

MARCH TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Our TIMES

SINCE 1891

A BIBLICAL INTERPRETER OF THE NEWS



"The World at the End of Its Tether"

(See page 20)

LETTERS

From Our Readers

Sirs:

Someone left your November issue in our public library. I had never seen one before, and am delighted with it. I liked all your articles. Although I do not at present have much time to read, I shall keep you in mind like the top of a mountain. God be with you.

Asbury Park, N. J.

C.C.

Sirs:

I love OUR TIMES magazine and don't want to miss a number. I receive great blessings by reading it and get more faith and hope and am greatly encouraged to press on. Yours in Christ.

Soddy, Tennessee

I.H.B.

Sirs:

I happened to receive a free copy of your magazine OUR TIMES and liked it very much. Enclosed please find a check for a year's subscription. Thank you.

Etna, Ohio

G.S.

Sirs:

I picked up on the street yesterday an Ingathering issue of OUR TIMES, a Seventh-day Adventist paper, evidently filled to the brim with medical. When the medical purges itself of the present cruelty atrocities of vivisection which it will do you well to look into, many people will return to the fold. Christian and present day medical hand in hand is a laugh.

Hanover, Pa.

G.K.M.

Sirs:

I received a copy of OUR TIMES. I thank you. I would very much like another.

Your art work is lovely. Your artist must have a real spirit of Christ in his heart, and his hand!

I wish to congratulate you upon the wonderful work you are doing for the world. Your hearts must all be in it, with a willingness to sacrifice. You "go teach all nations."

I belong to a Congl. church, but I love to see work carried on anywhere in His name, and with the spirit of Christ.

Colchester, Conn.

I.M.K.

Sirs:

Enclosed is one dollar and seventy-five cents (\$1.75) for a year's subscription to OUR TIMES publication. Noticed it in public library, liked it. Your article on Palestine in June issue by Frank A. Coffin conforms with my teaching and study. Please start my subscription with that issue, as I wish to pass it on to others. And your M. D. article on ulcers, I wish to show it to some I know who are afflicted with same.

Santa Barbara, Calif.

R.C.

Sirs:

A copy of OUR TIMES magazine was put in my car, and I like it very much. I am taking advantage of your present low rate of \$1.75 before the advanced rate goes into effect.

Marble City, Oklahoma.

S.T.T.

Sirs:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the copies of the periodicals you forwarded to me. I find them highly interesting because of their sincerity and revelation.

Detroit, Michigan

J.L.M.



MARCH, 1950

VOL. 59

No. 3

Established in 1891 as *The Southern Agent*. Name changed to *The Southern Review* in 1892, to *The Southern Watchman* in 1901, to *The Watchman* in 1905, to *The Watchman Magazine* in 1917, Incorporating: *The Tennessee River Watchman* (1901), *The Gospel Herald* (1903).

Editor - - - - - STANLEY C. HARRIS

Circulation Manager - - - - - IRVIN H. IHRIG

Art Director - - - - - ROBERT M. ELDRIDGE

Published monthly (except December, when semi-monthly) by the SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION, 2119 Twenty-Fourth Avenue, North, Nashville 8, Tennessee. Entered as second-class matter January 19, 1909, at the post office in Nashville, Tennessee, U. S. A., under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, and authorized July 11, 1918.

★ Rates: 25 cents a copy, and \$2.50 a year, in the United States. Rates higher for other countries.

★ Change of Address: Please give both the old and the new address.

★ Expiration: Unless renewed in advance, the magazine stops at the expiration date shown on the wrapper.

Special Features

Is It Peace?—W. E. Videto	3
Why Miracles?—B. F. Radke	4
Love's Way—Arnold V. Wallenkampf	5
Grace or Disgrace?—Fenton Edwin Froom	6
Finding God's Church—Harvey Hansen	8
Christ's Promises to the Overcomer —John Walter Halliday	9
Christ and the Sabbath—Robert H. Pierson	11
The Protestant Reformation—Taylor G. Bunch	12
Where Does Easter Come From?—G. S. Belleau	20
This Same Jesus—John W. Boyd	24
No Time—Inez Storie-Carr	36

Regular Departments

Letters From Our Readers	2
Events of Our Times	10
Sermon of the Month	14
Interpreting Our Times, by the Editor	18
For Better Homes and Health	22
For the Teens of Our Times	23
Choice Thoughts for Children	23
Let's Ask the Doctor	26
What Says the Bible?	27
Science Insights	31
God's Two Books	34

Poetry

"Be Still and Know. . . ."—Helen J. Lawrence	14
Home—Weldon Taylor Hammond	25

The Cover

Our cover picture this month is by Ewing Galloway

Is it PEACE?

*What Are the Prospects for
Peace in This War-Wearied World?*

By W. E. Videto



OFFICIAL UN PHOTO



AUTHENTICATED NEWS

Can this atomic age have peace? All the peace conferences seem of no avail in stemming the rising tide of militarism. The nations are storing weapons more terrible than the world has ever known.

IS IT PEACE, Jehu?" cried Joram, king of Israel, to Jehu, the dashing commander of his army. The king, from his palace in Samaria, had observed Jehu approaching the capital at a furious pace and had ridden out to meet him.

"How can there be peace," Jehu replied, "as long as the harlotries of Jezebel, your mother, and her witchcrafts are so many?" 2 Kings 9:22, Smith. The rough soldier was enunciating a principle abundantly sustained by the Scriptures: that the moral condition of a people has much to do with God's decision to give them peace.

God keeps an account with the nations. Belshazzar, king of Babylon, was spending the night in a grand carousal with his lords, wives, and concubines. Not content with drinking greatly to excess, the drunken monarch ordered his servants to bring out the sacred vessels of gold and silver that had been taken from the temple at Jerusalem. Out of these consecrated vessels they continued to drink and to praise their senseless idols, all the while blaspheming the God of heaven. But something happened which sobered those at the wild party; for a mysterious hand appeared and began to write on the wall words that blazed like fire, the message of which they could not understand. The aged prophet Daniel was summoned and came to read the message. After a fitting explanation he began to read the words: "Mene; God hath numbered thy kingdom and finished it.

(Continued on page 16)



Why Miracles?

Are All Present-Day Miracles Performed by God?

By R. F. Radke

THE SAVIOUR'S last injunction to His apostles was to lay hands on the sick that they might recover. (Mark 16:18.) With this power to be repeated, His church is to be restored with every good and perfect gift "so that they come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming [or 'revelation,' margin] of our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless" (1 Corinthians 1:7, 8), "irreproachable" (Colossians 1:22, Weymouth), and "without blemish" (Jude 24, A.S.V.), "in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The special talents or gifts of God are given to *confirm* one already in the Lord until the end; to present you "faultless, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing," holy, and without blemish, and perfect. God wants to make certain and sure, to establish without doubt, and to present and to purify a glorious church. As a result of the bestowal of these gifts, then, a sinless, flawless, sanctified church will be produced. (Matthew 5:48; Revelation 14:5; 7:13-17.)

The devil can and will counterfeit every miracle of the good angels of God. Miracles are no sure sign of divinity. Healings and wonders by Jesus Himself did not convert the multitudes, although whole villages were healed by His divine blessing and presence.

Jesus Himself told us, "Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven." Matthew 7:21. It is predicted that many will do wonders, cast out devils, even prophesy in the name of Jesus (verse 22), but Jesus says unto them, "I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." Matthew 7:23. Lawbreakers or the iniquitous will not make the kingdom. The will of God is the holy Ten Commandment law. (Matthew 5:17-19.)

Moses declared to the Israelites concerning this law, "This is your wisdom and your understanding. . . . It is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life." Deuteronomy 4:6; 32:47. And Solomon wrote: "He

(Continued on page 28)



A young woman shouts, "I've been healed!" as she leaves the healing line. Rev. Reuben Jones, Holiness minister, seated, holds bottle of olive oil.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Love's Way

By Arnold V. Wallenkampf

ONE SUMMER when Karen was two and a half years old, a big, black, rather unkempt dog used to come to visit us. His master lived only a few houses away, but it seemed that "Boots," as the dog was called, preferred to come and sleep away his afternoons in our back yard.

Little Karen soon learned that Boots was just a perfect playmate. The dog apparently understood that the occasional, rather rough treatment she gave him was not intentionally cruel. Even though she would pull his tail and fur, Boots still was very kind to her and never once tried to bite or hurt her. Because of Boot's apparent understanding, Karen loved him. Often I would see her chubby little arms around his neck in a tender embrace while she pressed her face against his not-too-clean face and fur.

Karen's mother, too, noticed the affectionate treatment Karen lavished on Boots. She did not think that the unhygienic Boots should be handled in this loving manner. More than once I heard her tell Karen not to embrace Boots any more, inasmuch as he was too filthy and dirty. Karen would dutifully listen to her mother's admonition, and then she would happily run out into the back yard and play again. But all her mother's exhortations were quickly forgotten by the child when Boots would suddenly reappear in the back yard; Karen would gleefully welcome him with a big, hearty embrace. Love for her pal Boots made her unmindful of his filthy and unworthy condition; she simply loved him in spite of his unclean state.

This is love's way. Love does not calculatingly stoop to ask if the object of its affections is worthy or not. Love just wells out from within irrespective of

the recipient's worthiness. God said that because He loved Zion, she was honorable. (Isaiah 43:4.) Love knows no questionings, no demandings; it only gives, joyously and spontaneously.

I am happy this is the nature of love. If this were not love's way, God, who is the essence and primeval source of love, would never

have thought of us or been willing to provide a ransom for us when we were filthy and defiled with sin and just as undeserving of His love as Boots was of Karen's. But like little Karen, God is eager to bestow His greatest love and tenderest affection on us. In fact,

God gives more generously than an earthly parent.

Jesus and the Father are one. (John 10:30.) It was because Jesus loved us even when we were yet sinners that "He [who] was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men." Philippians 2:6, 7, R.S.V. The ruler of the heavenly host was willing to relinquish His majesty and honor and leave the courts of glory, where the angels had delighted to do His every bidding, to come down here to redeem us. Jesus went far in love; He was willing to endure scorn and abuse and maltreatment and finally a cruel death on Calvary's cross at the hands of those whom He had come to save because of His love to us.

It gives me courage that God loved us so, that He was willing to give us unworthy individuals "His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. My hope—and yours—of eternal salvation rests on this incomprehensible love of God.



CV. LA TOUR

Grace or Disgrace?

Exposing One of the Devil's Greatest Deceptions That Will Send Millions to Hell

By Fenton Edwin Froom

THE GREATEST exponent of righteousness and truth is the Lord Jesus Christ. Everything He did when on earth was in perfect harmony with the eternal plan of God. While here among men, He declared: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." Matthew 5:17.

Some of the strongest opponents of Bible truth brazenly declare that Christians today are under no scriptural obligation to keep the law of Ten Commandments. This pre-cross obligation was forever banished, they say, after Christ's substitutionary death on Calvary.

Now we believe in Jesus and all His teachings of truth. Let us see what He, the most reliable authority on truth in the world, says in His Book: "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Matthew 5:18. In another place Jesus said, "I have kept My Father's commandments." John 15:10. And in John 14:14 we read: "If ye love Me, keep My commandments."

We note another stirring verse of the outstanding Sermon on the Mount: "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:19.

Law is eternal. Long before the advent of our earth, which was made in the beginning, God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the angels were in heaven. It was there that Lucifer made his bid for supremacy. He, the leader of the heavenly choir, coveted the position of Christ and of God. These words are recorded concerning Lucifer: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." Ezekiel 28:15.

Iniquity or sin originated with Lucifer in heaven. This rebellion precipitated "war in heaven" and resulted in Lucifer's banishment with one third of the

heavenly angels. And from that day to this Satan has carried on his nefarious program of subtle conniving and scheming to destroy the souls of men. He has deceived men and constantly tempted them to sin. He is the instigator of the scheme to ban the law, and he tries to conceal its necessity in all physical and spiritual plans.

Many uninformed, sincere folk are forwarding the plans of the evil one by promoting his doctrine of "no law." If law were stricken from the universe, the heavenly bodies would soon leave their courses; and the result would be the destruction of our earth as well as the planets.

Take away law from the realm of physical existence, and we would experience calamity immediately. Do away with law in our country, county, or community and watch the awful results of lawlessness. Occasionally we observe the tragedy of mob violence that defies law.

Now consider the definite necessity of law in the spiritual realm. Then seek to answer the question why intelligent Christians who read the Bible and study its doctrines should desire to destroy God's law in spiritual living. Too often we are told that we are living "under grace and not under the law." Such statements in this enlightened age sound rather strange when men should be fully informed on the clear, simple truths of Scripture.

We have already noticed how Christ the greatest Teacher taught the full and complete binding moral obligations of the law. Turning to the word of the wise man, we read: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Ecclesiastes 12:13.

Looking at the eminent testimony of David, we observe that two of his choice verses state: "All His commandments are sure. They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness." Psalm 111:7, 8.

It has been suggested that only folk of certain dispensations were under the binding claims of the law,

and that in other eras Christians are not under law but under grace. However grace and law go hand in hand. Paul, the New Testament theologian, forever dispelled the sham of such deceptive teaching. He boldly proclaimed: "The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to *all* men." Titus 2:11. Every child of God since the time of Adam has been a recipient of His free grace so generously proffered to all. John recorded the Master's words: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Are you willing to accept this gift, His life, for you? His love is mighty; it is vast, deeper than the ocean and higher than the towering mountain peak. And His unchanging law and free grace are based upon His love. They are tied together like the fingers of a man's hand. They are inseparable!

Does not your heart cry out in responsive joy for His unfailing goodness to poor, lost mortals? There is nothing good about us, but His grace covers all. He

glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." James 1:23-25.

As man sees his horrible sin through the "perfect law of liberty," he recognizes his failure, and futility of existence. But as He turns and looks into the lovely face of Jesus, he accepts anew His redeeming grace; and through Christ's covering of grace he is bathed in the sunshine of God's love and walks forward in faith.

