

a herald of Christ's presence

THE DAWN

"BLESSED ARE THEY
THAT HEAR THE
WORD OF GOD, AND
KEEP IT."

--Luke 11:28

February 1966

THE DAWN

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The Ever-Living God

SPEAKING of the time of his return and second presence, Jesus raised the question, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8) Faith in the Bible as the Word of God has been diminishing for a long time, so that today the vast majority of the clergy among liberal Protestants look upon it merely as another book on religion, a favorite one from which to quote when quotations which fit their theories can be found. The Fundamentalists still hold to the Scriptures as the Word of God, but seem unable or unwilling to accept its pure teachings in place of their traditions which came down from the Dark Ages.

The latest development in unbelief on the part of the Modernists is the conclusion that God has died. There are a number of young men who call themselves "death-of-God theologians," or "Christian atheists." It seems that for some time these have been presenting their views in the relatively secret and secure corners of universities, called divinity schools, and in other places where they would not attract too much attention, including the pages of certain religious journals. But more recently the death-of-God theology has been widely publicized through The New York Times, Time magazine, The New Yorker, and by thousands of sermons and hundreds of newspaper editorials, with the result that the public has been made aware of these men and their teachings.

The question might well be asked as to why this death-of-God theology is permitted to be expressed at all in the great theological centers of learning. In a partial answer to this question The Christian Century writes editorially:

“Why were there no calls for heresy trials, no pleas for dismissal, so long as the professionals had the question in their hands? Some would answer that theological faculties, making an idol of academic freedom, do not want to raise a dispute that could boomerang on their own enterprises. Others say that professors, having grown soft, liberal and impotent, are incapable of recognizing heresy or of attacking it. Whoever has spent five minutes over coffee with a theologian—be he young Turk or aging seer—knows that these explanations do not explain.

“The various schools of theology of our century (neo-orthodoxy, neoliberalism, neoevangelicalism: always ‘neo,’ significantly) were creative attempts to piece together constructive thought around various theisms which had served well in the past. But each of these schools broke up, in part because none of them faced at sufficient depth the ways men think (in formal schools of theology or in common sense informal circles) and act in our world. Attempts to push them back into old molds did not work. Yet theologians wanted to be loyal to Jesus Christ and in less defined ways to his church even though their God-talk failed to satisfy them or the demands of a new age. In this ideological cauldron ‘God-talk’ became for some ‘non-God-talk.’ No one yet knows what will come of the theological disintegrations and re-constructurings which are now occurring.”

What The Christian Century seems to be saying is that all the efforts to harmonize Dark-Age theology with the enlightenment of the present time has failed, and that it was this that led some of the younger theologians to the conclusion that God had died, for they could not see or find the Dark-Age God in any of their theological flights of fancy. And the interesting part of it is that the older and supposedly more stabilized theologians seem unable to come to the rescue of the younger ones.

The Christian Century refers to the “theisms of the past,” meaning the traditional concepts of God handed down from the Dark Ages. What are some of those concepts? Prominent among them is the claim that God is a trinity of deities, called the

Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. This conception of God is a monstrosity which cannot be harmonized either with the Bible, or with enlightened thinking. Various of the outstanding leaders of the Protestant church are discarding this concept of God; and the young theologians are unable to find a place for it in their philosophies.

Then there is the hell and purgatory god of the Dark Ages. Here we have another theory that is not supported by the Bible, and is rejected by reasoning minds of the present. Among the Modernists this concept of God has been dead for a long time, and well it might be. How horrible it is to think that an all-powerful Creator would torture countless millions of his human creatures in a fiery hell forever! The theory of purgatory is only degrees less revolting, and we are glad that the torment god has died in the minds of so many.

The "end of the world" dogma handed down to us from the Dark Ages is another one which pictures the true God of the Bible in a very false light. What a fiend God would be to destroy the whole earth with fire in twenty-four hours, and transfer its wicked inhabitants into a hell of endless torment! This is too awful to contemplate, yet it was taught that God would do this. At that horrendous time the righteous of earth were to be transferred to heaven; but we wonder how much joy they could have in heaven, knowing what had happened to their neighbors, and was continuing to happen. This is another dogma the young theologians would have to discard.

Honesty a Gem

Actually, with the exception of a small minority of radical Fundamentalists, these hideous doctrines of the Dark Ages have not been preached to any great extent for many years. But they are still in the creeds, because the rank and file of church leaders do not have the courage to say openly that they no longer believe them, and advocate a revision of the creeds. This, however, is, in effect, what the death-of God theologians have been honest enough to do.

The only god these theologians have been told about is the god of the creeds, the trinity god, the torment god, the calamity god. For this god they no longer can see a place in their thinking. To them he no longer exists, so to them God has died; and as yet they have not found a god to take his place. Nor will their philosophies ever reveal to them the true and living God of the Bible. They are honest in proclaiming the death of the Dark-Age god, but, due in part to their lack of understanding, do not possess sufficient faith in the Bible to accept its revelation of the true and living God, the God of all creation, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

One God

The Apostle Paul wrote, "This is good and acceptable in the sight of God, our Savior; who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (Tim. 2:3-6) From this we learn that the one true God of the Bible is a "savior" of his creatures, not their tormentor. He is the great Author of his plan of redemption from sin and death; that plan in which his beloved Son willingly and gladly gave himself in death as a "ransom for all."

The word "ransom" means "a corresponding price." Jesus took the place of Adam in death, thus providing release from the penalty of sin which is death. But this could not be understood by those who believed that the wages of sin is eternal torture. But how simply and clearly the Scriptures set forth the plan of God for his fallen human creatures! Paul wrote, "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 6:23) And again, "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."—I Cor, 15:22

This making alive of the millions of Adam's children is to be accomplished right here on the earth. This is what Paul refers

to in his statement that God will have all men to be saved—saved, that is, from the sleep of death. Following that awakening, the people will have an opportunity to “come to a knowledge of the truth” that God does love them, and has provided for their eternal salvation upon the basis of belief and obedience. This diffusion of the true knowledge of God is referred to by Paul as a testifying of this great truth in “due time.”

Because this knowledge will be “testified in due time” to the whole world of mankind the “knowledge of the Lord” will fill the earth “as the waters cover the sea.” (Isa. 11:9) All will then have an opportunity to know “the only true God,” whom to know aright, “is life eternal.” (John 17:3) No one will lose the opportunity of gaining everlasting life by being left in ignorance of the true God and his will for them. Nor will anyone be saved in his ignorance, for the Lord will then turn to the resurrected people a “pure language,” or message, and all shall know him, and call upon him, “from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord.”—Zeph. 3:9; Jer. 31:31-34

The True God Lives

If the death-of-God theologians had sufficient faith to accept the testimony of the Bible, they would recognize that the true God of all creation is very much alive, and that with certainty, and majestically, he is carrying forward his wise and loving plan for the ultimate blessing of all his earthly creatures. They would see in the ransom feature of the divine plan, as mentioned by Paul, the wisdom, justice, love, and power of God.

They would see that the great God and Creator of the universe did not become incarnate in flesh, and go about for three-and-a-half years praying to himself, and finally ask himself on the cross why he had been forsaken. They would learn that it was God's created Son who was made flesh and dwelt among men, and that he was made flesh in order that he might become a substitute in death for condemned father Adam, and thus redeem him and the entire human race from sin and death.

They would also see that the loving God of creation did not plan for the torture of his human creatures, but decreed that "the wages of sin" would be death. (Rom. 6:23) God does not propose to torture even his enemies; for those who, when fully enlightened, continue wilfully to oppose him shall "be destroyed from among the people"—not tormented.—Acts 3:23

We do not blame the death-of-God theologians for discarding a god who supposedly would one day rain down fire from the skies and reduce this earth to a cinder. How crude an idea this is when we really think about it! Those today who think along humane lines are questioning the morality of dropping hydrogen bombs on cities and countrysides in times of war. But the destruction and horror wrought by hydrogen bombs would be as nothing when compared with the tradition that God, in a few hours, would destroy the whole earth!

The true God has never had any intention of destroying the earth. He assures us that he created the earth, not in vain, but formed it to be inhabited. (Isa. 45:18) This divine purpose was stated at the time of man's creation, when the first human pair were instructed to multiply and fill the earth, and subdue it. (Gen. 1:28) Man was also given dominion over the earth, David confirms this. (Ps. 8:4-8) Paul observes, however, that "we see not yet all things put under him [man]. But we do "see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."—Heb. 2:6-9

The death of Jesus as man's Redeemer opened the way for the restoration of mankind to life on earth as humans in what the Apostle Peter describes as "the times of restitution of all things, which," he declares, was "spoken by the mouth of all his [God's] holy prophets since the world began." (Acts 3:19-21) It is because of God's provision for the restoration of the human race to life on the earth that the earth, despite man's fall into sin and death, was not created in vain.

A Heavenly Hope

While mankind in general will be restored to life on earth, the Bible also holds out a heavenly hope for some; for those, that is, who follow faithfully in the footsteps of Jesus. But even this beautiful facet of the divine plan was distorted by Dark-Age theology—distorted into meaning that all who would ever be saved from torture would spend eternity in heaven. In the minds of many, “going to heaven” came to mean escape from hell-fire.

But how wonderful is the heavenly hope set forth in the Word of God, and how reasonable! Christians are invited to suffer and to die with Jesus that they might live and reign with him in his thousand-year kingdom, through and by which “all the families of the earth” are to be blessed. (Gen. 12:3; Gal. 3:8, 27-29, II Tim. 2:11, 12; Rev. 20:4, 6) Jesus said to his disciples, “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”—John 14:2, 3

Yes, there will be a few of earth’s millions exalted in the resurrection to live and reign with Christ, but this is not in order that they might escape the torments of a Dark-Age hell, but that they might participate with Jesus in the glorious work of his kingdom. Speaking of Jesus’ kingdom reign, Paul wrote that it would continue until all enemies were subdued, and that the last enemy to be destroyed is Death.—I Cor. 15:25, 26

Paul further wrote, “But when he saith all things are put under him [Christ], it is manifest that he [God] is excepted, which did put all things under him [Christ]. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.” (I Cor. 15:27, 28) Yes, the true God of the Bible is a living God. And when his great plan of salvation shall have been completed, he will continue to live, and as Paul says, be “all in all” to his restored and happy creation here on earth. Truly we can say, “Great and marvelous are thy ways, Lord God Almighty!”

THE BIBLE ANSWERS TV SCHEDULE

ALABAMA

Florence	WOWL-TV	Channel 15
Sundays,	9:30 a.m.	
Montgomery	WKAB-TV	Channel 32
Sundays,	12:00 p.m.	
Selma	WLSA-TV	Channel 8
Sundays,	3:30 p.m.	

ARKANSAS

El Dorado	KTVE-TV	Channel 10
Sundays,	7:30 a.m.	
Little Rock	KTHV-TV	Channel 11
Sundays,	11:00 a.m.	

CALIFORNIA

Bakersfield	KLYD-TV	Channel 17
Sundays,	1:00 p.m.	
Fresno	KMJ-TV	Channel 24
Sundays,	10:00 a.m.	
Los Angeles	KTTV	Channel 11
Sundays,	7:00 a.m.	
San Diego	KFMB-TV	Channel 8
Sundays,	(Time to be announced.)	
San Jose	KNTV-TV	Channel 11
Sundays,	7:30 a.m.	

CONNECTICUT

Hartford	WHCT-TV	Channel 18
Sundays,	4:30 p.m.	
Waterbury	WATR-TV	Channel 20
Sundays,	2:00 p.m.	

FLORIDA

Orlando	WESH-TV	Channel 2
Sundays,	12:00 noon	
St. Petersburg	WSUN-TV	Channel 38
Sundays,	9:00 a.m.	

IDAHO

Idaho Falls	KIFI-TV	Channel 8
Sundays,	10:00 a.m.	

ILLINOIS

Moline	WQAD-TV	
Sundays,	(Time to be announced.)	

IOWA

Ottumwa	KTVO-TV	
	(Time to be announced.)	

KANSAS

Salina	KSLN-TV	
Sundays,	12:30 p.m.	

LOUISIANA

Monroe	KTVE-TV	
Sundays,	7:00 a.m.	

MAINE

Portland	WCSH-TV	Channel 6
Sundays,	9:00 a.m.	

MASSACHUSETTS

Springfield	WHYN-TV	Channel 40
Sundays,	8:30 a.m.	

MICHIGAN

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MINNESOTA

Alexandria	KCMT-TV	Channel 7
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MISSISSIPPI

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MONTANA

Billings	KULR-TV	
Sundays,	10:30 a.m.	

NEBRASKA

Omaha	WOW-TV	Channel 6
Sundays,	11:00 a.m.	

NEW MEXICO

Carlsbad	KAVE-TV	Channel 6
(Time and day to be announced.)		
Farmington	CATV-TV	
Sundays,	2:00 p.m.	
Roswell	KSW5-TV	Channel 8
Sundays,	9:30 a.m.	

