in the form of health-promoting qualities—is surely a wise practice. A hostess will never have regrets for serving a fruit drink. It is always in keeping with high social standards and good taste. Try the following drinks in your punch bowl.

## "They Shall Come Again"

(Continued from page 5)

were the words: "Asleep in Jesus." I said to my friend, "Do you believe that that same man who was buried there will live again?"

He said: "I do not know."

Then I read, from my pocket Bible, this statement in John 5: 28, 29: "Marvel



"The sun can't hold a candle to it!" one of us remarked."

Thus was "solved the secret of translating the fabulous energy of the atom into the mightiest weapon ever made by man."

"It was," says Mr. Laurence, "like the grand finale of a mighty symphony of the elements, fascinating and terrifying, uplifting and crushing, ominous, devastating, full of great promise and great forebodings."

It is this sense of dread which is made prominent in both religious and secular comment on this achievement.

The *Christian Century* of August 22, 1945, observed: "The latest and probably the greatest achievement of science has not been hailed with pride and reassurance; instead, it has cast a spell of dark foreboding over the spirit of humanity."

We return to other words written by one of the scientists who worked on the bomb, Dr. Harold C. Urey, in his *Collier's* article, "I'm a Frightened Man." (January 5, 1946.) These are his closing sentences:

"Years ago a modern prophet said our civilization is a race between education and catastrophe. That 'race' was once a figure of speech. Today it is the fact of facts."

"Now, in that race between education and catastrophe, atomic power has given catastrophe a fearful lead. Atomic war could unleash forces of evil so strong no power of good could stop them. Make no mistake. Other civilizations have died because they would not learn their lessons in time. . . .

"Other issues wait. Other problems will stand delay. But the main race between man's powers for evil and his powers for good—that race is close to a decision. The bomb is fused. The time is short. You must think fast. You must think straight."

The scientists who for years have been engaged in the project of releasing atomic energy have had a terrifying sense of its sinister possibilities. They have not hesitated to sound a solemn warning that unless statesmen devise some way of holding their discovery under control, it may well bring about an end of civilization as at present constituted.

So "the end of the world" is not a conception to be sneered at. It is, rather, a matter to receive serious attention and research. What the Maker of the world, the Supreme Master of energy, has in mind for His creation we do well to understand. He has spoken on this matter and made plain His purpose for the future of the world and the race upon it. We can depend on His truth.

## Depression Predicted

(Continued from page 13)

make men show a concern for the future welfare of the nation. The huge national debt, the lack of consumer goods, the black market, the rising specter of inflation, the stock market slump, and the trouble between the capitalists and the laborers are all indications of an unsettled state of affairs that may very well plunge

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## DOES CANCER AFFLICT CHILDREN?

ALTHOUGH not generally known, cancer is a disease of childhood as well as of old age. It afflicts more than twice as many children as die of infantile paralysis.

Not to arouse cancer-phobia, but to awaken a cancer-consciousness, the American Cancer Society makes available information which will enable parents to protect their children all the better.

CANCER OF THE EYE in children may occur at birth or early childhood. The first symptom is usually an inequality of the pupils. Later, a white reflection can be seen through the enlarged pupil which will give a "cat's eye" appearance.

CANCER OF THE BONE may occur even in infants, involving legs and arms most often and other sections as well. Unlike most cancers, pain is an early symptom preceding the appearance of the tumor. Because it is easy to mistake early bone cancers for a sprain or rheumatism, an X-ray study is essential to rule out the possibility of a tumor.

CANCER OF THE KIDNEY usually occurs in the first three years of a child's life. The most common symptom is a lump in the abdomen.

Frequent and regular examinations of children, either by a physician or an approved clinic, are a prime measure of precaution. Upon the appearance of any of the above symptoms, an immediate medical examination should be had. Delay may be fatal because cancers of the bone or kidney in children spread rapidly.

The only medically approved methods of treatment are surgery, X-rays or radium. Don't play with home remedies!

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY  
350 Fifth Avenue  
New York 1

this country and the world into a depression.

In this we see Bible prophecy in the process of fulfillment before our very eyes. The prophet James, in the fifth chapter of his book, tells of the war between capital and labor. He speaks of the heaping up of huge fortunes in the last days, and also states that there will be miseries and insecurity in the midst of plenty. While these things are taking place the prophet advises the God-fearing to "be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord." James 5:7.

As James has said, we are seeing the amassing of great sums of money. Today we hear of trust companies, big business, tycoons, and billionaires. We also hear about sit-down strikes, picketings, boycotts, and walkouts. In this age of tremendous wealth with plenty for all we hear of large numbers of people starving to death. How strange! More amazing still, we learn that potatoes and other essential foods are being destroyed! What a paradox!

In this world of uncertainties our only dependable security is in God. The only safe treasury is in heaven. The Bible gives very sound advice that we do well to heed: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, . . . but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." Matthew 6:19, 20. H.



Europe's 2,000,-  
000 Homeless

IN THE aftermath of the war Europe finds that there are many homeless men, women, and children scattered throughout its territory. According to *World Report* (September 17, 1946) the "war's backwash has cast 2,000,000 Europeans on the beach—in someone else's country. . . . Most displaced persons are former slave laborers. Others are political or racial refugees."

How sad it seems for so many people to be torn from their native soil and family attachments. Many have lost all that they have ever had. Their homes have been destroyed, and in a large number of cases loved ones have been killed. Children whose parents have been slain are lost in bewilderment.

