

A scenic photograph of a lake with two children on the shore and a large tree in the foreground. The sky is blue with white clouds. The title 'These Times' is written in a large, red, stylized font at the top right. Below it, the date 'AUGUST, 1958' and the price '35 cents' are printed in white. In the bottom left corner, there is a white rounded rectangle containing the article title and author information.

# These Times

AUGUST, 1958 35 cents

*Are Other Worlds Inhabited?*  
How to Triumph Over Time

**REVELATIONS OF A  
RELIGION REPORTER**







# These Times

AUGUST  
1958  
Volume 67  
No. 8

A RELIGIOUS MAGAZINE dedicated to the strengthening of the moral, physical, and spiritual life of the individual reader. Basing its recommendations on the living truths of the entire Bible, THESE TIMES promotes evangelical Christianity, the care of the needy at home and abroad, religious liberty, the systematic study of the Bible, the exaltation of Jesus Christ, and the glad news of His literal soon coming.

## ARTICLES

How to Triumph Over Time	Ralph W. Sockman	4
Let's Put First Things First	Charles Seidensspinner	7
"Thank the Lord and Ada Wilson"	Ruel McDaniel	12
"Praying Hands"	Vincent Edwards	16
Revelations of a Religion Reporter	James W. Carty, Jr.	18
At the Lighthouse	Ruth A. Pray	21
The Sabbath—Seventh Day or First?	Carlyle B. Haynes	22
I Salute the Flag	Weldon Taylor Hammond	25
Are Other Worlds Inhabited?	Everett E. Duncan	28
The Sin God Cannot Pardon	Leonard C. Lee	30
Are You a Fool?	Robert H. Pierson	34

## REGULAR FEATURES

This Time	3	Editorials	17
"Apples of Gold"	8	Pastor H. M. S. Richards	26
Events of These Times	9	Let's Ask the Doctor	27
Pageant of Prophecy	33		

## POETRY

Our Patient God	Grace Noll Crowell	6
Two Seas in Palestine	Jessie Wilmore Murton	29

Cover: Esther Henderson from Louise Price Bell.

## STAFF

KENNETH J. HOLLAND, *Editor*  
Roland R. Hegstad, *Associate Editor*  
Claud W. Degering, *Editor, Braille Edition*  
Robert M. Eldridge, *Art Director*  
Irvin H. Ihrig, *Circulation Manager*  
Shirley C. Eldridge, *Layout Artist*

Member of Associated Church Press  
Served by the Religious News Service

Address all correspondence to Box 59, Nashville 2, Tennessee

Established in 1891. Published monthly (except September, when semimonthly) 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: 35 cents a copy; one year, \$3.50; two years, \$6.50; three years, \$9.00; five years, \$13.50, in the United States. Rates higher for other countries. Change of Address: Please give both the old and the new addresses. Expiration: Unless renewed in advance, the magazine stops at the expiration date shown on the wrapper.

## This Time

REARED on the unspoiled prairies of North Dakota at the turn of the century, Leonard C. Lee (*The Sin God Cannot Pardon*, p. 30) found that the sights and sounds of nature were far more familiar than the roar of civilization. The Lees, who now reside in bustling New York, where he is head of the Bible department of the Faith for Today telecast, have two sons—a scientist and a doctor. Pastor Lee's favorite Bible verse (and his motto) is, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62.



### QUOTES FROM THIS ISSUE

"We can have our high moments when we feel that 'one crowded hour of glorious life is worth an age without a name.'" (Page 6.)

"Something always happens when we are with the Lord, when we observe Him." (Page 7.)

"There is no logical reason to suppose that our sun is any better fitted to have planets about it than thousands of others." (Page 29.)

Page 2 Photo: The following lines from poet Flora E. Breck tie in beautifully with this peaceful scene by H. Armstrong Roberts:

O Church, with finger pointing  
The way to all who roam,  
Guide well each weary pilgrim,  
And lead him safely home.

Bring strength and consolation  
To souls who lose the Way,  
And point to heaven eternal—  
The land of "perfect day"!

Please Note: Charles Seidensspinner's provocative piece on page 7 has been chosen as a tract for the American Bible Society. . . . The lead article, by Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, beloved pastor of New York's Christ Methodist Church, was originally a radiobroadcast on the "National Radio Pulpit." Dr. Sockman recently received the first annual award of the World Committee for Christian Broadcasting in recognition of his more than twenty-five years of weekly broadcasts.



# HOW TO TRIUMPH OVER TIME

By Ralph W. Sockman



R

ECENTLY an attractive friend of mine told me that she was trying not to keep track of time. When asked about the dates of certain past events, she said that she could not recall, for she was making a deliberate effort to forget how long ago things happened. This friend is in revolt against the excessive time consciousness which besets the modern mind, especially on this American continent.

During my boyhood on the farm many of the workmen did not carry watches, but now we live and move and have our being in the presence of them. Whatever the right hand findeth to do, the left hand carries a watch on its wrist to show how long it takes to do it. In fact, I know a man who wears two watches on his wrist, one on the back and one on the front, so that he can tell the time without turning his hand when some caller is taking too long. We are so conscious of time that

THESE TIMES, AUGUST, 1958



## **If we would learn to budget our days, let us look to Jesus Himself, who was master of the art of spending time.**

we fret at the least delay. We fight over wage-and-hour schedules. A high school teacher was telling me this week that pupils asked her how much she was paid for overtime when she remained in her room a half-hour or so to finish her work. We are ever seeking time-saving devices.

Having become time-conscious, most of us think of time as an enemy. Children talk much about their birthdays, yet worry little about the number of them. Their elders talk little about their birthdays, but worry much about them. We speak of Father Time, but we picture him as a grim reaper with a scythe. And though we may turn our back on Father Time and try not to think about him, we cannot escape the feeling that he is following us.

Let us face this fact of time to see if there may be some better way of looking at it than the one which now bedevils us. Nineteen centuries ago the Apostle Paul wrote to the Ephesians this advice: "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5: 15, 16, R.S.V.

Every normal person wants to make the most of his time. We know it is foolish to waste time, even though we may do it. And only when we are dreadfully bored, do we try to kill time.

Now if we would be wise enough to make the most of our time, we can learn from the Bible, first of all, how better to *budget* time. Some years ago a little book appeared with the suggestive title *How to Live on Twenty-four Hours a Day*. I believe there has been a recent best seller entitled *How to Live 365 Days a Year*. We are all equal in the sense that God has given each of us the same amount of spending time in a day or a year. How many days or years will be given us, none of us knows. But the very uncertainty of our life span makes it all the more important to budget well the days as they pass. That is why the Hebrew psalmist prayed, "So teach us to number our

days, that we may get us an heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12, margin.

When these words are read at funeral services, some listeners are depressed by the thought of the shortness of life. We should think rather of making the most of the time we have. Dr. Faunce, when president of Brown University, gave a chapel talk on "The Pleasure of Economy." He pointed out that in games and sports the pleasure is found in demonstrating what can be done within the limitations imposed. In baseball the player at bat is limited to three strikes. If he were allowed a dozen, the game of baseball would lose its interest for players and spectators. The golfer is permitted one drive at each tee, and he must make the one ball go as far as he can. If he could keep on driving until the ball went a distance which satisfied him, golf would become too boring to play. Similarly, said Dr. Faunce, in the game of living the zest is found in trying to attain our goals within the limitations set by time and circumstance.

When we spend time in a way that adds to the elements achieved in the past, we are advancing toward life's goal. When we face the future, welcoming new experiences and integrating them with the past and present, we are growing. To live right is to live so that yesterday, today, and tomorrow may add up to something worthwhile. To do wrong is like dropping a spool of thread, in that it unrolls the cord of continuity achieved by past living. It is dire tragedy when a misdeed undoes the good record of a lifetime.

If we would learn to budget our days, let us look to Jesus Himself, who was master of the art of spending time. He never allowed time to master Him. He knew that His days on earth were to be short. He said so. There was an air of urgency about Him, but there was no feverish hurrying. He had time to sit and talk with people along the road. He paused to play with little children. He took time off to spend whole hours in prayer, but was it time off?

Off from what? Ah, Jesus was not confined by a calendar. He was fulfilling a life. He measured the time He had to spend not by clocks and years, but by the continuity and growth of His work. To those who criticized Him for healing a man on the Sabbath, Jesus said, "My Father is working still, and I am working." John 5:17, R.S.V. Feeling Himself a worker together with His Father, Jesus did not fret over delays or worry about the shortness of life. He had time, and eternity too!

If we are to triumph over the tyranny of time, we must budget our days not by clocks and calendars but by filling them to the full with experiences that make for growth and the fulfillment of life.

Secondly, God helps us not only to budget time but also to *save* time. We are ever seeking and developing time-saving devices. We pride ourselves on the way we have shortened the time it once took to do certain things. For instance, not so long ago a trip to California required three nights and two days. Now we can fly the distance in about ten hours. We thereby save some fifty hours. But what do we do with the time saved? We may spend it in foolish or futile ways, more wasteful than the time lost in the slower travel. The godly man makes the most of the time he saves. He is as much concerned about the wholesome use of his leisure hours as of his working hours.

God also helps us to save time by directing us to the things most worth doing. If we were lost in a dense wood and found ourselves going around in circles, it would be a saving of time and not a loss of time to stop and climb a tree to get a glimpse of the sky and the landscape. Similarly it saves time to pause for prayer, to let our minds climb above the thicket of earthly confusion and get our bearings from God. During World War I, when Marshal Foch was burdened with the responsibilities of directing the Allied Command, he went daily to morning prayers. By taking a period off for



prayer, he saved time by clarifying his vision and keeping his sense of divine direction.

Again God helps us to save time by restoring the sureness of touch when our hands grow weary and our fingers begin to fumble. Lord Halifax, who was the British ambassador to America during the Second World War, maintained a grueling schedule, especially for a man no longer young. But if he could retire occasionally into a quiet room for fifteen minutes, he would come out calm and fresh. He was a deeply devout man, and it is safe to assume that in those quiet moments alone Lord Halifax renewed his contacts with the divine Source of strength and was thereby enabled to endure the terrific strain of the war years and keep the respect of two continents.

And in the humdrum routine of living, countless Christians can testify that a few moments spent with God in prayer steady the nerve, tighten the grip, sweeten the temper, and restore the morale.

Think, too, how the godly man saves time which others waste in futile remorse over past misdeeds and in foolish fears about the future. The Christian believes the promise that God is

faithful to forgive those who confess their sins. And Jesus told us that if we seek first the kingdom of God, we need not be anxious about tomorrow. He said, "Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day." Matthew 6:34, R.S.V. Christ counseled against the practice of bankrupting our todays by paying interest on the regrets of yesterday and by borrowing in advance the troubles of tomorrow.

Not only does God help us to budget time and to save time, but He also helps us to *make* time. Time is not a fixed quantity. Although sixty minutes measure the same on the hands of all clocks, they may vary greatly in length in the minds of men. An hour spent in the waiting room of a hospital to hear the outcome of an operation may seem an eternity, but an hour spent by two lovers together seems to flash by in a second. Common is the saying that we can always make time for things we really want to do.

Since time is an elastic thing, God can help us to make time by crowding more experience into certain eventful moments. He can open our minds and hearts to a greater flow of thought and feeling. Recall how Handel composed "The Messiah." For twenty-four days

he was completely withdrawn from the things of this world. So immersed was he in his music that the food brought to him was sometimes left untouched. Describing his feeling when the Hallelujah Chorus burst from his mind, Handel said: "I did think I did see all heaven before me and the great God Himself."

We ordinary mortals have not the sensitivity or capacity of a Handel, but we can have our high moments when we feel that "one crowded hour of glorious life is worth an age without a name." If we hold our minds to the highest we know and open our hearts to the best we can feel, God fills our minutes with momentous content.

Yes, and God can help us to make time by living concurrently in the lives of others. There is a good sense as well as a bad sense in which a person can live a double life. I know a father whose son died young. That father feels that he must help to carry on his son's work, and he does double duty, giving seemingly superhuman service.

Let us rise against the tyranny of time. Let us cease to be slaves of the clock and the calendar. Let us dedicate ourselves with God's help "to make the most of the time," because, as Paul said, "the days are evil." These are days fraught with immeasurable peril and yet with untold promise. But remember our "times are in His hand who said, 'A whole I planned.' Youth shows but half, trust God, see all, nor be afraid."

#### PRAYER:

Almighty God, our Eternal Father, who has promised that as our days, so shall our strength be, we lift our hearts in praise to Thee for the light that has never failed, for the love that has never left us, for the visions that have dispelled our doubts, and for the hopes that have lessened our sorrows. Teach us to number our days that we may attain a heart of wisdom. May the memory of Thy past mercies fortify us for tomorrow's trials. Humbly we ask Thee to forgive the sins of yesterday and to lead us away from the temptations of tomorrow. Lift us above unrighteous anger and mistrust into faith and hope and love, that we may be modest in success, patient under disappointment, courageous in danger, and serene in the face of death. Fervently we join with all earnest souls in praying for peace. And, O God, at last bring us to our eternal home, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ★★★

## Our Patient God

By Grace Noll Crowell

One wonders much at the patience of our God,  
Compared to His displeasure long ago  
With Sodom and Gomorrah, Nineveh and Tyre,  
And all man's evil wanderings to and fro.  
How can a skyward climbing tower compare  
With a missile planned to crash against the moon,  
Or a rocket sped to change the course of stars  
In a race to destroy our own world late or soon?

Surely God's love and patience must be great  
To withstand the mounting evil of our times!  
Our language is confounded; many tongues  
Make strangers of the nations. Still there climbs  
Each land's destructive power—God, we pray  
That the mad world may turn back to Thee today.





**I**N OUR DAY stress is generally laid upon work and service for the Lord, rather than upon the cultivation of spiritual life. In this we have another example of the way in which our thinking is often contrary to the principles and illustrations found in the Scriptures.

It is of interest to observe that in the commissioning of the twelve disciples for service, the Lord Jesus did not first send them forth to preach, but rather, as Mark suggests, ordained them that "they should be with him." So many times, in the lives of young people particularly, there is an eagerness to know the field of service or the area of ministry to which they are called. A young person will say, "I am called to the mission field," or, "I am called to preach and to be a pastor."