NEW YORK

Binghamton	WBJA-TV	Channel 34
Sundays,	10:30 a.m.	
Binghamton	WNBF-TV	Channel 12
Sundays,	8:00 a.m.	

OHIO

Cambridge	WHIZ-TV	Channel 80
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Columbus	WBNS-TV	Channel 10
Mondays,	6:00 a.m.	

TV BROADCAST

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Sundays,	9:30 a.m.		Sundays,	3:15 p.m.	
Zanesville	WHIZ-TV	Channel 18	Temple	KCEN-TV	Channel 6
Sundays,	9:30 a.m.		Sundays,	11:00 a.m.	
OKLAHOMA			UTAH		
Tulsa	KVOO-TV	Channel 2	Salt Lake City	KUTV	Channel 2
Sundays,	8:30 a.m.		Sundays,	10:00 a.m.	
PENNSYLVANIA			VIRGINIA		
Williamsport	CATV-TV		Norfolk	WHRO-TV	Channel 15
Mondays,	(Time to be announced.)		Tuesdays,	8:30 p.m.	
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Sundays,	12:00 p.m.		Sundays,	1:00 p.m.	
Greenville	WFBC-TV	Channel 4	Huntington	WHTN-TV	Channel 13
Tuesdays,	(Time to be announced.)		Sundays,	8:00 a.m.	
SOUTH DAKOTA			Parkersburg	WTAP-TV	Channel 15
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Sundays,	(Time and channel to be announced.)		WISCONSIN		
TEXAS			Green Bay	WFRV-TV	Channel 5
Amarillo	KVII-TV	Channel	Sundays,	8:15 a.m.	
Sundays,	(Time to be announced.)		CANADA		
Big Spring	KWAB-TV	Channel 4	Dawson Creek,	B. C. CJDC-TV	
Sundays,	10:30 a.m.		Wednesdays,	(Time to be announced.)	
El Paso	KTSM-TV	Channel 9	Montreal, Que.	CBMT-TV	
Sundays,	10:30 a.m.		Sundays,	(Time to be announced.)	
Fort Worth	KTVT-TV	Channel 11	Verdun, Que.	Cable TV Limited	
Sundays,	10:30 a.m.		Sundays,	10:30 a.m.	
Odessa	KOSA-TV	Channel 7	PUERTO RICO		
Sundays,	10:00 a.m.		Ponce	WRIK-TV	Channel 7
			Sundays,	5:00 p.m.	

SPANISH RADIO BROADCASTS

SUNDAYS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

PARAGUAY

Asuncion
Z. P. 9 Comuneros 970 kc. 10:15 a.m.

PERU

Lima Radio America 7:00 p.m.

URUGUAY

Montevideo Radio Carve
Saturdays, 4:30 p.m.

ARIZONA

Phoenix KIFN 860
Saturdays, 1:45 p.m.

CALIFORNIA

San Diego XERB 1090 9:00 p.m.

FLORIDA

Miami WMIE 6:45 a.m.
Tampa WSOL 1300
Saturdays, 5:00 p.m.

TEXAS

Brownsville, XEO 970 8:15 a.m.
McAllen XEOR 1390 10:30 a.m.
San Antonio KUBO 1310 7:45 a.m.

Frank and Ernest

BROADCAST SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

ALABAMA

Decatur WMSL 1400 12:15 p.m.
Haleyville WJBB 1230 12:00 p.m.

ARIZONA

Phoenix KUEQ 740 8:30 a.m.

ARKANSAS

Jonesboro KBTM 1230 12:05 p.m.

CALIFORNIA

Chico KPAY 1060 10:35 a.m.
El Centro KICO 1490 10:30 a.m.
Los Angeles KBIG 740 10:00 a.m.
Napa KVON 1440 10:35 a.m.
Redding KVCV 600 7:45 a.m.
Sacramento KGMS 1380 8:30 a.m.
San Diego XERB 1090 9:45 a.m.
San Francisco KSAY 1010 9:45 a.m.
Tulare-Visalia KCOK 1270 10:35 a.m.

COLORADO

Fort Collins KZIX 600 10:05 a.m.
Pueblo KDZA 1230 10:05 a.m.

DELAWARE

Wilmington WTUX 1290 10:15 a.m.

FLORIDA

Palatka WSUZ 800 11:05 a.m.
Tampa WFLA 970 9:30 a.m.

IDAHO

Lewiston KRLC 1350 9:35 a.m.
Montpelier KYSI 10:05 a.m.

ILLINOIS

Chicago WEAW 1330 10:00 a.m.
LaSalle WLPO 1220 9:45 a.m.
West Frankfort WFRX 1300 9:15 a.m.

INDIANA

Gary-Hammond WJOB 1230 8:30 a.m.
Indianapolis WIBC 1070 10:30 a.m.
Muncie WLBC 1340 8:45 a.m.
South Bend WJVA 1580 11:35 a.m.

IOWA

Clinton KROS 1340 7:15 p.m.

KANSAS

Goodland KLOE 730 7:45 a.m.

KENTUCKY

Bowling Green WLBJ 1410 12:05 p.m.
Louisville WAVE 970 8:15 a.m.
Newport WNOP 740 9:00 a.m.
Winchester WWKY 1380 10:30 a.m.

MAINE

Bongor WABI 910 12:00 noon

MASSACHUSETTS

Marlboro WSRO 1470 12:05 p.m.
New Bedford WBSM 1420 1:45 p.m.
Orange WCAT 1390 9:15 a.m.

MICHIGAN

Detroit CKLW 800 6:00 p.m.
Saginaw WSGW 790 10:30 a.m.

MINNESOTA

Duluth-Superior WAKX 1480 12:15 p.m.
Minneapolis KQRS 1440 12:30 p.m.

MISSISSIPPI

Biloxi WLOX 1490 10:05 a.m.
Waynesboro WABO 990 2:00 p.m.

MISSOURI

Joplin WMBH 1450 6:05 p.m.
Formington KREI 800 9:00 a.m.
Kansas City KCMO 810 9:35 a.m.
St. Louis KWK 1380 8:00 a.m.

MONTANA

Miles City KATL 1340 9:15 a.m.

NEBRASKA

Grand Island KRGI 1430 10:05 a.m.

NEW JERSEY

Newark WJRZ 970 9:30 a.m.

NEW MEXICO

Silver City KSIL 1340 10:05 a.m.

BROADCAST SCHEDULE

NEW YORK				Sherman-Dennison	KRRV	910	11:45	a.m.
Albany	WEEE	1300	9:00	Wichita Falls	KWFT	620	10:15	a.m.
Kingston	WBAZ	1550	9:45	UTAH				
New York	WJRZ	970	9:30	Brigham City	KBUH		12:05	p.m.
NORTH CAROLINA				Logan	KLGN		9:05	a.m.
Beaufort	WBMA	1400	9:00	Salt Lake City	KSOP	1370	9:30	a.m.
Belmont-Charlotte				VIRGINIA				
	WCGC	1270	12:30	Richmond	WLEE	1480	10:10	a.m.
Elizabeth City	WGAI	560	12:05	WASHINGTON				
Leaksville	WLOE	1490	12:05	Bellingham	KPUG	1170	11:15	a.m.
OHIO				Centralia-Chehalis	KELA	1470	10:35	a.m.
Akron-Canton	WHLO	640	7:45	Olympia	KGY	1240	10:35	a.m.
Cincinnati	WNOP	740	9:00	Seattle	KAYO	1150	9:45	a.m.
Columbus	WBNS	1460	10:05	Tacoma	KMO	1360	9:45	a.m.
Piqua	WPTW	1570	11:30	WEST VIRGINIA				
Zanesville	WHIZ	1240	11:45	Wheeling	WWVA	1170	9:30	a.m.
OKLAHOMA				WISCONSIN				
Oklahoma City	WNAD	640	8:10	Fond du Lac	KFIZ	1450	11:05	a.m.
OREGON				Milwaukee	WEMP	1250	8:45	a.m.
Astoria	KAST	1280	10:35	Niellsville	WCCN	1370	9:15	a.m.
Lebanon	KGAL	920	9:00	WYOMING				
Portland	KLIQ	1290	9:30	Cheyenne	KVVO	1370	10:05	a.m.
The Dalles	KODL	1440	9:15	Laramie	KLME	1490	9:05	a.m.
PENNSYLVANIA				VIRGIN ISLANDS				
Allentown	WHOL	1600	10:45	Christiansted	WIVI	970	9:00	a.m.
Conneilsville	WCVI	1340	12:05	CANADA				
Pittsburgh	WWVA	1170	9:30	Calgary, Alta.	CKXL	1140	9:00	p.m.
Pottstown	WPAZ	1370	8:30	Corner Brook, Nfld.	CFCB	570	10:30	a.m.
Scranton	WSCR	1320	10:00	Dauphin, Man.	CKDM	730	10:30	a.m.
Wilkes-Barre	WBRE	1340	9:00	Oshawa	CKLB	1350	9:45	a.m.
PUERTO RICO				Prince Albert, Sask.	CKBI	900	10:30	a.m.
Aguadilla (Fri.)	WGRF		8:00	Vancouver	KARI	550	10:30	a.m.
SOUTH DAKOTA				Winnipeg	CKY	580	7:15	p.m.
Yankton	KYNT	1450	11:05	ENGLAND				
TENNESSEE				Isle of Man 188m.	MANX			
Clinton	WYSH	1380	7:00				Fridays, 8:30	p.m.
TEXAS				NIGERIA				
Lubbock	KDAV	580	9:45	Enugu	ENBC		10:15	a.m.
Pampa	KPDN	1340	12:00					
San Antonio	KBOP	1380	7:15					

RADIO TOPICS FOR FEBRUARY

6—"The World's Judgment Day"
13—"The Penalty for Sin"

20—"Are The Dead Alive?"
27—"The Seed of Blessing"

LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 6

God Is Living Spirit

MEMORY VERSE: "Hereby know we that we dwell in Him, and He in us, because He hath given us of His Spirit."—1 John 4:13

JOHN 16:7-11

ACTS 2:1-4

ROMANS 8:9-14

JESUS said that "God is a Spirit," meaning that he is a spirit being, not a man. (John 4:24) However, when the Bible speaks of the "Holy Spirit" the reference is not to the Heavenly Father as a person but to his holy power and influence. Our Common Version English translation of the Scriptures frequently uses the personal pronouns "he," "his," and "him" when speaking of the Holy Spirit. This conveys the false impression that the Holy Spirit is a person, which it is not. The Greek text justifies the use of the "it," which is in keeping with the general teachings of the Bible relative to the Holy Spirit.

The Common Version translation also frequently uses the word "ghost" instead of Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not a holy ghost. This erroneous translation also attaches the thought of personality to the Holy Spirit, but the Greek text does not warrant such a translation.

Throughout the Old Testament there are frequent references to the Spirit, referring to the Holy Spirit when related to God, the first one being in Genesis, chapter 1, where we are told that "the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" in connection with the work of creation. With the coming of Christ God used his holy power to enlighten, comfort, and guide his special people, the church. With the coming of Christ God also used his power to beget his dedicated people to a new, spiritual life.

Jesus had received the Holy Spirit for these purposes, and in our lesson he promised that when he would return to his Heavenly Father he would send the Holy Spirit to his followers as a comforter and guide. The Scriptures show that these like Jesus, are begotten of the Holy Spirit, and in the resurrection are born of the Spirit to glory, honor, and immortality.—John 14:16, 17, 26; 15:16, 17; 16:13; Rom. 2:7

There is a close relationship in

Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit, as recorded in today's lesson, and the fulfilment of that promise, the record of which is also a part of our lesson. Instead of the word "reprove," the marginal translation uses the word "convince" in the statement that the Holy Spirit would "convince the world of sin." The Emphatic Diaglott translates it, "will convict." In this ministry of the Holy Spirit it operates through the Lord's consecrated people; and under the power of the Spirit, through Peter's preaching on the Day of Pentecost, three thousand souls were convicted, or convinced that they were sinners, and asked what they should do about it.—Acts 2:37, 38, 41

Through the Lord's devoted people the Holy Spirit also is a reproving influence to sinners to the extent that they come into contact with it, but this is an incidental ministry of the Spirit, through believers. Its main accomplishment is to bring men and women to repentance and consecration, and to assure them that the righteousness of Christ is available to cover their unwilling imperfections because he ascended to the Father and appeared in his presence on our behalf.—Heb. 9:24

In order that God's message of salvation through Christ might reach the largest possible number at Pentecost and later, the Holy Spirit enabled the apostles to speak in languages with which they were not ordinarily familiar.

This was a marvelous demonstration of God's power, and was directly related to the ministry of the Gospel at that time. The need for this type of ministry has long since ceased.

Perhaps even more marvelous is the power of the Holy Spirit in the hearts and lives of God's people, as mentioned by Paul in Romans 8:9-14. And in our memory verse John explains that we are assured of God's presence with us—that we are dwelling "in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit."