Something must needs be done to alleviate the sorrow and suffering of these homeless, countryless, and in many cases penniless refugees. They are, among other things, bitter reminders of the cruelties of war. It is plain to be seen that the recent conflict between the nations has left wounds upon the hearts of men that can-



not quickly be healed. Hatreds and prejudices have been aroused that only time can dispel.

Strenuous efforts should be put forth to get these people back home or to some place that they can call home. As we think of their plight we should be cheered by the promises of Christ that He will return to this earth to gather the redeemed unto Himself. If we are faithful, we will someday dwell in the kingdom of peace. There will be no displaced persons there, and there will be no homeless ones in that fair land. The words of Jesus should be of comfort to those who have no home on earth today: "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." H.

## *The Sky Blazed at Night!*

(Continued from page 4)

has it fallen to our lot to observe a phenomena so magnificent and sublime."<sup>9</sup>

*The Christian Mirror*, of Portland, Maine, calls the display of falling stars "a war of shooting stars in the northwest."<sup>10</sup>

*The New York Evening Post* has written the following: "An unusual small number of country people attended the market this morning, although the weather was so fine. Others made as much haste as possible to dispose of their commodities, and get into the boat again, on their way back to Jersey or Long Island, thinking perhaps, like the honest man spoken of by Swift in his account of the Wishton Comet, that if the world was to be destroyed by a general conflagration, that the best chance of escape would be on the water."<sup>11</sup>

The falling of meteors was so thick that it was like a December snow storm, according to *The New York Commercial Advertiser*. "Were it possible to enumerate them, in the swiftness of their arrowy haste, we might venture to say, that for the two hours intervening between four and six, more than a thousand per minute might have been counted. Their coruscations were bright, gleamy and incessant, and they fell thick as the flakes in the early snows of December."<sup>12</sup>

Professor Denison Olmsted, of Yale College, wrote an article the following morning, stating: "The flashes of light, although less intense than lightning, were so bright as to awaken people in their beds."<sup>13</sup>

Rev. Dr. Humphrey's letter to Professor Olmsted stated, "Many persons thought a shower of fire was falling, and became exceedingly alarmed."<sup>14</sup> "The

light was so intense, that apartments, where persons were sleeping, were strongly illuminated, and some were aroused under the apprehensions that their dwellings were in flames."<sup>14</sup> "In the words of most, they fell like flakes of snow."<sup>14</sup> "It was as it were, a perfectly silent and simultaneous dance of the stars."<sup>14</sup>

Professor W. E. Aikin, M. D., professor of chemistry and natural philosophy in Mount St. Mary's College, in Emmitsburg, Maryland, made the following observations. "Instead of the usual intermediate course of such meteors, these described paths in the direction of radii diverging from a central space."<sup>15</sup> "This point was in the neck of Leo."<sup>15</sup> "From this centre as a radiating point, proceeded the meteors in numbers exceeding the visible stars, and in intensity of light often rivalling the rays of the full moon."<sup>15</sup>

In Lynchburg, Virginia, Mr. F. G. Smith observed in the morning paper of November 13, 1833, "On this morning (November 13) between 2 o'clock and day break, we were presented with a most beautiful display of electrical excitement in the upper regions of the atmosphere."<sup>16</sup>

### *From a Scientist*

Professor Olmsted, of Yale College, New Haven, wrote a paper on "Meteoric Phenomenon" in which he gives his findings of the extent of this shower of stars of November 13, 1833. He states that it covered all parts of the United States. "The entire extent of the exhibition is not yet ascertained with precision, but it covered no inconsiderable portion of the earth's surface. It has been traced from the longitude 61° in the Atlantic ocean, to longitude 100° in central Mexico, and from the North American lakes to the southern side of the island of Jamaica. It was not seen, however, anywhere in Europe, nor in South America, nor in any part of the Pacific Ocean yet heard from. Everywhere within the above named limits, the first appearance was that of fireworks of the most imposing grandeur, covering the entire vault of heaven with myriads of fire balls resembling sky-rockets."<sup>17</sup>

Astronomers, scientists, and eyewitnesses have given us a picture of the last sign in the skies that reveals to us that the return of Jesus is at the door. On the word of Christ we have the promise that the next sign in the heavens is the second coming of Christ." Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: and then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven."<sup>18</sup>

God has kept His promise by sending the fulfillment of these signs for this generation and for you, reader. Are you ready to meet your Saviour at His second coming?

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## *Moderate Drinking*

(Continued from page 7)

such circumstances, the wine is fermented instead of unfermented as that which the Lord used and gave to His disciples to drink, and the clergyman drinks all this fermented wine himself, not unfrequently he becomes so intoxicated that he cannot function in spiritual matters. He may even become a habitual drinker and a drunkard. God cannot and does not bless in the Christian dispensation those things that He condemned and cursed in the days of Israel. (Isaiah 28: 7; Leviticus 10: 9-11.)

Christians who expect to enter the pearly gates of the New Jerusalem want to remember that the Almighty has decreed that "there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of Life." Revelation 21: 27. "Blessed are the pure in heart:" said Jesus, "for they shall see God." Matthew 5: 8. "When He [Christ] shall appear [the second time on this earth], we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure." 1 John 3: 2, 3.



# Your GIFT PROBLEM



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