

STUDY VII
THE NATIONS ASSEMBLED AND THE PREPARATION OF THE ELEMENTS
FOR THE GREAT FIRE OF GOD'S INDIGNATION

(1) What prophecy indicates how and why the Lord will gather the nations and assemble the kingdoms of this world? Page 269

(2) Do we see at the present time any fulfilment of this prophecy? Page 270, par. 1 to 3

(3) In just what manner are the nations "assembled"? And what is the real motive in men which has brought about these conditions? Page 271

(4) What does the Prophet declare respecting God's purpose in thus assembling the nations? What is signified by the expression, "Then will I turn unto the people a pure language"? Page 272, par. 1

(5) What three-fold result will be brought about by this "gathering of the nations"? Page 272, par. 2

THE SOCIAL ELEMENTS PREPARING FOR THE FIRE

(6) What are the ingredients whose friction will shortly set on fire the angry passions of the world, and cause the various "elements" to "melt with fervent heat"? What is the prevailing sentiment of all classes at the present time, compared with the conditions of the past century? Who will suffer most in the Time of Trouble? Page 272, par. 3, to Page 273, par. 2

THE HEAPING OF TREASURES

(7) If we can show that we are living in a day preeminent above all others for the extraordinary accumulation of wealth, what will it prove? Page 274, par. 1

(8) What amazing statement regarding the present as a "wealth producing Age" has been made by Hon. W. E. Gladstone? Page 274, par. 2 to 4

(9) Briefly give an account of some of the richest men of the United States, with an approximate estimate of their fortunes and incomes, as presented in the Boston Globe of Dec. 23, 1890. Page 274, par. 5, to Page 275, par. 4

(10) Give a list of the nine greatest fortunes in the United States. Page 275, par. 6 to Page 276, par. 2

(11) What immense sums are possessed by the Vanderbilt family alone? Page 276, par. 3

- (12) What private fortunes were accumulated from the Standard Oil Co? Page 277, par. 1
- (13) How many years were required to build up these fortunes, and wherein lies the danger to the country? Page 277, par. 2
- (14) Name other great fortunes in existence and daily increasing. Page 278, par. 1, 2

SOME AMERICAN MILLIONAIRES AND HOW THEY GOT THEIR MILLIONS

- (15) Give a few excerpts from the "Review of Reviews" and the "Forum," re the history of some American millionaires. Page 278, par. 3, to Page 281, par. 2
- (16) Show how riches have been "heaped together" nationally, in these last days, comparing the four richest nations of the world. How are such estimates reached? Page 281, par. 3, to Page 282, par. 3
- (17) What is the experience of the majority of fortune hunters, and what will be the natural result in the near future? Page 283, par. 1

THE INCREASE IN POVERTY

- (18) In this land of plenty, is it not their own fault if healthy men and women cannot get along comfortably? If not, why not? Page 283, par. 2, to Page 284, par. 2
- (19) Give extracts from the daily press showing the conditions which obtained in 1893. Page 284, par. 3, to Page 287, par. 3
- (20) Quote magazine articles which show the awful depths of poverty and despair into which the masses of the unemployed are being plunged. Page 288, par. 1, to Page 291, par. 2

DISCONTENT, HATRED, FRICTION, PREPARING RAPIDLY FOR SOCIAL COMBUSTION

- (21) What is the attitude of the honest, self-respecting workingman, and how are existing conditions, especially the extravagance of the wealthier classes, rapidly preparing for social combustion? Page 292, par. 1, to Page 296, par. 2

ARE THE RICH TOO SEVERELY CONDEMNED?