And God does give his Spirit to his children! Jesus assured us of this when he said God is more willing to give us the Holy Spirit than earthly fathers are to give "good gifts" unto their children. Surely the blessings derived through the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives are manifold and rich. (Matt. 7:11; Luke 11:13) God through the Apostle Paul, tells us to be "filled with the Spirit."—Eph. 5:18

QUESTIONS:

What is the Holy Spirit?

How has it served God's people during the Gospel Age?

How does the Holy Spirit convict of sin? Give one example.

What does the Holy Spirit accomplish in the hearts of God's people?

Does God want his people to be filled with his Spirit?

Man Is a Person

MEMORY VERSE: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."—
Genesis 1:27

GENESIS 1:26, 27

MATTHEW 12:9-14

HEBREWS 2:5-9

ON THE earth God's creative work came to its crowning glory in the creation of man. Only of man is it said that he was made in God's own image. Of course, this likeness is not in outward appearance, but in the fact that man has intelligence, is able to make rational choices, and is capable of making moral distinctions. Since man is the creation of God, and not a product of evolution, no one can properly think lightly of his own life, or hold the life of another cheaply or in contempt.

In healing a man on the sabbath day who had a withered hand, Jesus demonstrated that a man is of more importance than a lower animal or a beast. The Pharisees appeared to acknowledge that to rescue a sheep from a pit on the sabbath day would not be breaking the sabbath, and Jesus simply demonstrated to them that healing a man was in the same category of doing good, and therefore lawful.

But the Pharisees, in their prejudice and blindness, could not see it, and tried to find a way to destroy the Master.

Man, created in the image of God, was also given a dominion. David explains this, saying concerning man, "Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: all sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; the fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas."—
Ps. 8:4-8

Paul quotes from this passage in Hebrews 2:5-9, and explains that we do not yet see all things put under man. The reason for this is that man transgressed divine law and thereby forfeited his dominion over the earth, and lost also the privilege of continuing to live. He was forewarned that if he disobeyed he would die.

But David raises the question, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?" (Ps. 8:4) Even though man transgressed divine law, the

Creator was still mindful of him, and in his love provided a means of escape from death, and a means also whereby he could re-inherit his lost dominion. That provision was Christ—"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

Thus it is that when Paul observed, "We see not yet all things put under" man, he added, "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."—Heb. 2:9

Note how Paul emphasizes that Jesus in his first visit to earth was made "a little lower than the angels," even as Adam was thus created. This meant that his death was a corresponding price for Adam. Paul uses the word "ransom," explaining that Jesus gave himself "a ransom for all, to be testified [made known] in due time."—I Tim. 2:3-5

And so it is, as explained by Paul, that at the present time we do not see all things put under man. Instead, we see him to be a dying creature, not capable of properly ruling himself. We do see, however, a preparation for his restoration to his original status in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. God's original plan that man

should be king of earth, and live forever as a perfect human still stands, and while man lost his dominion and his life, through Christ he is to experience restoration or as Peter stated it, "restitution."—Acts 3:19-21

This thought is further emphasized in Jesus' parable of "The Sheep and the Goats." In this parable those who qualify for life during the world's future thousand-year day of judgment are represented as "sheep." (Acts 17:30, 31) To these symbolic sheep the invitation is extended, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." (Matt. 25:33, 34) This means that the time will come when we will see all things put under man, for the love of God through Christ will have expressed itself in the redemption and restoration of that which was lost, life and dominion.

QUESTIONS

In what sense was man created in the image of God?

How did Jesus emphasize the importance of human health and life?

Quote David's explanation of man's original dominion.

Explain the relationship of Jesus to man's redemption and restoration to life and dominion.



Man Is a Sinner

MEMORY VERSE: "If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared."—Psalm 130:3,4

MARK 7:20-23

ROMANS 1:18-21

I JOHN 1:5-10

MAN was created perfect, and in the image of God. He was not created a sinner, but was created with the capability of making a choice, and he chose to disobey his Creator's law, and disobedience to God is sin. Thus the first man, Adam, became a sinner, and his children were born imperfect and prone to sin. Paul wrote that by the disobedience of one, many became sinners, and these "many" are, in fact, all the descendants of Adam, the entire human race.—Rom. 5:18, 19

The Pharisees of Jesus' day were extremely careful concerning what they ate, and made sure that their dishes and hands were ceremonially clean before they ate, lest their bodies become defiled. But Jesus explained that it was not what went into the body as food and drink that caused defilement in the sight of God, but that which was

already in the heart, and finds expression through wicked words and deeds. This indicates that any cleansing we might be able to accomplish in ourselves must begin with the heart.

Paul wrote that "the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness." (Rom. 1:18) "The wages of sin is death," so the reign of sin and death is a manifestation of God's wrath against the human race; that is, all those "who hold the truth in unrighteousness." (Rom. 6:23) Adam was given the truth concerning the will of God with respect to the forbidden fruit, but he did not "hold" or obey, that truth. Instead he disobeyed.

The vast majority of the human family have made little effort to turn their backs upon unrighteousness and seek to know and do God's will. Paul wrote, "When they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but

became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." Paul indicates that the existence and power of God are revealed by the things which are made by him, his works of creation. But even this manifestation of power and glory has gone unheeded by most people.

However, there have been a few in every age who have striven earnestly to stem the tide of sin which has engulfed the world, and to serve God in a true spirit of holiness. During the present Gospel Age, these have been the faithful footsteps followers of the Master. Like the remainder of the world of mankind, these are sinful by nature, being members of the sin-cursed and dying race. But they have been attracted by the Gospel of Christ, and, through its power have been drawn to the Lord and given the desire to serve him.

These faithful ones at heart, however, could not serve God acceptably except that he has provided a robe of righteousness for them. This is Christ's righteousness, (Isa. 61:10) and in his righteousness his followers have a standing before God and are acceptable to him. But by nature they are still blemished by sin, and if these should get the idea that they can live without sin, then they are deceiving themselves.

Our memory verse is a blessed assurance of God's forgiveness.

How thankful we should be that God does not take all our iniquities into account in dealing with us. If he did so, as the text states, we would not be able to stand approved before him, but would surely be condemned. It is because he has provided for us the robe of Christ's righteousness that we can have the assurance of his forgiveness and continued favor and blessing.

We are thankful, also, that, in God's due time, the whole dead world of mankind will be given a standing before him. This also will be because of Christ's shed blood, for he is a propitiation not for our sins only, "but also for the sins of the whole world." (I John 1:7; 2:2) During the thousand-year judgment day the world will be given its opportunity, through obedience to the things written in the opened "books," to return to God, and in this position of favor will be enlightened concerning the will of God.—Rev. 20:12

QUESTIONS:

When did man become a sinner?

Have there been any throughout the ages who have resisted sin?

At the present time, how are these acceptable to God?

Will mankind in general ever have an opportunity to return to God?

—oOo—

Man Redeemed

MEMORY VERSE: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."—Romans 5:8

ROMANS 8:1-4

1 PETER 1:18-21

EPHESIANS 2:4-10

REDEMPTION has been provided for all mankind, but the only ones who as yet have benefited from this provision are those who have accepted Jesus as their personal Savior, and have devoted their lives to taking up their cross and following him. (Matt. 16:24) This acceptance of Jesus has resulted from their hearing the Gospel as it has been proclaimed by his true followers. We are thankful, however, that the time is coming when all mankind will receive a full knowledge of God's gift of love, and thus will have an opportunity of accepting Jesus, obeying the laws of his kingdom, and living forever.—1 Tim. 2:3-6

Our salvation from sin and death at the present time is upon the basis of faith. Those who come into Christ through consecration to do the Heavenly Father's will, are no longer under condemnation to death through Adam. True, they die as do others, but this is because they are laying down their lives in

sacrificial service. This service is made acceptable to God through the merit of the Redeemer's shed blood.—Rom. 12:1

Peter explains that our redemption from death was by "the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world." (1 Pet. 1:19, 20) Blood is a symbol of life, and Jesus gave his human life in sacrifice in order to provide redemption for both the church and the world. This was indeed a precious, or costly gift, one for which every Christian should be truly thankful.

Peter explains further that this sacrifice of life to provide redemption was "foreordained before the foundation of the world." (vs 20) While the Creator did not coerce our first parents into transgressing his law, his infinite wisdom and foreknowledge enabled him to know in advance that they would disobey him, so he made provision in advance for their redemption. Indeed, the whole plan of God for human redemption and deliverance was designed by God in advance of

the time it was needed.—Acts 15:18

The only way our limited minds can know details of future events is to be able to control what happens. But God is not thus limited. He allowed man to exercise his own free will, yet he knew intuitively that man's decision would be to disobey divine law. Throughout the ages since man's fall, God's plan for his recovery from sin and death has progressed slowly and uninterruptedly. During this Gospel Age he has been selecting from mankind those who will live and reign with Christ in the thousand-year messianic kingdom.—Rev. 20:6 These are the ones spoken of by Paul as sitting together with Christ in "heavenly places" in Christ Jesus. They occupy this high position of grace and honor now upon the basis of faith. These are being prepared, as Paul indicates, to show forth the "exceeding riches" of God's grace "in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus" during the "ages to come." The first of these "ages to come" will be the Millennium. Together with Jesus, his true followers will be God's instruments in restoring mankind to life during that age—the age spoken of by Peter as "the times of restitution of all things."—Acts 3:19-21

Not only did God make the provision of redemption through Christ in advance, but he began to carry out that feature of his plan

while sin and death were still reigning in the earth, or, as Paul states it in our memory verse, "while we were yet sinners." Truly this is a marvelous manifestation of divine love! It reveals that God desired the return of his fallen human creatures even though they were not yet aware of his love for them.

It is through God's grace that we are saved; the grace that is manifested toward us through Christ, who is the "gift of God." (John 3:16; Tom. 6:23; II Cor. 9:15) It is upon the basis of faith that we accept this gift, a faith that is demonstrated by the presentation of ourselves to do God's will, and his will during the present age is to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Should we not in the spirit of true thanksgiving, show our appreciation of God's love by thus dedicating ourselves to the doing of his will?

QUESTIONS

For whom has redemption been made through Christ?

Of what is the blood of Christ a symbol?

Can God exercise foreknowledge without coercion?

What is the first age in "the ages to come"?

Upon what basis do we accept God's gift of life?

THE CREATOR'S GRAND DESIGN

Article II

The Creator Reveals Himself

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handywork."—Psalm 19:1

MANY great scientists of modern times have openly stated their belief in the existence of a supreme, intelligent Creator, among them Dr. Albert Einstein. A. Creassey Morrison, in the book, "Man Does Not Stand Alone," says, "By unwavering mathematical law we can prove that our universe was designed and executed by a great engineering Intelligence." Prof. Louis Pasteur, the noted French chemist, testified that he prayed while he worked.

Throughout all the centuries the wise and the learned have endeavored to pry into the secrets of creation and explain how the great universe came into existence. While these have discovered many of the laws which govern nature, and are able up to a point, to utilize this knowledge, they cannot explain how, out of nothing, there came into existence countless billions of planetary systems, and myriads of forms of life—plant and animal— and why law and order are so unmistakably displayed in these creations. Happy are they who, by faith, based on reason, are able to accept the plain testimony found in the first verse of the Bible, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."—Gen. 1:1

Yes, there is a God! All nature testifies to this. This testimony is everywhere displayed throughout the earth, in the air, the

seas, the skies. The Creator himself calls attention to this in a revealing dialogue with the Prophet Job, as recorded in chapters 38 through 41 of the Book of Job. Job was a faithful servant of God, the God who, in the beginning, created the heavens (Gen. 2:1) and the earth; but the Creator permitted calamities to come upon him. He lost almost everything in life which contributes to happiness, including his health. Job's friends insisted that he was being punished for gross sins which he had secretly committed. Job denied this, yet was unable to understand why his God was allowing him to suffer.

This controversy between Job and his friends continues throughout many chapters of the book. Then, as the record states, "The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me [margin, Heb. **make me know**]." (vss. 1-3) The long series of questions which God asks Job brings out the many points which, because human wisdom does not know the answers, should help even the most skeptical to realize the truthfulness of David's words, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God."—Ps. 14:1

"Where wast thou," God asked Job, "when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations [margin, Heb. **sockets**.] thereof fastened [margin, Heb. **made to sink**]? or who laid the cornerstone thereof; when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" (vss. 4-7) Job was a wise man, He knew that everything made by man required planning and skill. This was true of buildings. In our day it is true of intricate machinery, of television, jet planes, and other modern marvels. These things do not just happen.

The earth, the home of all mankind, had been created without Job or other men having anything to do with it. Job was not present when the "foundations" were laid. He had no part in the

architectural design and measurements. Nevertheless, he knew that it existed. This marvelous display of wisdom and design should help us, as doubtless it did Job, to realize that there must have been a divine Architect and Builder with intelligence and power far superior to that possessed by man.

