PEOPLES PAPER AND HERALD OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM
UNDENOMINATIONAL
A RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII. No. 8 MELBOURNE, 1st AUGUST, 1945 Price—Threepence

The Feet of Him.

IT is necessary for the discipline, trial and final proving of the church of God that they should be subjected to adverse influence; for "to him that overcometh" is the promise of the great reward. If we would reign with Christ, we must prove our worthiness to reign, by the same tests of- loyalty to God, of faith in His Word, of zeal for the truth, of patient endurance, of reproach and persecution, even unto death, and in the unwavering trust in" the power and purpose of God to deliver and exalt this church in due time. To such faithful ones are the blessed consolations of Psalm 91, which we believe is a picture of the church in the end of this Gospel Age—a picture of The Christ. Hearken:

"He who dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High (typified by the Holy .of the Tabernacle) shall abide under the shadow of .the Almighty." We thus place ourselves under the divine protection when, having come to a knowledge of God's willingness to accept us as His children we gratefully accept the invitation and approach in His appointed way, through Christ our Redeemer, and consecrate ourselves fully to His service. Such may sweetly rest in the precious promises of God; all of which are yea and amen in Christ Jesus. (2 Con 1:20.) The world does not see the overshadowing wings of divine protection, but the faithful have a blessed secret realisation of it. Praise the Lord!

"I (Christ Jesus, whom David here as elsewhere personifies and who thus addresses His body, His church) will say of Jehovah. He is my refuge and my fortress, my God; in Him will I trust, that He will surely deliver thee from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence"—from the deceptions of Satan, into which all those not protected shall stumble; for our Lord said that so subtle anti deceptive will they be that, if it were possible, they would deceive "the very elect." But this is not possible; for those who are making their calling and election sure abide under the protection of the Almighty. Such shall be delivered, not from the destructive pestilence of physical disease, but from the moral and spiritual pestilence of destruction—from the sinful propensities of the old nature, which in unguarded moments are liable to assert their mastery and overwhelm the souls of those who are not 'abiding under the secret protection of the Most High; and from the spiritual pestilences of false doctrine which, with subtle sophistry, destroy the faith of the unwatchful.

Such pestilences are already abroad in the world in the shape of so-called Christian Science, Spiritism, and the various no-ransom theories which take the name of "The Larger Hope," and which bid fair, both from present prospects and from the prophetic outlook, ere long to become epidemic. From all these pestilences the Lord's elect shall be protected, resting safely and sweetly under the shadow of the Almighty.

"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler." So close to His heart does Jehovah gather His loyal and faithful children that they feel the warmth of His love; and the responsive language of their hearts is, "I will abide in thy tabernacle forever; I will trust in the covert of thy wings; for thou hast been a shelter for me and a strong tower from the enemy; for thou hast heard my vows; thou hast given me the heritage of those that fear thy name." (Psa. 61:4, 3, 5.) Yes, His truth—that grand system of truth comprised in the divine plan of the ages—is an ample shield and buckler to. all who in simplicity of heart receive it and prove faithful to it. It is the armour of God, which the Apostle urges all the faithful to put on—to appropriate, to meditate upon and to store up truth in mind and heart—that they may be able by its use to withstand error and evil in every form presented to them in this evil day.

Jehovah shall keep the feet of His, saints.

"Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday." This is the "night," the dark night of which the Prophet

Isaiah spoke and to which our Lord also referred, “The morning cometh, and also the night”; “The night cometh when no man can work.” (Isa. 21:12; John 9:4.) The Millennial morning comes, and just as surely the great time of trouble will immediately. precede, it—the night wherein no man can labor for the disemination of divine truth; so great will be the “terror,’ the tumult and trouble and, persecution of that night; the arrows—”even bitter words” of the opponents of the truth =will fly by day—at the present time, which in comparison with the ‘dark night that is coming, is called day. The various besetments and difficulties from infidelity, Higher Criticism and other false doctrines are pictorially represented as the shooting out of arrows, as pestilences, as stumbling stones. None of these are to injure the “elect,” of which Christ is the Head and the church His members, as specially indicated in this Psalm. The church shall be immune, and nothing shall in any way hurt them. As the Lord said, the difficulties of this day would, if possible, deceive the very elect; but -this will not be possible, for “the feet” class shall be kept. No; the church need have no fear of the moral and spiritual pestilences that walk in darkness, spreading and making their victims amongst those who are ignorant of the truth, or who are unfaithful to it and are, hence, unworthy of it, and who, therefore, lack the divine protection and are subject to the “strong delusions” of error that subvert the faith and hope of many, just when the light of divine truth is shining clearest upon the faithful, as it is shining Upon us to-day.