This "law of liberty" the apostle refers to will be the standard which God will use to judge all peoples of all ages. It is most important that you and I thoroughly know and understand God's great program of salvation.

It will be a holy law that we shall be judged by. Wrote Paul, "The law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good." Romans 7:12. Can we believe that this holy "commandment" which God gave audibly, which He spoke to our first parents, and also wrote upon two tables of stone with His finger, is out of date and has no place today in the Christian economy?

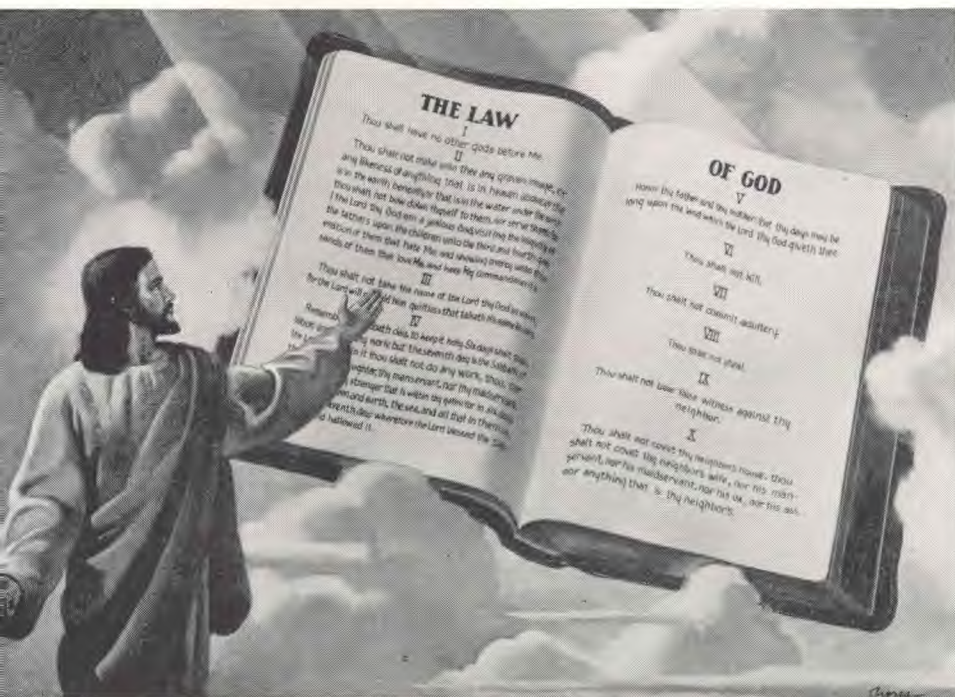
Paul's answer will fully satisfy our heart's question: "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Romans 3:31.

The acceptance of grace is based upon our willingness by Christ's help to keep His commandments. Grace is free; it is given as a reward. And why is the reward given? Because we have in simple faith told our Saviour that by heavenly power we desire, yea, we determine, to keep His commandments.

There is not one of us who can keep His commandments in our own strength. But if we are willing to try by His help to keep His law, legions of angels will be sent if necessary to stand by our

sides and sustain us in hours of great need and trial.

Will you accept His free grace? Are you willing to keep His commandments in His strength? The way may be long, weary, rough, and treacherous; but through His never-ending grace we have the assurance that we can keep His commandments and be faithful to the end. The reward will be a crown of life placed upon our heads by the lovely hands of Jesus Himself. Is it not worth the struggle? Will you surrender yourself fully to His care and keeping?



R. T. AYRES

Grace and law go hand in hand. Christ proclaimed: "Verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law." Matthew 5:18.

gives us the grace to accept sorrow and tragedy, trial and tribulation. His grace enables us to keep His perfect law. You cannot keep it without His grace, and you cannot accept His marvelous grace without keeping His commandments.

Paul states that "a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ." Galatians 2:16. There is nothing in the law which saves a man. It simply points out his sin. James puts it this way: "He is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a

FINDING GOD'S CHURCH

*How May We Find the True Church
Among So Many Conflicting Creeds?*

By Harvey Hansen

IT IS A GOOD thing to belong to a church. But when a person looks for one to join, he finds there are many denominations. And they all claim to be God's true church. Yet they have many *different* beliefs.

One says just have faith, just believe; that is *all* that is necessary. Another says you must do certain works; that is how to gain heaven. One says obey His law. Another says you do not need to be concerned about the law; we're saved by grace. One predicts a millennium of peace just ahead in which everybody will have a second chance to get right with God; another prophesies the end of the world and the judgment. The beliefs that are diametrically opposed to one another are many. Yet each church "backs" its doctrines, whatever they may be, with Scripture.

One finds many denominations today. All claim to be God's true church. The problem is to find the one that has "the faith of Jesus."

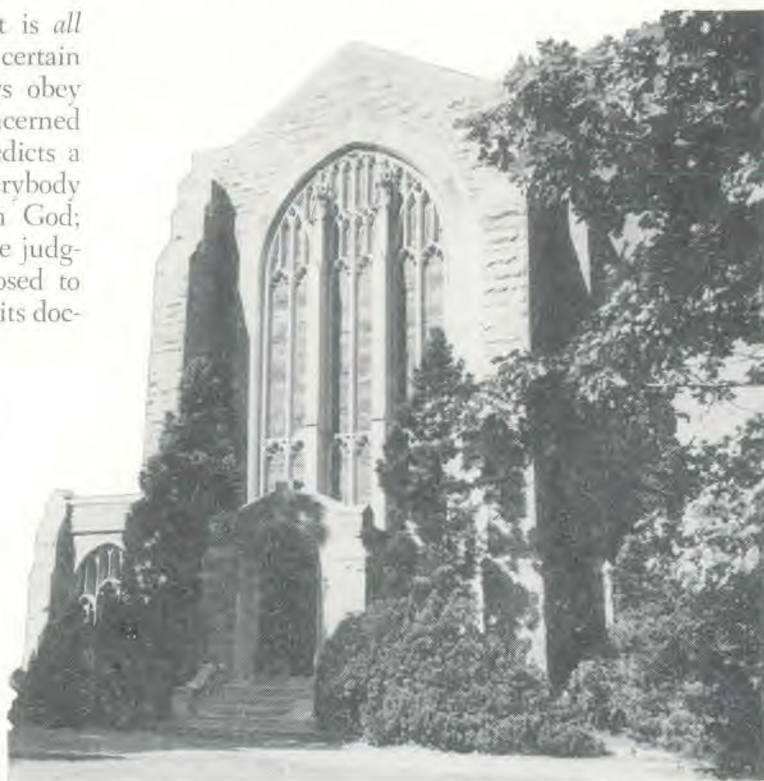


COBB SHINN

How then is a person to know which is the right one to join? We ask which is the right *one*, because, according to "the word of faith" (Romans 10:8), there is but "one faith" (Ephesians 4:5). So the problem is how to find a church that has "the faith of Jesus," the faith of which *He* is the Author and Finisher.

One cannot depend on sincerity, zeal, and high motives alone as indicating God's church. Paul manifested all those qualities in his persecution of the Christians, yet he was doing so in direct opposition to Christ. (Acts 22; 26.)

One should not take miracle working alone as indicating God's church, for deceivers will be able to show great signs and power and lying wonders so much so that if it were possible they would deceive even the elect. (Matthew 24:24; 2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10.)



ELIZABETH R. HIBBS

Even what you hear in the pulpit and read in religious publications as being the *Gospel* truth must not be taken for granted. Yes, men may, like Satan, quote Scripture and still not teach God's will. (Matthew 4:1-10.) They, not wanting to obey Him, corrupt, resist, and wrest His Word, making it a snare and a stumbling block to themselves and those that would follow them. (2 Corinthians 2:17; 2 Peter 3:16; 1 Peter 2:8;

(Continued on page 17)

WHO CAN measure the unspeakable blessedness that Christ holds out in His very first direct promise to every overcomer: the Eden paradise home restored—with its enriching scenes, its overflowing abundance, and its deep and perfect restfulness. It includes the sweet and surpassing joys of its social life and access to the wondrous tree of life with its marvelous fruitage that gives everlasting freshness and vigor and life. All these blessings combine

By John Walter Halliday

to awaken the deepest gratitude, most loyal love, and loftiest praise in the worship of our most tender heavenly Father and our adorable, beloved Redeemer.

The direct promise of Jesus that contains all these blessings is as follows: "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." Revelation 2:7. The apostle John saw the speaker of the promise at the very beginning of the series



R. T. AYRES

Jesus promises that the overcomer "shall be clothed in white raiment," and he "shall inherit all things." Revelation 3:5; 21:7.

Christ's Promises to the Overcomer

The Supreme Blessedness of the Reward Should Awaken the Desire to Serve Him

of visions given him on the Isle of Patmos; for he testifies: "I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw . . . one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and His hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and His eyes were as a flame of fire; and His feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and His voice as the sound of many waters. . . . And His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength."

Revelation 1:12-16. Christ was seen in holy vision. How sublime a scene it was as John saw Christ, the meek and lowly One, so wondrously glorified, His face shining like the sun, His whole being incandescent with divine glory, and His voice, which pronounced His invincible promises to the overcomer, so mighty with constraining and assuring power!

The next great promise of Jesus to the overcomer reads, "He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the

(Continued on page 32)

EVENTS *of Our Times*

BOMBERS CANCELLED OUT.—British strategists, up against the gun in Europe, are convinced that the big bomber no longer is the key weapon in any future war. Their view is that, when Russia has the bomb, plus rocket bases in Europe, all of the pressure of European nations will be against action by U.S. that would give Russia the signal for destroying European cities. Idea is that bombers will cancel out and armies come back into their own, as they always have.—*U.S. News & World Report*, Oct. 14, 1949.

THE BEWILDERED MAYOR.—*The Prairie Overcomer* reports, "Casting off all restraint in reckless abandon, nearly 1,000 teen-agers, members of sorority and fraternity groups, descended during the summer months upon the New Jersey ocean resort community of Lavalette (normal population, 700) to drink deep the draught of debauchery. Renting cottages, they carried on their wickedness and immoralities unrestrained and unconcealed. In trying to cope with the situation, William Chandler, the bewildered mayor, ordered more than seventy of the boys and girls out of town because his police officers had 'caught them in flagrantly compromising situations.' Said one authority, 'Little Lavalette has just caught the backwash of a thousand indulgent homes.'"—*Christian Victory*, Nov., 1949.

MISCALCULATIONS.—U.S. military planners are taking a fresh look at Soviet industrial capacity. Having miscalculated on Russia's ability to make the atom bomb, they are wondering if they haven't made other miscalculations, too.—*U.S. News & World Report*, Nov. 4, 1949.

MORAL LAXITY IN GREAT BRITAIN.—"Pre-marital and extra-marital sex adventures are so prevalent in Britain that among women under 20, at least 64 per cent of children are conceived out of wedlock." Reported by the London office of the United Press; based on interviews with 2,051 persons of all economic and social classes.—*Christian Victory*, Nov., 1949.

"MEN'S HEARTS FAILING THEM FOR FEAR." (Luke 21:26).—"The dominant emotion everywhere in the world is *fear*. This applies to every part of hu-

man activities—finance, industry, farmers, workers, thinkers, and government officials."—Former President Herbert Hoover.—*Christian Victory*, Nov., 1949.

DOES THIS APPLY TO EUROPE ALONE?—Germany and Europe are in the midst of the agonies of death. Its civilization is crumbling to dust. I've eagerly looked for some signs of revival, but the ministers and pastors whom I met could give me little hope. In all Europe, with the possible exception of Hungary, there are no signs of a true revival. . . . There is much ground work to be done. Let us be honest and face the facts. For every sign of regeneration there are one hundred signs of degeneration. For every believer you meet there are one thousand godless or indifferent. It is true to say that wherever the Gospel is preached people are eager to hear it; but it is also true to say that for everyone that is willing to hear the Gospel there are scores who are not interested. I am not a pessimist, but we must face facts. Nothing less than the dynamite of the Gospel can save this continent. The forces of godlessness are armed to the teeth.—Douglas G. Stewart.—*Christian Victory*, Nov., 1949.

NEW JERSEY CATHOLICS WANT LEGALIZED GAMBLING.—A straight issue of public morality confronts the voters in the New Jersey gubernatorial election. The Newark Roman Catholic archdiocese wants bingo legalized so that revenues from this form of gambling may swell the revenues of Catholic schools. Auxiliary Bishop James A. McNulty and other Catholic officials stated the case bluntly to 400 nuns and priests meeting in the hall of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Newark. The bishop said that parochial schools need money, that it can be got from the legalization of bingo, and that Elmer H. Wene, the candidate for governor of the discredited Hague machine, favors a legalizing plebiscite. In putting the entire apparatus of Catholic schools and organization to work to elect the gambling ticket, the bishop said: "The interests of the church would be better served by Wene and other Democratic candidates." Republican Governor Alfred E. Driscoll opposes either legalization or a plebiscite, declaring: "As to bingo . . . I say it is gambling!"—*The Christian Century*, Nov. 2, 1949.

OUR TIMES, MARCH, 1950

IN THE FIRST epistle of Peter, the second chapter and the twenty-first verse, Inspiration reminds us that Christ has left us an example that we should "follow His steps." We shall never be wrong if, with His help, we follow in His steps. In fact the Saviour Himself reminds us that there is no other pathway into the kingdom.

Many religious leaders today promote a philosophy teaching that there are many ways into the kingdom. They claim that it matters not what we may believe or

the tenets of doctrine to which we may subscribe, just so we are "doing the best we can"; and that although we are in different groups going on different roads, we are all heading ultimately for the same eternal home.

Jesus did not subscribe to such a philosophy. Said He: "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14:6. There is only one way into the kingdom and that is the "Jesus way." He must be our example in all things. We are to build "upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone." Ephesians 2:20.