Then the Lord reminded Job of some of the details connected with the creation of the earth. He asked, "Who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it, . . . and set bars and doors, and said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?"

Marvels of the Sea

How seldom we think of the miracle-working power of God in connection with the ebb and flow of the ocean's tides. Oh yes, we know how to "explain" it. The tides, we say, are controlled largely by the gravitational "pull" of the moon. But what does that mean? What is gravitation? Sir Isaac Newton discovered the law of gravitation, but who framed that law, and implemented it? There are times when locally the winds increase the height of the tides a number of feet, and those living near the shore have temporarily to seek higher ground; but seldom do men and women realize that ordinarily they can dwell safely by the sea only because God has decreed, "Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed."—vs. 11

Next Job was asked: "Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place?" (vs. 12) Seemingly Job was a prominent man in his community, and one who exercised considerable authority, but he had no control over the rising of the sun. "Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days?" No, of course not! Job knew that from the earliest days of his recollection the sun had risen and set without his having anything to do with it. He realized also that this was true of the generations before him. He knew that at no time had man ever had any control over the movements of the

sun, the moon, the stars, or the earth. This was far beyond the ability of man. This was the work of God.

The Gates of Death

“Have the gates of death been opened unto thee?” Job was asked, “or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death?” (vs. 17) Men and women of all ages have endeavored to peer beyond death, to know what lies beyond the grave. Apart from the revelation given to us in the Word of God, which assures us of a resurrection of the dead, no one has obtained any satisfactory information. Just as the mystery of the creation is explainable only in the light of the fact that there is a supreme intelligent Creator, so the desire for life after death becomes a genuine hope only because the One who created life has promised to restore the dead to life. The various incidents recorded in the Bible of the awakening of certain ones from the sleep of death are therefore proofs of the existence of God, the God who created “the heavens and the earth.”—Gen. 2:1

Further Questions

Here is another intriguing question: “Where is the way where light dwelleth? and as for darkness, where is the place thereof, that thou shouldest take it to the bound thereof, and that thou shouldest know the paths to the house thereof? Knowest thou it, because thou wast then born? or because the number of thy days is great?” (vss. 19-21) What is light, what is darkness? The light of day replaces the darkness of night, but where does the one go when the other takes its place? God asked Job if he knew the dwelling place of light, just where it stayed while its place was occupied by darkness. A foolish question? By no means! With all our modern scientific knowledge, no one has yet been able to give an adequate definition of light, or of darkness. Like electricity, which we know exists, but cannot clearly define, so are light and darkness inexplicable. But God knows, for he created both the darkness and the light. It was God who said, “Let there be light: and there was light.”—Gen. 1:3

The Lord continued to question Job, asking him about a num-

ber of things described by unbelievers as the works of nature, things which, to those who believe in God, are frequently overlooked as proofs of his existence. We quote, "Who hath divided a watercourse for the overflowing of waters, or a way for the lightning of thunder; to cause it to rain on the earth, where no man is; on the wilderness, wherein there is no man; to satisfy the desolate and waste ground; and to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring forth? Hath the rain a father? or who hath begotten the drops of dew? Out of whose womb came the ice? and the hoary frost of heaven, who hath gendered it?"—vss. 25-29

The obvious answer to all these questions is that there must be a supreme, intelligent Creator who designed and created water, and who also planned the means by which it would reach the ground and give life to vegetation. Most of us have witnessed with pleasure the revival of plants, or of grass, when water is provided; but do we realize that the process which accomplishes this is miraculous, made possible because all the elements involved were designed and made by God, who in the beginning created the heavens and the earth?

And how marvelous is the arrangement by which the water created by God reaches the "dry places." (Ps. 105:41) As we know, it is by the evaporation of the water of oceans and lakes, the moisture ascending to form clouds which are distributed over the land, and which, by changes of temperature in the air currents, are caused to release their refreshing waters in the form of rain and snow. Reaching the earth, the water finds its way back into the oceans and lakes to continue the marvelous cycle. Scientific instruments of today tell us how all this happens, but the real power, or forces, which contribute to make it possible are still unexplainable.

The Heavenly Bodies

Shifting the focus of his questions from purely mundane things to heavenly bodies, God asked Job, "Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons? Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven?

canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth?"—vss. 31-33

The lesson implied in these questions is more striking today than it was to Job. Job was a wise man for his time, but the knowledge of astronomy had not advanced in his day to the degree now enjoyed. Calculations now made possible by powerful telescopes have revealed the minute accuracy of time and distance involved in the movement of the heavenly bodies, giving evidence that they are held in their orbits, and at constant speeds, by the power and design of a supreme Intelligence inexplicable by man.

Without going into detail as to the particular references to Pleiades, Orion, Mazzaroth, and Arcturus, the main point of the lesson is that neither Job nor we can possibly change the course of a single planet, sun, or star. Nor do we understand the governing forces which control "the ordinances of heaven," nor the manner in which their influences are felt in the earth. But God knows, for he created both "the heavens and the earth," and designed their relationship to each other.

In God's Image

One of the most difficult questions which God asked Job was, "Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart?" (vs. 36) The lower animal creations are governed largely by what we call instinct. From the time of their birth they seem naturally to follow a certain pattern, and while many of them can be trained to obey to a certain degree the directives of their human masters, there is no evidence that they really understand why. Certainly, as implied in the question asked Job, the lower animals do not possess a "heart" knowledge, or mental appreciation of their existence, or of their course of action.

But with man it is different. He is able to reason, at least to a limited degree, from the known to the unknown. He knows that some things are right and other things are wrong. He has a conscience which is pricked when he does wrong, and affords peace and contentment of mind when he does right. Many have

advanced theories concerning the alleged ascent of man from protoplasm to his present state. They have attempted to explain what has brought about the various changes in the anatomy of animals in the evolutionary process which has led to man; but no one has even attempted to answer the question put to Job, "Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts?" of man, "or who hath given understanding to the heart?"

There is only one answer to this question. It is God's answer, recorded in his own inspired Word for our instruction and encouragement. It is found in the very first chapter of the Bible, verses 27 and 28. Here we are informed that man, as constituted, is far superior to even the highest forms of lower animals, capable of reasoning, of planning, of inventing, of knowing right from wrong, because he was created "in the image of God." When the evolutionists find a reasonable, valid, provable explanation of how this difference between man and his alleged nearest of kin among the brute creation came about, they will be a little more worthy of being given a serious hearing than at present.

Instincts Display Creative Wisdom

Throughout chapter 39 of the Book of Job a number of other questions are recorded, the answers to which must also be negative so far as human wisdom is concerned. These questions pertain to the marvelous instincts displayed by various animals and birds. The chapter begins with these questions: "Knowest thou the time when the wild goats of the rock bring forth? or canst thou mark when the hinds do calve? Canst thou number the months that they fulfil? or knowest thou the time when they bring forth? They bow themselves, they bring forth their young ones, they cast out their sorrows. Their young ones are in good liking, they grow up with corn; they go forth, and return not unto them."—vss. 1-4

Then the Lord called attention to the different characteristics of other animals—"Who hath sent out the wild ass free? or who hath loosed the bands of the wild ass? Whose house I have made

the wilderness, and the barren land [margin, Heb. **salt places**] his dwellings. He scorneth the multitude of the city, neither regardeth he the crying of the driver [margin, Heb. **of the ex-actor**]. The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searcheth after every green thing.”—vss. 5-8

Again: “Will the unicorn be willing to serve thee, or abide by the crib? Canst thou bind the unicorn [wild ox] with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee? Wilt thou trust him because his strength is great or wilt thou leave thy labor to him? Wilt thou believe him, that he will bring home thy seed, and gather it into thy barn?” (vss. 9-12) There are what we speak of as domestic animals which, with little effort, can be trained to serve man. But here God called Job’s attention to other varieties of animals which are wild and refuse to submit to human training. Who is responsible for these differences?

Neither Job nor we are wise enough to understand the creative processes which brought about the almost endless varieties of creation. There is a poem by Joyce Kilmer entitled, “Trees,” which states that “only God can make a tree,” and this fact is even more striking when we consider the thousands of varieties of trees, plants, and flowers, as well as the great variety found in the animal kingdom. Only a supreme, intelligent Creator could produce this endless array of created things, with each in its own wonderful way displaying the wisdom and power of its Creator.

Additional Questions

Indicating that Job did not yet realize how little he understood of the wisdom and power of the Creator, further questions were asked him. “Gavest thou the goodly wings unto the peacocks? or wings and feathers [margin, or, **the feathers of the stork and ostrich**] unto the ostrich?” the Lord inquired. (vs. 13) All birds have feathers and wings, but how vastly different they are. The peacock is noted for the beauty of its plumage, hence it is used as a contrasting example with the ostrich, which is rather plain in appearance. What made the difference between

the two? The fortuitousness of evolution? Nay, the wisdom and power of the Creator!

In most cases the birds and lower animals instinctively exercise great care over their young. The birds even watch over and nest on the eggs from which their offspring are hatched. If this maternal instinct of the lower creations was the product of evolution, reason tells us that there would be no exceptions, for the same influences would have governed the evolutionary processes of all. But there are exceptions, and in questioning Job the Creator called attention to one. Referring to what the translators call an ostrich, the Lord said, "Which leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in dust [instead of sitting on them], and forgetteth that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them. She is hardened against her young ones, as though they were not hers: her labor is in vain without fear; because God hath deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding. What time she lifteth up herself on high, she scorneth the horse and his rider."—vss. 14-18

Evolutionists would be at a loss to explain why this mother bird takes no interest in her young. God's explanation alone reveals the reason for this paradox of nature, that explanation being that he "hath deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding." But he did give the "ostrich" swiftness and strength so that "she scorneth the horse and his rider." If we remove God from the creation, we would here have another unanswered question.

Instinct or Endowment

In the closing verses of chapter 39 another convincing thought is brought to our attention. Job is asked, "Doth the hawk fly by thy wisdom, and stretch her wings toward the south? Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest on high? She dwelleth and abideth on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, and the strong place. From thence she seeketh the prey, and her eyes behold afar off. Her young ones also suck up blood: and where the slain are, there is she."—vss. 26-30

In calling our attention to the habits of the hawk and the eagle, the Lord reminds us again of the numberless peculiarities which exist in the life habits of the bird and animal kingdoms. There are the migratory birds which move from north to south and from south to north with the changing seasons. There are the swimming birds, and the singing birds; the screech owls and talking parrots; the gorgeously handsome birds, and the drab, colorless birds.

But why stop with the birds? The same variety exists among the land animals, the trees and the flowers, and the insects. There is only one thing common to them all, which is that they have life—either animate or inanimate. Unbelieving human wisdom, in its folly, contends that all these myriad forms of plant and animal life just happened to develop as they did; but no one has ever been able to explain how they live. The origin of life is unknown, apart from the explanation given to us in the Scriptures that “in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

Accepting this fact, as the many otherwise unanswerable questions asked Job impel us to do, then we know the answer to them all. And the answer is simple, which is that the infinite wisdom and almighty power of a personal God and Creator is responsible for the awe-inspiring works of creation which are so marvelously displayed in the heavens, on the earth, and in the sea.

And Job also reached the conclusion that the only answer to all the mysteries of creation is that they are the work of an intelligent Creator. For Job, this was also the answer to the problem of human suffering. How could he question the wisdom of the great Creator in permitting him to suffer for a while? Surely the infinite wisdom displayed in all the creative works of God knew what was best for him. Should we not all reach that conclusion, and especially so if we would know the meaning of our existence, and be inspired with hope as we contemplate the eternal destiny which the Creator has designed for his human creation?

Job said to God, "I know that thou canst do everything." (chap. 42:2) If we know this, then we have a foundation of faith upon which we can build a true knowledge of God and of his all-wise and loving design in man's creation. If we believe that he can do everything, no explanation of his plans and purposes which he has given in his Word will be disbelieved; no instructions will go unheeded or disobeyed; and no promise he has made, regardless of how far-reaching, or seemingly impossible of accomplishment, will be doubted.

The wisdom and power of God are wonderfully displayed in his created works with which we are surrounded. However, had we no further revelation of God than these, we would have many reasons to wonder about his justice and love. God reveals these attributes to us through his written Word, and in this revelation we also find many reassurances of his wisdom and power. Indeed, it is the revelation of his grand design for his human creation which we find in the Bible that stamps this marvelous Book as the Word of God, his revelation to his servants here on earth.



WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING TEXTS

FEBRUARY 3—"My Son, attend to My words; incline thine ear unto My sayings. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh."—Proverbs 4:20, 22 (Z. '96-180 Hymn 315)

FEBRUARY 10—"Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."—I Timothy 4:12 (Z. '95-251 Hymn 23)

FEBRUARY 17—"Take My yoke upon you, . . . for My yoke is easy,

and My burden is light."—Matthew 11:29, 30 (Z. '00-137 Hymn 279)

FEBRUARY 24—"For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."—Romans 8:3, 4 (Z. '02-248 Hymn 295)

God's Word in Our Lives

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."—Isaiah 55:8-11

THE power of words is well known, and it is well to recognize the manner in which the Word of God works in our lives as Christians, and the full degree to which the good pleasure of the Lord is thereby accomplished. Paul wrote, "The Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing assunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."—Heb. 4:12

The ancient people of God did not possess his complete Word as we enjoy it today, although the words of the Lord reached them in sufficient measure to accomplish his purpose. It was "at sundry times and in divers manners" that God spoke to his prophets, and much of what he said to them, or caused them to record, was not specially for their benefit but for ours upon whom the end of the age has come. (Heb. 1:1; I Cor. 10:11) Referring to the prophets, Peter wrote "that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the Gospel unto you with the Holy Spirit sent down from heaven."—I Pet. 1:12

Again Peter wrote, "The Word of the Lord endureth forever.

(Continued on page 34)

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Creation—Examines the Genesis account of Creation.

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DAWN PUBLICATIONS

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And this is the Word which by the Gospel is preached unto you." (I Pet. 1:25) The Word of God, then, is the Gospel message. Paul explains that the Gospel was preached to Abraham. It was the good news that through the seed of Abraham all the families of the earth are to be blessed. There are many ramifications of this good news; in fact so many that in the outworking of his plan God caused the prophets, the apostles, and our Lord Jesus to touch upon and emphasize its various facets.

It required many hundreds of years for the entire Word of God, or the Bible, as we call it today, to be provided for the Lord's people of the Gospel Age. In the Lord's providences all of his important utterances to his ancient people have been preserved and recorded. To the extent that historical events of the world, and especially of the Lord's people, are important to help us understand God's purposes, these also have been recorded.

Work of the Holy Spirit

While we speak of The Book of Isaiah, The Book of Daniel, or The Book of Matthew, actually God directed the writing of these portions of his Word, so to all intents and purposes they all can be said to be his books. He did this by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the holy power of God which he exercises in the accomplishment of any and all of his purposes. It is beyond our finite minds to understand just how the power of God guided the writings of the Old Testament prophets. It is not necessary that we understand this. However, it is important to know and to believe that when we read the Bible we are reading the thoughts of God as he has caused his various servants to record them.

Since the Old Testament writers did not understand much of what they wrote, we could properly say that the Holy Spirit directed their writings in a mechanical manner. The Holy Spirit also operated to assure the accuracy of the historical portions of the Bible. However, those ancient servants of God did appreciate

in part the messages they recorded for the benefit of spiritual Israel of the Gospel Age. David, for example, having been a shepherd, must have understood the lesson contained in those wonderful words, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."—Ps. 23:1

Beginning with the coming of Jesus, the ministry of the Holy Spirit as it pertained to the Word of God was one of revelation, rather than merely a mechanical operation. This is indicated in the Heavenly Father's dealings with his beloved Son Jesus. It was at the river Jordan, when Jesus was thirty years of age, that the Holy Spirit came upon him, and we are told that at that time "the heavens" were opened to him.—Matt. 3:16

This suggests a revealing to him of heavenly, or spiritual, things; the truths, that is, pertaining to the plans and purposes of his Heavenly Father. It was at this point in his life that Jesus presented himself in consecration to his Father, fulfilling the prophecy concerning him recorded by the Psalmist, which reads, "Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart." (Ps. 40:7, 8) This translation is not too clear. The thought seems to be that Jesus, in this prayer of dedication, said to his Father that he had come to do all that had been written of him in the volume of the book, that is, the Old Testament.

Having presented himself to the Heavenly Father, agreeing to do his will as foretold in the Old Testament Scriptures, the meaning of what had been written was then revealed to Jesus. This seems to be what is indicated by the "Heavens" being opened to him. This does not imply that instantly all the truths of the Old Testament were revealed to Jesus. It does mean that from then on, as he recalled the various things written by the prophets, he would understand them, and that they would serve to guide him as he laid down his life in sacrifice that the world might live.

To His Disciples

On every suitable occasion throughout the three and one-half

years of his ministry, Jesus presented to his disciples the great truths which had been revealed to him. But much of what he said was quite beyond their ability to understand, because they had not yet received the Holy Spirit. They even refused to believe that he would be arrested and put to death as he said he would be. This is particularly significant, for one of the important truths set forth in the Old Testament was that the Messiah would suffer and die for the sins of the people. It shows that the disciples understood these truths little better than those who recorded them, until they received the Holy Spirit.

Jesus realized the difficulties his disciples had in understanding his teachings, and on the night before he was crucified he said to them, "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you."—John 16:12-14

Earlier, in another promise of the Holy Spirit, Jesus explained that it would teach the disciples all things, and bring "all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14:26) While it was true that the disciples did not understand much of what Jesus said to them, these truths were, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, later remembered, and their meaning grasped. Thus Jesus prepared the minds of his disciples for the subsequent revelation to them of the plans and purposes of God.

Pentecost

It was at Pentecost that Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit was fulfilled on behalf of his disciples. And what a wonderful change that made in their ability to understand the divine plan! We recall the zealous manner in which Peter opposed the idea of Jesus' being put to death. To him this would be completely out of harmony with God's will for the Master. He believed that Jesus was the Messiah, and how could a dead Messiah accomplish all

the wonderful things which had been foretold in the Old Testament concerning him?

But with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Peter saw things differently. In his pentecostal sermon, asserting that Jesus had been raised from the dead, Peter quoted one of the prophecies relating to both the death and resurrection of the Lord. (Acts 2:24-28) This and other prophecies of Jesus' death had always been in the Old Testament, but Peter had been blind to their meaning until he received the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. Here, then, the revealing ministry of the holy power of God began with the followers of Jesus, even as it had with the Master himself at the river Jordan.

For Jesus and his apostles the Holy Spirit became not only a revealing power, but an inspirational one also. That is to say, the teachings of Jesus and of the apostles are inspired, and therefore can be accepted as the absolute Word of God, the truth, as it relates to his great plan of the ages. This is also true of the Old Testament writers, the difference being that they did not necessarily understand what they wrote, whereas the teachings of Jesus and the apostles were understood by them.

The Inspired Bible

Briefly we have reviewed the manner in which the inspired words of God were brought together for his people of the Gospel Age in a composite whole which we call the Bible. To us the writings of the Old Testament and the New Testament are of equal importance, for they all contribute toward the Lord's purpose of instructing and encouraging his people—the people whom he is preparing to be the spiritual rulers in the forthcoming messianic kingdom. And we can be certain that God's Word will not return unto him void; that it will accomplish his design, and will prosper in the things whereto he sent it.

Since the Holy Spirit had such a major role in producing the written Word of God, the work of the Lord in the lives of his people is often accredited to this powerful and holy influence. But this work of the Holy Spirit should be understood as being

accomplished largely through the written Word. And what is the work of God in the lives of his people during the present age? One of the ways in which the Bible answers this question is by the number of expressions it employs in referring to the work of the Holy Spirit. According to the Bible, we are "begotten," "anointed," and "sealed" by the Holy Spirit. We are also informed that the Spirit bears "witness" to us that we are the children of God.—Rom. 8:14-17

The word "begotten" suggests the beginning of a new life. Actually the Bible does not use the expression, "begotten of the Spirit," but it does speak of our being begotten by the Word of truth, which means the same thing. (James 1:18; I Pet. 1:22,23) In the Greek language from which our English-language Bible is translated, there is but one word for both begotten and born, and one needs to determine from the context which meaning is indicated. This has led to misunderstanding in that many suppose it is possible to be a "born again" Christian, as the expression goes, while still in the flesh.

Jesus did say that it was necessary to be born again in order to enter into the kingdom of heaven; but in his explanation of the great change this would involve, he said that those who are born again can come and go as the wind, invisible to human eye. (John 3:3-8) Clearly this is a description of the power of a spirit being; and the followers of the Master are, in the resurrection, to be partakers of the highest of all spiritual life, even of the divine nature itself.—II Pet. 1:4

The beginning of this new life takes place while we are still in the flesh, and it is this beginning that the Scriptures refer to as the begetting of the Spirit, through the Word of truth. God, through his Spirit, draws us to himself by revealing to us some of the glories of the divine plan. We read in the Scriptures of the hope set before those who surrender themselves to him to do his will. We learn that God's will is that we deny self, and take up our cross and follow Jesus into sacrificial death. (Matt. 16:24) We learn of God's many assurances of guidance and strength in

every time of need, and of the wonderful provision he has made through Christ to cover our imperfections with a robe of righteousness, even the righteousness of Christ.—Isa. 61:10

Continuing to meditate upon these precious truths as they come to us through the Word of God, we are finally brought to the point of full consecration, or the full surrender of ourselves to God, and to the doing of his will. It is at this point that we are begotten of the Spirit. Now the precious promises pertaining to “the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” belong to us. (Phil. 3:14) We now realize that we have become “partakers of the heavenly calling.” (Heb. 3:1) All the wonderful statements in God’s Word appertaining thereto begin to work powerfully in our lives, causing us to grow into maturity as new creatures in Christ Jesus. Thus, through the Word, we are begotten, and our new minds are nourished in preparation for Spirit birth in the resurrection.

The Anointing

The Scriptures also speak of our being “anointed.” Jesus mentioned his own anointing, quoting from Isaiah 61:1-3. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,” Jesus quoted, “because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor.” (Luke 4:17-21) John wrote of “the anointing which ye have received” from Christ. (I John 2:27) So we have the same anointing of the Spirit as that which came upon Jesus.

The kings and priests of ancient Israel were anointed to office by the use of anointing oil which was poured upon their heads. The Scriptures use this custom as an illustration of the fact that we are “anointed” by the Holy Spirit to a high position in the plans and purposes of God. This authority is expressed through the Word of God. The prophecy quoted by Jesus is a case in point: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because he hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.” (Isa. 61:1) Over and over again the Scriptures declare that it is the will of God for his people to proclaim the glad tidings of the

kingdom. Each text that bears on this point confirms the anointing which we have received from the Lord. We know that in this respect, also, God's Word accomplishes the purpose for which it was given. This anointing is not limited in its scope to the present life. Jesus was anointed not only to proclaim the glad tidings, but also, through the agencies of his kingdom, to extend God's promised blessings to all mankind; and we are anointed to share with him in this work, This is the complete and ultimate purpose of our calling. We are called of God not merely to enjoy the blessings of salvation for ourselves, but to participate in the outworking of his plan for restoring the world of mankind to life during "the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began."—Acts 3:19-21

Sealed by the Spirit

In Ephesians 1:13 we read that we are "sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise." Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples, and he did so at Pentecost. Paul could be referring to this. It is also true that the Holy Spirit has caused promise after promise to be recorded in the Bible by which God "seals," or guarantees, our relationship with him, and assures us of the necessary strength to complete our sacrificial walk in the narrow way victoriously unto the end. And how essential it is that we have this blessed assurance! Without it we would probably become discouraged, and cease to run for the prize of the high calling. God realized that we would need this portion of his Word, and by furnishing it supplied another reason it will not return unto him void, but will accomplish that which he has been pleased to plan.

Witness of the Spirit

Paul wrote, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: . . . if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." (Rom. 8:16-18) Peter wrote that the Holy Spirit "testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow." (I Pet. 1:11)

The Spirit-inspired prophecies of the Old Testament concerning the sufferings of Christ had their fulfilment in him, and are continuing to be fulfilled through his followers; for, as Paul wrote, we “fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ.”—Col. 1:24

Participation in the sufferings of Christ is thus seen to be a very important factor in the Christian life. If, through our faithfulness to the Lord and his truth, we are called upon to endure suffering, either through persecution or otherwise, then we can rejoice, for it means that we have this witness, this evidence, that we are the children of God. Truly this should be a great source of strength and encouragement to those who are being prepared to live and to reign with Christ!

How wonderful, indeed, is the Word of God! Jesus prayed for his disciples, saying, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy Word is truth.” (John 17:17) Peter wrote concerning this same work of sanctification, saying, “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit.” (I Pet. 1:2) Sanctification of the Spirit is the same as sanctification by the Word, because it is by the Holy Spirit that the Word of God has reached us. Peter says that those thus sanctified are the “elect according to the foreknowledge of God.” Paul wrote of this class, saying, “Whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son.” (Rom. 8:29) If we are to maintain our position among the elect it is clear that we will have to be conformed to the image of God’s dear Son, and it is through the Word of truth that this image is presented to us, and it is through the Word of truth that we are exhorted and encouraged to be conformed to that image.

In Ephesians 4:13, Paul refers to the time when “we all come into the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.” This is the divine objective for the whole Christ company being called out of the world to follow the Master during this Gospel Age. God knew that in his Word every pro-

vision was made for the accomplishment of this purpose, and therefore that his Word would not return unto him void, but would accomplish that which he pleased, and would prosper in the great design for which he prepared and sent it.