“A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.” Great will be the falling away from the truth, even amongst those who, like ourselves, received it once with joy and who did fox a time run well; but the church, because of their loyalty and uncompromising faithfulness and because of the ample armor of truth and righteousness, shall stand and not fall.

We are not to think of those who will be injured and who will fall (“A thousand at thy side and ten thousand at ‘thy right hand”) as of the world, , but rather as being friends of the church; closely associated with the church. *

The world could not fall from divine favor, for ‘it has not been in divine favor. The whole world “lieth in the wicked one,” and, therefore, could not be overthrown. This verse seems to apply to those who were actually begotten of the holy spirit or who have assumed a position such as those begotten of ‘the holy spirit; as, for instance, the tares which claim tole Wheat. They never were wheat, and will not be garnered with the wheat class. Time will show that they are not of this class. So in this picture we see the fall of those in general and of the consecrated in particular. There is a distinction between the thousand falling at the side and the ten thousand at the right hand. We might infer that the one thousand may fall into total unbelief, and the ten thousand, the “great company,” into the great time of trouble to wash their robes white and to purify themselves. They will be partakers with Babylon in her sins and have ‘part in ‘her great fall.—Rev. 14:18; 18:10.

‘None too extravagant is the prophetic declaration, “A -thousand shall fall at thy side.” Only the sanctified in Christ Jesus, copies of God’s dear Son, will be able to stand complete in Him. These will be the very elect, and it will not be possible for them to be deceived and ensnared; few God will give ‘His messengers a charge (message) for them (“present truth”), and thus these “feet” of the body of Christ shall “be upheld that they stumble not.

“Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked,” who’ reject the truth and prove unfaithful to it. We know that we are already passing through some of these troubles (including the troubles upon the nominal church incident to its testing), and that ‘we are escaping, ‘while many on every hand are falling into error and infidelity. We escape, not by being taken away from the scene of trouble, but by being supported, strengthened and kept in the very midst of it all by the. Word of the Lord, our shield and buckler.

“No Evil Shall Befall Thee”

Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even *the Most High, Thy Habitation, there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling”—no evil of the kind referred to; and any other seeming evils shall, under divine providence, work together for your good.—Rom. 8:28.

God has so arranged that only the truly consecrated will be kept from stumbling into error in this evil day Every day we learn to appreciate more and more the divine favor which has anointed the eyes of our understanding, and permitted us to see the internal strength and beauty of the divine Word and plan. If then, we are thus, by divine favor, made strong in the Lord, and enabled to “stand fast” while thousands are falling from their faith and steadfastness, let us “rejoice with fear” (reverence’). Let him who feels strong and well supported “be not high-minded,” but “take heed lest he fall.” Humility and zeal for the Lord are the terms upon which we received the great blessing, and are also the terms upon which we may retain it to the end—until our “change” comes and establishes in glory what grace began in our weakness.

“For he shall give his angels charge concerning thee, to keep thee in all thy wads.” That is, God will raise up some faithful pastors and teachers who will “watch for your souls as they that must give an account.” True, there shall arise false teachers, perverting the Word of • the Lord, and seeking by cunning sophistries to subvert ‘your souls; but if in

simplicity of heart the Lord's children require a "Thus saith the Lord" for every element of their, faith, and carefully prove all •things by the Word, they will be able readily to distinguish the true from the false, And having done so, the

Apostle Paul (Heb. 10:35) counsels us to have confidence. The Lord, our Shepherd, will care for the true sheep.

The Apostle Paul assures us that the angels of God are ministering spirits sent forth to minister unto and serve those who shall be heirs of salvation, the saved ones of this Gospel age—not only the overcomers of the "little flock," but also the overcomers of the "great multitude." Our Lord Jesus sets forth practically the same thought in His declaration, "Their angels do always behold (have access to) the face of my Father." (Matt. 18:10.) The Master's words seem to imply, at least, that one or more angels have charge over the consecrated ones, the "very elect. Nothing can by any means, therefore, harm these, except as the heavenly Father sees that the earthly injury 'or disadvantage would prove profitable either to the individual new creature or to the' Lord's general cause. This is in full accord with his general assurance that all things shall work together for good to those that love him.—Rom. 8:28.