Inspired writers declare that Christ must be the cornerstone of our doctrines. His teachings we are to

Christ and the Sabbath

If Christ Were on Earth Today, What Day Would He Keep?

By Robert H. Pierson



Christ, by precept and example, taught true Sabbath observance. He created the Sabbath, blessed and sanctified it; "therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath." Mark 2:28.

accept. His teachings we must follow. "He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked." 1 John 2:6. In such an important doctrine as God's rest day Christ should also be our example. We shall never go spiritually astray if we follow in His steps.

That it was Jesus Christ who instituted the seventh-day Sabbath on the last day of creation week has already been made clear in a previous article. "By Him were all things created . . . visible and invisible, . . . all things were created by Him and for Him." Colossians 1:16. It was Christ, God's Son, who created this world of ours and all that it contains, everything visible and invisible. The seventh-day Sabbath of the fourth commandment was one of the things Christ made during creation week. He blessed it. He sanctified it. He rested. (Genesis 2:1-3.) It then became the Christian Sabbath. From the very beginning Christ set subsequent generations an example in Sabbath-keeping.

The Saviour's attitude during His earthly ministry toward the Sabbath of creation is foretold by the prophet Isaiah: "The Lord is well pleased for His righteousness' sake; He will magnify the law, and

(Continued on page 32)

THE PROTESTANT

Fifth in a Series

THE FIFTH of the seven epistles of Christ to the churches of Asia was sent to Sardis, and is found in Revelation 3:1-6: "And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith He that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars: I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things that remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

"Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

Sardis was founded in the twelfth century B.C. and was located about thirty-five miles southeast of Thyatira. It was long the capital of the kingdom of Lydia, which was one of the richest kingdoms of the ancient world. The Lydians were the inventors of coined money. King Croesus was famed for his wealth. Solon, one of the seven wise men of Greece, spent some years in Sardis during the reign of Croesus. The city was built on a plateau rising fifteen hundred feet above the plain, and its perpendicular walls made it an impregnable fortress. The one means of reaching the city was steep and narrow and easily guarded. From Sardis Cyrus marched against Artaxerxes, and at Sardis Xerxes gathered his mighty army in preparation for his ill-fated expedition against Greece. A near-by village still goes by the name of Sart.

The natural defenses of

By Taylor G. Bunch

Sardis made the citizens overconfident. The guards grew reckless—with fatal results. Because of their failure to watch, Cyrus captured the city by stratagem in 549 B.C., and 330 years later it was again taken by the same means by Antiochus the Great. Solon warned the overconfident Croesus that his feelings of safety and self-sufficiency would eventually lead to ruin. This happened one dark night when a Persian soldier scaled the precipice where no guards were stationed, and by means of rope ladders a large number reached the top before they were discovered—too late to save the city.

The historic background gives great force to the language of Christ in His message to Sardis. He warned the church that failure to watch because of overconfidence would end in tragedy. He would come to them in judgment "as a thief" at the most un-



Martin Luther and other reformers began well, but their work was never successfully concluded. The Reformation is still incomplete. It was brought to a standstill by apostasy and spiritual lethargy.

OUR TIMES, MARCH, 1950

T REFORMATION

ven Churches of Revelation

expected moment. Sardis means "those escaping," or "that which remains." The name, the message, and the subsequent history of the city and church indicate a good start but a bad finish, a change for the worse



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Oswald Smith, Canadian representative of the Youth for Christ International, holds aloft the Bible at a rally in Rome, Italy.

as in the Ephesian period. Sardis has been called "the city of death," and its history is just the opposite of that of Smyrna, the "city of life," which "was dead and is alive." At the time of the writing of this epistle the city and local church had "a name that thou livest, and art dead." They were living chiefly on past glory and reputation.

The city of Sardis has long been a heap of ruins with no sign of life; and, of course, the local church disappeared with the city. It was once a flourishing church in a large Christian community. The evidences of death were present when the epistle was written, and soon after there was nothing left except the

memory of a glorious past. The city never fully recovered from the earthquake of A.D. 17, and was only partially rebuilt. But its citizens were still boastful of the history and reputation of the past. The name remained, but in reality the city was dead or dying. There is nothing more pathetic and desolate than a dead or dying city, the few remaining citizens of which boast of its past glory and vainly hope for a restoration of that which has departed forever.

The Sardinian period of the church universal covers the rise and decline of the Reformation during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In a sense it embraces the entire history of Protestantism. "Then came the *Sardinian* period—the age of separation and return to the rule of Christ; the age of comparative freedom from Balaam and his doctrines, from the Nicolaitans and their tenets, from Jezebel and her fornications; an age of many worthy names, but marked with deadness withal, and having much of which to repent; an age covering the spiritual lethargy of the Protestant centuries before the great evangelical movements of the last hundred years, which brought us to the *Philadelphian* era."—Joseph A. Seiss, *The Apocalypse*, Vol. 1, p. 143. Another writer declares that the Sardis message pictures "the inauguration, development, corruption, and judgment of Protestantism."—McCarrell.

The One in possession of "the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars," who is the Author of life and the strength of His ministers, rebukes the church of Sardis for being Christians in name only. "Men say you are living, though you are dead," and "you are supposed to be alive, but in reality you are dead," are other translations. The very profession of Christianity is a profession of life. A Christian claims to live in the name of Christ; and if he is dead spiritually, his profession is vain and false. It is akin to a corpse making a pretense of life. A church may have the most modern ecclesiastical machinery that vibrates with activity, and at the same time be dead spiritually.

There is nothing wrong with church form and organization, providing it is vitalized by the presence and power of Christ. In fact the machinery is necessary for effective service. But to God life is more important than all else combined. The Reformers began well, but their work was never brought to a successful conclusion. The Reformation is still incomplete, because it was brought to a standstill by apostasy and spiritual deadness within itself. Matthew Arnold appropriately describes this sorrowful period of lifeless formalism:

(Continued on page 30)



The SERMON of the MONTH

SAVING OUR CHILDREN

By DeWitt S. Osgood

BEFORE settling down, some of the boys and girls of past generations climbed fool's hill, sowed wild oats, and had their fling; but it is too late now in our old world's history for juniors to follow in the pathway of their older brothers and sisters. They do not have time to taste the world's pleasures and excesses. If they are ever going to be saved, they will have to be saved as children.

A world that has forgotten God, has also forgotten its children. Children have been abused, abandoned, and deserted. So many children are unwanted, unkempt, and unloved. They are outcasts—just wretched, forlorn little outcasts—human derelicts, coming up but not being brought up. Luther Burbank once said, "If we paid no more attention to our plants than we have to our children, we would now be living in a jungle of weeds." And another has remarked, "In many respects, your cattle have received better treatment than your children."—Mrs. E. G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 2, p. 94.

Without tender feelings of sympathy for the home, without any true loyalties to society, without any endearing attachment to the church, these little outcasts will soon rise up to punish, and to punish terribly, the generation which has denied them the privileges of normal home life. Community centers, good as far as they go, are poor substitutes for true home life. The social gospel that lacks moral betterment is a mirage. The world is willing to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars for the child's physical and social well-being and then pinches and

skimps and saves when it comes to providing him the inner values of life. Our children are paupers spiritually. They do not have the basic incentives to live as good moral citizens.

Says Hosea 4:6: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, . . . seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

Parents who have ignored the Ten Commandments, who have acted in complete disregard of God's moral law, will live to rue the day. Lawlessness begets lawlessness. A part of the second commandment reads: "For I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me." Exodus 20:5.

There is a reason for the present low state of morality. Says Proverbs 26:2: "The curse causeless shall not come." In all generations there has been a revolt on the part of youngsters against the oldsters, but the present low level of ethics is more than a revolt. It is a moral collapse. Civilization itself is cracking up. Disintegration and decay have set in. The guilt of parents and children is immeasurably great.

The violence of Noah's day sickened the senses of the Almighty and provoked the Flood. The evils of Noah's day have been multiplied a thousand times. Parenthood today stands indicted. The atrocities they have committed against their children will not be expiated in a thousand years. It all adds up to one thing: Jesus is coming again. He is coming soon!

"Be Still and Know...."

By HELEN J. LAWRENCE

I searched with hunger, page on page
And stopped where one inspired verse glistened,
My cold heart warmed, the darkened glass
Was clear, my vibrant senses listened. . . .

"Be still and know that I am God!"
Some inner need found revelation
All human fears lost power then,
My soul knew raptured exultation.

Yes, He is coming sooner even than Christians think.

Never was the world so cruel; never was it so hard on its babies. The prophet Jeremiah, foreseeing our day, was moved to tears for the children. We read in Lamentations 2:11, 12 (Moffatt), "My eyes are worn with tears, my soul is wretched, my heart is melting for the wreck of my people, for babies and infants swooning in the city streets, crying to their mothers for their food, swooning like men wounded in the city streets, gasping out their lives in their mothers' bosom."

The havoc wrought by war upon the welfare of our

against the ancient, and the base against the honorable." Verses 4, 5. Some of us have already seen on the part of children an utter lack of deference and courtesy toward the aged. But according to prophecy the worst is yet to come.

Prophecy speaks—it speaks about the children of the last days being disobedient to parents. Dire predictions, too horrible for words, tell of the woes to come upon a generation that has willfully neglected the moral training of its children.

If ever we should work for our boys and girls, it is now. It is just as important that our boys and girls be saved as that we parents be saved. Many a parent will never enter the pearly gates because of the high crime of unconcern he has committed against his children. But it is not too late to go to work. We must now work desperately to save our children. Your salvation and theirs depend upon your zeal in this matter.

Jesus instructs: "Feed My lambs" (John 21:15), "Of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14), "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones" (Matthew 18:10),

(Continued on page 29)

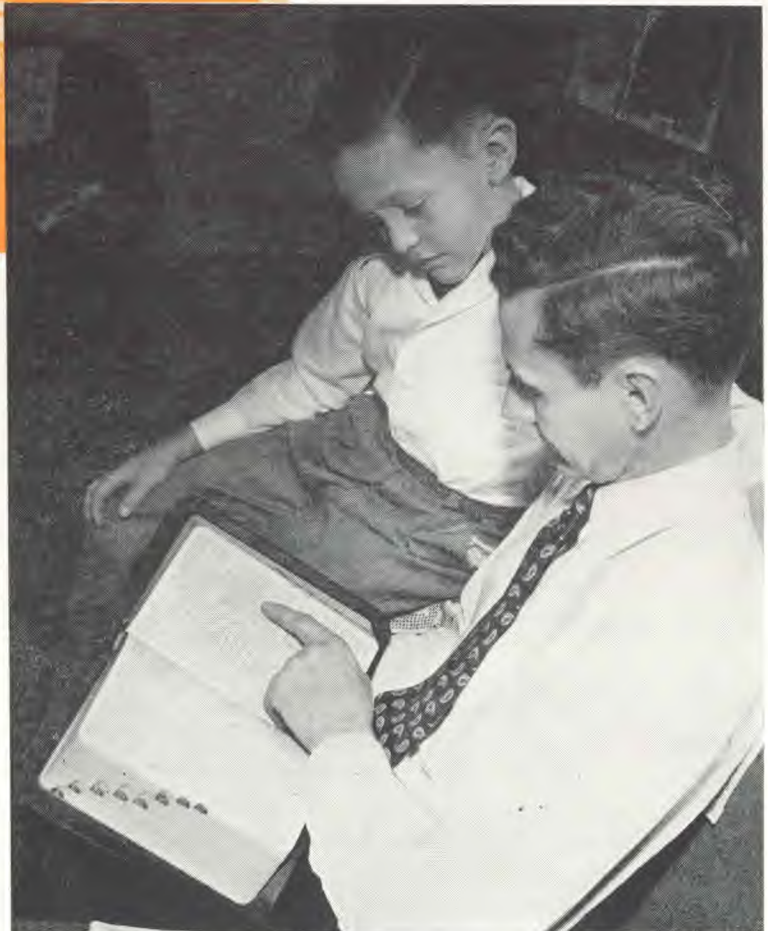


EWING GALLOWAY

A world that has forgotten God has also forgotten its children. We must work desperately to save our children. Christ said, "Feed My lambs."

boys and girls cannot be calculated. War's greatest sufferers are little children and babies. How many have starved to death! How many have been morally wounded, if not mortally wounded? Physically, mentally, nervously, temperamentally, socially, and spiritually the children of the world have been made to suffer unbelievably.

The results of two world wars will soon be evident. Soon that last-day third chapter of Isaiah will have its largest fulfillment. I read, "And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbor: the child shall behave himself proudly



WALTER HERING

Is It Peace?

(Continued from page 3)

Tekel; thou art weighed in the balances and art found wanting." Daniel 5:26, 27.

Babylon the Great, thanks to the skill and foresight of the mighty Nebuchadnezzar, was an impregnable city. Her walls were too lofty to be scaled, too strong to be breached by any weapons known to the ancient world. However there *was* one fatal defect in the plans of Nebuchadnezzar. He might have built for his degenerate descendants walls that would have pierced the clouds, and the results would have been the same; for what defenses could have saved a people so besotted with wine that they left open the gates of the city? Of the powerful Assyrian nation, the Lord said:

"O Assyria, rod of My anger,
And staff of My fury!
Against a godless nation I send him,
And against the people of My wrath I charge him,
To despoil them, and to prey on them,
And to trample them down like mire of the streets.
But not so does he think,
And not so does he plan;
For destruction is in his mind,
And to cut off nations not a few."

Isaiah 10:5-7, Smith.

God calls Assyria "rod of My anger"—an instrument in His hands to destroy a nation utterly corrupt and a menace to surrounding nations. But the instrument got out of hand. "Shall the axe boast itself against Him that heweth therewith?" Verse 15. The war-mad nation, filled with blood-lust, thrust out in every direction and destroyed the innocent as well as the guilty. Yes, Assyria attacked decadent nations and reduced them to the scrap heap only to go on the scrap heap herself. "He that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword." Revelation 13:10.