To those who have heard the divine call, and have dedicated themselves to the doing of God's will, his Word is rich and satisfying spiritual food for their nourishment as new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is as water of life to refresh them when faint and weary. The Word is also the "armor of righteousness" designed to assure victory for the good soldiers of Jesus Christ. (II Cor. 6:7; II Tim. 2:3) Indeed, the Word of God contains everything we need to guide us, and to enable us to walk in the narrow way.

Through his providences God guides his people in a way to bring them into contact with his Word, and with those who are able to help them in its understanding. We need all the servants the Lord has provided. We need one another as we fellowship in the glorious truths of the Word. But may we ever remember that the Word is the only authoritative source of truth which sanctifies, and makes us "meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light." (Col. 1:12) May the Word continue to be a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path!—Ps. 119:105

YOUR QUESTIONS

Not Dangerous

Is it not dangerous to teach a second chance for salvation in the resurrection? May this not lead some to defer repentance until it is too late?

It is the obligation of a devoted

Christian to teach the truth as it is presented in the Word of God. It is not our privilege to decide what should be taught. To us the Scriptures clearly teach that Adam was given an opportunity to prove worthy of everlasting life through obedience to divine

law, but he failed in this. As a result of his failure Adam was sentenced to death, and through him all mankind lost life. Paul wrote, "By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that [margin, or, **in whom**] all have sinned."—Rom. 5:12

God, in his love, provided redemption from death for Adam and his race. Paul explains "that as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 5:21) Paul also wrote, "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."—Rom. 6:23

It is because Jesus died as the world's Redeemer that Adam and his race will be awakened from death. Again Paul wrote, "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (I Cor. 15:22) In I Timothy 2:3-6 we read that it is God's will for all to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth concerning the fact that Jesus gave himself a ransom, or corresponding price, for all.

Eternal salvation is based on understanding and acceptance of the provision for life which God has made through Christ, but in the text cited Paul speaks of be-

ing saved, and then coming to a knowledge of the truth. Being "saved" in this text obviously refers only to being awakened from the sleep of death in order to be in a position to receive a knowledge of the truth concerning the Redeemer.

This, it seems to us, is the crux of the whole matter. Almost the entire human race has died without having received a true knowledge of Christ as their Redeemer. When awakened from death and given a knowledge of the truth it will constitute their first real opportunity to gain eternal life. We might say that for Adam this will be "a second chance," in the sense that his transgression was not one of ignorance. However, since God's grace has made this wonderful provision for Adam we should rejoice, and we should also be happy that all his progeny will share in the benefits of divine love.

The Scriptures reveal that those who come to a knowledge of the truth in this life, accept the provision God has made for them through Christ, and dedicate their lives to God's service, will not be given another opportunity in the resurrection. There are doubtless some who have enjoyed a measure of light, and have failed to live up to it as they might have done. These will re-

ceive appropriate discipline in keeping with God's wisdom, justice, and love, but none will suffer an eternity of torture; and no harm will come to any because of our preaching the truth of God's Word.

An Interpolation

Revelation 20:5 reads, "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished." How can the world of mankind benefit from the thousand year reign of Christ if they are not awakened from death until the close of that reign?

This is a reasonable question, and of course the answer would have to be that they could not benefit at all. However, there is no real difficulty here when we realize that this expression concerning the rest of the dead not living until the thousand years of Christ's kingdom are ended is not really a part of the inspired Bible. This expression is an interpolation, and not found in the older and more reliable manuscripts.

The fact that this expression has been added by someone other than the original writer becomes apparent when we couple the last part of verse four with the

remainder of verse five. Then we have this reading: "They lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years, . . . this is the first resurrection." This makes sense. Allowing the interpolation to remain, the text tells us that the first resurrection consists of the rest of the dead not living again until the thousand years were finished.

Papacy purported to be the kingdom of Christ and claimed that the promised thousand years of that kingdom had already begun. Some copyist who believed this, realizing that the dead were not then being raised, added this interpolation to make the text harmonize with what he believed were the facts. Erroneous traditions have a powerful influence over the mind. This should remind us even today that we should not distort the Scriptures to make them fit our theories and traditions.

Tongues

Should the Lord's people today have the gift of tongues as some did in the Early Church?

We do not think so! The gift of speaking in unknown tongues was bestowed upon some in the Early Church to aid in the ministry of the Gospel among those

who could not understand the native tongue of the early disciples. Speaking in tongues was first done on the Day of Pentecost, and at that time it enabled many to understand, who otherwise would not have known what was going on. See Acts 2:5-12. The gifts were visible evidence of God's power and sponsorship of the Early Church to help get it established.

Later Paul explained that "tongues" would cease, and they did. (I Cor. 13:8) The modern craze for speaking in tongues is quite unlike the practice of the Early Church. For the most part the "tongues" of the present are merely a gibberish which means nothing and is no aid to anyone in understanding the true Gospel of Christ, whereas in the Early Church it was of genuine assistance to the ministry. However, it was no longer necessary when disciples developed who could translate from one language to another. This is particularly true of today.

Greater Works

John 14:12 reads, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

Should we consider these words of Jesus as authority for conducting a ministry of divine healing at the present time?

No, we do not think so! None of the Master's disciples has ever been able to accomplish the mighty works which he accomplished. Throughout the age some have claimed to heal the sick in a miraculous manner, but none has ever raised the dead as Jesus did; so this wonderful promise of Jesus must mean something more than has been represented in the attempts of some to follow in his footsteps of healing.

"Greater works than these shall he do," Jesus said, yet thus far none of Jesus' followers has been able to accomplish miraculous works even as great as his. What, then, did he mean? We think the reference is to the future work of the kingdom, when the true followers of Jesus will be living and reigning with him in that kingdom through which blessings of health and everlasting life will be showered upon all mankind; and when all those who sleep in death shall be awakened to share in those blessings. This will be in fulfilment of God's promise to bless "all families of the earth."—Gen. 12:3; Gal. 3:8, 16, 27-29

During Jesus' brief ministry at his first advent he healed only a comparatively few of the people, and raised only a few from the dead. Even those he did heal grew old and died. Their blessing was not permanent, and those whom he raised from the dead went back into death again. But it will be different in the kingdom age. Then all who believe and obey will be healed, not temporarily, but permanently; and those awakened from death will not need to die again. Only those who disobey will be destroyed. (Acts 3:23) Thus it is clear that "greater" works are to be accomplished in the kingdom by Jesus, and his true disciples will share in that work.

Will Christians Pass Through?

Matthew 24:21, 22, describes a time of "great tribulation" with which the present age in God's plan comes to an end. Will the faithful followers of the Master pass through this tribulation?

This foretold "tribulation" is one of the signs of the Master's second presence, and the end of the age. Jesus gave many other signs, and said that when we see these things begin to come to pass, we are to life up our heads,

knowing that our deliverance draweth near. (Luke 21:28) This suggests, we think, that the Lord's people will see at least the beginning of the tribulation.

However, since the church will be exalted to heavenly glory to live and reign with Jesus in the new age, it would seem that its entire membership will have been delivered from earthly scenes sometime prior to the close of "the great tribulation." These, together with Jesus, are referred to in Matthew 24:22 as "the elect," and we understand that a proper translation of this text gives the thought that it will be by, or through, the elect that the tribulation will be brought to an end. This could be done only by those exalted to spiritual power and glory.

Faith Healing

Do you believe in faith healing?

Those who accept the Bible as the Word of God believe its testimony of the many miraculous healings wrought by Jesus upon the basis of faith. Accepting the Bible as God's Word we also believe its testimony concerning the various instances in which the dead were awakened to life. We do not believe that it is God's plan during the present

age for his people to conduct a general work of faith healing, or of awakening the dead. If this were God's plan we would see it being accomplished.

We believe that in God's plan a time is coming when a general work of healing and resurrection will be accomplished. This is described by Peter as "restitution," and the period in which it will be accomplished he called "the times of restitution of all things." This is so important a feature of God's plan that, according to Peter, it has been declared by the mouth of all God's holy prophets since the world began.—acts 3:19-21

According to the prophets, that will be a time when all the blind eyes will be opened, when all the deaf ears will be unstopped, and when all the lame will be healed. (Isa. 35:5, 6) Indeed, of that time the Prophet Isaiah wrote that the people will not say, "I am sick," for all will be restored to health, not for a brief period, but forever, if they are obedient to the laws of Christ's kingdom.—Isa. 33:24

At that time, also, all who sleep in death will be awakened. (John 5:28, 29) This, likewise, was the teaching of God's holy

prophets. (Acts 24:15) This work of resurrection is described by Isaiah as "the ransomed of the Lord" returning from death "with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."—Isa. 35:10

As for the miracles performed by Jesus, the Apostle John wrote concerning the first one, "This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory." (John 2:11) This suggests that Jesus' miracles were a manifestation of what his kingdom glory and power would accomplish. Jesus not only preached the Gospel of the kingdom, but demonstrated the blessings which would reach the people throughout the thousand years of his reign.

Dedicated followers of Jesus during the present age have covenanted to suffer and die with him. Since they are laying down their lives in sacrifice, they do not expect to be miraculously healed of their sicknesses; although at times it might be God's will thus to intervene in their experiences. The "gift" of healing for this age passed away with the death of the apostles.



Soldiers of Jesus Christ

IN II Timothy 2:3 Paul exhorts his beloved son in the faith, Timothy, to "endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." The use of this illustration of a Christian being like unto a soldier, "a good soldier of Jesus Christ," suggests that there are some of the human family who have come over to the Lord's side, and have been accepted into his army through justification, and the begetting of the Holy Spirit. The Christian soldier, having in this way passed from death unto life, soon finds himself moving in a direction contrary to the majority of those around him. This results in a warfare of righteousness versus unrighteousness.

And the result of being brought more and more fully into the light of the Gospel of Christ is a continual warfare of light against darkness, truth against error. This warfare is not only against false standards of truth and righteousness such as

we see all around us, but the fight also is to be within ourselves, because in a growing sense we find that we have been indoctrinated in many of these imperfect standards, and it is against these that we are exhorted to fight a good warfare, and against the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life.—I John 2:16

The Christian's warfare of light against darkness reminds him that darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people. (Isa. 60:2) A part of his Christian duty is to do his best to scatter some of this darkness, and to assist those being drawn by the Father to come from this darkness into the light of truth.

In the days of the Apostle Paul, a valiant soldier, in addition to possessing other good qualities, needed to be well armed. And even a good soldier, in order to be successfully led to victory, needs a brave and capable leader, and this, God's people are privileged to have in the great "captain of their salvation," Christ Jesus.—Heb. 2:10

The Armour

This "armour" of the Christian

is brought to our attention by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6: 13-17. It is referred to as "the whole armour of God"; that is, the armour supplied by God, that his battle might be fought successfully. In Romans 13:12 it is referred to as "the armour of light," in other words, the armour of truth.

The truth of the Word of God is a protection to the Lord's people at practically every point at which the fiery darts of the wicked one could come against them. When these fiery darts came against Jesus, our "Captain," he defended himself by means of the armour of light. "It is written" was his wondrous defence. And similarly a "thus saith the Lord" is the sure protection of the Lord's people from errors of all kinds. In view of this, faith in God's holy Word is a very necessary part of our armour.

The Shield of Faith

When any of the fiery darts of the evil one come against our shield of faith—"the faith which was once delivered unto the saints"—they are instantly stopped from doing us any harm. (Jude 3) Not only is the "shield of the faith" (Eph. 6:16, **Diag.**) a knowledge of the divine plan of the ages—a wonderful pro-

tection—but the shield of a personal faith and confidence in God, in his wisdom, justice, love, and power, which also protects us from being overcome by the Adversary's attacks.

The Helmet

The Apostle Paul also speaks of the helmet of salvation as a part of the Christian's armour. This suggests a protection for the head; in other words, an understanding of those features of the plan of salvation which serve as a protection for our confidence in the one hope of our calling. For example, an understanding of the philosophy of the ransom and other foundation truths enables us to give "a reason of the hope" that is in us to everyone that asketh.—I Pet. 3:15

The Lord, through the prophet, says: "Come now, and let us reason together." (Isa. 1:18) The context of this verse leads our thoughts to the sublime truth of I Timothy 2:5, 6: "The man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom [a corresponding price] for all, to be testified in due time." We also recall I Corinthians 15:21: "For since by man [Adam] came death, by man [Christ Jesus] came also the resurrection of the dead."

The popular false teaching of evolution which claims that all

things, including man, have been moving ever upward to higher and higher levels from the beginning of the world, is a complete denial of the wonderful scriptural philosophy of the "ransom," which sublime doctrine has ever been under constant attack from the great Adversary, and, it seems, from every possible angle.