The principle which the Lord outlined, however, is that before there comes a commission, that person should be with Him. It is interesting to read the verse quoted above, just down to the first prepositional phrase: "And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him." Mark 3:14.

Something always happens when we are with the Lord, when we observe Him, when we look unto Him, when we fellowship with Him. The matter of the place and type of service becomes almost of incidental concern when we are spiritually vibrant and sensitive to His desire and will.

Our ministries as pastors, Sunday school teachers, Christian workers, laymen and laywomen, would be so much more effective and fruitful if we remembered that first He ordained us to be with Him.

Luke records the incident of the visit of Jesus to the home of Mary and Martha. Martha was cumbered about much serving, but, as the Lord said, "Mary hath chosen that good part." Luke 10:42. That "good" part was to be with Him, to sit at His feet, to hear His voice, to look at Him, to become like Him, and then to be used by Him.

When Jesus was at the seashore calling His disciples to Him, He said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19. Again, in that significant, precious, and familiar invitation, the Master said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.

Now the question logically follows as to how we can be with Him. We

# LET'S PUT

# First Things First

By Charles Seidenspinner



R. Eichstadt

"That good part," eloquently described by Jesus to Martha, can be the key to matchless personal power.

often wish that we might have walked up the dusty roads of Palestine and observed as one miracle after another was performed by Jesus, or have listened as He opened His mouth to speak the words of the Beatitudes and to teach other precious revelations of the will of God and the person of our Father. But we can be with Him today. By reading His Word and through fellowship in prayer He becomes very real to us. As Peter declares, "Whom

having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory." 1 Peter 1:8.

It was from long ago that there came to us the spiritual classic entitled *The Practice of the Presence of God*. Its truth is illustrated in a personal experience during the years of World War II. I well remember during those years going down to Block Island on several occasions to hold services in the churches and naval base on that island. On my first visit my attention was drawn to an elderly man whose face seemed to radiate the very joy and peace of the Lord. On a subsequent visit I missed him and inquired about him. One of the members of his family told me how they had gone to his room one night and found him seated in a chair, with his Bible open on his lap and his hand over on another chair, a vacant one. Through the years it had been his custom whenever he read the Word and prayed to draw up a chair next to his chair, imagine the Lord Jesus Christ to be there, and to put his hand over on that chair. As he had communed in prayer, the presence of the Lord was gloriously real to him. Now he had quietly passed to his rest.

Take time to be in the presence of the Lord. Your first calling is to behold Him, to see Him, to fellowship with Him. Service, effective and fruitful, will inevitably follow. ★★★



# "Apples of Gold"

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." *Proverbs 25:11.*

## "The Fruit of the Spirit Is Love" *Galatians 5:22*

*"Love is very patient, very kind,  
Love knows no jealousy;  
Love makes no parade,  
gives itself no airs,  
is never rude,  
never selfish,  
never irritated,  
never resentful;  
Love is never glad when others go wrong,  
Love is gladdened by goodness,  
always slow to expose,  
always eager to believe the best,  
always hopeful,  
always patient.  
Love never disappears."*

—Written by Paul and taught  
by the Holy Spirit.  
1 Corinthians 13:4-8.

From Mrs. Alfred N. Davis.

Usefulness underlies all true development.  
—Mrs. E. G. White.

## COME INSIDE!

A traveler visited a church in Germany famed for its stained-glass windows. The exterior was plain; there was no beauty in the windows from the outside—there never is.

The first look within was disappointing. The guide bade him go forward and look eastward where the sun was rising. Lo, a marvelous vision broke upon him of Jesus in the temple with the doctors. It was called "The Glory of Christ." He was filled with ecstasy.

The guide asked him to return about noon. Another window flamed in the sun with Christ walking upon the sea. He was requested to come yet again at sunset, and the rays of the setting sun fell upon Christ on the cross, amazingly touching and convincing.

Many people see nothing to admire in the Christian church. It is a disappointment, a fraud, a delusion. There are always people who see it from without. There are some within who view it from the wrong angle or on a dark and foggy day; they see only the pews and the floor. Those who come inside and look toward the sun see the glory of Christ, His power, and His salvation.

—Onward.  
From Woodrow Ford.

## Cares and Prayers

*Learn to entwine with your prayers  
The small cares, the trifling sorrows,  
The little wants of daily life.  
Whatever affects you—be it a  
Changed look, altered tone, an  
Unkind word, a wrong, a wound,  
A demand you cannot meet, a sorrow you  
Cannot disclose—turn it into prayer,  
And send it up to God.  
Disclosures you may not make to  
Man, you can make to the Lord.  
Men may be too little for your  
Great matters. God is not too great  
For your small ones.  
Only give yourself to prayer,  
Whatever be the occasion that calls for it.*

—Anonymous.

Be earnest, and you will be eloquent.

—H. R. Salisbury.

"Things cannot always go your way. Learn to accept in silence the minor aggravations, cultivate the gift of taciturnity, and consume your own smoke with an extra draught of hard work, so that those about you may not be annoyed with the dust and soot of your complaints."

—Sir William Osler.

From Olive N. Vaughan, R.N.

*Some folks in books take so much pride  
They don't think much on what's inside.  
Well, as for me, I know my face  
Can ne'er be made a thing of grace.  
And so I rather think I'll see  
How I can fix the inside of me,  
So folks'll say, "She looks like sin  
But ain't she beautiful within?"*

—Author Unknown.

The faults of our brothers we write upon the sands.  
Their virtues we write on tablets of love and memory.

—Author Unknown.  
From L. L. Flack.

What is your favorite quotation or bit of verse? Include source, author, and your name. No original material used.



# events of these times

## CAN MAN STOP NUCLEAR TESTS?

Nuclear tests are causing a global war of words that may not end for months or years. When Russia announced its decision to halt its nuclear tests, a wave of hope surged through the peoples of the earth. The growing demand to end the increasing contamination of air and food produced by radioactive fallout seemed to be reaching the ears of those in power. But the United States gave a negative answer to the proposal, and unfortunately, our nation has come up with nothing as good or better to demonstrate its willingness to curb the horror of atomic war. We have failed to accept moral leadership in a time of crisis.

We may say that this move by Russia is clever propaganda or double talk, but we must still face the horror of the future with nuclear fallout. What will we say when thousands and tens of thousands of babies are born with mental and physical defects caused by the continued experiments with "dirty" hydrogen bombs? No wonder Dr. Albert Schweitzer, great humanitarian, demands that we make an end to nuclear bomb tests for the sake of the yet unborn. He says, "There is no time to lose. New tests must not be allowed to increase the already existing danger. It is important to realize that even without new tests the danger will increase during the coming years. A large part of the radioactive elements flung up in the atmosphere and stratosphere by the nuclear experiments is still there. It will come down only after several years—probably fifteen."

What has happened to the moral and spiritual values of world leaders who refuse to stop this insane nuclear arms race? The people of the world are worried, and they have every right to be as test after test is made that threatens disaster by contaminating air, food, and water.

It is not enough for America to criticize the motives of other nations concerning the end of nuclear tests. The real issue is, What will the leaders of America and Great Britain do, and what will an aroused public do to halt global disaster?

If the democracies are to prove to the watching millions that they mean what they say, they will demonstrate faith in a meaningful peace. Some foolish optimists believe that atomic weapons are so horrible they will make another war impossible. This is an empty theory. If nations continue to carry on nuclear tests that bring suffering and death when such tests are unnecessary, can any rational-minded person think that the most horrible, man-annihilating weapons will not be used in a world crisis? Man in sin does not know the ends to which he will go in war—the most horrible demonstration of sin in human beings. The prophet truly said, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9. The only safe and sane program of the nations is to stop nuclear tests now before they lead to chaos and death.

## YOUTHFUL CRIMINALS

Nearly half the major crimes of the nation—murder, rape, manslaughter, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft—are committed by juveniles! In its latest report, the Federal Bureau of Investigation declares that youngsters under eighteen years made up 47.2 per cent of all arrested for these major crimes.

Lawlessness will not decline, according to Dr. William Kavarceus, of Boston University. He predicts that juvenile delinquency will double in the next four years because hard work—a discipline of character—is going out of style. "School is about the only place left where hard work is a way of life," says the educator, "and the schools are among the few places that still teach discipline."

Something is tragically wrong when juveniles cause almost half the major crimes. Respect for authority and law has reached an all-time low. Adults fail to lead the way in honesty, integrity, and obedience to law. There must be more parental responsibility for youth and less shifting of juvenile training from the home to the school and recreation center. We will have an increase in lawless youth as long as we

have self-centered, irresponsible parents. Solomon wisely said, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

There must be less softness and sentimentality in dealing with hardened, sophisticated youth who flout all law and sneer at authority. The disease of godlessness that has been in the older generation is transmitted to the children. Modern education that pushes God and the Bible out of daily living is producing delinquent youth.

## NEW TITHING SYSTEM

A novel tithing plan has been put into effect by the Frye Drive-in Hotel of Seattle, Washington. Guests are given opportunity to signify, with their registration, their church preference. Then, once a month, one tenth of the guests' room account is given by the hotel to the designated churches. Ashley N. Doak, hotel manager, states, "We hope the idea will spread to other fields of commercial endeavor."



RNS

**THE CHURCH AND THE ATOM:** A strange blending of religion and science that appears, at first, to be almost incongruous exists at the World's Fair in Brussels, Belgium. Flanking the Protestant pavilion is a huge atomic exhibit with all the sinister implications it holds for man's self-destruction. Fittingly, the answer to the unparalleled problems it typifies is portrayed in the mosaic of Christ preaching to the world's people.



## SUNDAY LAWS DISCUSSED

In recent months moves to revive and strengthen Sunday "blue laws" have been ominously cropping up in legislative halls throughout the north-eastern United States. Most of the measures have been introduced on grounds of "health and welfare protection" of the citizenry—fought for as a "working man's assurance of one day's rest in seven" and opposed as "religious measures which deny rights given under the Constitution to those who worship on a day other than Sunday."

Into the midst of this pressure recently stepped a unique inter-faith television program, the American Religious Town Hall. A truly different venture in TV, it proposed through public debate to do a "depth probe" of every aspect of the question of Sunday legislation. Panelists of widely differing faiths were to "give facts with which individual conclusions on vital questions affecting human rights and the dignity of man can be based." The panel included Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish representatives, as well as executives of the Lord's Day Alliance, an organization committed to the enforcement of Sunday as a day of worship through legislation.

The program's governing board chose Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the city from which to debate for two reasons: Philadelphia is the approximate geographical center of legislative

pressure in this area, and in Philadelphia the Constitution of the United States was signed.

A. A. Leiske of St. Paul, a Seventh-day Adventist minister who is American Religious Town Hall's founder and permanent moderator, opened the discussion with the question, "Should Sunday 'blue laws' be enforced?" Opinion on the subject ranged from Rabbi Theodore Gordon's "We cannot legislate church doctrine," through *Liberty* magazine editor Frank H. Yost's "I am unalterably opposed to any civil legislation which tends toward a union of church and state," to Methodist pastor Ira B. Allen's "Sunday is being commercialized to the extent that it is becoming a 'holiday' instead of a 'holy' day."

Pointing out that one-day-in-seven laws (enacted in some states in lieu of Sunday laws) give the working man the assurance of one day of rest each week, on the day of his choice, Dr. Yost urged the upholding of our traditional bulwark of liberty: separation of church and state.

Other questions considered by the thirteen panelists appearing on the seven programs included, "Should the United States be considered a Christian nation?" "Can the state adopt and enforce popular religious practices?" and "Is the state supreme over the conscience of man?"

During discussion on "Should the government establish a Sabbath by legislation?" Judge Anthony W. Daly,



RNS

**COMPUTER INDEXES SCROLLS:** Electronic brains and the Dead Sea Scrolls got together for the first time when an electronic computer printed the first complete index of a major portion of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Job was done at International Business Machines Corporation in New York. Labeling the index "a most valuable tool," Dr. James Muilenberg (above) of Union Theological Seminary explains the project. See editorial on page 17, "A Science That Builds Faith."

Alton, Illinois, a Roman Catholic layman, declared, "If the Sabbath is considered a holy day, then the government should not legislate it. If, however, it might be considered as a day of rest for health and welfare purposes, then there may be some cause for consideration." Rabbi Harold Waintrup, Philadelphia, challenged such reasoning as a "smoke screen" to enforce a Sabbath in America. "When Sabbath legislation is enacted," Rabbi Waintrup said, "there arise many and serious inconsistencies and a farce is made of law."

The question "Should a political candidate be required to take a religious test to hold office?" drew sharp comment from panel members. "People had better start applying religious principles more in this atomic age, and they better start putting men with acknowledged religious principles into public office if they hope to exist and grow as a nation," warned Dr. Mahlon Pomeroy, Baptist minister of Wauconda, Illinois. "What question would be asked a political candidate if an oath were required?" questioned Dr. J. Ernest Somerville, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia. He declared, "Such a test would be meaningless."



Marvin Reeder

**A CANDID TV DISCUSSION:** Holding definite opinions that varied widely, eight TV panelists discussed the topic of religious liberty in a Christian nation with special attention given the Sunday-closure issue. Skeptical viewers, some of whom felt the panel would generate more heat than light, were surprised to find that though viewpoints remained unreconciled at program's close, a revealing and impartial portrayal of both sides of the question had been given.



What was accomplished by the series? That is difficult to say, but surely the telecast's leaders are to be commended for bringing the whole question out in the open. Perhaps the moderator best summed up the matter when he lauded the panelists for the "fervor of your convictions. What you have said, you have said from honest hearts. What has been heard has been democracy in action. Upon the principle of free discussion our country has become a great nation, and only as this principle is applied over and over again as has been done in these discussions will our nation remain great."

#### PAGANISM OR PEACE?

Colleges and universities of the nation are challenged by a wave of "pagan religiosity," according to Dr. Donald R. Heiges, of Chicago, speaking before the National Lutheran Council. "Gone are the days when large numbers of students were searching for answers to the ultimate questions," he declared. "Crowding our campuses now are hundreds of thousands of students who have no questions, or whose questions move only on the horizontal plane of lucrative career and comfortable family life."