"Woe to the bloody city," cries the prophet Nahum, speaking of Nineveh, the capital. "It is all full of lies and robbery." Nahum 3:1. In conclusion the prophet justifies the fate of the city and nation thus: "There is no healing of thy bruise; . . . for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?" Verse 19. The city was not only corrupt, but corrupting.

God does not break the bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax. He instructed Abraham that his descendants were to go up and conquer and possess the land of Canaan; but He was careful to say not till the fourth generation (from their entrance into Egypt); "for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full." Genesis 15:16. But moral conditions became such that the Lord declared: "The land is defiled; therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants." Leviticus 18:25. The utter depravity of the people coincided with the coming of the conquering invader.

Military might is powerless when a nation is bankrupt morally. Listen to the words of the prophet Obadiah: "Thus saith the Lord God concerning Edom, . . . Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the Lord." Obadiah 1, 4. But there is a security exceeding that afforded by military might. Of Jehoshaphat, one of the best of Judah's monarchs, we read: "And the Lord was with Jehoshaphat because . . . he sought to the Lord God of his father, . . . therefore the Lord established the kingdom in his hand." 2 Chronicles 17:3-5. "And the fear of the Lord fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were round about Judah, so that they made no war against Jehoshaphat. Also some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents, and tribute silver; and the Arabians brought him flocks." Verses 10, 11.

The seventeenth chapter of Second Chronicles contains the much-coveted recipe for maintaining peace. But what are the prospects for peace in this modern war-weary world? The prophet Jeremiah has light for us on this point. He says: "For thus saith the Lord God of Israel unto me: Take the wine cup of this fury at My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it." Jeremiah 25:15. The cup that the prophet was to pass to all the nations was a symbol. But what did it symbolize? "And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them." Verse 16. The wine symbolized the sword, or war. The nations were to be drunken with militarism.

The cup that Jeremiah said was to be passed to all the nations was to be accompanied with the words: "Drink ye, and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you." Jeremiah 25:27. Not a nation was to be spared; all must drink. "And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at thine hand to drink, then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Ye shall certainly drink." Verse 28.

True, not all were eager to drink the war-exciting potion. There were some—we would call them pacifists today—who hesitated. But they were swept along by the rising flood of militarism. Is this all the recital of an incident that ended in the dim centuries of the past? No, it belongs to the age that has witnessed World War I, World War II, and is storing weapons for a more terrible World War III. Now let us read of the aftermath of the symbolic wine drinking as Jeremiah relates it in verses 31-33: "A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the Lord hath a controversy with the nations, He will plead with all flesh; He will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the Lord. Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from

one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground."

Not lamented? Nobody to lament. Not gathered? Nobody to gather them. Not buried? Nobody left to bury the dead. Surely this is the end. A dreadful picture but not a hopeless one; for Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will return to take away His people and to destroy the remnant of those who are destroying the earth. (See Revelation 11:18; 19:15, 16.) His coming is the only cure for the militarism that is to grow more and more destructive. Of Him it is written: "He maketh wars to cease unto the ends of the earth." Yes, He finds at His coming the angry nations still fighting.

But His promise to a distressed world is: "Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth." Isaiah 65:17. There even the beasts shall be at peace, and the lion and the lamb shall lie down together.

Finding God's Church

(Continued from page 8)

Isaiah 28:13.) They add to His Word and take from it and favor certain texts to the exclusion of others. This is how "wind of doctrine" is "supported" by Scripture; this is how contradictions or opposing doctrines are "founded" on the Scriptures.

Nor is it well to take for granted what one hears or reads "against" a church. The condemnation may be sound, or it may be an intended distortion of the teachings of that church. The only way to know is to check the sources from which the opposing writers have quoted and see for oneself. In some instances one is amazed to find how sentences and paragraphs (apparently quoted without consideration as to context) are "explained" so as to make the quoted material purport teachings that are even opposite to those intended by the original sources.

Tradition, too, may be a treacherous leader. It certainly is if the tradition you follow is the tradition of men and not that given by the apostles. (2 Thessalonians 2:13-15; 3:6.) For by men's commandments and traditions God is worshiped in vain, and by them His Word is made of none effect. Not a few reject the commandments of God that they may keep their own tradition. (Mark 7:7, 9, 13.) One thereby heeds false philosophies and reverences symbols, and worship days, and practices that are of pagan rather than *Christian* origin. "That ye be not partakers of her plagues," do not drink of the "wine of Babylon." (Revelation 18.)

Christ and His disciples time and time again spoke of the coming of religionists that appear as ministers of light but who craftily speak commandments, traditions, doctrines of men, feigned words, fair speeches, lies in hypocrisy, fables, and perverse things. Christ and His disciples repeatedly warned us against the "many deceivers"—false apostles, deceitful workers,

false brethren, false Christs, false prophets, ungodly men, grievous wolves, antichrists, and liars. None of these bring salvation; but, instead, their end is "swift destruction" and "the blackness of darkness forever." (2 Peter 2:1, 17; Jude 13.)

Summing up the conditions that would exist in "the last days," Paul says, "From such turn away." (2 Timothy 3:1-5.) In 1 Timothy 6:3, 5, which depicts those who "consent not to . . . the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness," he says, "From such withdraw thyself." Christ Himself says, "Go ye not therefore after them." Luke 21:8.

And it is not God's plan that you should take things for granted, and chance being deceived. Nor is it His intention that you should seek Him blindly, and chance losing the Way. The price Jesus paid that we might be redeemed is too great. So He has given us the Scriptures, and He commands us to search them. (John 5:39; 2 Timothy 3:16.) Indeed the Bereans are called "more noble," because, although "they received the word with all readiness of mind," they searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether the things even Paul said were so. (Acts 17:11.)

The best thing to do then is to prove *by the Scripture* any organization that beckons or appeals to you. The Word reveals whether those whom you would follow have in them His light, His law, and His testimony. (Isaiah 8:20.)

There have always been some who contended earnestly for the original, the unadulterated faith that was once delivered unto the saints. We therefore can expect to find such a "remnant" in existence today. (Jude 3; Romans 11:4, 5; Revelation 12:13-17.)

According to Scripture, precept, and example the remnant will have ministers like David: preachers who do not conceal His truth from "the great congregation." (Psalm 40:10.) It will have evangelists like Paul: evangelists who do not shun "to declare unto you all the counsel of God." (Acts 20:27.) It will have lay members like Aquila and Priscilla: helpers who can expound to sincere persons "the way of God more perfectly." (Acts 18:26.) Its publications will show that its "hands wash in innocency" that they may publish with the voice of thanksgiving and tell of His wondrous works. (Psalm 26.) Its beliefs will be founded on *all* the Scriptures—not merely a favored few (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; Matthew 4:4); and it will be unafraid to have its hearers search them whether its teachings are so.

It will not say works only, or *only* believe, or grace alone, or law alone; but it will uphold *all* these as necessary components of Christian living. As in the Scripture-recorded lives of Christ and His early followers, there will be in it both grace and the keeping of the whole law, both faith and works, both hearing and doing the Word.



INTERPRETI

In the Light

★ Criminal Cheating in the U. S.

THE RECENT exposure of criminal cheating by people on relief rolls and those receiving unemployment insurance has led us to wonder what has happened to the American spirit of independence and integrity that characterized so many of the early pioneers of this great nation.

In our study of history we find that our forefathers came to this new land seeking opportunity and independence. They wanted to live in a country where they would not be oppressed by tyrannical rulers and where the natural rights of man could be fully realized, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Many of them were willing to brave the hardships and deprivations of frontier life. They cut their way through the woods and back into the interior, facing the terror of the stealthy attacks of the redskins. All of this was done that they might carve for themselves a life of independence. They were not afraid to work for what they wanted.



Ann Louise takes active part in a history classroom discussion being held at Washington Irving High School although she sits one and a half miles away. The discussion was made possible through the new school-to-home telephone communication displayed recently.

But it seems today that the picture has changed. We ought to hang our heads in shame after reading the shocking revelations in the December, 1949, *Reader's Digest*, under the title "Chiselers Endanger Our Unemployment Insurance Program." Of similar nature is the article in *The Saturday Evening Post* of December 10, 1949, under the title "Detroit Cracks Down on Relief Chiselers." We have learned from these exposures that there are literally thousands of people receiving unemployment insurance who could have jobs if they wanted them; that there are many who deliberately do everything that they can to keep out of work. They simply prefer to loaf and be supported by the state.

Then there are thousands of others who have jobs but who collect unemployment insurance while they are actually working regularly. A committee of the California legislature reported that fully thirty million dollars' worth of benefits in California last year were paid to fraudulent recipients. California is not the only state where this condition exists. Other states give similar reports.

We are led to believe that dishonesty is being encouraged. An official from Washington told Herschel Atkinson, former administrator for Ohio: "This money is for velocity spending. We want to get spending power into the hands of the people. If a man walks in and signs a slip, pay him. What do you care? We will never audit you. Get the money out."

It is a deplorable thing that dishonesty is encouraged for reasons of so-called security.

A Massachusetts fraud-investigating committee became suspicious when many workers periodically stood in line to collect insurance checks a few minutes after the end of the first shift at a near-by textile mill. They checked the cards of 150 beneficiaries against the mill's payrolls, and more than a third of them were found to be currently employed; yet they were receiving unemployment insurance. Of 5,208 beneficiaries subsequently interviewed 4,249 had obtained insurance fraudulently. The booty: \$88,476.

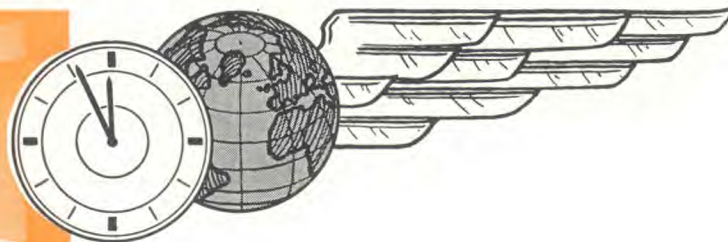
To show how the encouragement by officialdom of such dishonesty causes a travesty of justice, we cite the following: "One day the *Detroit Free Press* carried two significant items on the same page. One told of a man being sentenced to jail for ninety days for stealing forty cents from a newsstand; the other told of four

(Continued on page 35)

OUR TIMES

Bible Prophecy

Editor



Charles Hinkley, 25-year-old convict who underwent a brain operation to curb his criminal tendencies, is shown as he boarded a train for Winter General Hospital at Topeka, Kansas, where he will get further psychiatric training from the famous Menninger Clinic.

★ "The Earth Was Filled With Violence"

THE SHOCKING upsurge of sex crimes in recent months has brought an outcry of public indignation demanding measures to combat this menace. It is believed that many of these crimes can be prevented by giving proper treatment to those apprehended by the law that show signs of moral perversion.

We seriously question that such preventative measures are enough to solve the problem. Undoubtedly it will help the situation, but it is not going far enough. If we were to institute a program of clinical aid for these perverts and entirely disregard some of the underlying causes of their condition, we would be making a grave error.

We are inclined to believe that there are some very powerful influences that are being countenanced by the American public at large that have much to do with the condition that prevails at this time. Some of the most outstanding of these influences are the crime movies, the obscene literature that floods the newsstands, and the radio and television programs of violence.

It is interesting to note that there are some Hollywood producers and television officials who recognize

OUR TIMES, MARCH, 1950

that crime and brutality, as shown on the movie and television screens, are having detrimental effects upon the youth.

Louis B. Mayer, who is the head of the MGM studio, issued a statement some time ago attacking producers who make pictures bordering on the obscene under the guise of telling real-life stories or delivering so-called messages. Mr. Mayer also spoke of crime pictures as "nothing more than a great criminal college for our youth." He stated that he found it disturbing "to see some industry sources bidding for those stage plays and best sellers which, to [his] way of thinking, are obscene and unfit for consumption by the typical American." (See *The New York Times*, July 17, 1949.)

A popular American news magazine recently reported that "an ominous new trend in television last week was causing comment among U.S. psychiatrists, shocking civic leaders, and startling most telefans above a mental age of eleven.

"It was video's growing preoccupation with violence and brutality. What radio could suggest but never actually accomplish, TV mystery and crime dramas were doing with almost sadistic relish."—*Pathfinder*, Nov. 30, 1949.

The following report was given regarding a few television programs: On one program a hefty 175-pound man struck a woman a hard blow, then mauled her around the set in front of the camera. He accompanied this mayhem with a snarl: "Now, I'm going to see if you can take it." The locale was a girls' private school.

Another program was enlivened by the hanging of a woman. The suspense program, it was revealed, rarely misses a lapse into slugging of some sort. On the "Lights Out" broadcast a stone was recently used to beat a character unconscious.

There has been a feeble voice of protest raised by some people against such acts of violence, for there are some parents who do not wish their children to see such things. But the television producers are answering the attack by putting the blame on Hollywood and claiming that they are not showing anything worse than what people see in the movies. One television producer has said that "if we commit 'mayhem' on TV, it is because the public wants it. We aim to please the majority, not the individual."

(Continued on page 35)

Where Does Easter Come From?

Is It Christian or Pagan?



SINCE the days of ancient Babylon Easter has been celebrated among the pagans as the festival of the queen of heaven, "the goddess with ten thousand names."

"Easter" is defined in the New Standard Dictionary as derived from "Eostre," "a goddess." This name is related to Ishtar and Astarte. The same dictionary defines Ishtar as being from Babylonian and Assyrian mythology, and as "the 'Great Mother,' goddess of all fertility. . . . As goddess of sexual love Venus was her planet, and she was worshiped as the queen and mistress of heaven. She slew her spouse Tammuz and restored him to life after a period of mourning, her action typifying the earth in its destruction and restoration of vegetation with the seasons. She was worshiped in western Asia under many names."