Such, a use of the heavenly messengers by no means invalidates the thought that the Lord's earthly children are frequently, used 'of Him as ministers, servants, the one to the other. Indeed, we may be assured that the invisible messengers or servants, generally, if not always, are required to act through human instrumentalities—preferably through "the very elect." Of this kind of service done by the brethren, one for the other, we have illustrations in the harvest work for instance—supervised by our present Lord and His heavenly hosts, yet in The main carried on by the members of, His body still in the flesh. ,

The Harvest Message God's Keeping Power.

"They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone"—"thee"—all the members of the body of Christ, individually and collectively, using all their strength to protect against any stumbling-stone of false doctrine, and especially that great fundamental rock-doctrine of the redemption through the precious blood of Christ; that "rock of -offense and stone of stumbling" to both the houses of nominal Israel. (Isa. 8:14.) "The feet" of the body are its last members; the saints now living are members of "the feet of Him" (Christ), the ones who are now in danger of being stumbled, as the feet of the Jewish house of servants were in danger in the end, or harvest, of the Jewish age.

Transferred from ' Reserve Fund 20 0 0

How do such messengers bear up the feet of Christ? By helping them to a clear understanding of the truth, and teaching and encouraging them by word and example how to be faithful to the truth, and how to run so as to obtain the prize of our high-calling.

While doubtless the heavenly messengers are connected with this work, yet it is surely done through the church in the flesh, as already intimated. The Lord in this present harvest time has given His messengers, the leaders of His consecrated people, a "charge," a message, a word of warning, counsel, advice—an opening of the Word of truth, an enlightening of their understanding—that they should bear up all the members of "the feet" class, all of "the very elect" in this time of serious trial, testing and stumbling, lest at any time any of this class should stumble through the peculiar trials of the present time. How manifestly this is fulfilled. The harvest message in its various features, bearing on every phase of truth now due, and every phase of error now brought forward, is God's keeping power by which, according to His guarantee, we know that nothing shall by any means hurt "the feet" members of the body of Christ. • fie

It is for us to rejoice in these blessings and favors of the Lord and to increase our faith; and we remember that even before the "House of Sons" was organized the Lord had power and exercised it in the "House of Servants" in a way that, illustrates to us the abundance of that power.

Satan would like to have us walk by sight, not by faith; he would like to have us continually tempting, God, and demanding some ocular demonstration of His favor and protection, instead of accepting the testimony of His Word, and relying thereupon implicitly, in faith. In the light , of the unfolding of the Scriptures we see that Satan, probably unwittingly, quoted this passage of Scripture wholly out of its proper meaning and interpretation,. a passage which referred, not to the literal. feet of Jesus and to literal stones and to literal angels, but to the 'symbolic feet-members of the body of Christ to-day, and to the stones of stumbling, doctrinal and otherwise, which are now permitted in the path of the faithful and to the angels, or ministers of divine truth, who in the present harvest time would be commissioned to bear up "the feet" members with such counsels, admonitions and expositions of Scripture as would be necessary for them.

"Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder; the young. lion and the dragon thou shalt trample under feet." Thus borne up in the hands. of the Lord's faithful messengers and guarded by their vigilant watchfulness, and under the constant protection of the Most High, God's trusting, faithful children 'shall triumph over every device of Satan either to overpower or to beguile them—whether he goes about like a roaring lion, or whether, serpent like, he stealthily lurks about to insert His venomous poison.

“Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him; I will set him on high, because he hath known (appreciated) my name.” On account of the love and loyalty of each individual composing “the feet” class, the heavenly Father will deliver him from the pestilences, etc., and will exalt him to joint-heirship with Christ, make him a member of the “royal priesthood” and a partaker of the divine nature.

“He shall call upon me and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life will I satisfy ‘him, and show him my salvation”—He will make him understand His plan. As individuals they are known unto the Lord, who judges not merely by the sight of the eye and the hearing of the ear, but who discerns and judges the thoughts and intents of the heart. And, however widely they may be scattered, whether standing alone as ‘”wheat” in the midst of tares, or in company with others, God’s eye is always upon them. Dwelling in the secret place of the. Most High (sanctified, wholly set apart unto God), they shall: abide under the shadow of the Almighty, while the judgments of the Lord are experienced by the great religious systems that bear His name in unfaithfulness. They have no share in the judgment of Great Babylon, but are previously enlightened and called out of her.

Praise the Lord for such assurances of His loving care! “Bless’ the Lord, 0 my soul; and all that is within me, praise His holy name!”

BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE
Ermington Place, Kew, E 4 Vic

PEOPLES PAPER AND HERALD OF CHRIST’S KINGDOM.
Published by the Berean Bible Institute, 19 Ermington Place, Kew, E4, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.
(Monthly) 3/. (70 cents) per annum, post paid,

Weeping for a Night—Joy in the Morning.

FROM Osmar White, the Melbourne “Herald” War Correspondent, the following appeared in the press of 9th July:—

Berlin, Sunday.--Between 30,000 and 40,000 Berliners have committed suicide since the fall of the city.

This information was given me to-day by Dr. Ferdinand Friedenslatirg, President of the German Institute of Economic Research, who was Director of the Berlin Police in the days of the Weimar Republic. His estimate was confirmed by a number of responsible physicians, and also by district. police leaders, from whom I have made independent inquiries.

Doctors state that the cause of suicide in , the overwhelming majority of cases is neurasthenia, caused by ,the intolerable strain of the last months of war, the surge of terror when the city was-occupied by the Russians, and by the depression and hopelessness which followed the people’s realisation of final defeat.

“We realise,” a doctor told me, “that famine and great erring are inevitable next winter, and, however generously we are treated, there will be nothing better than hard work, short rations and sparse comforts for the German people for many years.

“To many people already nervously and physically exhausted, the ,future seems to hold out no hope. Since they can expect neither security nor comfort, they take what they believe to be the easy way out. ‘There have also been many cases of parents killing young children before committing suicide themselves. Nazis are by no, means the only people who despair.”

The above report surely shows how terrible are the feelings of the people of Berlin in what appears to them as a time of utter despair and the conditions thus revealed no doubt have been repeated again and again in many other cities in Europe over the past six ‘years.

While the Lord’s people truly sympathise with the position of such unfortunate people, the question that may be presented to our minds is why God permits..much more tragic experiences in many countries of Europe and China than in our own Australia and such as the U.S.A. The answer is revealed in the Scriptures, showing that a most severe time of trouble is yet to be experienced throughout to-day lands, and what is taking place in some countries today is but a beginning of “great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world’ to this time.” (Matt. 24:21.)

But why does God, who is almighty and loving, allow such tragic’happenings amongst His human creation? The Lord was in His heavens at the time of all the appalling conditions over the centuries—at the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70; when the French Revolution was raging, and other national calamities, and yet He did not intervene.

It would seem that God, in His wisdom, sees that His intelligent human creation can the better learn the necessary lessons of the sinfulness of sin by being permitted to experience the awfulness of degradation and corruption that results from disobedience to God.

However, God did intervene in the days of Noah-when the corruption in the earth reached such a level that the Lord sent the Flood and took away mankind as He saw good. So, too, He will intervene in the tribulation that is yet to reach world-wide proportions, but, not before mankind have been so humiliated by their own wickedness that the majority will never wish to taste the sour grape again. The Lord evidently foresees that only by the permission of great tribulation throughout the world could the blessings of Christ's Kingdom be fully appreciated in contrast, and desired and accepted by mankind for all time.

Many are the vivid descriptions of the impending tribulations upon the world given by the Lord's prophets of old. Referring to the trouble upon the Jews, we, read in Jeremiah 30:5-7, "For thus saith the Lord, We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, ,and see whether a man does travail with child, wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas, for that day is great, so that none , is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." As with Israel, so all other countries are included by the prophet Zephaniah 3:8, where he declares: "All the earth (social order) shall be devoured with the fire of my (God's) jealousy. Then in verse 9 the prophet adds the comforting assurance, "For then will I turn to the people a^ pure language (truths of Christ's Kingdom) that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve, Him with one consent."

Knowing that all the suffering populations of all countries to-day, along with all mankind of past calamities, back to' our first parents, are to be raised to life during Christ's Kingdom, while not lessening our sympathy for all in tribulation, does enable . the Lord's people to look by faith beyond the troubles 'of "this present evil world" and truly thank the God of our salvation who has provided such a wonderful redemption for* all through Jesus Christ. "For His anger endureth but a moment: in His favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." (Psa. 30:5.)

While it' is necessary, then, for the followers of the Master to proclaim "the day of vengeance of our God," explaining the necessity of such tribulations upon the world, they are privileged "to preach good tidings unto the meek, to bind up the broken-hearted; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord (the heavenly calling during this Gospel 'Age) and to comfort all that mourn," and happy are those who seek to do this in the remaining days, now very few, prior to the night coming when ,no man can work. (Isa. 61:1-3; John 9:4.)

Pilgrimage Ended.