If materialism is the principal goal of the average college student, then education has lost its vital purpose. There is a vast difference between making a living and making a life. No generation has had a greater need for a sound spiritual viewpoint than the youth who are growing up to face this explosive epoch.

True education "is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers," states a well-known religious writer. Modern paganism, absorbed by collegiate minds, causes the student to be "pre-occupied with secular values and insulated against eternal issues," warns Dr. Heiges.

The Christian home must prepare youth to face life with God. Christian colleges are a citadel of faith in the chaos of these days. The Biblical promise holds true today if parents and teachers will do their part to make it come true: "All thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children." Isaiah 54: 13.

What will the next generation possess, peace or paganism? The answer will significantly affect the future.

#### SENATORS FIGHT OBSCENITY

The fight against obscenity received new support from Sen. Estes Kefauver (D., Tenn.) and Sen. William Langer (R., N.D.), who jointly introduced a bill in the Senate to stiffen penalties for violators of antiobscenity laws.

Senator Kefauver observed that the interstate traffic in pornography and obscene matter—much of it sent through the United States mail—is a \$500,000,000 business each year in our nation.

One West Coast operator alone has made \$4,000 a day from mailing ob-

scene material to all parts of the United States, Senator Kefauver declared. He also said that a heavy percentage of objectionable material is being deposited in the mails in the Los Angeles area.

The proposed bill would increase penalties for violation to ten years in prison and would make it a more serious offense to knowingly send such matter to a juvenile.

The bill also would enable federal courts to try violators in the jurisdiction where obscene material is received as well as where it is mailed. This would "immeasurably strengthen" the position of the Post Office Department and the Department of Justice in dealing with pornography. ★★★

#### A FATHER'S HAND

Jack Hamm





# "Thank the Lord

By Ruel McDaniel



Roy Clark

*A woman with a mission and an iron will persuaded physicians to help her set up the first complete hospital of physical medicine for scientific treatment of cerebral palsied children.*



"Suffer little children to come unto me," is translated into dynamic action as children enter the medical center where they are sent to the speech therapy class (above) and to other departments according to their needs.

LITTLE SUSAN rode into the hospital in the muscular arms of her father. She was a mass of flesh that breathed. One leg was withered and lifeless. An arm dangled limply at her father's side. If she saw the strange new surroundings into which she was being lifted, recognition failed to register in her dull eyes.

Four years and eight months later, Susan, one hand in her mother's, halted at the bottom of the hospital steps, turned and waved back at the doctors and nurses standing in the door. Her lips smiled and showed bright teeth, her gray eyes sparkled, and only a close observer saw the slight limp as she walked.

Her mother turned and waved, too. Then she brushed a tear from her cheek. "Thank the Lord," she whispered with emotional gratitude. "Thank the Lord and Ada Wilson!"

Susan was one of the earlier patients of the Crippled Children's Hospital

Medical Center, better known as the Ada Wilson Hospital of Physical Medicine, in Corpus Christi, Texas. At three, Susan, suffering from cerebral palsy, had been taken to a hospital. Doctors had treated her and said they could do no more.

Then someone told Susan's parents about Ada Wilson and the new approach to the problems of the cerebral palsied child taken at the little hospital. The parents talked with Ada Wilson about Susan and of the months of treatments which apparently had done her no good.

"We've tried everything," moaned the desolate mother. "We have no money for more treatments."

"Who said anything about money?" Ada Wilson snapped in her positive voice that seems to originate at the bottom of her lungs. "We'll expect Susan at eight tomorrow morning."

Ada Wilson is a positive woman. Seldom is the word *impossible* used in

her presence the second time. Her refusal to recognize the word is not blind optimism. Four thousand children who have come into her hospital desolately crippled, many to walk out healed sufficiently to become normal citizens—this is not mere optimism.

Her positiveness, with a stalwart figure to back it, led her, a rank laywoman, to establish the first hospital of physical medicine in the United States. It has bolstered her to badger physicians and surgeons on to agreeing to carry out research unrecognized anywhere else and to develop physical medicine and physical therapy for crippled children. And her positiveness has induced them not only to help her, but to like it.

Mrs. Wilson's original interest in crippled children came about com-



# and Ada Wilson"

pletely by chance. In 1937 she was a carefree young mother whose most immediate aim was to have someone teach her six-year-old daughter, Marnerleen, to swim. Someone told her about a lifeguard and swimming instructor at one of the Corpus Christi pools. His reputation as a swimming instructor was outstanding.

This instructor was Capt. J. S. Law, and he did much more than teach Mrs. Wilson's daughter to swim. When she returned to the pool the day Captain Law gave Marnerleen her second lesson, the child saw her mother coming and leisurely swam across the pool to meet her.

The expertness the instructor obvi-

ously revealed in teaching the child to swim so quickly impressed Mrs. Wilson. And that, it developed later, was exactly what Captain Law intended to do. He was pioneering in the treatment of crippled children by physical therapy, utilizing whatever makeshift facilities he found at the swimming pool and bathhouse for his "clinic," and he sorely needed facilities and equipment for his pioneering. He knew Mrs. Wilson was the wife of a young and prosperous oilman whom the industry considered "on the way up."

Gaining Mrs. Wilson's attention by his expertness in teaching her daughter to swim, Captain Law asked her to watch him administer physical therapy

to two polio-crippled children under his care. She was impressed, particularly when she read the case histories of the two little patients and observed their rapid improvement.

"Your work is very interesting," she told the captain, "but it's something I know nothing about."

"I need money for equipment," he replied. "Only a few hundred dollars will get me started. I want to treat a dozen children, not just two."

She advanced the few hundred dollars needed to open a makeshift clinic, but it was practically no time before the demands on the little physical therapy unit were many times beyond its capacity. Captain Law kept asking Mrs.

Genial Mrs. Wilson takes time out to put crippled children at ease as she enjoys a pleasant chat with them and their mothers.

Sammy Gold





Wilson for more money for greater space and additional equipment.

"I suppose," she admits, "I went into the thing as much to get the captain off my neck as to render a little service to humanity. He was a persistent salesman and promoter, but he confined his salesmanship to me. Evidently he knew more about the workings of my mind than I knew myself."

At any rate, a year later she advanced additional money to open a small physical therapy hospital, said to be the first in the nation. As she watched the results of the swimming instructor's work, she was impressed to do something for crippled children, and she set about in earnest now to build a hospital.

For a woman who had played Bach at the age of nine, held Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees at eighteen, was the first oil lease broker in the Southwest in her early twenties, and a manager of prize fighters while she dealt in oil leases, raising money was no great task.

She organized a city-wide social event for the benefit of the struggling little crippled children's clinic, and the social raised \$4,000 after all expenses. That went for the hospital needs, but soon the growing institution again needed more money.

She bought additional furniture and equipment on credit, then obtained a city-wide franchise for scores of gum-vending machines. They provided a substantial monthly income, and even now they still contribute toward the \$157,000 annual budget of the modern hospital.

In the meantime Mrs. Wilson was tapping her husband, whose oil operations were expanding rapidly, for a thousand dollars here, two thousand there, as emergencies arose.

As the hospital expanded and its operations became more complicated, Captain Law told Mrs. Wilson that she needed a graduate therapist to head the work. He recommended a successor and resigned, satisfied that his dream of treating crippled children with physical therapy had materialized.

In 1947 Mrs. Wilson, still promoting one event after another to raise more money, built the present modern Crippled Children's Hospital. The same year she filed for approval of the American Medical Association and the American College of Surgeons. Approval came in less than a year.



Sammy Gold

Four happy boys absorb themselves in occupational therapy with its blocks and toys.

In the meantime, she had gradually assembled a competent staff of physicians and registered therapists. Although having had no interest in medicine or hospitals before that chance meeting with Captain Law, when she became imbued with the possibilities of physical medicine, she studied and observed ten to twelve hours a day, until she formulated ideas of her own about treatment of crippled children.

One young doctor who had built a local reputation for treatment of children's crippling diseases joined the hospital staff. His first case was a child of four, suffering from cerebral palsy. "I've examined this child," the young physician said, "and I find there's no hope for improvement. We can do nothing—"

"And over what period of time did you diagnose the case?" Mrs. Wilson asked acidly.

"Why, for three days I diagnosed the child. There's nothing—"

"Here," Mrs. Wilson snapped, "we don't even venture an opinion about a case until it has had three full months' diagnosis and research. I suggest you start all over again. There's nothing impossible here!"

The young doctor was at first deflated, then angered. He walked out to the court, where workmen were busy building a swimming pool for the patients. Finally he came back. "Possibly you're right, possibly not," he told Mrs. Wilson. "I'm willing to give it a try."

Three years later the child walked out of the hospital, able to enter school. Nobody was prouder of those steps than the young doctor.

Mrs. Wilson admits to browbeating her staff. Some take it and work with her on continuous experiments; others leave in a huff. But her iron determination to cure crippled children gets results. That her hospital holds recognition from every important approved medical and hospital board in the country indicates that the medical world accepts her basic precepts in treating crippled children.

"It is necessary to conduct a complete physical, neurological, and muscular examination of each new patient for at least three months," declares Dr. K. J. Kemp, who was medical director at the hospital for fourteen years, "in order to determine the full extent of the child's brain injury and then evaluate his specific needs. We do not treat only an injured leg or arm; we treat the personality, the whole child."

The three months' diagnosis prepares the spastic child for its life at the hospital, perhaps for years, not merely for medical and physical treatment. It determines the extent of the brain injury, its nature, and the treatment necessary to start it on the long road to rehabilitation.

"There's no such thing as a hopeless case," Mrs. Wilson declares. Her belief is based on both faith and experience, for she is a deeply religious woman as well as a practical administrator.

Recognizing that mental therapy was as necessary as physical therapy and medical attendance, Mrs. Wilson established a school on the hospital grounds five years before the state set up any sort of school program for physically handicapped children.





All hospital patients, these crippled girls are participating in zestful scout activities.

"Of the children who became patients here, 85 per cent are uneducable at time of admission. Our first consideration is to make the uneducable educable," Mrs. Wilson says. "The long diagnosis establishes the various courses necessary to start the patient on his mental, as well as his physical, rehabilitation."

Tiring of having to raise money to support her school, Mrs. Wilson accepted a directorship in the Texas Society for Crippled Children and Adults and, using that banner, journeyed to Austin and began badgering members of the Texas legislature to pass a bill of her making which would provide an annual allocation from state school funds for setting up and maintaining special schools, under the state school system, for handicapped and crippled children.

She wrote a letter to each legislator, outlining the program she wanted and telling why it would be good politics to favor the legislation. A few days later she threw a party in Austin and invited all 181 legislators. Over one hundred attended. Less than a week later her bill passed with scarcely any opposition.

Occupational therapy goes hand in hand with medical and physical treatment and the educational program. Little Jimmy tediously learns to make crude sketches or weave on a loom, while his brain recovers sufficiently for him to enter school. Doris may excel in needlework before her rehabilitation enables her to enter school. Records of physical therapy, vocational therapy, and the classroom form a complete day-to-day history of the case; and no

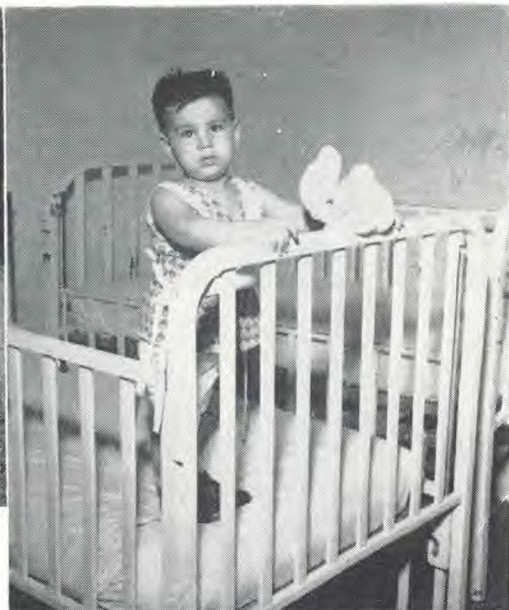
step follows another until these records indicate the child's ability to absorb the next step in his rehabilitation.

More than 4,000 crippled children have been treated at the Wilson Hospital. When a child has recovered sufficiently to go back to its parents, then arises another difficult job—to train the parents.

"We find this sometimes more difficult than treating the child," Mrs. Wilson says. "When a child leaves the hospital and must come back periodically as an outpatient, the role of the parent is doubly important. Inducing parents to follow our instructions in caring for the child at home is difficult, and sometimes we must bring the child back to the hospital as an inpatient because the parents fail to follow the proper rehabilitation routine."

Although the Wilson Hospital today maintains a staff of thirty-eight—including physical therapists, occupational therapists, a speech therapist, registered nurses, orthopedic physicians, a neurosurgeon, a psychiatrist, fifteen nurses' aides, and a radiologist—the problem of finances has been alleviated somewhat by annual appropriations from various national foundations and local organizations. Ada Wilson still spends eight to twelve hours daily at the hospital, fussing over details, badgering her staff to greater effort, visiting with the children.