That all pagan goddesses melt into one individual—the Babylonian queen of heaven—is well recognized by the scholars of ancient history. The book *The Mythology of All Races* states: "The entire mythology of Astarte goes back to the Sumerian Ininni—Ashdar—Ishtar; goddess of Venus and mother, wife, and lover of the Sumerian dying god Tammuz."—Vol. 5, p. 14. The same author speaks of Ishtar as "the goddess of Love and Harlotry."—*Id.*, p. 34.

The Babylonian goddess Ishtar and the Old Testament Ashtoreth are the same individual. William Smith says of Ishtar: "There is no reason to doubt that this Assyrian goddess is Ashtoreth of the Old Testament."—*Dictionary of the Bible*, p. 75. (S. S. Scranton & Company, Hartford, Conn., 1897.)

Ashtoreth is called queen of heaven in Jeremiah 7:18. "There is . . . reason to believe that she is meant by the 'queen of heaven,' in Jeremiah 7:18; 44:17, whose worship is there said to have been solemnized by burning incense, pouring libations, and offering cakes."—*The Popular and Critical Bible Encyclopedia*, Vol. 1, p. 168.

Evangelist H. A. St. John in his book *Our Banquet*, page 377, quotes Charles

A. S. Temple, to show the variety of names of the Babylonian goddess: "The ancient Pagans, with entire unanimity, worshipped one and the same great 'goddess of sensual love.' The Babylonians and Phoenicians called her 'Astarte'; the Egyptians, 'Isis'; the Greeks, 'Aphrodite'; the Romans, 'Venus, Flora, Ceres,' etc. Our Pagan-English ancestors called her 'Eostre,' and the Saxons by the similar name, 'Easter.' She also had many other names, among which were the 'Ashtoreth' of the Jews and Zidonians, and 'Diana' of the Ephesians."—*Pagan Counterfeits in the Christian Church*, pp. 42, 43.

We get our name Easter from the pagan Babylonian goddess. What a pity that the name of "the goddess of Love and Harlotry" should be given to a supposed Christian festival!

Someone will say that the name Easter is in the

By G. S. Belleau

Bible. It is a mistranslation, and the translators erred in the translation of the word Easter. Any commentary will explain that error. The Bible scholar, Adam Clarke, says: "Perhaps there never was a more unhappy, not to say absurd, translation than that in our text. . . . The goddess Easter, whose festival was celebrated by our pagan forefathers on the month of April; hence that month, in the Saxon calendar, is called Easter month. Every view we can take of this subject shows the gross impropriety of retaining a name every way exceptionable, and palpably absurd."—Adam Clarke's notes on Acts 12:4.

The name Easter and the time of its celebration is Babylonian and not Christian. It is baptized paganism. Let history testify as to the truth:

"To conciliate the Pagans to nominal Christianity, Rome, pursuing its usual policy, took measures to get the Christian and Pagan festivals amalgamated, and, by a complicated but skillful adjustment of the calendar, it was found no difficult matter, in general,



to get Paganism and Christianity—now far sunk in idolatry—in this as in so many other things, to shake hands.”—Alexander Hislop, *The Two Babylons*, p. 105.

History is clear that Easter was not known in the apostolic church:

“The festival, of which we read in Church history, under the name of Easter, in the third or fourth centuries, was quite a different festival from that now observed in the Romish Church, and at that time was not known by any such name as Easter. It was called Pasch, or the Passover, and though not of Apostolic institution, was very early observed by many professing Christians, in commemoration of the death and res-



urrection of Christ. That festival agreed originally with the time of the Jewish Passover, when Christ was crucified, a period which, in the days of Tertullian, at the end of the second century, was believed to have been the 23rd of March. That festival was not idolatrous, and it was preceded by no Lent. ‘It ought to be known,’ said Cassianus, the monk of Marseilles, writing in the fifth century, and contrasting the primitive Church with the Church in his day, ‘that the observance of the forty days had no existence, so long as the perfection of that primitive Church remained inviolate.’”—*Id.*, p. 104.

“The earliest Christians continued to observe the Jewish Passover on the fourteenth of the month Nisan. As the pagan element increased in the Church, and the anti-Jewish feeling accordingly, after a sharp struggle, the time was changed from the fourteenth of the month to the Sunday nearest the Vernal equinox. This brought it in conjunction with the festival of the Goddess of Spring, an ancient pagan feast, which probably dates back to the time of Astarte-worship, in Babylonia.”—A. H. Lewis, D.D., *Paganism Surviving in Christianity*, p. 279. (G. P. Putnam’s Sons, New York, 1892.)

Not only is the name “Easter” and the time of celebration pagan, but the way in which we celebrate Easter is Babylonian. The pagans had their Easter egg, hot cross buns, the fish, and sitting bird; all had their place in the worship of the Babylonian queen of heaven. They had their Lent, yes, forty days of it.

“Whence, then, came this observance? The forty days’ abstinence of Lent was directly borrowed from

the worshipers of the Babylonian goddess. Such a Lent of forty days, ‘in the spring of the year,’ is still observed by the Yezidis or Pagan Devil-worshippers of Koordistan, who have inherited it from their early masters, the Babylonians. Such a Lent of forty days was held in spring by the Pagan Mexicans, for thus we read in Humboldt, where he gives account of Mexican observances: ‘Three days after the vernal equinox . . . began a solemn fast of forty days in honor of the sun.’ Such a Lent of forty days was observed in Egypt, as may be seen on consulting Wilkinson’s *Egyptians*. This Egyptian Lent of forty days, we are informed by Landseer, in his *Sabean Researches*, was held expressly in commemoration of Adonis or Osiris, the great mediatorial god.”—*The Two Babylons*, pp. 104, 105.

The mystic egg of the Babylonians had the following origin according to the Egyptian Hyginus who was keeper of the Palestine Library at Rome: “‘An egg of wondrous size is said to have fallen from heaven into the river Euphrates. The fishes rolled it to the bank, where the doves having settled upon it, and hatched it, out came Venus, who afterward was called the Syrian Goddess’—that is, Astarte. Hence the egg became one of the symbols of Astarte or Easter.”—*Id.*, p. 109.

Had you ever wondered how chocolate eggs, chickens, and fishes came to be associated with Easter? The above quotation answers that question. How about rabbits as we see them everywhere at Easter time? That also is Babylonian.

“The rabbit is a pagan symbol and has always been an emblem of fertility.”—*The Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol. 5, p. 227, art., “Easter.”

“The hot cross buns of Good Friday, and the dyed eggs of Pasch or Easter Sunday, figured in the Chaldean rites just as they do now. The ‘buns,’ known too by that identical name, were used in the worship of the queen of heaven, the goddess Easter, as early as the days of Cecrops, the founder of Athens—that is, 1,500 years before the Christian era. ‘One species of sacred bread,’ says Bryant, ‘which used to be offered to the gods, was of great antiquity, and called Boun.’”—*The Two Babylons*, pp. 107, 108.

When Israel went into the idolatry of sun worship we find the Israelite women making cakes to the pagan goddess: “The children gather wood, and fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger.” Jeremiah 7:18.

When you get into a tight place and everything seems against you, till it seems as though you could not hold on a minute longer, don’t give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn.

—HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

For BETTER HOMES and HEALTH

WHAT PRICE HOME?

By Edna Atkin Pepper

HOME is not valued as it was at one time in these United States. Though we are, perhaps, inclined to smile at what we consider platitudes, homes will never be outmoded. And as long as we have homes, we shall have individuals that refuse to become regimented carbon copies of the rank and file.

We have read recently in the religious news releases that religion makes *persons*. However individuality is on the wane, if Clifton Fadiman, book editor and radio master of ceremonies, is correct in his conclusions. He says, "The decay of religious feeling in America is one of the causes of the depersonalization of our populace." Mr. Fadiman was speaking to the public schoolteachers in Wilmington, Delaware.

It is in the home that the child and the adolescent should receive their birthright of a stable foundation of belief in the ideals upon which this country was founded. It is in this same home that our youth can

grow to be themselves, think for themselves, and know not only what they believe but why.

Lawrence was a fine boy. He had been reared in a religious atmosphere that had fostered the reverent, serious, scholarly side of his nature so evidently the predominant one. Afterward when Lawrence was beginning his senior academic year, it became necessary for him to be separated from his family, due to the fact that they had moved some distance and Lawrence desired to be graduated with his class.

He could not afford to live in the boys' dormitory, so he found a place in one of the community homes to work for his room and board. He had his room to himself, which pleased him as it gave him the quiet evenings for study and reading.

Lawrence was enjoying his last year in the academy to the fullest extent when something happened that changed the entire course of his life. The local physician hurried him off to the hospital one evening and

speedily removed his appendix. His father came across the continent to his hospital bed, and soon Lawrence began to make good progress back to health. The father arranged for Lawrence to live in the boys' dormitory until he was able to resume his duties at the farm home.

Arriving at the dormitory, the student found most of the boys uninteresting but decided he could put up with them for two or three weeks. He was not seriously disturbed until it was abruptly brought to his attention that many of the boys were not all they claimed to be. To his forthright idealism, to preach and pray in public and then to play cards in private was an unheard-of outrage and a travesty on religion.

Lawrence wrote his parents only brief, intermittent notes until he was back in the room he called his own. By that time he had brought some kind of order out of the mental and



HUNTON FROM MONKMEYER

Regardless of your church affiliation, teach your children early that only by "looking unto Jesus" and following His Word can they find the narrow way "which leadeth unto life."

spiritual chaos into which he had been so unceremoniously tossed by circumstances. Sitting down at his study desk, he wrote long and bitterly, page after page.

It was with many misgivings that his family prepared to attend his graduation. How happy they were to find him apparently the same kindly, affectionate son and brother! However with the removal of his cap and gown he was through with religion. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and set himself to make his mark in the world.

The Navy knew a good man when they saw one. He spent most of his time in school until he was sent to the Orient. He began to smoke and to drink and

(Continued on page 33)



A Very Kind Man

From *Little Journeys Into Storyland*

By Archa O. Dart

A BIG, tall, giant of a man, with kind but homely face, was one day making his way along the streets when he overtook a little girl, who evidently was in trouble. From her sobbing and crying, he knew something was wrong. Big as he was, he had a kind heart, and stopped to ask what the trouble might be, and if he could be of any help.

It took a little coaxing on the part of the big, tall stranger, but she finally told him that she had planned to go away on the train, and had asked some one to call and get her trunk and take it to the station. It was almost train time, and no one had come for the trunk. And she must catch the train.

The big, tall man told her to dry her tears and show him where the trunk was. He would take it to the station for her. He soon had the trunk on his back, and carried it to the depot in time for her to buy her ticket. She was a happy little girl, and he was a happy man. His life was made up of just such little acts of kindness.

He was one of the best-loved men of all time, Abraham Lincoln. Some one called him the American Greatheart. He was kind to every one—to little children, to the poor, to his soldiers, to the wives and mothers of the soldiers, even to animals.

Some think it is a sign of weakness to be kind, but it is really a mark of greatness. Few men have had more troubles and perplexities than did Lincoln, yet few men are more sympathetic and considerate.

One day he was busy at the White House talking to a soldier who had brought important tidings from the battle front. There came a tapping at the door. Being very much absorbed in the business of the hour, he paid no attention to the tapping, and it continued. After a time a boy's voice was heard. "It's Tad, father. Unfasten the door."

Lincoln hurriedly unfastened the door, and in scampered little Tad in his nightgown, all ready for bed. He took the little fellow over to the table, and, with the tiny hand in his big hand, he began to tap on the table as he explained to Tad, "You forgot your signals, didn't you? When you want to come in, this is the way to telegraph me—three quick raps followed by two slower ones."

(Continued on page 34)



By Caris Lauda

Test It to See If It's Good

HELLO THERE, Teen-agers:

In my last letter to you I talked about "Popular Nothings"—the comics—and today as I promised you I shall give you my *test* for *reading, hearing, saying, and doing*. With this testing measure I am sure we will all say, "Away with the 'Popular Nothings'! I'm through using my head for a rubbish can."

All of us as youth have much confidence in the life story of Paul, as given in the Holy Bible. We love to read about him and see his firm, unfaltering stand in Christian living. Paul gives us an excellent *test* in Philippians 4:8 to put to all our reading, our hearing, our seeing, and our doing. Here are his words: "Finally—whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Here Paul has given us *six different tests*; and as we think of the comics, let us ask ourselves the question: Are they *true*—if not, what are they? "Oh," you say, "false." If they are false, then they are lies, aren't they, and who is the father of lies? You say, "The devil." That's right. Therefore who is the father of the comics? "The devil." And those who read them are reading of the devil and not of God.

Oh, someone might say, "Some are true." Well, it may be that some are true. But let's put them all to this test. Are they *honest*, are they *just*, are they *pure*? What about the words found therein? What

(Continued on page 31)



ELSIE ANNA WOOD

"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."
John 14:3.

This Same Jesus

How and Why Will Christ Return?

By John W. Boyd

THERE really isn't any such place as heaven; and the second coming of Christ—that is when one is converted," so declared the couple with whom I was visiting.

This matter of the second coming of Jesus is viewed from various standpoints today; but that there is to be a second coming is plainly declared in the Holy Scriptures: "Unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:28.

When the Saviour does appear again, it will be in fulfillment of a promise He made when on earth during His first advent: "In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2, 3.

Belief in the triumphant return of Christ is affirmed

by both Old and New Testament writers. Among those of ancient times, Job declared: "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another." Job 19:25-27. This side of the cross, Paul wrote: "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ." Philippians 3:20.

Everyone who claims to be a Christian, whether Catholic or Protestant, should have a similar hope, since all partake of the Lord's Supper in one form or another. Regarding this sacrament, we read in 1 Corinthians 11:26: "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come." Paul here states that as we observe this sacred rite, we "do show the Lord's death till He come." Then we must believe in His return or else such observance would be a travesty of a sacrament given by Christ Himself.