In the early hours of 25th July the earthly course of another elderly member of the Melbourne Class was brought to a close, with the 'passing of our dear Brother Hiam. ,

Being of a Christian disposition in his early life, out Brother Hiam first came to appreciate the Lord's plan of the ages, through a volume sent to him as early as 1908, and from that time his appreciation and love for the Lord and-His truth increased throughout the years.

While the greater part of our Brother Hiam's life in the truth was spent with Sister Hiam and family in country parts of Victoria, this really gave opportunity for family worship in a manner that was delightful to see, and which has .brought its reward, by the Lord's overruling, in the whole family becoming Christians and the majority appreciating the light of present truth. The Apostle Paul's exhortation to fathers in Eph. 6:4, "Bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," was ably and grandly performed in reverent and patriarchal manner by our dear Brother Hiam. Further, the message of the Kingdom was also commended to all others who had ears to hear whenever Brother'Hiam had the opportunity.

Failing strength and loss 'of memory for the past two years had 'prevented our elderly Brother from attending Class, but for some years previously he was very regular and delighted in 'the studies and fellowship at the gatherings. The end came peacefully after only a short period 'in bed, and amongst the last words distinguishable could be heard: "We love Him, because He first loved us." We rejoice, that our dear Brother in Christ has entered into the joys of the Lord, the inheritance promised to all who love Him supremely.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Sister Hiam and all members of the family residing in Victoria and West Australia, and while feeling the parting very much, the truths of God's Word will no doubt be a sure source of comfort and strength to them, as they continue to walk in the light of the Lord as did the devoted Christian husband, and father,- .by the Lord's grace. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth; Yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

Bible Study Meetings.

Assemblies for undenominational Bible Study are to be found in the various States, and all earnest truth seekers will be very welcome.-

Please note the times and meeting places in current issues of “People’s Papers” as changes are sometimes necessary.

Melbourne.—Masonic Hall, 254 Swan Street, Richmond (near Church Street)—Sundays, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Thursdays, 19 Ermington Pike. Kew, E.4.-7.45 p.m.

Adelaide.—Druids - Hall, Flinders Street—Sunday,. 3 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Perth.—Druid’s Chambers, 459 Hay Street—Sunday, 3.30 p.m. and 6.15 p.m.

Sydney.-75 Liverpool Street (few doors from George Street)—Sunday, 3 p.m. and 5.15 p.m.

The Deluge Effect.

SCIENTIFIC Bible students are rapidly reaching the conclusion that we are fully justified in disregarding the so- called scientists who have denied the Bible story of the Deluge. The Bible is corroborated by Geology, Astronomy and History. The oldest records of Babylonia tell the story of the Deluge—of Noah and his ark.

To discredit the Bible, these archaeologists declare that the Genesis account was merely copied from the Babylonian records. How foolish! Who does’ not know that there were no’ records of ancient times that will at all compare with our Genesis account. None other even professes to give a connected history of the human family, a chronological line of 1565 years from Adam to the ‘Flood, or a definite record, as the Bible does, of just how long it rained, just how high the floods rose and just how long was the period required for the waters to drain off.

Transferred from ‘ Reserve Fund 20 0 0

,”Blind unbelief is sure to err 1337
And scan God’s Book in vain.”

But, says one, the theory of a deluge, whose waters would cover the hills and the mountains, might be thinkable if the earth were flat; but how could it possibly be true since we know ‘that the earth is a sphere.

Geology comes to the rescue of the Bible ‘student and points out distinctly that there have been several great deluges. It shows us great beds of sandstone, clay, shale, etc., all of which Science declares must have been placed where they’ are as the settlings of great floods. Some of these deposits are hundreds of feet below the surface.

When we ask where such floods could come from, Astronomy answers us, pointing us to Saturn and Jupiter, with their “rings.” Scientists declare that these rings consist of minerals and water thrown far off in a gaseous state when the planets were at white heat. They subsequently cooled and formed into various strata or rings. Because of their great distance from the planets their, motions are different, and they are held in suspense by the same laws which hold the planets themselves in space \ Nevertheless the superior weight of the planets draws them nearer and nearer.

The ring nearest the planet, and approaching it, is still held off by the “firmament” of circumambient air. The rotation of the planets on their axis gives least resistance at the poles;. and these rings, after spreading out great envelopes, gradually thin at the centre, or equator,- and thicken at the poles, until the weight at the poles becomes so great as to overcome the power or the strength of the firmament, and then breaking through from both poles, causes deluges.

No Rain on the Earth.