Far back in one ward is ten-year-old Frankie. He sits in a wheel chair, his



Sammy Gold

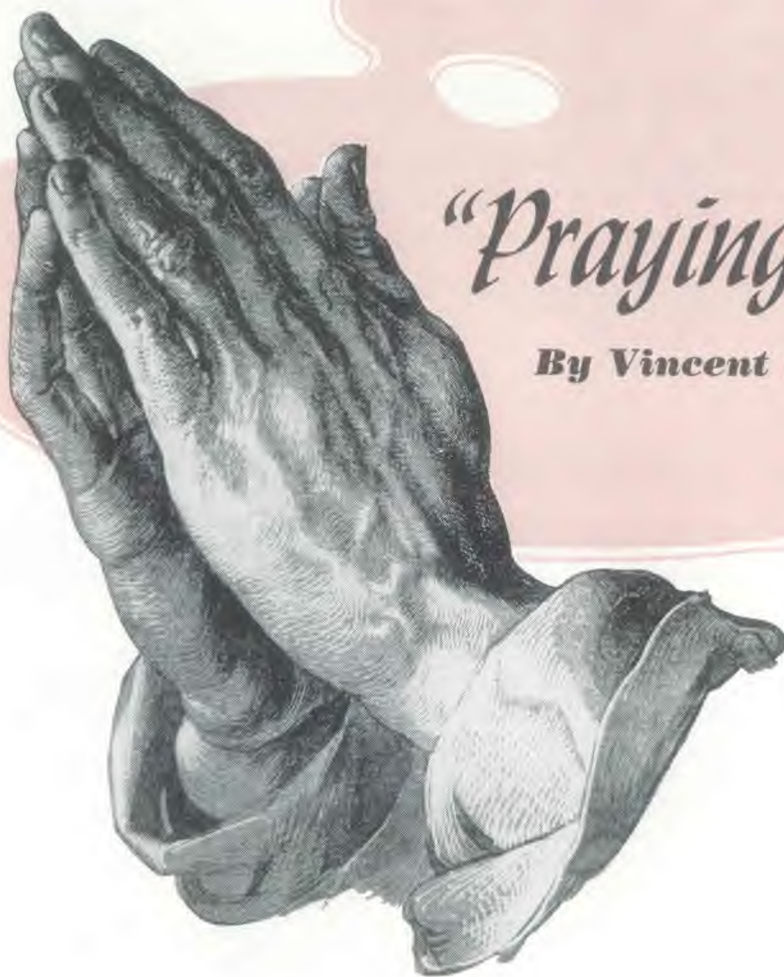
A ward patient tries standing while another lad finds ladder climbing brings strength.

body so lifeless that he must be tied in the chair so that he will not slither out. He can't talk, he can't do anything for himself. But when Mrs. Wilson approaches his chair on her daily tour of the hospital, his normally dead eyes light up.

And patients like Frankie and little Susan, who waved back from the bottom of the steps, are the rewards for long hours of work, constant urgency for further research, and money raising that constitute the routine of a woman who, save for a chance meeting with a swimming instructor, could be accepting the luxurious ease available to the widow of one of Texas' wealthiest oilmen.

★★★





# *"Praying Hands"*

**By Vincent Edwards**

**T**ODAY thousands of art lovers all over the world are familiar with the painting "Praying Hands," by the great German artist Albrecht Durer. The picture is all the more impressive because the subject is so different. The hands are not those of a beautiful woman. Far from being perfectly formed, they are the rough, worn hands of a toiler.

Almost everybody must wonder why an artist as talented as Durer, and with any number of perfect models to choose from, should have bothered to paint hands like these.

There is a surprising tale that explains the artist's choice. Years before, when Durer began the study of art, he shared a room with another ambitious student. Both young men were greatly handicapped by the lack of money. They had to work at whatever they could find to do, in order to support themselves; and the only time they had for art study was between these odd jobs.

Finally, the strain of that sort of

hit-or-miss existence became too much, and they came to an important decision. They talked it over and agreed that it would be wiser for one to give his full time to work, in order that the other might give his full time to study. Then the one who had completed his training could use his art to support the other while he learned.

In a spirit of magnanimity and selflessness, the older boy insisted that Durer should be the first to study. Toiling long hours and performing the heaviest kind of labor, he managed to earn enough to support them both, while his young companion attended classes regularly. But he had the rare satisfaction of seeing Durer's talent begin to unfold before his very eyes.

The time came at last when the younger man had learned all that any art school could teach him. Albrecht Durer soon made a name for himself in the world of art, and then he was in a position to arrange that his devoted friend receive the finest training for a similar career.

Alas, for that poor fellow! When the

older man returned to the art school, he made a heartbreaking discovery. His years of rough labor had damaged his hands. The joints were swollen, and the fingers were so stiff and awkward that he could no longer make the fine brush strokes that are required of an artist. With a sorrowful heart he gave up his long-cherished dream and withdrew from the school.

For Albrecht Durer his friend's plight was a cause for great sorrow. The artist could not forget that the other's sacrifice had made his own success possible. Durer was widely famous by this time and had a great circle of followers.

In tribute to his faithful friend he decided to paint his hands. Patiently the older man sat while the artist immortalized those hands on canvas. The fingers were bent and gnarled, and the protuberant veins showed the long years of hard labor. But the hands were still beautiful to Albrecht Durer.

He painted them as he had so often seen them—raised in prayer for his own success. Perhaps, as he worked away with his brushes and pigments, the thought crossed the artist's mind that no man, seeking another's good and imploring Heaven in his behalf, could have done more than this friend had done to make his prayer come true!

If Albrecht Durer were alive today, he would no doubt be highly pleased to learn that his "Praying Hands" is regarded by many as his supreme masterpiece. ★★★



# Editorials

## WANTED: A GREAT HERO

YOUTH seeks "a vision of greatness" in its heroes. This is the conviction Methodist Bishop F. Gerald Ensley expressed in a lecture at Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, Tennessee. "If we are interested in young men and women becoming Christian as well as cultured, then the study of great lives is indispensable," he emphasizes.

The supreme hero of the ages is Jesus Christ, and the bishop says, "No college can call itself Christian which does not offer students a vision of Christ's greatness. Nor can one call himself educated if he is ignorant of the Man of Nazareth."

There is too much glorification of Hollywood motion picture and television celebrities, too much glamour and not enough character emphasis. One of America's oldest and most widely circulated weekly journals has deteriorated into a perpetual series of life stories of movie actors or Broadway stars. Twenty-five years ago the *American Magazine* built its reputation and circulation on the biographies of men and women who had contributed to the greatness of America by service and devotion. Interest in true greatness waned in the nation, and the magazine declined and died.

Must the youth find heroism only in the comedian, the five-time divorced motion picture actress, or the gridiron star? A recent poll of boys aged nine to fifteen showed that they put Mickey Mantle, Captain Midnight, and Elvis Presley above President Eisenhower as their heroes.

Youth will pattern life after their heroes. Traits of character that they admire in their "vision of greatness" will be copied in their own experience. How changed would be the values of the younger generation if they saw the splendor of Christ's life. He is the genuine hero of youth for eternity!

## A SCIENCE THAT BUILDS FAITH

OF ALL the sciences, the two making the most progress in the world today are nuclear physics and Palestinian archaeology," says Dr. William F. Albright of Johns Hopkins University, in a recent issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*. Mysteries concerning ancient Assyria, Babylonia, and Egypt are being solved by tablets and monuments unearthed in the scientific digging.

Wonderful is the confirmation of the Bible story by the findings of archaeology. The Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt has startling new proof of accuracy. The burning of the town of Ai by Joshua, the raids of the Philistines on Israel, the activities of David and Solomon—these are a few of the Bible records that science says are absolutely true.

Today nuclear science is destroying man's faith in his fellow men and in the future. Nuclear weapons are stockpiled for World War III, a conflict that may well end all world wars and turn the earth to rubble. In contrast archaeology builds faith in God's message of love and in His inspired Word. Each new finding confirms Bible prophecy, and we hear again the divine edict, "The word of our God shall stand for ever."

## MAN-DEvised BARRIERS BROKEN WITH THE GOSPEL

A READER of THESE TIMES has sent me a clipping which records a fascinating story. The slip of paper is without date, and I have no idea of the publication in which it appeared. But I think my correspondent must have wanted me to share it with other readers, and this I am delighted to do.

Henri Roser, a French pastor, was traveling by train in Poland. The trip was delayed somewhat by routine customs checkups, which came in the middle of the night. At dawn the next morning, the pastor took his New Testament from his pocket and began to read. However, being weary, he soon began to doze. As he relaxed restfully, his Testament fell from his hand to the floor.

A Russian woman who was in the compartment reached quickly for it and then began to thumb hurriedly through the pages. After a while she took from her own bag a copy of her Russian Bible. She placed the two books together and turned to the pastor, who was now aroused from his nap and very curious. She pointed to a word in her Bible and the parallel word in his. It was the word *disciple*. She looked questioningly toward him, and he nodded his head and indicated that he was a disciple.

Then with some effort she found a second word, *Saviour*. Again he responded affirmatively to her silent question. She smiled with deep satisfaction. The pastor then found Romans 1:7 in both books, and she read the words which in English record the Apostle Paul's benediction: "Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

She was altogether happy, and for a moment her face was more radiant than the dawn. It was as though a Holy Stranger had linked their hearts in a bond of love and understanding. And, the pastor adds, the others in the compartment—the Czech officer, a Ukrainian miner, a German, and a Pole—knew what had happened.

The love of God in Christ always breaks through man-devised barriers. Our day is characterized by dividing curtains, racial and theological prejudices, age-old animosities. But thank God there are still golden moments of sweet fellowship when hearts transcend these obstructions and discover a bit of heaven itself. ★★★



# Revelations of a

The religious news editor of the Nashville *Tennessean* tells why he finds assignments more exciting than those of his colleagues who cover crime, politics, business, and courts.

By Ia

THE CHURCH secretary had often watched the pastor's sober facial expressions as he left to console grief-stricken persons after the sudden death or injury of a loved one. Now, with the minister slowly entering the church office, she sensed that he was bringing her bad news.

The secretary's hunch proved true. Her only son, the clergyman explained, had just been killed in an accident en route from a religious meeting. The teen-age youth, once so full of vitality, now was stilled.

The mother and son had been especially close, because in late years there had been no husband and father. The mother felt very lonely—but not for long, for she had a close relationship with God.

Saddened but with her faith undaunted, the mother strove all the harder to serve the heavenly Father. Rather than become bitter or throw out recriminations—such as “Why was my son taken from me?”—she continued to witness for Christ through the church.

She is one of the many heroic followers of Christ whom I have found on my rounds as I cover religious news for the Nashville *Tennessean*, a morning newspaper.

It is a challenging assignment—more exciting than the crime or political or educational or business or courts beat—for I work with people who have deeply experienced reality. They know God.

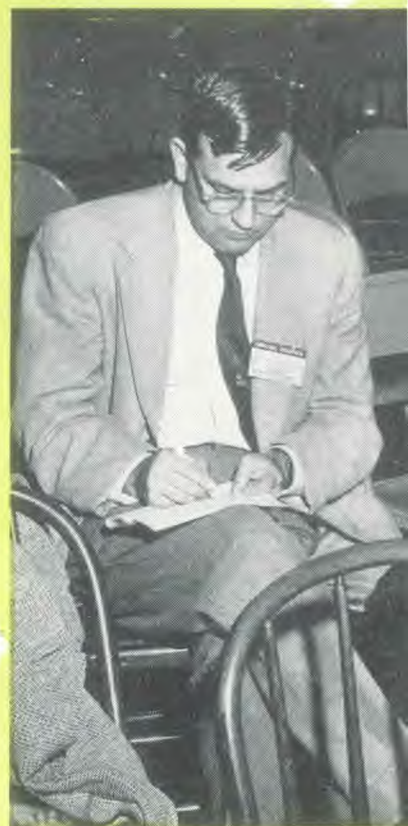
The religion assignment is also an enjoyable one—interpreting the vitalities of faith; meeting friendly people. It is filled with surprises and, fortunately, with only a few scandals.

There are approximately 560 churches in my city and county. During my five years with this newspaper, only one unmarried clergyman in my territory has run off with a married woman he had been counseling. Only one pastor has disappeared with his secretary. Two other ministers—one old and one young—did get involved in embarrassing situations with divorcees, but the men straightened up and changed environments. That percentage of maladjustments compares quite favorably with nonprofessionals in religion.

Moreover I haven't heard many scandals about laymen regarded as deeply committed to their faith—and newspapermen are the first to hear about such skeletons in closets. Once a pastor asked our newspaper not to report that a businessman, at the time of his death from a heart attack, was riding in a car with a woman not his wife. The pastor thought that the layman's wife was ignorant of his affair with another woman. The minister hoped we wouldn't add to the grief. We didn't.

The majority of ministers I have known are hard-working, devoted servants of the Lord. Occasionally a few get off on tangents. One veteran clergyman suffered from spiritual pride. He confided to me that his church had the only worshipful services in the city. Before such haughtiness I tried to be disarmingly innocent and asked how many of the other churches he had visited. My subtle sarcasm must have escaped him. He said, “None,” but there was no sheepishness involved. He just knew that his church alone was religious.

A world-famous religious leader was equally haughty. I can truthfully say that he was the only obnoxious religious leader I have ever met. At the



It's all the line of duty: Reporter Carty near great during his career. A Niger-ence, tells Carty about his country—i



# Religion Reporter

s W. Carty, Jr.

airport I politely asked the man for an interview. He asked how long a story I planned to write. I told him, "About two thirds of a column." He remarked



Bryce Finch

interviewed hundreds of the great and  
ht), attending a U.S. religious confer-  
e, customs, and religious background.

that that length was not enough for a person of his stature, and he refused to make any comments at all.

One time a local pastor was kissed spontaneously on the cheek by a visiting minister from a Russian delegation of church officials. The Nashvillian asked that we not publish the picture our photographer had taken of the dramatic occasion. The pastor felt that the readers would think of guilt by association and would incorrectly brand him as a Communist. We had more faith in our readers' good judgment than that, however, so we published the picture.

A young Protestant pastor from Yugoslavia visited our city while on a speaking tour. He asked that no political questions be referred to in the interview, since he would be interrogated upon his return to his native land. Trying to think of unusual feature material that would not be controversial, the photographer asked whether handkerchief pockets were always on the right side of coats in Yugoslavia rather than the left side, as in America.

The European clergyman flushed. Even that question, it turned out, had political overtones, for his inefficient Communist tailor had mistakenly put the pocket on the wrong side. Since the pastor was too poor to have the pocket taken off and placed rightly he came as he was. And now he was embarrassed.

On another occasion a world-famous Asian church leader arrived to deliver a significant series of lectures. He had no text and could not supply any advance quotes to newsmen, he said. He was fidgety about this matter.

Later an American missionary who now teaches in our city revealed that the Asian had asked him to prepare a speech on "how an Asian looks at the United States." No wonder he could

not supply advance quotes when he arrived; someone hadn't prepared his material.

Every week I visit a different worship service and report it for my newspaper. At one church the pastor asked all visitors to stand during the worship service. Five of us did. He gave a special prayer for our welfare. That really made us feel welcome.