But still, we question, "How will He come?" Listen to the angels declare, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." Acts. 1:11.

This verse of Scripture points out three characteristics of His return. *First*, it will be a *literal, bodily* return, for He "shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go." The disciples had but shortly before been conversing with a real being, One who after His resurrection had said, "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself: handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see Me have." Luke 24:39. His second coming, then, cannot be described as coming into the heart, which is an experience we know as conversion.

The *second* feature of His return is that it will be *personal*. "This same Jesus." As Job declared: "Whom . . . mine eyes shall behold, and not another." (Job 19:27.)

The *third* characteristic is that His return will be *visible and not secret*. Going back to verse nine of Acts 1, we read: "And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight." They "beheld." The angels stated that He would return as they had "seen" Him taken away.

In the Revelation of Jesus Christ given to John, that apostle recorded: "Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him." Revelation 1:7. And little wonder that this spectacle of the ages draws the attention of all mankind, for "as lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24:27.

Accompanying the Son of God will be the myriads of unfallen angels, adding glory and brilliance to this awe-inspiring scene. "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory." Matthew 25:31. Viewing this event in vision, John described it: "And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Revelation 6:15-17.

This is almost an echo of Christ's words recorded in Matthew 24:30: "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

A consideration of these verses leaves no doubt but that *His second coming will be visible*—to the wicked as well as to the righteous. Perhaps foreseeing that some might mistake the glorious coming witnessed by the wicked as an event occurring after the righteous have been gathered, Jesus continued: "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Matthew 24:31.

Thus we have the words from the very lips of the Son of God that His glorious return, beheld by all on the earth, has as its major purpose the gathering of the righteous. Not before or not after, but *at* His second coming will the angels "gather together the elect."

Our present existence is often marred by sorrow and death. All have seen it; some have experienced it close at hand in the family; and to these, especially, should the knowledge of the return of Jesus bring consolation. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in

OUR TIMES, MARCH, 1950

Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18.

The thought of the second advent brought joy to Paul, for he was "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2:13.

If we really love Him, we will look for His return with expectation; and when the heavens depart as a scroll, revealing the once lowly Jesus of Nazareth as **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**, we shall confess, "Lo, this is our God." Isaiah 25:9.



HOME

By Weldon Taylor Hammond

A cottage by a winding road,
A swing beneath the trees,
A bed of blooming flowers,
And the buzz of honeybees,
The cheery face of father,
A mother's loving care,
A group of playful children
Whose laughter fills the
air—

No spot on earth just like it,
No matter where we roam,
The nearest place to heaven—
Home, sweet home!



COMING Next Month



"Do Men Have a Second Chance?" by Allen Walker.

"What Is a Christian?" by Leon A. Smith.

"Creation and Science," by Harold W. Clark.

"Why Tongues?" by R. F. Radke.

"The Causes of Crime," by Varner J. Johns.



Let's Ask the DOCTOR



The answers to health questions are supplied to the readers of OUR TIMES by Owen S. Parrett, M. D.
Address your queries to him in care of this magazine.

We read and hear much about the matter of cholesterol as a food factor in connection with arteriosclerosis and high blood pressure. What is its importance, and should we avoid certain foods on this account?—B.L.

Since in many cases of arteriosclerosis we find deposits of cholesterol in the vessel walls, and since a similar condition can be induced experimentally in small animals by feeding large amounts of this material, we believe it is well to avoid this food constituent as far as possible in persons who may have a tendency toward vascular disease or whose parents may have suffered from such a condition. The three foodstuffs that contain cholesterol are egg yolks, animal fats, and meat. Egg yolks contain the greatest amount, about 1.5 per cent; whole milk, about 0.02 per cent; and meat, a lesser amount.

Although all the factors that cause some persons to suffer vascular changes more than others are not known, it is much safer to avoid these food factors as far as possible. Whole milk need not be avoided, but butter and cream should be used moderately. It may be well to use margarine made from vegetable oils which contain no cholesterol. Although meat is the lowest in cholesterol content of the three foodstuffs mentioned, there are many other reasons why meat is less desirable than most other foods. Eggs serve a useful purpose in the diet especially if one is anemic, as the yolk is a good blood builder, but I would suggest that most persons limit their eating of eggs to less than one a day or three or four a week. Cooking can best be done with vegetable oils for shortening.

What causes creeping paralysis? Is there any cure? Does a patient always lose his mind?—C.

So-called creeping paralysis is a disease of rather obscure origin and probably is due to more than a single cause. Landry's paralysis is the name given to one form of paralysis. Probably in most cases the disease has an infectious or a toxic cause or both, and if it is possible to ascertain the nature of the infection

and its source, it might be possible to arrest the disease. In many cases this is not easily done. No, the patient does not always lose his mind. Specific treatment is often difficult, although the newer antibiotic medicines such as penicillin or streptomycin may be useful. Hydrotherapy and massage may aid in assisting the patient's health, and a careful dietary and good hygienic program may slow the progress of the disease and add to the patient's comfort.

What do you suggest as a practical first-aid treatment for ordinary burns such as happen in home work?—B.R.

Since one of the first demands in a medium burn is the alleviation of pain, probably butesin-picrate ointment is one of the very useful things to keep in the house, as it does relieve the pain quite rapidly. At the same time I find it favors the healing process very well, which is the second important factor to be considered. One should cover the burn with a thin wax paper; then put on a thin layer of cotton, and bandage it. This routine may be repeated once daily.

What is the predominant indication of hardening of the arteries?—F.N.H.

Hardening of the arteries seldom takes place over the body in the same degree. On an X-ray film one leg may show calcified vessels like pipes, and the other leg may not show this change. The heart may be the organ affected, as in coronary heart disease and angina pectoris; in cases of senility or senile dementia the brain is chiefly affected. Blood pressure may be higher than normal with very little vascular change, although if of long standing secondary blood vascular changes may result from high blood pressure, 80 per cent of which is caused by nervous tension. This disease or symptom is known as essential hypertension. Perhaps I have not answered your question as yet, but remember that high blood pressure may not indicate hardening of the arteries. Sometimes the hardened arteries feel like the radial arteries or the cords where we take the pulse.



What Says the BIBLE?

A Majestic Thought

THE ELOQUENT speaker rose to an alliterative climax: "A majestic thought," he said, "is magnificent medicine for men."

So here is a majestic thought to medicate your day's outlook:

"Above the distractions of the earth He sits enthroned; all things are open to His divine survey; and from His great and calm eternity He orders that which His providence sees best."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 417.

The Bible said it first:

"It is He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in." Isaiah 40:22. "Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, He taketh up the isles as a very little thing. . . . All nations before Him are as nothing; and they are counted to Him less than nothing, and vanity." Verses 15, 17. "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever: for wisdom and might are His: and He changeth the times and the seasons: He removeth kings, and setteth up kings: He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: He knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with Him." Daniel 2:20-22. The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will." Daniel 4:17.

While God is thus enthroned, what does He behold?

"The Lord looketh from heaven; He beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of His habitation He looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth. He fashioneth all their hearts alike; He considereth all their works." Psalm 33:13-15. "O Lord, Thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my down-sitting and mine uprising, Thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassed my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, Thou knowest it altogether." Psalm 139:1-4. "The Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts." 1 Chronicles 28:9.

Can we escape from this divine scrutiny?

"Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit? Or whither

shall I flee from Thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee." Psalm 139:7-12.

"Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and my judgment is passed over from my God?" Isaiah 40:27, 28.

What is the purpose of this divine comprehension of every human being?

"I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings." Jeremiah 17:10. "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." Ecclesiastes 12:14. "Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance." Psalm 90:8.

When is this judgment to take place?

"The hour of His judgment is come." Rev. 14:7.

What proclamation is being made throughout the world right now—February, March, 1950?

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment is come." Revelation 14:6, 7.

What is the standard by which all men will be tested in the judgment now going on in heaven?

"So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." James 2:12. Verses 8-11 show this law to be the Ten Commandments.

In view of God's omniscience, His omnipotence, and the judgment now going on, what should be our attitude?

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23, 24. "Order my steps in Thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me." Psalm 119:133.

Why Miracles?

(Continued from page 4)

that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination." Proverbs 28:9.

Let us look at some of the Bible examples. Jeroboam was cursed with a withered arm and healed by the intercession of the prophet of Judah; yet his heart "returned not from his evil way." (1 Kings 13:1-10, 33, 34.) He stands out in the Old Testament records as a perpetual byword for apostasy and evil. God did a miracle for him, yet he was never converted.

The Pharaoh of the exodus, who withstood Moses and Aaron, saw unmistakable evidence—wonders and supernatural judgments—until he finally cried out, "Go serve the Lord, . . . and bless me also." (Exodus 12:31, 32.) And everyone knows that the Pharaoh died in the pursuit of Israel at the Red Sea. He was never converted, even with all that mighty demonstration of God's power before his eyes and senses.

Balaam, once a true prophet of God, witnessed and heard the miracle of his ass speaking to him in the voice of an angel, when on the way to curse Israel against God's command. Balaam knew and understood this event as a providence of God, yet covetousness robbed the onetime saint and prophet of eternal salvation. This miracle did not break his heart nor reconvert him. (Numbers 22; 2 Peter 2:15.)

In Luke 17:11-19 we read that Jesus healed ten lepers. Only one of the ten returned to glorify God. This one, a Samaritan and a stranger, returned to Jesus glorifying Him. Jesus said, "Thy faith hath made thee whole." This one stranger was regenerated, born again; nine were only physically healed and, at that, ungrateful for such a special, divine, temporal blessing.

Peter and Judas, two of the twelve apostles, were given the same power on their missionary tours. Yet Judas was never converted; and Peter was definitely singled-out as being among the unconverted on the night of the betrayal of Jesus, when He said, "When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." Luke 22:32. Peter, after being with Jesus for more than three years, was finally converted; yet he did miracles before his conversion. Judas also witnessed for Christ during the same time; in fact he was their treasurer. However he finally sold his Lord for thirty pieces of silver—the price of a slave. (Mark 6:7-13; Matthew 27:3-5.)

The crowning witness of God's power in old Jerusalem was the resurrection of a multitude of saints together with Jesus on a Sunday morning. (Matthew 27:52, 53.) "We be risen with Christ," they proclaimed, in startling and fearful testimony. For forty days, they with Christ walked the streets of old Jerusalem, witnessing to the mighty power of Jesus as their Messiah; and then they ascended with Jesus to heaven. (Ephesians 4:8.) But everyone, even to this day, knows that old Jerusalem was destroyed in A.D. 70 and

the Jews cursed forever for their crime of killing Christ and for their rejection of Him. (Luke 21:24.)

"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again [from above, margin] he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3-7. We must be born from above. Paul says: "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works" (Ephesians 2:10), "a new creature" (Galatians 6:15), "by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5). (See 1 John 3:9; 5:1-4, 18.)

Being born again is the only gateway to heaven. Miracles and the gift of tongues will never convert the world to Jesus. It has been shown that miracles, wonders, special talents, and gifts are not true signs of regeneration or being born again.

The preaching of the law and the prophets—the good news of salvation from sin through faith in the blood of the Lamb and in His life-giving power—is the only way to conversion. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Romans 10:17. It is the miracle of the Word itself that creates a new being. (1 Peter 1:23-25.) For those words are life; they are spirit. (John 6:63.) The law points out sin, but in the Word is found power to keep from breaking those holy precepts. (Jude 24; Romans 5:10.)

I have never met a born-again Christian who was not in love with the admonitions of the Holy Bible. (Every Christian knows that the breaking in the least degree of the Ten Commandments violates his conscience.) Truly the greatest miracle of all is that a sinful, hating heart in direct opposition to the law and the Bible may be supernaturally changed and created anew. The "new creature" loves, obeys, and believes God's commands and gives his all—even his very life—for their teaching, publication, and propagation. Job said: "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him." Job 13:15. John says: "And they overcame him [the devil] by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Revelation 12:11. See Romans 8:35-39.

As I said, after conversion, miracles by the Holy Spirit only serve to *confirm* one's faith. Those who walk in the meekness and lowliness of Christ, who walk in humility of mind and who love and fear God possess a power more valuable, more precious, more desirable, and more exalted than learning, eloquence, or any other of the special gifts or talents of God. In short the supreme "heavenly gift" of adoption into the family of God the Father by a miraculous new birth is the one way to the kingdom of God. And what a privilege! John cries out: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." 1 John 3:1. "And [Christ] hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father." Revelation 1:6.

Why miracles? Jesus can outdo the devil's wonder-working power a thousand times over; all power is in

His hands and control. And in spite of the fact that Satan is a fallen angel, what is gained by a display of either of their powers if we miss the way of Christ and are not delivered out of the power of the prince of this world? If we are not converted in heart and mind and the whole being which is our reasonable sacrifice, *neither wonder-working power* will save us.

The Christian that is converted needs no further evidence to prove Jesus to him. There is no doubt in his mind about the Holy Bible, the Ten Commandments, or the Holy Spirit witnessing to the law, or Word, or for Jesus. He knows in his own heart the power that overcomes death. Miracles are given to sustain the believer already in Christ; for no miracle, other than the new birth, ever brought one to Christ. Miracles are for the edifying of the church, to ratify and perfect the first work of the Spirit—the new birth—and to bring one fully back to Jesus. (1 Corinthians 1:7, 8; Ephesians 4:12.) Miracles are given to witness to the life-giving power over death, sin, and torment; they are not given to show off supernatural power.

Saving Our Children

(Continued from page 15)

"Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish" (Matthew 18:14). Says Psalm 127:3, "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord." Some day, and soon, our returning King will ask, "Where is the flock that was given thee, thy beautiful flock?" Jeremiah 13:20. May you be able to answer in the language of Hebrews 2:13, "Behold I and the children which God hath given me."