- (22) How are the rich popularly condemned? And what should be the attitude of the Lord's people with respect to these matters? Page 296, par. 3, to Page 300, par. 1
- (23) Why is it really extremely fortunate for the poorer classes that the rich are "foolishly extravagant"? Page 300, par. 2, to Page 301, par. 2

(24) While seeking excuses for the rich, nevertheless, what is the declaration of the Lord regarding their responsibility for present conditions? And what is the view of an increasingly large number of persons with reference to the duty of society toward existing conditions? Page 302, par. 1, to Page 303, first half

(25) Why cannot we expect the worldly rich, even those who profess to be Christians, to pursue the ideal course with respect to present difficulties? And what is the Scriptural prediction concerning their terrible experiences soon to come upon them? Page 303, last par., to Page 305, par. 1

SELFISHNESS IN COMBINATION WITH LIBERTY

(26) What is the effect of Christian doctrines with respect to liberty, and to what does liberty lead? Under what conditions are liberty and knowledge dangerous to human welfare? How has this principle been illustrated in Christendom? What was evidently the source of Jewish love of liberty? To what fact are thinking people just awakening with respect to knowledge and liberty? Page 305, par. 2, to Page 307, par. 1

(27) What facts in chemistry fitly illustrate the relation between knowledge and liberty, and how does the illustration apply to present social conditions? Page 307, par. 2; Page 308, par. 1

INDEPENDENCE AS VIEWED BY THE RICH AND BY THE POOR

(28) What has but recently been the experience of the masses with respect to liberty and independence? How is this change of position viewed by the rich and the poor, respectively? Page 308, par. 2, to Page 309, par. 1

(29) If the premise that "all men are independent of each other" be accepted, what would be the reasonable conclusions? But what are the real facts in the case? Page 309, par. 2, to Page 310, par. 2

(30) If love were the controlling motive in the hearts of all men, what would be the conditions in the world? Since selfishness is the motive power, what two alternatives alone could change their course from selfishness to love? Page 311, par. 1, 2

WHY RECENT FAVORABLE CONDITIONS CANNOT CONTINUE

(31) Inasmuch as the rich and poor have lived together for six thousand years, why is there more danger of calamity now than in the past? Page 312, par. 1, to Page 317, par. 1

MACHINERY AS A FACTOR IN PREPARING FOR THE FIRE

(32) What has been the effect of machinery upon the preparation of "the elements," which shall "melt with fervent heat"? Page 317, par. 2, to Page 323, par. 1

FEMALE COMPETITION A FACTOR

(33) How has female labor become a factor in the competition for employment? Page 323, par. 2, to Page 324, par. 1

LABOR'S VIEWS AND METHODS, REASONABLE AND UNREASONABLE

(34) What do present conditions indicate with respect to the relation between employees and wages? and what has led to the formation of Labor Unions? What injurious effects have resulted from Labor Unions? Page 324, par. 2

(35) What is the theory of labor, and wherein is it correct, yet unreasonable in its demands? Page 325, par. 1, 2

(36) What is the general character of the leaders in the business world and that of the Labor Union leaders, respectively? Page 325, par. 3, to Page 326, par. 2

(37) So long as conditions were favorable, what good did Labor Unions accomplish? Page 326, par. 3

THE LAW OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND INEXORABLE UPON ALL

(38) What is meant by the "Law of Supply and Demand," and how does it operate? Page 327, par. 1, to Page 328, par. 2

(39) What has been the relation of a protective tariff in the United States to the law of supply and demand? Now that prosperity is on the downward slope, what circumstances alone could hinder this tendency? Page 328, par. 3

(40) Wherein lies the danger of competition, and how has this been met by the laws of this country? Page 329, par. 1; Page 330, par. 1

(41) How does the Law of Supply and Demand govern capital as well as labor? Page 330, par. 2, 3

OUTLOOK FOR FOREIGN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITION APPALLING

(42) What new field for enterprise and capital is rapidly opening up? And what will be its ultimate effect upon the wages of laboring men throughout the world? Page 330, par. 4, to Page 332, par. 1

(43) What opinions have been expressed by prominent writers upon the competition of Oriental countries with their silver standard, and the inevitable result? Page 332, par. 2, to Page 337, par. 4

(44) Explain how it is possible for Japanese laborers to work for, and be contented with, such incredibly low wages. Page 338, par. 1, to Page 339, par. 3

(45) What is the present status of labor conditions in Japan? Page 340, par. 1, to Page 343, par. 2