I remember another time in a large church when someone shook hands with another and said, "Glad you came. Is this your first time?" The second person replied, "No. In fact I haven't missed a service here in twenty-six years." The other person remarked, "I haven't missed a service in six years." The church was just too big for them to get to know each other.

During the service at another church the pastor asked me to come forward to the pulpit. I wasn't expecting that. He made me an honorary member of his church—in appreciation of my reporting of church news.

One of my big surprises came one Sunday at a worship service when a white family came forward to join a Negro congregation. The man was a graduate student at a large university. He and his family kept their membership in the church for two years, until time came for him to take a job in a distant city.

On another occasion an African, who was a visiting university instructor in linguistics, went with white students to a prominent white downtown congregation. He was refused a seat and was hurt personally by the action.

Like all reporters should do, I strive to be accurate. This occasionally involves considerable checking of facts. When a person is in a hurry and doesn't check, then trouble develops. A visiting Episcopal clergyman was to speak at our city. The press release said his



name was Das Kelly Barnette. I felt sure that Das was wrong and that it should have been Jas., an abbreviation for James. So I took the liberty of changing his name. Actually, it was a Hindu name, Das. So I had made a mistake.

I find pastors do not always know news value. One reported he was succeeding another pastor; he did not say the other was his father. Fortunately routine questioning turned up that unusual angle, which produced a fine little feature.

Occasionally there is a flamboyant service. Tennessee's Gov. Frank Clement teaches a Bible class, "The Way," in the lobby of a theater. One time he invited the class to his home on Old Hickory Lake. People arrived by various "ways"—seaplane, boat, bus, car, and on foot.

Pastors give not only their time but also their money to good causes. When one pastor heard that the mental health clinic at one city was without funds, he checked out all the money in his bank account and sent it along for current operations of the clinic.

By his work as counselor and friend, as preacher and man of God, the pastor moves about the community undramatically and unheralded as he accomplishes much good.

A pastor visited several drugstores and asked the owners to discontinue the selling of indecent literature, but was told that the greatest profit from the magazine rack came from such periodicals. His patient explanations of the moral implications and the harmful effects on youth and adults alike, and his personal contact led them to comply with his request.

An American pilot, this time a passenger in another plane than his own, was downed during an accidental mishap on a secret mission in Alaska. Military authorities at the installation where he was stationed declined to give his wife, who was living in suburban Nashville, any information as to his chances of surviving. She became extremely worried—almost frantic. Her pastor wired Washington, demanded action, and brought the quick report that the serviceman was safe, thus greatly relieving the distressed wife. A few days later came word that the stranded pilot had been rescued along with the crew.

A young boy fell off a porch. A spear pierced his neck and was lodged



Dr. W. B. Garrison, widely known educator and author (*The Preacher and His Preaching*), is informally interviewed by Carty (left).

near his jugular vein. The parents rushed him to the hospital for emergency care. Upon arriving, they found that neighbors had phoned their pastor. He was already there, ready to comfort them. He prayed with them that they would accept God's will—whether the boy live or die. The parents, encouraged, courageously waited for word from the surgeon—at last he brought word that the son had come through the operation successfully and would likely recover.

Women of one church met twice a month during the middle of the week for special Scriptural study to supplement their weekly attendance at Bible classes. Several were elderly widows, lacked cars, and were off bus routes. So their pastor spent much time in transporting them to and from church in his car—and his kindness and concern was a reflection of the Master's.

An alcoholic lost jobs repeatedly, and his family and friends despaired that he would ever stop drinking. But one pastor never lost faith that the man would regain his bearing. The minister labored long, patiently counseling the alcoholic; and eventually his patience, his understanding, his confidence and friendship, inspired the sick man to turn to God and quit drinking.

There was the time—prior to the church beat—when I was on the police beat and was told to find out about a robbery at a rabbi's house. I was admitted to the house and seated. Every-

one was talking about the theft. I first made some verbal notes, then got out my notebook and asked for the correct spelling of names and addresses of the witnesses. Everyone was shocked. "But," one of the witnesses said, "we didn't know you were from the press. We thought you were one of the other rabbis here for the convention."

I have been taken for many nationalities. Even Indians have thought me to be Indian. Actually I'm Scotch-Irish.

There was the time of need in the mission fields. When I mentioned that our city has one church where a stained glass window cost \$10,000, the missionaries were sick at heart. For they were having a hard time getting \$3,000 for a needed hospital building.

Occasionally there develop feelings of shame for ministers. One pastor bragged how he had used what I regarded as unethical practices to get nonunion labor to build a new church much more inexpensively than would union members.

There was the time a religious organization became angry because one of our news stories referred to dancing at the institution. The officials didn't want their conservative constituents to know such activity existed. They thought we should have used some other, harmless words, such as rhythmic gymnastic exercises.

Once a prominent downtown church was robbed. People thought the motive was revenge when they found a note, "You done me wrong and now you will pay." Then they found that this note was part of a romantic song written by the church's love-sick janitor.

Religion should be covered by specialists. On my day off, a woman reporter wrote that a prominent minister was speaking at a civic club on "Religion and Profits." The title should have been "Religion and the Prophets."

As a reporter I consider it a great opportunity to record and report that church workers are doing significant good in the name of Christ. I feature and dramatize these situations to show the vital, dynamic force of God at work in specific personalities.

The gospel is good news. Each week I report on the sermon and other acts of worship at a different church service. In this manner the newspaper columns show that religion is important news. It is an exciting and responsible task to record the living history of God at work in His world. ★★★

THESE TIMES, AUGUST, 1958





# At the Lighthouse

Canadian Pacific Railway

By Ruth A. Pray

**A** MINISTER, whose boyhood had been spent on the West Coast, later lived inland for a number years.

When at last he took his family back west for a visit, he wanted to show his twelve-year-old son one of his favorite spots—a lighthouse, far out on a rocky point.

The lad had been impressed at a distance by the powerful beam of light that swept through the darkness, at once a beacon of encouragement as well as a warning to seafarers.

Early one morning, then, the man and his son climbed the long, winding staircase to the tiny room at the top of the lighthouse.

"We want to see the light that reaches out so far, showing sailors the way," the boy said to the old keeper.

"There it is," replied the man, gesturing toward the light.

"Why, that's only an ordinary five-hundred-watt bulb!" exclaimed the lad in disappointment as he peered closely. "We have those all over our church."

"Yes," the old man replied, "the light is nothing unusual

at all. It is this special glass surrounding it that makes the big difference. **You see, it magnifies this one little light to the strength of one billion candle power.**"

Later, as the two made their way carefully down the steps, the boy seemed to be deep in thought.

"You know, Dad," he said, when they paused once to watch the waves dash themselves into fine spray on the rocks below, "that's what you keep preaching—about our being lights to show the way to others. Isn't it?"

"Right you are, son," the minister agreed. "Each of us is very small, and our own ability is insignificant. But no matter how small we are, just let Jesus come into our life, and the change is impressive.

"Why, Jesus is like that magnifying glass around the lighthouse bulb. With His presence around us, magnifying us, our power, too, is multiplied countless times."

"I guess you've found a good idea for another sermon," the boy grinned knowingly. "And I'll always remember, too, the inspirational and helpful sermon I saw today at the lighthouse."

★★★



---

# THE SABBATH—

## *Seventh Day or First?*

---

**T**HERE IS a discrepancy, a very wide discrepancy, between the present-day practice of many Christian churches in the matter of Sunday observance and the plain, straightforward, unequivocal teaching of the Bible. This discrepancy has disturbed the minds of many of the children of God who have been seeking for reliable, relevant information.

There is a real need of accurate, full, and dependable information regarding the truth on this important subject. What we need to know is the origin of the Sabbath and the divine purpose for which it was given to man. We should know, too, where Sunday observance originated, how it was brought into the Christian church, by whom, why, when, by what authority, for what purpose, and with what effect.

There was a time when the whole Christian church observed the Bible Sabbath, the seventh day of the week. The Bible declares the seventh day to be God's Sabbath and commands all men to keep it. But practically the whole Christian church today is ignoring this command—some innocently, some knowingly, some unwillingly, some willfully.

Although the whole Christian church at one time kept the seventh day of the week, there later came a time during which nearly the whole Christian church forsook the seventh-day Sabbath and allowed a substitute, counterfeit, false Sabbath.

### **A Conspiracy**

The time can be definitely pointed out. The influences at work can be positively identified. Their true character can be readily discerned. What

they were seeking to do can be easily understood, and we can actually obtain a confession from the perpetrators of the fraud and the sponsors of the conspiracy against God and His truth.

Moreover, the whole effort and plot and deception was foreseen and foretold before it happened. Indeed, God Himself issued a warning against it centuries before it took place. See 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4.

There has been a conspiracy to overthrow the truth of God. The evil forces at work cover their tracks, hide their true character, conceal their real purpose, and pretend to be what they are not.

These forces are mighty in their power, malignant in their purpose, and treacherous in their working. Their sole design is the deception and ultimate destruction of mankind.

We should be clear first, however, before we look at these forces of error, about the elementary things connected with the Sabbath. Clarity here will help us later.

The Sabbath is something that God made. He had a purpose in making it. We shall come to that later. Just now we take pains to understand what the Sabbath is.

The Sabbath is not something which God placed upon a day, which can be pushed about and transferred to another day. The Sabbath is the day itself.

God took the seventh day, and out of that seventh day He made the Sabbath. He takes pains to make this very clear: "The seventh *day* is the sabbath of the Lord thy God." Exodus 20:10.

We are not here commanded to "remember the *Sabbath*, to keep it (the Sabbath) holy." The command is, "Remember the sabbath *day*, to keep it (the day) holy." Verse 8.

### **The Sabbath Day**

The Sabbath is not something apart from the day. It is the day itself, the seventh day.

We hear much today about a Sabbath *institution*. The Bible does not call it an *institution*; it talks about a Sabbath *day*.

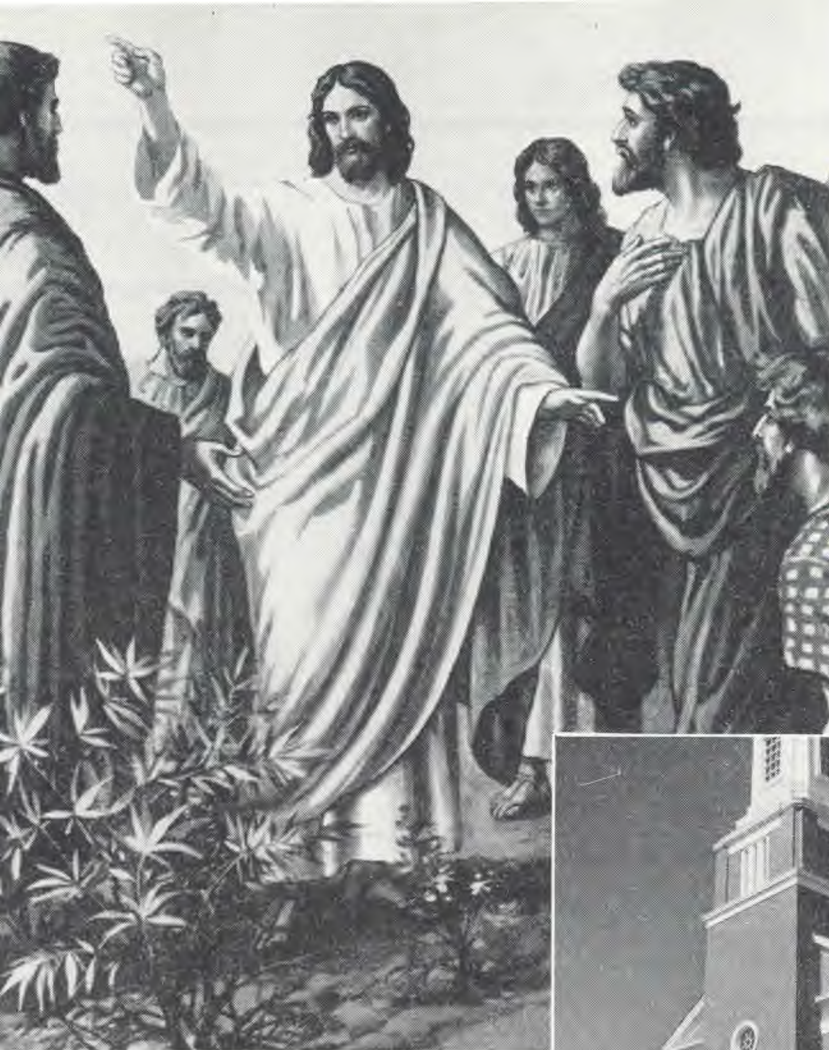
There is no such thing as a Sabbath *institution* which was blessed and made holy for the benefit of humanity *apart from a day*.

It was the *day* which was blessed and made holy, and it is the *day* which is thus the Sabbath.

The day which God blessed can never be separated from the Sabbath. The Sabbath can never be separated from the day which God blessed. You cannot take them apart; they are not separable; they are one; the seventh *day* is the Sabbath. The Sabbath is not a day for ordinary labor, for idleness, for amusement. It is for rest—spiritual as well as physical—for meditation, for

**H**ere is a candid discussion  
of a most disturbing subject.





Stemler

By Carlyle B. Haynes

A Saviour alert to man's every need issued the glorious pronouncement: "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." Thousands weekly enjoy the Sabbath blessing.



A. Devaney, Inc.

worship, for holy joy, and for mutual helpfulness.

It was designed to be, and it may be made to be, the happiest, the brightest, the best day, of all the seven.

The Sabbath is one of two survivals of Edenic life which have persisted since the fall. (Marriage is the other.)

This day of rest occurs weekly in order to keep always before us the fact of God's rest at the close of creation week. We are to remember God every day, but the Sabbath comes to us weekly and brings larger opportunities for rest, meditation, and communion with the Creator.

Before its blessed and precious effects have been lost, the approach of another Sabbath renews its hallowing influence. Thus it sweetens all days and extends its blessing to all our time as we "remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy."

#### The Day of God's Appointment

At the beginning of human history, when God brought the earth into existence, He blessed the seventh day. He

blessed it because he had rested on it. He made it holy and set it apart for a holy use and a holy purpose. He appointed it to be kept.