I believe in child evangelism. Jesus said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not." Luke 18:16. Jesus loves children. Jesus is a child's Saviour, and a child's pattern. As a child He said, "I must be about My Father's business." Luke 2:49. Jesus as a child obeyed His heavenly Father. He died to save children. Jesus now is ready to help any boy or girl that wants to be saved. He calls today just as He did 1900 years ago. We read of an experience that illustrates this in Matthew 18:2: "And Jesus called a little child unto Him, and sat him in the midst of them."

Yes, Jesus calls, "Let the little ones come." Will you sing it, please?

"I think when I read that sweet story of old,
When Jesus was here among men,
How He called little children as lambs to His fold,
I should like to have been with them then.
I wish that His hands had been placed on my head,
That His arm had been thrown around me,
And that I might have seen His kind look when He
said,
'Let the little ones come unto Me.'"

Does child evangelism pay? It does. We believe that we should now stress child evangelism more than ever. When an adult is won to Christ, a unit of strength has been added to the cause of righteousness and truth; but when a child is brought to Christ, a multiplication table has been added.

Warden Lawes, formerly of the Sing Sing Penitentiary, has declared: "When we get to the place where we pay more attention to the high chair, we will have less need for the electric chair." Said Francis Xavier, the great Jesuit missionary, "Give me the children until they are seven and anyone may have them afterward." And Ella Frances Lynch writes: "If you train your children carefully until they are seven years old, they are already three quarters educated."

A child is susceptible to, and capable of, religious feelings long before he can grasp religious thought. He has heart responses long before he understands the reason of things. Every child should have a religious experience in accordance with his years. Says Clarence H. Benson in his book *Introduction to Child Study*: "Before the fourth year the child acquires his knowledge of right and wrong solely by imitation. His religion is a reflection of the religion he finds about him." By beholding, the child is changed. This is a spiritual truth as well as a psychological dictum. Here is how it is expressed in 2 Corinthians 3:18: "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

But someone objects that children are sometimes coaxed and urged to take their stand for Christ prematurely, and that when they get older they will break away from their baptismal vows. It is true that some parents, and even ministers, have unwisely urged children to take their stand before they were prepared in heart and mind to do so; but those who raise this question, more often than not, sound a false alarm. Let every boy and girl have an experience in Christ in proportion to his years.

Says Spurgeon: "I have more confidence in the spiritual life of the children that I have received into this church than I have in the spiritual condition of the adults thus received." And to quote him further: "Eighty-seven per cent of adult converts fall away within five years, but not more than 40 per cent of child converts are lost in the same length of time."

And Dr. George W. Baley observes: "Less time and effort are necessary for the winning of twenty children to Christ than one adult, and a Christian child is worth more in the extension of the kingdom than many adults."

Jesus calls the children today. He calls each boy and girl. He calls them to be preachers, missionaries, church leaders, and workers. He calls them just as truly as He calls the disciples of old. His word to them now is "Follow Me." Yes, Jesus says, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19.

The Protestant Reformation

(Continued from page 13)

"Its form still stood without a breach,
When life and warmth were fled,
And still it spake its wanted speech,
When every word was dead."

Protestantism got its name from the vigorous protests of the reformers against the doctrines and corruptions of Romanism. It developed a big name vibrating with life and heroic exploits. But the name of Protestantism has largely lost its significance. Protestants have ceased to protest and, in fact, are getting on very friendly terms with their former enemy. They have also largely lost the glorious truth of justification and salvation by faith and have replaced it with the non-Christian doctrine of humanism. There is still much activity and boasting of the glorious past and planning for a greater future through church federation; but knowledge of the Bible is lacking, spiritual life waning, and worldly conformity seems to be the order of the day.

The meaning of Sardis indicates a "remnant" or "an escaped few," and therefore represents Protestantism especially in its decadent backslidden state when only a remnant of faithful souls would continue the work of reform. There would be "a few names" or "a few souls" (Moffatt) in Sardis who "have not defiled their garments." Some would maintain and increase their spirituality and loyalty to principle even in a church having more profession than vital godliness. The success of the earlier days brought feelings of pride, boasting, and overconfidence; and men hid behind their creeds and refused to walk in advancing light. The appeal of the divine Lord is for an advance in scriptural knowledge and for the finishing of the work so nobly begun.

The work of the reformers was "not perfect before God." In other words it was not up to the mark, because it was incomplete. It was not "fully performed" according to one translation. The work was good as far as it was carried on, but it came to a standstill before being completed. It reached the state of stagnation. Dr. Philip Schaff truthfully declared that "the Reformation of the sixteenth century is not a finale; but a movement still in progress." Robert Peel, while prime minister of England in 1840, said: "The day is not far distant, and it may be very near, when we shall have to fight the battle of the Reformation over again." The Reformation cannot be complete until the people of God are brought all the way back to the faith delivered to the saints by Christ and the apostles. There are some hopeful signs that the battle lines are now being formed for the final contest between truth and error.

The accusation that the church was "ready to die" indicated a little life that should be fanned into a

flame before it became extinguished. "Strengthen then those thy remaining few graces, which, in thy spiritual deadly slumber, are not yet quite extinct."—Dean Alford. Christ does not say, "Arise from the dead," because there was some life remaining; but He does urge the church to awake and be watchful. The situation is serious, but not hopeless. The call is for repentance and the continuance of the arrested Reformation. The divine Watcher says, "Wake up, rally what is still left to you, though it is on the very point of death." Moffatt. The scriptural injunction applies with special force, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Ephesians 5:14.

A remembrance of the glorious history and experiences of the past would be an incentive to repentance and renewed Reformation efforts. There was much to "remember" that was of great value, especially in creating a desire for a repetition of the miracle-working power and celestial glory of the former days. In this period of decadent Protestantism would come the beginning of the judgment. Christ warned, that during the period of the judgment "you will certainly not know the hour at which I shall come to judge you." Weymouth. The secret coming of judgment would be "in such an hour as ye think not," and like the visit of "a thief in the night." Just as the overconfident and self-satisfied citizens of Sardis were suddenly surprised and overtaken with disaster, so an overwhelming surprise awaits the modern religious world in its lukewarm and complacent attitude.

The overcomer will be arrayed in white raiment, the symbol of purity and victory; and his name will be retained in the Lamb's book of life. The early Christian candidates for baptism marched to the place of immersion wearing white robes as the outward evidence of their profession. In Rome the white toga was worn by successful candidates for office and by victorious generals when given a triumph by their grateful government. Often in the Scriptures the finally victorious saints of God are represented as being clothed in white raiment, symbolic of their complete and final triumph over their great enemy.

In Greek and Roman cities, as in our own, the names of the citizens were registered. Citizenship brings special privileges not available to others. It has always been a disgrace and tragedy to have one's name expunged from the book of record because of unworthy conduct. The names of all spiritually dead Christians must be removed from the book of life, which is only for the names of victors. Either the name is blotted from the book of life or the sins from the books of record. The promise indicates the danger and possibility of falling from grace, which is the great sin of the modern religious world. It is high time for a great spiritual revival and reformation by the forsaking of sins and a full return to primitive godliness in the daily life of the people of the world.



Test It to See If It's Good

(Continued from page 23)

WATCH SMOG WEATHER.—A strict watch of the weather is the chief of ten U. S. Public Health Service recommendations for preventing future smog catastrophes such as hit the small industrial town of Donora, Pa., a year ago this month (Oct. 27, 1948).

If forecasts show a possibility of weather inversion, industrial plants should either be shut down or cut down their operations enough to reduce "sharply" the amount of contamination going out into the air.—*Science News Letter*, Oct. 29, 1949.

POLIO CASES EXPECTED TO BE HIGH IN 1950.—1950 will be another big infantile paralysis year. There may be more big years to follow. "The end is not in sight" to the upward trend in this disease, Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele of the U. S. Public Health Service declared at a conference of health officers in Atlanta, Ga.—*Science News Letter*, Oct. 29, 1949.

DRAMAMINE RELIEVES MIGRAINE AND NAUSEA.—Dramamine, the new drug that both prevents and relieves seasickness, may help patients with migraine headaches and mental patients with nausea after electric shock treatments.

This possibility appears in satisfactory results with the drug for both conditions reported by Dr. Edward F. Kerman of Baltimore to the *Journal of The American Medical Association* (Oct. 15), in Chicago, Ill.—*Science News Letter*, Oct. 29, 1949.

ELECTRIC LUNCH BOX.—Plugged into a factory or office electric outlet, it provides both a steaming hot lunch and cold dessert. Besides two containers for food, it has a bottle for hot beverages. It is available also with voltage units for use in automobiles, trucks, boats, and trains.—*Science News Letter*, Oct. 29, 1949.

SPOTTING SOVIET A-BOMB.—Clinching proof of Russia's atomic bomb activities could have come from cosmic ray studies by American scientists who have been keeping a careful watch this summer on all radioactivity in the upper atmosphere.

Their studies would show, as no spy could, whether the Soviets were trying to start a false "scare" rumor.

The existence of bomb fission fragments in the atmosphere could not be faked. Such fission fragments would be viciously "hot" strange atoms, radiating furiously, and of a kind never found in nature outside of a bomb or atomic pile. And these fragments could have been detected by cosmic ray scientists.—*Science News Letter*, Oct. 1, 1949.

OUR TIMES, MARCH, 1950

about the fighting, the cursing, the swearing, and the morals? Yes, and are they lovely, are they of good report? Surely if we put all the comics to the test of these words—true, honest, just, pure, lovely, good report—we will need to ban them from our reading, for we are Christians trying to be pure in heart to meet our Lord and Saviour. Not only does Paul give us this excellent counsel, but the book *Messages to Young People*, by Ellen White, gives to us some earnest thoughts for our consideration: "Keep thy heart with all diligence' is the counsel of the wise man, 'for out of it are the issues of life.' . . . We have a work to do to resist temptation. Those who would not fall a prey to Satan's devices must guard well the avenues of the soul; they must avoid reading, seeing or hearing that which will suggest impure thoughts. The mind should not be left to wander at random upon every subject that the adversary of souls may suggest." "Gird up the loins of your mind," says the apostle Peter. 'Be sober, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance, but as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of living.'" Then, after quoting Philippians 4:8, the writer goes on to say, "This will require earnest prayer and unceasing watchfulness. We must be aided by the abiding influence of the Holy Spirit which will attract the mind upward and habituate it to dwell on pure and holy things. And we must give diligent study to the Word of God." "Where-withal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to Thy Word." "Thy Word," says the Psalmist, "have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee."

Not only do the Bible and other spiritual books show us that comics should definitely be shunned by us as Christians, but notice what an editorial in the *Chicago Daily News* of May 8, 1940, has to say concerning comics: "Badly drawn, badly written, and badly printed, a strain on young eyes and nervous systems. The effect of these pulp paper nightmares is that of a violent stimulant. Their crude blacks and reds spoil the child's natural sense of color. Their hypodermic injection of sex and murder makes a child impatient with better, though quieter stories."

May God help you Teen-agers to resolve in your hearts to live true lives for Him. One writer has said, "When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life." I want to live that life, don't you? By God's grace let us be "pure and kind and true."

Sincerely,
Caris Lauda

Christ's Promises to the Overcomer

(Continued from page 9)

second death." Revelation 2:11. The everlasting second death comes to the wicked as the reward for their sins. The overcomer will not be hurt by it, because all his sins will have been blotted out by the blood of Christ. So he can look forward to all the heavenly blessings of life eternal, all radiant with joy and filled with perfect peace.

Jesus declares in His next three promises to the overcomer: "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it." "He that overcometh, and keepeth My works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations." "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels." Revelation 2:17, 26; 3:5. How precious to the overcomer must be the new name, the outstanding power, and the confession of his name by Christ before God in all His wondrous glory!

Jesus declares in His last two promises to the overcomer: "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go no more out; and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from My God: and I will write upon him My new name." "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne." Revelation 3:12, 21. How great a reward for the overcomer to be privileged to bear on his person the name of God and His heavenly city and the name, also, of his beloved Redeemer, and then at last to sit with Him on His triumphant throne of glory!

Then finally the overcomer has the all-inclusive promise of God Himself: "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son." Revelation 21:7. Oh, how much has been promised to the overcomer for accepting and serving Christ faithfully to the end—inheriting *all* things as long as the glorious and eternal ages roll!

An instance of the consecration needed to appreciate and realize the wonderful final blessedness of the overcomer is found in the life of William Tennant, a fellow laborer of the famous evangelist George Whitefield. When apparently dying he beheld something of the reward of the overcomer and revived to tell the story. He said: "The ravishing sounds of the songs and hallelujahs that I heard, and the very words that were uttered, were not out of my ears, when awake, for at least three years. All the kingdoms of the earth were in my sight as nothing and vanity. So great were my ideas of heavenly glory, that nothing that did not

relate to it, could command my serious attention."

The realization of the supreme blessedness of the reward of the overcomer awakens in some who have never begun to serve Christ longings that they also might be assured of a share in the glorious experience of the overcomer in the future life. They realize, also, that if they would be partakers, they must give up all that stands in the way in this life, that now is their golden opportunity to get ready for the glory to come. So they weigh the matter carefully, count the cost, and make their decisions. *They will give their all to get Christ's all.* They surrender all of self to obtain all that is promised to the overcomer in and through Jesus.

As they draw near to this fateful moment of decision for this life and the life to come, by His tender Spirit Jesus Himself also draws near—*very near*. His compassionate presence is recognized, His own longing desires deeply felt; and their hearts are softened by the tenderness of His saving love. And as His heavenly love constrains them to make their supreme choice at last, *they do so as they yield their all to Him with words like these:*

"Higher than the highest heavens,
Deeper than the deepest sea,
Lord, Thy love at last has conquered—
None of self and *all* of Thee."