(46) How is the foregoing corroborated by Report of the United States Congressional Committee in 1896, by magazine and newspaper articles? Page 343, par. 3, to Page 348, par. 1

(47) Next to Japan, which two other countries are developing competition in the field of labor? Page 348, par. 2 to Page 349, par. 2

LABOR OUTLOOK IN ENGLAND

(48) What is the labor outlook in England? Page 349, par. 3, to Page 351, par. 2

(49) To what end is the Lord permitting these conditions to exist? Page 352, par. 1, 2

HON. JOSEPH CHAMBERLIN'S PROPHETIC WORDS TO BRITISH WORKMEN

(50) What views have been expressed by one of the shrewdest of statesmen, Hon. Joseph Chamberlin? Page 352, par. 3; Page 353, par. 1

NATIONAL AGGRESSION AS RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS

(51) What is the relation of National aggression to Industrial interests? Pages 354 and 355

THE SOCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL WAR IN GERMANY

(52) What opinion has been expressed by the leader of the Social Democratic party with respect to the industrial conditions in Germany? Page 356, par. 1, to Page 358, par. 2

(53) What three questions were recognized by this able man as those which are causing distress among all nations and dividing the people into two classes? Page 358, par. 2

(54) What remarkable resolution was passed at the Trades Union Congress in London, July 1896? Page 358, par. 3

HUMANITY ATTACKED FROM STILL ANOTHER QUARTER GIANTS IN THESE DAYS

(55) Describe another result of competition, known as "Trusts." Note the "List of 139 Combinations to Regulate Production, Fix Prices, Monopolize Trade and Rob the People

in Defiance of Law," published in the New York World, Sept. 2, 1896. What is the total amount of capital represented in these Trusts? Page 359 to 363

(56) Explain the operation of advanced prices in coal, with results to rich and poor, respectively. Page 363, par. 1, to Page 364, par. 2

(57) What was the "Cotton Tie Trust," formed in 1895, and how was it operated? Page 364, par. 3

(58) What popular proverb well fits the case of the Trusts and their dangerous attitude toward the masses? Page 364, par. 4

(59) Briefly note some of the operations and profits of the Trusts as published by the Pittsburgh Post and other newspapers in 1896. Page 364, par. 5, to Page 368, top

TRUSTS IN ENGLAND

(60) Have the Trusts confined themselves to America? Page 368, par. 1, 2

(61) What is the outlook for the immediate future with respect to the Trusts, and why are they likened to the Antediluvian "giants"? Page 368, par. 3, to Page 370, par. 1

BARBARIC SLAVERY VERSUS CIVILIZED BONDAGE

(62) What is the history of the abolition of slavery in Great Britain, France, and the United States? Why would slavery have died a natural death under the modern competitive system, backed by mechanical inventions and the growth of population? Page 370, par. 2, to Page 371, par. 1

(63) Since the present social system is based upon the principle of supply and demand, what is the inevitable outcome? Page 371, par. 2, to 372, par. 1

HUMANITY BETWEEN THE UPPER AND NETHER MILLSTONES

(64) What fact is becoming more and more manifest to the masses of the people? What are the nether and upper millstones, and what is the driving power? And what are some of the results of this grinding process? Page 372, par. 2, to Page 374, par. 1

(65) What is the "sweater" system of labor, and how does it operate? Page 374, par. 2, to Page 376, par. 2

(66) What are the relative conditions of rich and poor at present, and is it reasonable to expect that this situation would continue indefinitely? Page 376, par. 3, 4

(67) What is the proportion of unemployed in the large cities of this country, and what are some of the strange inconsistencies of the present labor situation? Page 377, par. 1, to Page 378, par. 3

(68) What warnings have been given the world through some of the thinking men of this country? Page 378, par. 4, to Page 380, par. 3

**THE CONDITIONS UNIVERSAL AND BEYOND HUMAN POWER TO
REGULATE**

(69) Are these terrible conditions among the poor confined to Europe and America? Page 381, par. 1, to Page 382, par. 3

(70) Why will not the more intelligent and highly favored of mankind take some steps to relieve the distress of their fellow men? And what is the only hope? Page 383, to Page 384