The seventh day was thus the recipient of all the things which God had conferred: the rest, the blessing, the sanctification, and the holiness all pertain alone to the seventh day.

Therefore when some other day is used, every element that constitutes the Sabbath is left out and lost. When another day is taken in the place of the day upon which God rested, then we have a day upon which God did not rest, a day which He did not bless, a day which is not holy.

Hence, whatever else we may have, we do not have the Sabbath; for the

Sabbath is the seventh day and that day alone.

During the last half century I have made an exhaustive, careful examination of the Bible, of history, both civil and ecclesiastical, theological writings, commentaries, church manuals, catechisms, and the candid admissions of many Sunday observers; and I write in all honesty and with all earnestness that there is no authority in the Holy Scripture for the observance of Sunday, no authority given to man to make a change of Sabbath observance from the seventh to the first day of the week, no divine sanction given such a change now that man has made it.

This substitution of a false sabbath for the true Sabbath of the Lord was entirely the work of a power which adopted a purely pagan observance and brought it into the Christian church. This observance of Sunday has no binding obligation upon Christian believers, but should be instantly and firmly repudiated and discarded as a matter of practice. The true Sabbath of the Lord should be restored to its rightful place in the hearts of His people and in the practice of His church.

#### Jesus Kept the Sabbath

Jesus Christ did not change the Sabbath. He kept the seventh day of the week. He never thought of keeping another day. He never gave the slightest



intimation that any other day was to be observed by His people.

The seventh day is His Sabbath. He kept it during His earthly life. He commanded it to be kept forever.

It was Jesus Christ who made the world. He made it in six days. He rested on the seventh day and made that day the Sabbath. Having rested on that day, Christ blessed it and made it holy.

Yes, it was Jesus Christ who did all this. Search and see. Read John 1:1-3, 10, 14. "All things were made by him." "The world was made by him."

Look at Colossians 1:16: "By him were all things created, . . . all things were created by him."

So Christ was Creator as well as Redeemer. It was Christ who brought the world into existence and peopled it with human beings, just as it was Christ who later came into the world and re-created men through redemption.

Christ, the author of the Christian religion, is also author of the Christian Sabbath, the Bible Sabbath, the true Sabbath, the only Sabbath.

There is no mistake about this: Christ is the Creator. The Bible clearly teaches this. Therefore He made the Sabbath, the seventh-day Sabbath.

It was Christ who rested on the seventh day from the labor of creation. It was Christ who blessed the seventh day. It was Christ who made the seventh day holy. It was Christ who set the seventh day apart as the Sabbath for the human race.

Inasmuch, therefore, as Jesus is both the author of the Christian religion and the author of the seventh-day Sabbath, it is clear that there is no other day which can possibly be the Christian Sabbath but the Sabbath which Christ made.

Jesus Christ was a true Sabbath-keeper. Jesus Christ kept the only Sabbath which God or the Bible has ever given man. As in everything else, so in this, Jesus Christ set a perfect example of true Sabbathkeeping.

It can be readily understood that if Jesus Christ, the Founder of the Christian church and the Head of that church, had intended that the seventh-day Sabbath should be set aside and give place to another sabbath, He would have said so. He did not say so.

#### **Jesus Did Not Alter the Sabbath**

If it had been His purpose that Sunday should be observed by His follow-

ers, He would have said that. He did not say that.

He made it plain that it was His intention that the Sabbath He had made at the beginning, kept during His lifetime, and freed from the burdensome restrictions of the Pharisees, the seventh-day Sabbath, should continue to be observed by His followers to the very end of time.

Jesus Christ did not change the Sabbath from the seventh day to the first. He kept the seventh day. That was the Sabbath then. It always had been the Sabbath. He did not alter it. It is the Sabbath now. It will always remain the Sabbath.

It was Christ's Sabbath. Therefore, it is the Christian Sabbath. It is a satisfaction and a blessing to keep the day He kept, and to know that in doing so we are keeping His day, the Lord's day.

The apostles of Christ did not change the Sabbath from the seventh day to the first. No such change was made in their time.

We have already seen that Christ did not change the Sabbath. He kept the seventh day. He never so much as even mentioned Sunday.

The early Christians knew nothing of any change in connection with the Sabbath. They were observers of the seventh day.

Hence the observance of any day other than the seventh as the Sabbath is unknown in the New Testament. It contains no record, it makes no reference, to such a transaction.

The only Sabbath known, taught, commanded, or referred to in the Bible is the seventh day. Sunday observance by Christian believers is of later origin than the times of the Bible. It cannot be found there.

The Sabbath of the New Testament is the Sabbath of the Old Testament, the Sabbath of Christ, the Sabbath of the disciples, the Sabbath of the early church, the Sabbath of the whole Bible, the only true Sabbath, the seventh day.

#### **Sunday Not Mentioned in the Bible**

Indeed, the New Testament does not even contain the word *Sunday*. It is never once referred to in any connection whatever. The New Testament does refer to "the first day of the week," giving it no name at all. It does not call the first day of the week a holy day. It does not speak of it as the Lord's day. It does not refer to it as the Sabbath. It gives it no sacred or

holy name. The New Testament contains no command for keeping Sunday, no reference that anyone ever kept Sunday.

Then, too, the Biblical "first day of the week" and present-day Sunday are not identical. All Biblical days began and ended at sunset. The Biblical "first day of the week," therefore, began at sunset Saturday night and ended at sunset Sunday night.

Sunday begins and ends at midnight. Sunday now is not the same at all as "the first day of the week" then.

Although the New Testament mentions the first day of the week, it does so only eight times and says nothing in connection with any of these references about keeping it as a holy day.

The disciples of Christ kept the true Sabbath, the seventh day. They were accustomed to preach on that day to congregations sometimes of Jews, sometimes of Gentiles. One such occasion is found recorded in Acts 13:14-16. The sermon Paul preached upon this Sabbath day is found recorded in verses 17-41. The following Sabbath Paul preached to the Gentiles. See Verses 42-44. Another record of Sabbath preaching by Paul is found in Acts 16:11-13. He preached on three separate Sabbath days at Thessalonica, and the record of this is found in Acts 17:1-3. When Paul went to Corinth, it was his custom to preach every Sabbath; and he remained there for eighteen months. See Acts 18:4, 5, 11.

#### **The New Testament Sabbath**

Thus the New Testament discloses that it was the custom of both Christ and His apostles to observe the seventh day as the Sabbath, to speak of it as the Sabbath, to preach on that day, and thus to honor it with their sanction and approval.

The attitude of the apostles toward the first day of the week can be discovered by a study of the passages in which this day is mentioned. Here are the only times in all the New Testament that the first day is mentioned: Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1, 2, 9; Luke 23:56 together with 24:1; John 20:1, 19; Acts 20:7-9, and 1 Corinthians 16:1, 2.

Here, if anywhere, must be sought whatever authority for Sunday sacredness there may possibly be in the Bible, for those are the only passages which even refer to the first day. These passages unite in declaring that the resur-





# I SALUTE THE FLAG

By

WELDON TAYLOR HAMMOND

**I** AM A CHRISTIAN. I gloriously rejoice in the liberty wherewith Christ has made me free. Yet this soul freedom from the bondage and shackles of sin does not lessen, but greatly increases, my gratitude for the national freedom which I enjoy under the Stars and Stripes.

I salute the flag! This I deem not an act of worship, but a mark of becoming respect for the noble principles to which our founding fathers dedicated their lives, namely, a free press, freedom of speech, and the inalienable right to worship God according to the dictates of conscience. These heaven-born ideals of just and equitable government, vouchsafed in the Federal Constitution, have built and maintained our great American democracy—to the wonder and amazement of teeming millions—so that these United States rank without a peer in the history of nations.

The Star-Spangled Banner is but an emblem of the God-given rights of mankind to civil and religious liberty, which this grand republic has solemnly pledged itself ever to uphold. Gazing proudly upon this beautiful emblem of freedom, with a thankful heart for the manifold blessings of its benign rule, I am constrained exultingly to shout—

**“LONG MAY IT WAVE!”**

rection of our Lord took place on the first day. That is made very plain.

Some observers of Sunday claim that the fact of Christ's resurrection on the first day of the week brought about a change in the Sabbath and transferred its observance from the seventh to the first day of the week. If that be so, then these passages will prove it. But they do not say any such thing.

An examination of these passages, the only references to the first day in the New Testament, reveals that they are significantly silent about any change of the Sabbath.

## Sunday Not Sacred

These passages speak of the Sabbath, that is true; but they are scrupulously careful to discriminate between the Sabbath and the first day of the week. They make it plain that the real Sab-

bath is the day before the first day of the week.

They give no sacred title to the first day. They do give such a sacred title to the seventh day.

They do not say Christ or His apostles rested on the first day.

They say nothing about any blessing being placed on the first day.

They do not tell us Christ said anything about the first day, either as a holy day or otherwise.

They give no precept or command or admonition to keep the first day.

There is nothing in any of these passages, the only ones in all the New Testament that refer to the first day at all, which declares that the first day is to be considered by the followers of Christ as anything more than the ordinary weekday it is called when it is spoken of as “the first day of the week.”

Hence there is no evidence in these passages to lead any follower of our Lord to believe that they contain any authority at all for Sunday sacredness.

Instead of its being true that Jesus blessed and hallowed the first day, the fact is that He never even mentioned the first day. He did not once take its name upon His lips, as far as we have any record.

That is how much evidence there is in the Bible for Sunday observance—just none, literally none.

It is supposed by some that Paul had reference to a change of the Sabbath when he wrote to the Colossians: “Let no man therefore judge you . . . in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.” Colossians 2:16, 17.

But Paul was not referring here to the seventh-day Sabbath; he was speaking of the ceremonial sabbath.

The ceremonial system of the Old Testament had many festival days, holy days, annual sabbaths. That system, “imposed on them until the time of reformation” (Hebrews 9:10), had passed away with Christ, whom it had foreshadowed. The believer in Christ was not, therefore, to return to its types and shadows.

He did not need to observe its annual sabbaths (Leviticus 23:4, 24, 32), all of which were to be kept in addition to, or “beside the sabbaths of the Lord.” Verse 38.

As these ceremonial and ritual observances were no longer binding, the Christian believer is, in this passage in Colossians, exhorted not to permit any man to judge him in these things.

This passage has no reference at all to the seventh-day Sabbath of the Lord.

It is thought by some that the expression, in Revelation 1:10, “I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day,” affords some evidence for Sunday sacredness. It does not. This verse says nothing as to which day of the week is “the Lord's day.” Consequently we are left to determine this from other passages in the Bible.

Study with me a minute and see which day the Lord claims as peculiarly His own. Jesus said: “The Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.” Mark 2:28. Then the Sabbath is “the Lord's day.”

Isaiah wrote: “If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on *my holy day*; and call the



sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable." Isaiah 58:13. Look at it—"my holy day." That is the Lord's day, the day He claims as His own, the seventh-day Sabbath.

Any doubt regarding this can be cleared away by the Sabbath commandment itself: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work." Exodus 20:8-10.

It has become clear that Sunday is not the Bible Sabbath. Sunday is not the Christian Sabbath. Sunday is not the Sabbath at all. It is just the first day of the week.

Sunday is not the Lord's day. Sunday has no sacredness attaching to it at all.

Somewhere in the dim ages stretching between Christ's time and ours, while the light of truth shone but faintly during the Dark Ages, Sunday observance found an entrance into the church.

It was not brought in by divine authority. It was brought in directly against divine authority. It was brought in by an enemy of Christ, an enemy of truth, an enemy of the church, and an enemy of man.

It did not belong in the church when it was wrongfully brought in. It does not belong in the church now. It never will belong in the church.

There is a commandment in the Bible to keep the Sabbath. It has been in the Bible from the beginning. It is there now. It has never been changed. It has the same force now that it has ever had.

This commandment for Sabbath observance will be found in Exodus 20:8-11. Just turn to the place and look at it. It plainly declares that the "seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work."

I repeat: There is no command given in the Holy Scriptures which names another or different day than the seventh.

The Bible in its entirety, both Old and New Testaments, commands, upholds, defends, and teaches the observance of the seventh day as the Sabbath.

Now here is a strange and singular thing. The textbook of Christianity, upon which the church is founded, the Holy Bible, knows nothing, teaches nothing, commands nothing, says nothing, about Sunday observance. It does

teach and command the observance of the seventh day. But very nearly the entire Christian church today, while professing to follow "the Bible and the Bible only," has never once observed the only Sabbath the Bible says anything about.

There is a Lord's day. "The seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God." That settles the matter. God has spoken. The Lord's day is the Sabbath

day, the seventh-day Sabbath covered by the fourth commandment.

And you, dear friend? Which day will you have for your Sabbath? The day of God, the Lord's day, the Bible Sabbath?

Or man's day, the counterfeit, spurious, fraudulent sabbath, the first day of the week, the day of the ancient pagan sun worshipers, commonly called Sunday? ★★★



**Pastor H. M. S. Richards**

*Helps Solve Your Problems*

H. M. S. Richards is speaker and director of the international radiobroadcast The Voice of Prophecy.

### Trust God to Do Right

*My husband was killed in the Battle of the Bulge. He had not accepted Jesus as his Saviour while in the States. Although he went to church sometimes while overseas, I don't know whether he was saved or not. I only recently accepted Jesus as my Saviour myself, and I am quite concerned whether I will meet him in heaven.*

Thousands, yes, millions of people have had much the same problem as your own. We cannot read the hearts of men. We do not know how much of light and truth they have rejected. We cannot judge. We must leave our dear ones and friends in the hands of a loving, all-wise God.

We read in the Bible that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. The love of God is as wide as the world and reaches to all men. Let us trust Him to do that which is right and believe in that blessed day for which you long, when God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes. (Revelation 21:4.)

"Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." 1 Corinthians 13:12. This was Paul's sentiment, and it may be ours also today.

### How to Read

*A problem for me is reading. I don't like to sit down and read. Yet it is one of the best ways to learn. How can I develop the habit of enjoying to read?*

The best way to learn to like reading is to first pick out something that is palatable and then read a little bit every day. Don't read until you become tired and weary. Read a little bit, and then lay your book aside.

Perhaps your problem has been in the choice of your reading material. Maybe the books you are trying to read are too dry and heavy. Someone who is learning to appreciate music does not start with Bach and Beethoven. He starts with some of the simpler, more easily understood works of music.