In I Thessalonians 5:8 Paul speaks of the helmet as representing "the hope of salvation." This further emphasizes the thought that in order to wear the helmet we need constantly to study the Word of God, that we may become very familiar with its teaching. If the Adversary can weaken our confidence in the divine plan, the great hope of the Christian may speedily be lost, or measurably obscured. But a clear knowledge of the truth and a ready ability to give a reason for our hope will keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

The Breastplate

Another part of the Christian's armour to which the Apostle Paul calls our attention is the breastplate. (Eph. 6:14) This is a protection for the front of the body, particularly the life-giving organs, such as the heart and lungs—vital organs upon which

life depends. The great truth upon which our very existence as new creatures rests is a faithful holding fast to those features of the divine plan which enable us to understand how God, after having justly condemned man to death, can be just, and yet, through Christ Jesus, enable him to be freed from condemnation and justify all those believers in him who consecrate themselves to do God's will.—Rom. 3:26; 8:1

This piece of armour is also spoken of as "the breastplate of faith and love." (I Thess. 5:8) This suggests that our justification, our forgiveness and covering of all unintentional weaknesses and imperfections, is granted not merely on account of our faith in the ransom sacrifice of Christ, but that this knowledge of God's love in the gift of his only begotten Son leads us to a full consecration of heart and life to the Lord. Only upon this basis are we justified. As water quenches fiery darts of a literal kind, so the apostle tells us that with the shield of faith we shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the evil one.—Eph. 6:16, R. V.

For the Feet

The Roman soldier of Paul's day used greaves as a protection

for the front of the legs and feet. Corresponding to this piece of armour, as a protection in this evil day from the many dangers, difficulties, and temptations in our pathway, we need that our feet be shod "with the preparation of the Gospel of peace." (Eph. 6:15) Wherever our feet go, the Gospel of peace must go with us, upon our lips or on the printed page, to use as opportunity arises. Earnest endeavor to use every opportunity for giving a witness to the true Gospel is a wonderful protection from the many temptations which might otherwise beset us.

The Sword

The Christian's one and only offensive weapon is his sword—"the sword of the Spirit." This, as well as the rest of the armour, is associated with "the Word of God" in its various phases. (Eph. 6:17) If used wisely and faithfully, the Word of God will overthrow every error of the wicked one—either of faith or of conduct—which may be presented to us. Our Master and great Exemplar used the same sword, "it is written," to overthrow the errors and strong delusions brought against him.

We are to be ever mindful, as already noted, to wage a good warfare within ourselves, using

the Word of God in an aggressive warfare against "the lust of the flesh [desires for the things of the flesh for the gratification of the old nature which, although not necessarily evil, will seriously hinder us from running the race set before us in the Gospel], and the lust of the eyes [for example, temptations to entertain ambitions along earthly lines, such as a follower of the Master should lay aside], and the pride [vainglory, R. V.] of life [desires for earthly advantages that would give one a slight feeling of advantage or superiority over others]."—I John 2:16

Corporate Warfare

This kind of warfare is a united or collective one, and as the Scriptures teach, there is not only to be the personal warfare in which all the Lord's followers are called to be engaged, but there is a warfare participated in by the church as a whole against all the entrenched foes of truth and righteousness which go to make up "this present evil world" of which Satan is the prince. (Gal. 1:4; John 12:31) Paul says, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness [spiritual

hosts of wickedness, R. V.] in high [margin, or, **heavenly**] places."—Eph. 6:12

This suggests a corporate conflict against every phase of the dominion of darkness of which the Adversary is in control, and this conflict began at our Lord's first advent when he, as the Captain of our salvation, began to lead his little army into battle. The Revelator pictures our great Captain and Leader engaging in this conflict by means of the sword out of his mouth. (Rev. 1:16; 2:12, 16; 19:15) This is a conflict, as Paul stated, "against principalities and powers" in the earth, built up by Satan to strengthen his position as "the god of this world."—II Cor. 4:4

As the Lord's people collectively, and as individuals, we are to "do all things without murmurings and disputings," in order, the apostle continues, "that ye may be blameless and

sincere, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the Word of life." (Phil. 2:14-16, margin) The same writer exhorts: "Stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the Gospel."—Phil. 1:27

The good soldiers of Jesus Christ, whether isolated under circumstances over which they have no control, or whether co-operating with others, are attentive to the words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 24:14, "This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." In this connection much important work is still being accomplished by co-operating with others of "like precious faith," valuable services indeed, which could not possibly be done by isolated brethren.—II Pet. 1:1

BRITISH SPEAKERS' APPOINTMENTS

Dewsbury	E. T. NADAL	Mar. 26	CEDRIC SMITH
Liverpool	W. F. READER	Mar. 13	Latchford Mar. 20

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—98 Seel Street Office, Liverpool, now closed. Send requests for subscriptions and literature to 70 Station Road, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex.

An Interesting Letter

Questions Answered

"Dear Friends! I cannot tell you how happy your book, 'The Divine Plan of the Ages,' has made me. The truth which it contains is just what I have searched for through various sects and religions for many years. From early in life I have been troubled about many questions, but now your most helpful volume has clarified them all. For years, various representatives

of different religions have been calling at my home, and their answers to my questions have often saddened me. They of course could not help me, not knowing the truth. The sad part, however, is that they will not accept and examine anything contrary to their own particular point of view. I thank you all for your help, and I shall soon be sending for more of your publications."—England



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MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

Behold Your King (Cloth), 2/6, (Paper), 1/3; Daily Heavenly Manna, 5/-; Hymns of Dawn (Cloth), 5/-; without music, 1/3. Tabernacle Shadows (Cloth), 2/6; The Everlasting Gospel, 8d; Hope (Consolation Booklet), 1/3 per dozen; Our Most Holy Faith, 10/-.

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THE DAWN 70 Station Road

Gidea Park

Romford, Essex

Report from Britain

THE following brief report of work in the Lord's vineyard has been received from The Dawn Committee in the British Isles:

"We once again report on the activities of the British brethren during the year 1965. These have continued along the line of the previous year, our main public witnessing being the inserting of announcements of literature in local papers, and in magazines. We have received quite a number of interesting replies, many with a second request for further literature.

"We have also continued to use the tape recording service to the blessing of many, and have been able to supply volumes of 'Studies in the Scriptures,' as well as booklets and tracts as required. We are also pleased that the truth is now being broadcast over the British radio station in the Isle of Man, and we are pleased to have the privilege of co-operating with our American brethren in this new venture. The visits of the speakers which are supplied by us from time to time continue to prove a blessing to the little classes up and down the country.

"Our thanks and gratitude go out to you for your help in sending Volumes and other literature to us during the year. May our dear Heavenly Father continue to bless all the co-workers in the vineyard."

The Brethren and Work in India

LAST fall our Brother Russell Pollock, accompanied by his wife, Pauline, visited the brethren in India, and has given us an interesting report of their activities, supplementing his letter sent en route and published in the December Dawn. The work in India today is in reality a continuance of activities started

there by Brother Russell. Through the years the brethren have remained loyal to the truth, although an attempt was made for a brief period to bring them under the control of "the channel."

A new committee in India to conduct the work was organized while Brother Pollock was there, consisting of Brothers T. C. Devakannu, S. R. Gilbert, Charles Jayappa, and Joseph Sandarajan, the last named being the secretary and treasurer. Three of the brethren on this committee are essentially full-time workers in the vineyard, and perform their labor of love at great personal sacrifice, and many times under most difficult conditions.

In his visit with these faithful brethren Brother Pollock endeavored to find out what more we could do to aid them than is now being done. The Dawn has been furnishing considerable literature in the way of tracts, booklets, and books, but it seems that more can be used, and of course we will be happy to send the quantities outlined in the report of their needs. But they have other needs. They need a rebuilt printing press, and more typewriters in their language. There are certain items of clothing and food which the workers need, and modest financial assistance.

For a number of years there has been a committee of brethren in the Northwest which has been assisting our brethren in India in co-operation with other classes and The Dawn, and it was largely through the suggestion of this committee that Brother and Sister Pollock visited the brethren there. Brother E. R. Wilcox, 7211 29th Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98115, is the chairman. We will continue co-operating with this committee, and it will be a sort of clearing house for the brethren everywhere in furnishing necessary assistance to the brethren in India, thus avoiding duplication or lack of service.

As stated in Brother Pollock's previous letter, the brethren in India publish their own magazine, and now fifty per cent of the articles are translations from The (English) Dawn. Their chief method of distributing tracts is at Protestant and Catholic church doors. This is the only feasible method for this area. The other

literature, books, and booklets (and some tracts) are distributed from door to door, at public meetings, and by brethren taking them to serve the Lord in their home territories. Literature in English is very useful; the difficulty is to find those who can read English. Good use is made of The Dawns which are sent each month.

Brother Pollock writes, "A disadvantage our brethren in India have, which should be noted, is that Methodism and Seventh Day Adventism have schools for the free education of the children of their members, and free scholarships for higher learning for any who apply themselves. They also offer a free burial plot for their members. It is hard to realize what these advantages mean to a poor person of India inclined toward Christianity. By contrast, all we have to offer is sacrifice, not schools, or other material aid of consequence; just the thrill of knowing the truth."

Report from Greece

THE following report was sent from Greece to the Greek Class of New York, and has been submitted to us by the secretary, Brother Pantel Hatgis:

"Dear Friends: Greetings in our Redeemer's name, from the Athens Class. The booklet, "Life After Death," was advertised in thirty-two papers scattered throughout the country, and there was good fruitage from this advertisement.

"Three brethren of the Athens Class made pilgrim tours to different parts of the country. Brother Ferizes visited and served the friends of Macedonia, Drama, and Philippi. Brother Gonos served the friends in Salonica, and visited two interested families there in their homes—families which received the literature previously advertised in the newspapers. These families now have all the Volumes, and are considering making a full consecration to the Lord. They are attending the meetings in Salonica. In Salonica there are now more than forty persons who have,

through advertisements in newspapers, received the literature and have subscribed to The Greek Dawn. They have been visited one by one, and the truth is becoming more rooted in their hearts. Great and blessed is this work of visiting and talking with the interested ones.

“I served the friends in Thessali. In Thessali I visited the Catsuras, and for the first time we had a meeting in their home, with eight very interested ones present. These came from the nearby villages, and what a blessed fellowship we had that evening.

“Here in our class in Athens the whole family of Pagiaylas comes regularly to our meetings, and the father and son have made a full consecration, and a few weeks ago were immersed. Our joy is great, and our prayers go up to our Heavenly Father in thanksgiving for the privileges we enjoy in the harvest work. Another interested one comes to our meetings. After he received the booklets and The Greek Dawn, he started to read the Volumes. He has considerable knowledge of the English language. Indeed, the Lord has opened blessed opportunities of service through the newspaper advertisements.”—Brother Kastanis, secretary.

Brother Hatgis reports that more than 600 letters have been received from a recent advertisement of the booklet, “Life After Death.” These letters requesting literature are sent to the Greek Class in New York. This is the only basis upon which the newspapers in Greece are permitted to accept the advertisements. Another condition is that they must be paid for by American dollars. As with former advertisements, the replies to the latest one have been received from all parts of Greece, and from doctors, lawyers, professors, and theological college students. Many priests have requested the booklet.

Brother Hatgis reports that even the advertisement itself has been a blessing to many, giving them hope in their sorrow over the loss of friends or relatives. Many gather in villages, in cafes, and in stores, and talk about the contents of the advertisement.

Three bank tellers, having lunch together, commented on the contents of the advertisement, and all three have requested the booklet. On behalf of the Greek Class in New York, Brother Hatgis writes:

"We appreciate the fact that it is the zeal and sacrifice of the friends of The Dawn in publishing the booklets, and The Greek Dawn every month, that make it possible to cope with the demand that has arisen for literature through the newspaper advertisements which the Lord has made possible in Greece. This open door for disseminating the truth is the Lord's doing, and we desire to do all we can in this work of proclaiming the Gospel."