Christ and the Sabbath

(Continued from page 11)

make it honorable." Isaiah 42:21. Looking down through centuries to come, God foresaw the rise of those who would seek to set aside His commandments and His holy Sabbath day. The words of Isaiah stand as a beacon light of warning to such. The gospel prophet declared that the Messiah would "magnify the law, and make it honorable." To magnify means to enlarge a thing making it more distinct. As we read Christ's Sermon on the Mount, especially Matthew 5:21-37, we discover how the Saviour did just this.

Early in His earthly ministry the Saviour was aware that some were teaching that He had come to abolish the sacred claims of the law. From the very beginning He made His position clear: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Matthew 5:17, 18. Jesus did not come to set aside the Sabbath which He had instituted at Eden; but rather He came to "cram full" (for that is the literal meaning of the Greek word from which the word "fulfil" is translated) all the principles of His law, for they are "holy, and just, and good." (Romans 7:12.)

In His own words recorded in John 15:10, He declared: "I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love." "I have kept My Father's commandments" is the testimony of Jesus, our great Example.

We should not be surprised at such a statement from Him for in Malachi 3:6, we read: "I am the Lord, I change not." He could not dissociate Himself from the Sabbath which He had instituted at Eden; neither could He disclaim words He Himself had given at Sinai and had later declared would stand as long as heaven and earth abide.

During His earthly ministry Christ observed the seventh-day Sabbath.

Inspiration records in Luke 4:16: "And 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." It was our Saviour's *custom* to keep the seventh-day Sabbath during His life here upon earth and to attend divine worship on that day. According to *Winston's Dictionary* a "custom" is an habitual or usual course of action; a frequent repetition of an act." Consequently Jesus did not just occasionally observe the seventh-day Sabbath in order to reach the Jews who observed that day. It was His "usual course of action." Week by week the Saviour of mankind was found in the place of divine worship on the seventh-day Sabbath, which He had made in the beginning. This custom was quite in harmony with His teachings to His people in Old Testament times: "The seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an *holy convocation*." Leviticus 23:3.

Congregational Sabbath worship is recommended by the psalmist in what is known as the Sabbath Psalm: "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto Thy name, O Most High: to show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness every night, upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound. For Thou, Lord, hast made me glad through Thy work: I will triumph in the works of Thy hands. O Lord, how great are Thy works!" Psalm 92:1-5.

Christ was in church on the Sabbath day. To those who should come after, He says, "If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be." John 12:26.

Jesus Christ was a reformer. His day demanded a man of action to startle the people from their tradition-steeped ways. By His time the seventh-day Sabbath had long since ceased to be a "delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable" to the Jewish people. They had so encumbered God's day of rest with a multitude of restrictions, purely figments of their own tradition, that the Sabbath was indeed a burden.

Mark you well, Christ came as a reformer and not an abolitionist. As already noted the gospel prophet had made this point clear over 700 years before. "He shall magnify the law and make it *honorable*." To make it honorable, to rescue it from the debris of tradition—such was the work of Jesus.

The great Teacher made it plain to His contemporaries

and to all future generations that "it is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days." Matthew 12:12. Said He: "What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the Sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? How much then is a man better than a sheep?" Verses 11, 12.

Acts of mercy and healing are quite compatible with Christian Sabbath observance. This Jesus made clear by precept and example during His earthly ministry.

Looking beyond His own day and foreseeing the rise of those who would seek to change His holy Sabbath rest, Christ made clear to His disciples that at least thirty-five years the other side of His resurrection the Sabbath should still be kept. This is easily seen from Matthew 24:20: "Pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the *Sabbath day*." The Son of God, with His ability to foresee the future, knew that the fall of Jerusalem would be more than thirty-five years after His resurrection. Knowing this, He told His disciples to pray that their flight on that occasion be not on the Sabbath day. Had He intended to change the day, He would never have given such instruction to His followers.

Then, too, even in His death Jesus rested on the Sabbath day. (Luke 23:54-24:1.)

If Christ were here on earth today, He still would be keeping the seventh-day Sabbath of Eden. When the sacred hours of the Sabbath come week by week, Jesus would be worshiping with His people as He did during His earthly ministry. Does not Paul say by inspiration: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever"? Hebrews 13:8.

What Price Home?

(Continued from page 23)

to play cards. When his ship docked on the West Coast, he got a leave and went home to visit his family. It was while he was in his next Navy school that he met *the* girl, and soon his family witnessed his fashionable marriage.

Christian parents, a good home is not enough. You cannot keep the children there. They must leave the nest sometime, and what if they cannot fly straight when they do? Regardless of your church affiliation, teach your children early that only by "looking unto Jesus," the founder of our faith, will they lead individual lives that nothing can disturb. Make of your child an individual, able and willing to stand on his own feet—too wise to make a pattern of another faulty human being. Put into his heart and mind the determination that though "broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and *many* there be which go in thereat," he will be one of the "few" that find the narrow way "which leadeth unto life." (Matthew 7:13, 14.)

GOD'S TWO BOOKS

By Mary Hunter Moore

Winds

WE LIVE at the bottom of an ocean. Some of us have visited the Marineland Studios in Florida and stood at the glass sides of the great aquariums and watched the procession of life inside. The medium in which the various aquatic creatures pass is transparent—to a degree; it supports their movement; it provides them life-giving chemicals. Not only do sea animals propel themselves through this medium, but many animals move upon the ground beneath it. The water becomes to them an atmosphere.

So we live at the bottom of an ocean. It is transparent to a greater degree than the sea; yet the air may become so filled with vapors or chemicals in suspension as to become practically opaque. It supports the movements of creatures and contrivances that fly. It presses upon the bodies of the living beings that crawl upon its bottom with a weight we endure only when evenly distributed. Like the water, the air will distort the passage of light rays so as to magnify or alter the appearance of objects seen at an angle.

Like the liquid ocean, the gaseous ocean is in motion. Were it not so, life would cease through concentration of poisons—the air would become a dead sea. “All the rivers run into the sea,” wrote an ancient scientist, “yet the sea is not full.” Why? Because of a circuit of motion: “Unto the place whence the rivers come, thither they return again.” Ecclesiastes 1:7. In that circuit the water becomes purified; in the distillation by the sun’s heat the liquid drops its load of impurities and becomes pure vapor, to condense into the purest form of water, the rain.

So the air performs its circuits. “The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.” Ecclesiastes 1:6. Into the ocean of air run all the rivers of air from two billion human lungs, from countless myriads of lungs of lower creatures, from the leaves of every plant on earth, from the very pores of the globe itself in the aeration of the soil. Yet the sea of air is not full, because “it whirleth about continually.”



Try to imagine what would happen on earth if all winds stopped blowing everywhere for even a few moments. If we use “winds” in the widest sense of air currents of any degree of speed, it is the constant flowing of the air that ventilates the whole world.

As the messengers of the Creator, they go on merciful errands. Even though, since man sold out his kingdom to the usurper Satan, winds often serve the prince of the power of the air, yet they still obey the higher Sovereign; and to the child of God it is the Majesty of heaven who rides upon the wings of the wind.

A Very Kind Man

(Continued from page 23)

Tad soon had the lesson learned, and, with a good-night kiss, was off to bed. With the horrors of war tearing at his heart, Lincoln was not too busy to be kind to his little boy.

One day he saw in the waiting room at the White House a small, pale, delicate-looking boy in his teens. There were many others waiting, but the president was touched by the looks of the lad. Lincoln said to him, “Come here, my boy, and tell me what you want.”

Timidly the boy told his story. “Mr. President,” he said, “I have been a drummer boy in a regiment for two years. My colonel got angry with me and turned me off. I was taken sick and have been in a hospital for a long time. My father died in the army. I have no mother, no brothers and sisters, and—no friends—nobody cares for me.”

The great Lincoln’s eyes filled with tears. He ordered his assistants to care for the boy, and the little drummer boy’s heart was lighter, for he had found a real friend. No wonder Lincoln was loved.

One day an old gentleman, bent with years, and his face lined with care, came to Lincoln with a sad story. His son had committed some crime punishable by death. He was his only boy. He begged the president to save him.

“I am sorry I can do nothing for you,” said Lincoln. “Listen to this telegram I received from General Butler yesterday. ‘President Lincoln, I pray you do not interfere with the courts-martial of the army. You will destroy all discipline among our soldiers.’”

Lincoln watched closely the expression on the father’s face; then he said, “Butler or no Butler, here goes.”

He hastily wrote a few words on a slip of paper and handed it to the old gentleman. It read, “Job Smith is not to be shot, until further orders from me. Abraham Lincoln.”

The father was disappointed, and the disappointment showed in his face and voice. “Why,” said the old gentleman with trembling voice, “I thought it

was a pardon. You may order him to be shot next week."

"My friend," replied Lincoln, "I see you are not very well acquainted with me. If your son never dies till orders come from me to shoot him, he will live to be a great deal older than Methuselah."

On another occasion a little woman, whose scant raiment and pinched features showed that she was very poor and had to struggle for a living, got in to see the president, after having waited for several days to see him. In his characteristic, friendly way Mr. Lincoln greeted her, "Well, my good woman, what can I do for you?"

She answered, "My only boy is a soldier. His regiment was near enough to my house for him to take a day and run over and see me. He was arrested as a deserter when he re-entered the lines, and condemned to be shot. He is to be executed tomorrow."

Lincoln quickly arose from his chair. He left many senators, congressmen, and generals waiting to see him, and taking the little mother by the hand, hastened with her to the office of the Secretary of War. She did not know where the boy's regiment was stationed, nor where the execution was to take place. Stanton, who had become disgusted with the president's big-heartedness, begged Lincoln to forget the matter and let the rules of the army be enforced. But the president's big heart wouldn't allow him to do it. He couldn't bear to see a boy shot just for running away for a day to see the best friend any boy ever has—his mother.

In very certain tones Lincoln replied, "I will not be balked in this. Send this message to every headquarters, every fort, and every camp in the United States, 'Let no military execution take place until further orders from me. A. Lincoln.'"

Another mother's heart was gladdened; another life was spared. And Lincoln went to bed that night happier for having been a blessing.

"The Earth Was Filled With Violence"

(Continued from page 19)

In New York Dr. Frederic Wertham, psychiatrist and author of the best-selling book entitled *The Show of Violence*, disagreed with this television producer. He says: "The producers of these exhibitions tempt the public with violence and brutality. In all of us are tendencies in that direction. If they are exploited, we yield and some of us ask for more. Then the producers say, 'The public wants violence.' Actually, it is a case of the industry forcing it down the public's throat."

Coming back to this matter of giving clinical help to the moral degenerates, we wish to say that the American public must face the facts. Clinical aid will not solve the problem. We must go further. We must get to the roots of the matter. We think it is quite

clear that the influences mentioned herein are definitely contributing to the condition that now prevails. Educating immature minds to acts of violence is bound to result in violence.

Perhaps it would be well for us to consider the fact that in the days of Noah "the earth was also corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence." Genesis 6:11. Jesus said, "As the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24:37.

So our Lord prophesied that the world in the day of His coming would be as it was in the days of Noah—that the earth would be filled with violence. How strikingly this prophecy is being fulfilled before our very eyes today!

Criminal Cheating

(Continued from page 18)

persons only being put on probation for stealing \$868 from the Michigan insurance funds by claiming benefits while they were working. The same judge presided at both trials."

The Detroit investigation of relief chiselers is a startling revelation of the dishonesty that prevails in our cities among a number of those who are on relief. It was found in Detroit that many persons on relief were buying all sorts of luxury items.

In investigating one reliefer over the phone, it was found that the person on relief was in town and the one that was contacted on the phone was the hired maid. Another case was of a woman who received \$65 a month for room and board from her son, rented another room for \$25 a month, and worked three to four days a week as a domestic at \$6.00 a day. She had a monthly income averaging about \$175 from these sources. On top of that, the woman was receiving \$74.65 a month in direct relief.

Hundreds of other cases of this nature were uncovered in the investigation. In fact it was found that at least 30 per cent of the people drawing relief in Detroit were doing so dishonestly. Numerous women were drawing relief checks, claiming that their husbands had deserted them; but when investigated, it was found that the husbands were living with the wives and had good-paying jobs.

We were amazed to learn that there were a number of people who make a career out of relief. These people do not want to work for a living. The variety of fraudulent reasons given for claiming relief aid would make an honest man blush.


Although we deeply regret the loss of pride and integrity among so many citizens of our fair land, we cannot help but recognize in this an outstanding fulfillment of a prophecy pertaining to our times. Here it is: "This know also that in the last days perilous times shall come. . . . Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." 2 Timothy 3:1, 13.




EWING GALLOWAY

NO TIME


Why Not Wait for Christ and Not Be Always Running Ahead of Him

 The party would be starting in a half hour—there was no time now for moderate driving, so the tires hummed a high whine as the car sped through the night. Seconds would be lost in slowing down for the railroad track, consequently the steady drone of speed continued unslacked. Suddenly two powerful machines met, and lives instead of moments were lost.

The business demanded long hours and extra speed. There was no time to enjoy home or to read God's Word. More equipment would bring more money. The added responsibility was exhausting to the executive's energies, but it added to his bank account, which reached five figures the day he lay quietly resting amid a bank of flowers, with relatives standing mournfully about.

 "I haven't time to pray this morning, Lord. My husband has already hurried off to work. I must hurry the children off to school and then hurry to my work at the factory before checking-in time." But there were months of idle time as she lay in bed

feebly trying to gather up bewildered and frayed nerves. Gradually a new life opened to her as she determined to place the most important things first.

 It has been said of those who take time to meditate on God's Word that "whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Psalm 1:3. "Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go." Isaiah 48:17.

By waiting for Him we accomplish more than by running ahead of Him. God's program is very heavy, but He always has time for the faintest cry.

Only God can stretch a day so there is more time to pray instead of no time to pray. Only God can so arrange the future hours to make them cover all their needs unhurriedly. Only God can keep us calm and peaceful in a spinning whirl of today's "no time." Only God can say, "O that thou hadst hearkened to My commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." Isaiah 48:18.

BY INEZ STORIE-CARR