Take the Bible itself. Some parts are fascinating stories of the men of the past. Others require intense study and concentration in order to understand. One way to learn to enjoy reading would be to find biographies. There are hundreds of excellent and fascinating books that tell the stories of the lives of great men of the past. Find one of these biographies, and read a little bit every day. I feel quite sure that you will soon find yourself so fascinated that you will not want to lay the book down at the end of your allotted time for reading each day. ★★★

THESE TIMES, AUGUST, 1958





# Let's ask the **DOCTOR**

Answers to health questions are supplied by J. Wesley Osborne, M.D. Address your queries to him in care of this magazine. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee that all questions will be answered, and of course only questions of general interest will be printed.

**I would like to know the cause of varicose veins.—C. P.**

Varicose veins can be due to several different factors. There is a tendency for some families to have varicose veins. Other times varicose veins are brought on due to prolonged standing. Anything that interferes with the circulation of the blood through the veins, such as scar tissue pressing on the veins, abnormal growths, enlarged lymph glands, or any other factor that increases the back pressure in these vessels, may cause them to dilate and become greatly enlarged and tortuous.

Many times these vessels become diseased due to poor-quality valves that are normally present to prevent backflow of blood as it makes its way back to the heart. If these valves give way or become incompetent, then there is nothing to support the column of blood as it pursues its way from the lower part of the body back to the heart. This in turn throws an extra load on the thin walls of the veins, which in turn become large and tortuous and are then referred to as varicose veins.

There are two sets of veins in the lower extremities—the superficial set, which is the set that frequently becomes diseased and is spoken of as varicose veins, and a deeper set on the inside of the leg. If the deeper vessels of the leg are in good condition so that they can support the circulation by themselves, it is then safe to remove the diseased superficial veins. This is often done in varicose surgery. These veins may be either tied off or removed.

However, if some disease process has involved the deep set of veins, so that they cannot take care of the circulation by themselves, of course the surgeon will refuse to do surgery on

the superficial set of veins, as this would only aggravate the circulatory problem in the legs. This may be the reason why varicose surgery has not been advised in your case. Surgeons always carefully test for the cause of varicose veins. They also check the competency of the deep portion of the vascular system before surgery is advised.

**Too much salt, I read and hear, is bad for one. I am very fond of sauerkraut. How about the salt in it?—S. W.**

It is true that an excess of salt ordinarily is not recommended. However, the desire for salt varies a great deal from individual to individual. And in good health the body's ability to excrete the excess amount of salt taken in is very adequate. The salt content of the body fluid is maintained at a very exact level, except in certain disease states. The kidneys are the regulating mechanism that takes care of the situation, either by excreting the excess salt or retaining the necessary amount to keep the body fluid at the level that we speak of as physiological.

In certain disease conditions, however, the body loses its ability to properly excrete salt. Two of the most common ones are heart disease and kidney disease. In these conditions the kidneys lose their ability to excrete salt, or more correctly speaking, sodium. As a

result, abnormal swelling of the body tissues occurs because of the retained sodium, or salt. In diseases of the kidneys and the heart, patients frequently are placed on a low-sodium diet. Then dill pickles, sauerkraut, or other foods that have high salt content are forbidden, of course.

In a normal state of health, however, I see no reason why you should worry about the amount of salt that is in sauerkraut. If you enjoy the taste of sauerkraut, I see no reason why you should not continue its use, unless your doctor has placed you on a low-sodium diet.

**Three years ago a car fell on my husband's head, injuring him quite seriously. After the accident he started having nightmares and blackout spells, which leave him with a loss of memory. The doctor has been giving him dilantin. I am wondering whether this medicine is safe to use and whether there are harmful effects from it.—M. S.**

It appears from your letter that your husband is having epileptic seizures following a head injury and that your doctor quite properly is treating him with an effective anticonvulsant medication—or in other words, a medicine to prevent these seizures. There are many anticonvulsant medications that are used to prevent seizures, and dilantin is one of the good ones. Of course, anybody taking medications of this nature has to be under medical supervision, as it is necessary at times to either increase or decrease the dosage. Sometimes there are unpleasant side effects; and at times it is necessary to discontinue one of these medications or switch to a different one, depending on the response of the patient and whether undesirable side effects show up or not. ★★★

Do you have problems, burdens, and perplexities that seem overwhelming? If you drop us a line, we shall be glad to join you in praying to our heavenly Father. Address all correspondence: Prayer Circle, Box 59, Nashville 2, Tennessee.





# Are Other Worlds Inhabited?

*Reason and the Scriptures indicate  
that they are populated by intelligent beings.*

FOR MANY centuries men have gazed at the nightly pageant of the stars and asked themselves these questions: Is there life on other worlds? Do beings like ourselves really exist elsewhere in the universe? Can it be that throughout the vast deeps of space, life as we know it exists only on this single planet? These questions take on added significance today, for scientists are poised on the threshold of outer space.

Dr. Henry Norris Russell, director of Princeton Observatory, says: "There is no longer a basis for supposing that either this world or its inhabitants are unique, or in any way the first, last, and best of things."

Eagerly, almost impatiently, astronomers are unveiling important secrets of the universe. New discoveries and improved telescopes have broadened man's concept of the universe. In former years it came as a shock to realize our planet was *not* the center of the universe. We found that our world belonged to a group of planets revolving around a common center, our sun. The sun, in turn, is but one of billions of suns belonging to our

enormous Milky Way galaxy. Latest discoveries lead astronomers to believe that there are 100,000,000,000 suns in our single galaxy.

Our sun has a family of nine planets. If the sun is average in this respect (and it is average in size and speed), then we might reasonably conclude there are nine times as many planets as there are suns in our galaxy. In that event, there would be 900,000,000,000 planets in our galaxy.

**By Everett E. Duncan**



Dr. Edwin B. Frost of Yerkes Observatory says: "There is no logical reason to suppose that our sun is any better fitted to have planets about it than thousands of others, or that the planet Earth should be exceptional. It is difficult to believe that a similar development has not occurred for vast numbers of suns."

In his book *Life on Other Worlds*, the British astronomer Sir Harold Spencer Jones states that "it is overwhelmingly probable that many other stars (suns) have systems of planets like our sun." Dr. Russell T. Crawford, director emeritus of Berkeley Observatory, adds: "Not only do I believe that other planets of our solar system are inhabited, but I firmly believe that the worlds of other solar systems are likewise inhabited."

But we have not yet formed the complete picture of the number of worlds in the known universe. Our Milky Way galaxy is only one of hundreds of millions of galaxies, or "island universes," as they are called. Astronomers use this term, island universe, because, through the large telescopes, the distant galaxies appear to be drifting through remote space much like a swarm of bees that is carried along by a summer breeze.

As a result of a recent sky survey, astronomers are discovering multiplied thousands of these island universes. In his book *Design of the Universe*, Fritz Kahn states, on page 167, that the miracle eyes of the Palomar telescopes "have found more and more unsuspected galaxies, the deeper they penetrate into space." He continues: "If we divide the sky into windows the size of the moon, the telescope can find 1,000 galaxies in each windowpane. Photographs with more than 10,000 such galaxies on one plate have been made."

Dr. Ira Sprague Bowen, director of Mount Wilson and Palomar observatories, adds that the Big Schmidt camera at Palomar "has captured on many of its plates 50,000 and more galaxies in an area of sky no larger than the bowl of the Big Dipper." How many individual planets these galaxies and their suns represent is totally beyond human comprehension.

To believe that many of these other worlds are inhabited is against neither reason nor Scripture. In Hebrews 1:1, 2, we read that "God . . . made the worlds." Revelation 12:12 says: "Re-

joice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them." In Nehemiah 9:6 we read: "Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou hast made . . . the heaven of heavens, with all their host, . . . and the host of heaven worshippeth thee."

If the Creator would derive satisfaction and pleasure in creating one world and placing intelligent beings on that planet, it seems that the more worlds He created to be inhabited, the greater would be His pleasure. This thought is emphasized in Revelation 4:11: "Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

Dr. Russell summarizes it this way: "There is no reason against supposing that there may be creatures on these planets which are equal to or surpass men in reason and knowledge of nature, and, let us hope, live in harmony among themselves." Dr. William W. Campbell, former director of Lick Observatory, says: "In the later years of

my life I have been gratified to think that there are other representatives of life scattered all through the universe." It is possible that we could not point a finger in any direction and miss the truth if we said there was life in that direction.

Whether man will ever travel to the planets, or even reach the moon, remains to be seen. We do know that Jesus has promised a trip all the way to His "Father's house" to those who prepare for heaven. This thrilling promise reads: "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14: 1-3. The Holy Scriptures close with this prayer: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." ★★★



## Two Seas in Palestine

There are two seas in Palestine  
That from the self-same river drink;  
The one yields water fresh and sweet,  
While salt waves lap the other's brink.

About the one stretch verdant hills  
And meadows velvety and green;  
Upon the other's barren shore  
No herb or blade of grass is seen.

About the one dwell man and beast,  
And tuneful bird on swift, bright wing;  
The other's thirsty desert sands  
Support no glad and living thing.

Alike, God gives to men His gifts;  
And, as the seas of Palestine,  
One, sharing, finds life good and sweet;  
The other, hoarding, harvests brine.

—Jessie Wilmore Murton.



# THE SIN GOD CANNOT PARDON

By Leonard C. Lee

**T**HE DEATH of Admiral Richard E. Byrd recalled to my mind the months he spent alone on the continent of Antarctica. Sick and companionless in the bitter cold, separated from the world by thousands of miles of ice and ocean, he had but one link with the world—his radio. Across the ice, across the ocean, and across the continents he could send his radio waves and receive messages of faith and courage.

In a similar manner God, the loving Creator who made radio possible, keeps in touch with His children through the living Messenger, the Holy Spirit. Ever since that creation morn when "the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters," this messenger of love has been close to the children of men.

Since the sin God cannot pardon revolves about our relationship to the Holy Spirit, let us take a broad look at the work of this member of the Trinity.

When man yielded to the tempter and let Satan gain control of the earth, our world became the plague spot of the universe, a quarantined island. Here those angels and men who challenged the wisdom and love of God and the principles of His government were allowed to develop their own plans and purposes. This world and the universe of worlds must judge which way of life is better.

Between this earth and heaven there was a great gulf fixed. Sin and rebellion separates man from God, the creature from his Creator. No man could cross that gulf, but Christ bridged it for us. It was the work of the Holy Spirit to present God's side of the great controversy with evil. Those who listened to the Spirit's voice became men of righteousness. Those who rejected it became leaders in rebellion.

Through the long centuries the Spirit of God seemed to

find few who would listen to His pleading voice. One day God said to Noah, "My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." Genesis 6:3.

During that 120 years, while Noah was building the ark, the Spirit preached through Noah the gospel of repentance. Peter mentions this in his epistle:

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened [made alive] by the Spirit: by which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water." 1 Peter 3:18-20.

When centuries more had slipped away, the Holy Spirit had a part in helping the Son of God to be clothed with human flesh. It is a mystery we cannot even dimly comprehend how the Holy Spirit could take the great Creator







Carl Schönherr

*There is a point of no return  
in wandering away from God and  
His love and the pleading of  
His Holy Spirit.*

for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him." John 14:16, 17.

Jesus, the God-man, the divine-human Son of God, formed a living link between heaven and earth. Jacob caught a vision of this when he was a wanderer in the desert. "And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it." Genesis 28:12.

That ladder represented Jesus. The angels are His messengers. Jesus put His seal on this when He said, "Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." John 1:51.

Jesus Christ is our only Saviour. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. The Holy Spirit works to win the human heart to Christ. Throughout the life and ministry of Jesus the Spirit gave power and life to His followers. The Spirit brought conviction and repentance and confession to sinners. The Spirit led into all truth and made it beautiful, and showed how ugly is sin.

When the disciple Thomas wanted to know the way to heaven, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. The Holy Spirit was to be the Guide and Teacher, and the Comforter. Jesus used such expressions as "[He] shall teach you" (Luke 12:12), and "He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13).

Some have thought that the unpardonable sin was murder or adultery or suicide. But Christ emphatically teaches that the only sin that cannot be pardoned is the rejection of and blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. All other sins can be forgiven because the Holy Spirit can lead men to repentance, and God can forgive every repentant sinner in the name of Jesus. But when men reject the Holy Spirit, they have no way left to reach God, and no one to lead them to repentance. And God has no way to reach them. It is like Admiral Byrd smashing his radio transmitter at the base in the Antarctic Continent, or the antediluvians trying to burn the ark. It is no wonder Jesus in the strongest language pointed out to the Pharisees their terrible danger when they said the Holy Spirit with which He cast out demons was the spirit of the evil one. Here is the record:

"Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

and make Him the Child of the virgin. The simple story is told in Luke's Gospel.

"Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be? . . . And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Luke 1:34, 35.

The life Jesus lived on earth was a Spirit-filled and Spirit-guided life. He put no trust in the human flesh, but let His life be guided by the Spirit. The Spirit testified at His baptism, descending on Him in the form of a dove. See Luke 3:22. "And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness." Luke 4:1.

When Jesus was about to leave this world and go back to the Father, He gave His disciples the promise of another Comforter. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you



And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come." Matthew 12: 31, 32.

Another gospel writer tells us that it was not an ordinary sin, but blasphemy against the Holy Ghost that Jesus was talking about. "All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: but he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation: because they said, He hath an unclean spirit." Mark 3:28-30.

Jesus came into this world to save lost men and bring them back to God. It was the only way a loving God could devise to reach fallen man and rescue him from eternal death. "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25.

There is never a lack of power or willingness on God's part to forgive and save all who are willing to be cleansed and purified from sin and made fit for heaven. God has given all heaven and sacrificed the life of His Son to save lost men. How it must have grieved the heart of God to have His Holy Spirit called a thing of evil and His beloved Son accused of working with evil spirits! No wonder Jesus cried out against this terrible blasphemy and warned against it. God's Spirit will not go where He is not wanted or invited. Those who close the door against the Spirit's pleadings are cutting themselves off from salvation eternally.