Witnessing by Film

THE Lord continues to bless the work of proclaiming the truth by means of films. As we have reported before, a number of classes are using this method successfully, and besides, the film, "The Unknown God," continues to be distributed by the film agency which represents The Dawn. The total number of showings of the film reported by the agency is now in the vicinity of five thousand. From time to time the agency sends brief comments which they receive from the various groups which use "The Unknown God" film, and the following are a few samples of these observations:

"An interesting film with an heretical point of view."—Methodist Church, Indiana

"This film was used at our Sunday Vespers and was very enjoyable and informative."—California

"Very good for our adult ladies group. Very well presented and enjoyed by everyone."—Methodist Church, Pennsylvania

"Very good. It was quite a challenge to all viewers."—High School, Alabama

"This film helps us realize that a full knowledge of God is impossible. We can only worship in awe this great spiritual Being. By our continuous examples we can and should lead others to realize and acknowledge the one true God."—Saint Ann High School, Illinois

"A good film. It was enjoyed by our groups, and some questions were answered for some pupils."—High School, Missouri

"This was very good and helped us to understand the wonders of God and teachings of Paul better."—Baptist Church, Oklahoma

"Found it most inspiring and informative."—St. Pius X School, New York

"A sound Bible film, and we need more like it."—Methodist Church, Illinois

"Excellent. We appreciated its message very much."—School, Indiana

"A valuable aid in presenting the truth of the Bible to unbelievers."—Baptist Sunday School, Pennsylvania

"All present enjoyed the film, and found much to think and talk about when it was over."—Lutheran Church, California

"Used as Sunday School lesson also. Very thought-provoking, and beautiful in color. We would enjoy seeing more like this one."—Study Club, Minnesota

"Theologically, a little too fundamental."—Methodist Church, California

"All comment was favorable, The film is serving a good purpose, and we should have more like it."—Methodist Church, Illinois

"This film was very informative from a religious viewpoint."—High School, Pennsylvania

"This is a fine film on a most worthy subject. Thank you for sending it."—Public Health Service, Minnesota

"Students were a group of many religions. They were satisfied."—St. Xavier Academy, Pennsylvania

"A good documentary of heathen worship. A good recount of Paul's sermon on Mars Hill contains specific denominational doctrines."—Sunday School, Kansas

"We found this film to be very good and would like to be able to show more like it."—Baptist Church, North Carolina

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

Wants Supply of Tracts

"Dear Christian Friends: Words of mine cannot adequately express to you the depth of my gratitude for your valuable monthly magazine. Upon the arrival of each issue I feel very happy and grateful knowing that I always derive so much blessing from reading this publication. It presents an effective, easy to understand method of growing to a mature Christian, and of knowing, in general, why there is so much distress of nations today. For this reason I do thank you, and I will continue to pray that our Heavenly Father will ever guide and bless you all for all your labours of love in his service. Kindly send me a supply of your tracts for distribution."—Nigeria

The Children Also

"Dear Sirs: Just a few lines to say how much my children and I enjoy the 'Frank and Ernest' program every Sunday morning. They make the Bible so clear, and always have such a good Bible answer to the many questions which come up in people's minds. I hope they continue for I surely look forward to them."—Washington

Happy

"Dawn Publications: I am so happy to get the books and magazine. I have studied 'The Seed of Blessing,' 'Three Keys to the Bible,'

and 'God's Plan for Man,' and they are just wonderful. The Dawn Magazine is about the best I have found. I give thanks many times a day that my eyesight has been restored so I can go on studying. I thank God for the TV programs I heard, and hope you will soon be back on our station. God bless you all."—Utah

Enjoys Dawn

"Dear Brethren: Christian love and greetings! I wish to thank you on my own behalf, and on behalf of the Lamesa Ecclesia, for the tracts which you so kindly sent a few days ago. We continue to enjoy The Dawn, and I especially enjoyed the November issue. The 'Highlights of Dawn' article was very good, and so was 'The Objective of our Lord's Return.' And I always enjoy the Bible Study lessons. Thanks again for the tracts. We shall plant and the Lord shall give the increase. We ask that you remember us in your prayers to our Heavenly Father."—Texas

Wants Others Blessed

"Dear Friends: Your programs and books have done more to enlighten me with respect to the kingdom of God than all other Bible helps I have ever found. I want to say thank you, and I am enclosing a gift of appreciation to

help you continue to send out the Word of truth, in the hopes that others with seeing eyes and hearing ears may receive it. God bless you all."—Missouri

Wants More

"Dawn Publications: By an act of Providence I have had the pleasure of reading your book, 'Behold Your King.' As this is very much in line with my Christian belief, I am interested in reading more of your books. I do not belong to any earthly church. I once did, but I have come out of them. They teach things which just did not coincide with what I thought the Bible taught. I am now learning what the true Gospel really is."—Texas

Heard Over TV

"Dear Friends in Christ: I want my subscription to The Dawn continued. I get so much good from it. It was through The Bible Answers program that I came into the real truth. I sent for the booklet, and for the six volumes of 'Studies in the Scriptures.' I formerly did not have any use for religion. I wish there was a class here so we could study together. There is so very much I want to learn."—Arkansas

Unusual Subject

"Dear 'Frank and Ernest': Christian greetings! I enjoy your programme on the radio very much. May the loving God continue to richly bless you all in glorifying him. Would you kindly

send me your booklet, 'Hope Beyond the Grave,' as offered. This is a very unusual subject because no human who has departed has come back to us on earth. I am very anxious therefore to receive your booklet, and know what the Scriptures teach."—South Africa

Enjoying TV Programs

"Dear Friends: My husband and I have been watching your Bible Answers TV program every Sunday morning. We look forward to it, and are learning to understand the true meaning of the Bible. It is a wonderful program. Keep up the good work—we don't know what we would do without you."—Illinois

Understands Better

"Dear Sirs: Please renew my subscription to The Dawn. We all enjoy listening to you every Sunday morning. I never heard the Bible explained so well, and I can now understand it better. May God bless you, 'Frank and Ernest,' and please stay on the radio."—West Virginia

Uses Reason

"Dear Sirs: I am sending in my subscription to The Dawn Magazine for another year. I would hate to miss a single copy of this wonderful help. I used to be so confused and fearful when I read the Bible, but now I find help to understand it by reading The Dawn along with it, and using my reason to see it all clearly."—Colorado

SPEAKERS' APPOINTMENTS

Ministering the Glorious Gospel of Christ

These speakers are associated with the Pilgrim Department of the Dawn. Their services are furnished free, upon request. Address your request to Dawn Bible Students Association, East Rutherford, N. J. A visit will be arranged when possible.

PANTEL HATGIS Paterson, N.J. Feb. 20	A. H. KRUMPOLT Baltimore, Md. Feb. 13 Philadelphia, Pa. 13	M. C. MITCHELL Sayville, N. Y. Feb. 6
LEVI JACOBS Hartford, Conn. Feb. 20	L. P. LOOMIS New London, Conn. Feb. 20	LEO POST Allentown, Pa. Feb. 27
G. M. JEUCK New Haven, Conn. Feb. 27	J. Y. MAC AULAY Florida Area February	C. A. SMITH York, Pa. Feb. 27

Advertising Television Programs

A CHANNEL 10 SPECIAL

"The Bible Answers"

This interview program is documented by living characters from the Bible, who are seen and heard speaking their famous lines so long ago recorded. The Bible lives and answers as the fast-moving interview moves on from one question to another, radiating throughout the spirit of tolerance and good will toward all.

11:00 A. M., SUNDAYS

To the left is a suggested outline for a newspaper advertisement of "The Bible Answers" television programs. It is designed for two inches in one column, and is appropriate for use in any area in which the half-hour series is being televised. See listing on pages 8 and 9.

Circulars advertising these telecasts are available, free, in any quantity desired.

Friends in the areas reached by TV programs can render a valuable service by sending a note of appreciation to the stations. Just a few lines on a postal card will do. Station managers are glad to know that the programs they telecast are appreciated.

SPEAKERS' APPOINTMENTS

The listings in this schedule have been arranged by local ecclesias co-operating with the Dawn.

<p>JOHN BARACOS Monessen, Pa. Feb. 27</p> <p>WALTER Blicharz Adrian, Mich. Feb. 20</p> <p>L. P. BORGES Miami, Fla. Feb. 13</p> <p>J. BURTON BROWN San Diego, Calif. Feb. 13</p> <p>HARRY CASLER Monessen, Pa. Feb. 20</p> <p>L. PAUL DAVIS Santa Ana, Calif. Feb. 13</p> <p>EDWARD E. FAY Sonora, Calif. Feb. 20</p> <p>JOSEPH FENCHAK, JR. Duquesne, Pa. Feb. 13</p> <p>IRVING C. FOSS Fullerton, Calif. Feb. 27</p> <p>RALPH GAUNT Saginaw, Mich. Feb. 27</p>	<p>CARL Hagensick Saginaw, Mich. Feb. 20</p> <p>G. HOMER HAMLIN Stockton, Calif. Feb. 5 Sacramento, Calif. 6</p> <p>EDMUND M. JEZUIT Minneapolis, Minn. (Cedar Ave.) Feb. 20</p> <p>GENE JEZUIT Aurora, Ill. Feb. 6</p> <p>RUSSELL L. JURD Covina, Calif. Feb. 27</p> <p>DANIEL KAZIAK Flint, Mich. Feb. 6 Saginaw, Mich. 6</p> <p>ADAM MISKAWITZ Milwaukee, Wis. Feb. 6</p> <p>ARTHUR NEWELL Beloit, Wis. Feb. 6</p>	<p>HARRY PASSIOS Duquesne, Pa. Feb. 6</p> <p>THOS. T. RYDE Riverside, Calif. Feb. 20 Ontario, Calif. 20</p> <p>ROBERT S. SEKLEMIAN Monterey, Calif. Feb. 27</p> <p>W. STROMBERG Gary, Ind. Feb. 20</p> <p>J. I. VAN HORNE Connellsville, Pa. Feb. 20</p> <p>IRWIN WYSOCKI Pittsburgh, Pa. Feb. 13</p> <p>HOWARD YOUNG E. Liverpool, Ohio Feb. 13</p> <p>L. W. ZBIK London, Ont. Feb. 13 Chatham, Ont. 20</p>
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THE MEMORIAL SUPPER

The date for the Memorial Supper will be after 6:00 P. M.,
Sunday, April 3

BIBLE STUDENTS GENERAL CONVENTION

Bloomington, Indiana

July 30-August 4

CONVENTIONS

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Feb. 6—2601 Fillmore St., N. E. Mrs. C. R. Newham, 678 40th Ave., N. E.

SACRAMENTO, CALIF., Feb. 12, 13—Odd Fellows Hall, 1020 Ninth St. Mrs. E. F. Lonkford, 6000 19th Ave.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Feb. 13—Southern Hotel, S. High and E. Main Streets. Mrs. Josephine Ewing, 273 S. Algonquin Ave.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Feb. 20—Brotherhood Building, Room 410, Court and Vine Streets. Mrs. W. N. Poe, One West Ridge Place, Newport, Ky.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Feb. 20—I.O.G.T. Hall, 2922 Cedar Ave. Mrs. Edward Borowiec, 224 S. Fifth St., Delano, Minn.

CHICAGO, ILL., Feb. 27—Central Masonic Temple, 912 N. LaSalle St. Mr. Gene Jezuit, 4500 S. Kedvale Ave.

DETROIT, MICH., Feb. 27—McGregor Memorial Bldg., Second Blvd. and W. Ferry. Mr. Frank Niemczak, 18937 Murray Hill.

COVINA, CALIF. Mar. 6—The Elks Club, 841 Merced, West Covina, Calif. Mrs. Elaine L. Redeker, 5554 N. Pal Mal Ave., Temple City, Calif.

NEW YORK, N. Y., March 20

DETROIT, MICH., March 26, 27

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 21-23

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., (Asilomar),
May 27-30

ARE THE DEAD ALIVE?

To be discussed by

"FRANK AND ERNEST"

WFLA—970 kc.—9:30 A. M.

Sunday, February 20

Tune in "Frank and Ernest," and send for a free copy of the booklet, "Hope." There is no obligation. Address:

"FRANK AND ERNEST"

Box 60, Dept. N, General Post Office
New York, N. Y. 10001

For Your Newspaper

To the left is a suggestion for a small advertisement in your local newspaper. This outline is designed for two inches in one column.

MARCH TOPIC: On Sunday, March 20, "Frank and Ernest" will discuss the topic, "The Truth About Hell." While many no longer believe in eternal torture for the wicked, they suppose it is taught in the Bible, so this is still a timely and important topic. This special broadcast should be well advertised, and appropriate folders will be available for this purpose. Order as many as you can use. They are free. Address your request to, The Dawn, East Rutherford, New Jersey, 07073.

The first of these 'keys' to the Bible was written more than seventy-five years ago, the last in 1904. They continue to be the outstanding text books on the Bible for our day.

Studies in the Scriptures

- The Bible from of the Ages, cloth, 45 cents, 12mo, \$1.00
- The Time is at Hand, cloth, 45 cents
- Thy Kingdom Come, cloth, 45 cents
- The Battle of Armageddon, cloth, \$1.00
- The Agreement between God and Man, cloth, \$1.00
- The New Creation, cloth, \$1.25

Question Books for Youngs 1-3, 19 cents each;
Volumes 4-6, 45 cents each

SIX VOLUMES, OVER 3,000 PAGES, CLOTH BOUND, \$5.00

An Excellent Gift Especially for Children

GOD'S PROMISES COME TRUE

This is a book of Bible stories for children. They might have listened to these, many in his colors. The stories begin again with a certain one including the more important episodes recorded in both the Old and New Testaments; and told in a style which makes them easily understood by children, and also interesting to grown-ups. Above all, they are free from the traditional errors of the Dark Ages. The Gospel-pure book is appropriate for every gift occasion.

255 PAGES 7x10 INCHES, CLOTH BOUND \$2.00