There are other ways of committing the sin against the Holy Spirit besides blasphemy. We can grieve away the Spirit by unholy thoughts and actions. The Spirit cannot long endure the evil atmosphere of a sinful life and an evil conversation. Paul warned against the evils of the past lives of the Ephesians: "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Ephesians 4:30.

When I was a boy in North Dakota, someone gave me a tract on the "sin against the Holy Spirit." I read it over and over as I was plowing the long fields. One little rhyme impressed me more vividly than anything I had ever read. It has had a vital influence on every decision I have made since that day.

"There is a line by us unseen  
By which our path is crossed;  
Beyond which, God Himself hath sworn,  
That he who goes is lost."

During the war we heard the expression "point of no return," in connection with flying over the ocean. The pilot who went beyond that point could not hope to get back. It often meant landing in the ocean and probable death. Just so, our heavenly Father has warned that there is a point of no return in wandering away from God and His love and the pleading of His Holy Spirit. Paul mentions it again in the Book of Hebrews: "He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?" Hebrews 10:28, 29.

---

---

## NEXT MONTH

### "A TIMELY LOOK AT TRUE EDUCATION"

The object of education is to restore in man the image of his Maker, to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created.

### "RELIGIOUS LEGISLATION, ENEMY OF AMERICAN FREEDOM"

The American government has long been a champion of religious freedom. Learn of sinister plans being laid to enforce religious laws.

### "WHAT IS CHRISTIAN BAPTISM?"

The Bible pictures baptism as the most beautiful, the most meaningful, of all the ordinances of the Christian faith.

---

---

There is still another way of committing this tragic sin; that is by neglect. Millions will be lost while hoping to be saved. They plan someday to be saved, but they put off making a decision. There is a question asked in the Book of Hebrews that even God cannot answer, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" Hebrews 2:3.

An eagle landed on floating ice in the Niagara River. The day had been warm, and the ice was soft. As the eagle devoured a morsel of food, he could feel the evening chill of the north wind and hear the roar of the falls. He could have flown away, but he neglected to do so. There was plenty of time, so he thought. Finally he spread his powerful wings and attempted to fly; but his feet had frozen into the ice, and he was helpless. With a scream of terror, eagle and ice were swept over the falls.

So it will be with those who neglect salvation. The Spirit's voice, so clear at first, will at last become unheeded. I once lived near a New Orleans church whose belfry clock tolled every hour. At first I heard it every time. But after I lived there some months, I never heard it at all. I had paid no attention, so it went unnoticed. Those who neglect to listen to the Spirit's voice will one day find that they no longer are hearing it at all. Then the Spirit will depart in sadness, knowing that for that soul all the love and mercy and sacrifice of Jesus has been in vain.

There is an old saying that "nature abhors a vacuum." This is just as true in the spiritual world as in the physical. Those who fail to let the Spirit of God come into their lives cannot long resist the spirits opposed to the righteous rule of God. Those who do not stand firmly on God's side will inevitably become a part of the rebellion. Jesus, in Himself, made the only connection between heaven and earth. He has sent the Holy Spirit as His representative to speak for Him. If we refuse, deny, or neglect so great a salvation, there is no other way to escape. This is the unpardonable sin. ★★★



# PAGEANT OF PROPHECY



Because of the hundreds of Bible texts dealing prophetically with our troubled days, THESE TIMES presents this feature. Further information on any item may be obtained by writing to the editor in care of this magazine.

TWO RELIGIONS.--A Series of Studies on the Great Conflict Between Christ and Satan. Text: "But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils."

In the July issue we discussed briefly the origin, gods, and religion of secret societies, particularly Masonry. Let us now consider the following:

## Object of Secret Societies

"It was, then, the great object of all the rites and mysteries of antiquity to teach the consoling doctrine of the immortality of the soul....The hidden doctrines of the unity of the Deity and the immortality of the soul were originally in all the Mysteries, even those of Cupid and Bacchus."--Mackey, Symbolism of Freemasonry, p.231.

The "unity of the Deity" mentioned will be found, on close examination, to be based on the Gnostic principle that all the deities of the pagan and Christian world in reality are but forms of the one supreme god, Pan or Cosmos, centering in the sun as the central deity from whom all the other stellar gods as well as all matter, including man, are supposed to have emanated. In all these mystic religions, the life of man is a "divine spark" which has descended from the solar deity and which re-ascends to it at death.

Of course the doctrine of the immortality of the soul is in direct conflict with the Bible, which states emphatically that only God has immortality. 1 Timothy 6:16.

## Why Masons Are Deceived

Consider these: Freemasonry is based on Sabeism, the worship of the stars.... Nearly all Masonic symbols can be thoroughly comprehended only by reference to sun worship....On the eastern wall of nearly every Masonic hall is the letter G in a sun. Its meaning? "The letter G represents Geometry and God....Its deeper meaning is properly reserved for the more advanced degrees."--Pierson, Traditions of Freemasonry, p. 137. (One wonders what deeper meaning anything could have than God.)...Everywhere in the mysteries, just as in the religious art of ancient paganism, one finds the serpent. It is a much used symbol in Freemasonry, representing both Good and Evil, God and Satan....Titles of Masonic officers seem rather revealing: Knight of the Brazen Serpent, Black Knight, Terrible Knight of Masonry, Knight of the Phoenix (throughout the East the Phoenix represents Satan).

If these things be true, why do not the multitude of fine Christian people who belong to Masonic organizations know about them? The answer is given by their publications: "Masonry, like all the Religions, all the Mysteries, Hermeticism and alchemy, conceals its secrets from all except the Adepts and Sages, or the Elect, and uses false explanations and misinterpretations of its symbols to mislead those who deserve only to be misled; to conceal the Truth which it calls Light, from them, and to draw them away from it....To pretend to explain the symbols while leaving them still an enigma has ever been the rule in the mysteries. They had an outer explanation for the profane and unwise initiates, and an inner for the Adepts."--Pike, Of Masonic Symbolism, pp. 104, 58. "One of the most beautiful, but at the same time most abstruse, doctrines of the science of Masonic symbolism is that the Freemason is ever to be in search of truth, but is never to find it."--Mackey-Clegg, Symbolism of Freemasonry, p. 228.

## The Christian's Attitude

It is Satan himself who is working with all deceivableness of unrighteousness to bind men together in secret societies. Then, let us Christians not unite with such a program, but stand free in God, looking constantly to Christ for instruction.



**A**N ANCIENT KING, highly pleased with his court jester, gave him a ring as a gift.

"Keep this," the monarch told him, "until you find a greater fool than you; then give it to him."

Years passed. The king was critically ill, at the point of death. He called for his jester to come and amuse him.

"O king," the court fool exclaimed, "what is the trouble with you?"

"I am soon going on a long journey."

"When will you return?"

"I will never return."

"Sir," the jester queried anxiously, "have you made preparation for the journey?"

The king paused a moment in sad reflection.

# Are You a Fool?

**By Robert H. Pierson**

## *Just Between You and God*

2



O. Stemler

Barns gorged with hay and grain, golden harvest fields waiting to be garnered, were a problem to the wealthy, but foolish, farmer.

"Alas," he said slowly, "I have not."

Incredulously the court fool looked at the dying monarch. Slipping the ring from his own finger, he pressed it into the hand of his king.

"Here, sir, take this," the simple one urged, "for surely anyone who would go on such a journey without preparation is a greater fool than I."

When Jesus was on earth, He told a story with a similar lesson.

"A rich man's estate bore heavy crops. So he debated, 'What am I to do? I have no room to store my crops.' And he said, 'This is what I will do. I will pull down my granaries and build larger ones, where I can store all my produce and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample stores laid up for many a year; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.'"

Luke 12:16-19, Moffatt. "But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" Luke 12:20.

God called this prosperous man a fool. On first thought this seems strange. The farmer was clever. He knew well how to prepare his ground, how to cultivate and to care for his crops. The inspired writer reports that his ground "brought forth plentifully." The man evidently was a shrewd businessman, for he knew how to market his produce to good advantage. Through the years he had grown rich.

The farmer was wise. He desired to make ample provision for his harvested crops. In the story there is no hint of dishonesty or shady dealing. He was rich, but riches gained honestly may be a credit and a blessing to one. No doubt the man was a respected member of the community, for the Bible says, "Men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself." Psalm 49:18.

As far as I can see, the man was a good, honest, respectable, moral man. But God called him a *fool*! To be called a fool is no light thing. In our day it may easily bring sharp retaliation and even blows. The dictionary defines *fool* as one "devoid of reason," "one not capable of making right decisions."

How could God call such an individual a fool? He knew how to farm profitably. He had good crops. He desired to make ample provision for those crops. He was rich. In the eyes of the world he evidently was a very wise and successful person. Yet God called him a fool! How could such a man be "devoid of reason"?

Our first clue is found in verse nineteen: "I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry."

This man was a fool because he planned only for this present fleeting life. Like the ancient king in our opening illustration, he had made wise provision for everything but his soul. God declares that such a course of action is unreasonable. The successful farmer was honest with everyone but God. He forgot what the Lord had told him to keep ever in mind: "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth." Deuteronomy 8:18.

The material things of this life became the prosperous farmer's sole concern. His mind and time were crowded with *things*—with crops, with cattle, with barns, with markets, and with everything else but God. He left the Almighty entirely out of his reckoning. Inspiration declares that such a man is a fool.

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." Psalm 14:1. This is what anyone says when he crowds God out of his life. When we devote our full time to things of this life, in essence we say, "There is no God. I need not worry about death and judgment. I am too occupied with time to be concerned with eternity!"

We see such people every day. They are apparently prospering. They have everything the human heart desires, but they have no time for God. Their friends and business associates call them "brilliant," "brainy," "successful." God calls such people *fools*. A



person who makes every provision for this life but who fails to prepare for the next is "devoid of reason."

Two men were passing a beautiful mansion.

"How much is that estate worth?" one asked.

"I don't know," the other replied, "but I know how much it cost the owner!"

"How much?"

"It cost him his soul!"

Jesus says, "What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matthew 16:26.

The rich man, with all his astute handling of business affairs, failed to reckon with one great fact every man should remember—*death closes all accounts*. When we die, we can take nothing with us. "Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither." Job 1:21. The moment after death the world's richest man has no more than the unfortunate beggar. Riches can never purchase peace or comfort beyond the grave. An old Italian proverb reminds us, "Our last robe is made without pockets." A dying emperor exclaimed, "When I die, let my hands be outside my shroud that all may see they are empty." Here is a fact all should consider well: *Death closes all accounts*. Jesus declares that anyone who disregards this solemn truth is a fool!

The rich man had likewise failed to reckon with *sudden death*. "This night," God declared, "thy soul shall be required of thee." Luke 12:20. The man's wealth could purchase no reprieve. Here was something money could not buy. In a moment all he had accumu-

lated in a lifetime was worthless. All the wealth of the world could not buy time to prepare for death.

What an awful sentence pronounced upon a man who did not want to die. He was just preparing to live! He was planning to "eat, drink, and be merry." His plans were rudely interrupted. "This night," he was told, "thy soul shall be required of thee."

We live a fleeting, uncertain existence. We are "here today and gone tomorrow." We do not know what the next day will bring. We lay our plans. We *expect* to carry them out. We *hope* everything will work out all right. Many put off to some future, better day giving attention to things of the soul. They expect *someday* to leave the ways of the world and to walk God's way.

Heaven warns us, "Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." Proverbs 27:1.

Science has made wonderful strides toward disease control. Many of the old "killers" have been subdued or conquered. But all the genius of the world's most brilliant minds cannot conquer sudden death that strikes so frequently and unexpectedly. Our only safe course is to be *always* ready. See Matthew 24:44. God says that any person who takes chances with eternity in this uncertain life is a fool!

"Come now and let us *reason* together," the Lord invites you and me. Isaiah 1:18. Preparing for a certain eternity, while in this uncertain world, is surely a reasonable course to pursue. Jesus invites us to come to Him and reason with Him. Being a Christian is a *reasonable* thing. Following Jesus in all that we know to be truth is a *rea-*

sonable thing. It is foolish to do otherwise.

"Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel" (Amos 4:12) is our Lord's earnest and reasonable appeal. The word *prepare* comes from two Latin words meaning "to make ready before." God calls upon us "to make ready before" it is too late, before death strikes, before Jesus comes!

This is the *reasonable* thing to do. This is the only *safe* course to follow! Won't *you* heed the Spirit's call today and follow Jesus all the way? ★★★



**THESE TIMES** will help you:

- ✓ Solve your problems
- ✓ Understand today's events
- ✓ Enjoy happiness and peace of mind

Fill in the coupon and hand to your representative or mail to

**THESE TIMES**  
Box 59  
Nashville 2, Tenn.



Here is my subscription and payment:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.50 for one year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4.00 for 14 months.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6.50 for two years.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7.00 for 26 months.

HIGHER OUTSIDE U.S.A.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_

Send for This **Free**  
Bible Correspondence Course  
for Busy People **Today!**

THE BIBLE COURSE FOR BUSY PEOPLE  
BOX 59, NASHVILLE 2, TENNESSEE

Please enroll me in your free Bible correspondence course.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Takes only  
15 minutes  
a day



No obligation--  
now or ever.



# The BIBLE STORY

By ARTHUR S. MAXWELL



*The Greatest Stories Ever Told*  
FROM  
THE *Greatest Book Ever Written*



## In these ten beautiful BIBLE STORY Volumes

will be found:

- ★ More than 400 stories unexcelled in clarity of presentation.
- ★ Nearly 2,000 pages.
- ★ Full coverage of the Bible narrative from Genesis to Revelation.
- ★ Exquisite four-color illustrations by nationally known artists at every page opening.
- ★ Reading enjoyment for the children of the modern family.

Actual  
Book Size  
7" x 9 3/4"

The writer of these ten marvelous volumes, THE BIBLE STORY, Arthur S. Maxwell, is a world-renowned editor, author, and lecturer. He is known and loved the world over by scores of millions who have read his ever-popular BEDTIME STORIES and CHILDREN'S HOUR series.

Review & Herald Pub. Assn., Washington 12, D.C.

I wish to know more about these ten wonderful volumes that make the Bible a living book in stories and pictures. Please send full particulars. No obligation of course.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_