The astonishing statement that, prior to the Deluge, there had been no rain on the earth (Genesis 2:5), is in full agreement with what we _have seen from the fore- going. The earth once had similar “belts” or “rings.” These were precipitated, as we have described,’ one after the other, at long intervals during the Creative Days. By means of these deluges, our ,minerals we’re &posited and our coal beds buried.

God, foreknowing all things; foreknew the necessity of the Noachian Deluge, and hence so timed the features of His Plan that the last of earth’s “rings” was still unbroken when man was created. But it was no longer in the form of a ring. The waters above had approached the earth and formed a great watery canopy or veil, merely held off by, the

“firmament.”

There could be neither rain nor storm under such conditions. The temperature of the whole earth was equable, the sun’s rays acting upon the watery canopy as they do upon the white glass of a hot-house. The temperature was the same .at the poles as at the equator. This accounts for the remains of tropical animals and of plant life found imbedded under hundreds of feet of ice in the polar regions.

Why the Polar Ice?

Geology testifies to a Glacial Period, when great icebergs, carried by floods of water, rushed from the poles toward the equator. Geologists have traced great valleys cut. by these icebergs. On their findings they base the theory that the earth was once ice-covered. Instead of attributing the ice to the period of the Deluge, about 4400 years ago, they add a handful of naughts; and the more they add the prouder they feel of their achievements, because they think that they are getting away from the Bible and discrediting it.

But scientific Bible students are having their faith in God’s. Word established more and more. Without effecting the torrid .zone, the warmer temperature is now ex- tending itself into the frigid zone quite rapidly. “Greenland’s Icy Mountains” will later be things of the past. The poles are warming up. The ice caps are dissolving.

“Thy Word is Truth.”

The fitting of these facts to the Bible narrative is not only intensely interesting, but conducive to faith in God, in His providences, and in the Bible, and very conducive to a disregard of the wild guesses of “professors,” who have no faith in the Bible and are seeking to discredit it.

The sudden break of the canopy of water would not only cause a deluge to come down at both poles, and the flow of great tidal waves toward the equator, as geologists show was the case, but it would also produce a sudden and intense cold at the poles. The water froze so rapidly that out of the solid ice animals have in recent years been dug, which have grass between their teeth.

Transferred from ‘ Reserve Fund 20 0 0

We have only to put two and two together to have a chain of evidence linking us to the Bible. For instance, is it asked why it was colder at the poles then than now? The reply is: The more direct rays of the sun then, as now, fell on the equator; but the torrid zone was hotter than now, until the trade winds sprung up, which carried the heat and distributed it all over the earth. And the waters of the equator must have been hotter then, as the poles were colder, until the ocean currents set in—which, like the Gulf Stream, carry the water from the equator and distribute it along the shores of America and Europe—and the Japan and other currents, which in the Pacific carry their water warmed at the equator to the poles.

These processes, going on for 4400 years, are gradually thawing out the polar regions, as all scientists agree; and this has in past years caused large numbers of icebergs from the glaciers of the polar region to break loose and float down, to the distress of mariners.

Still there remains the question, Why was not Noah’s ark carried off by this swift current towards the equator? Why did it’ apparently remain not far from the place where it was built and come to rest on the top of Mounts Ararat? A suggestion which fits well with the Bible narrative is as follows:—The geological, evidences are that the swift currents of water, laden with icebergs and rolling rocks, visited various parts of Europe and America, and perhaps Asia, but seemingly avoided the vicinity of Mount Ararat. There alluvial deposits are of extraordinary depths. The geologists say that while there was a commotion round about, there was an eddy and back water in that particular vicinity.

Is it too much for the child of God to believe that the Great Creator, who intended to preserve alive Noah and his family to begin afresh the population of the earth, was fully competent to regulate the currents of that Deluge? It is pleasing to us, additionally, to note that the time required for the draining off of the waters (Genesis 8-:1-14) is reasonable and in harmony with the scientific investigation conducted from the Bible standpoint.

The Cause of the Deluge.

We have already seen that physical causes led up to the Deluge. Next let us inquire, Why did Divine Providence decree the obliteration of man, except Noah and his family? Why did He who knew “the end from the beginning” purposely allow that last canopy to remain to cause the Flood, instead of precipitating it before man was created?

The answer is that God foreknew the rebellion of Satan and his attempt to become the “Prince of this world.” God also foreknew that His human son, Adam, would fall before the temptation which would come upon him. He permitted the

temptation and the fall solely because He foresaw a way by which, ultimately, good would be accomplished

thereby and valuable, instructive lessons be given both to angels and to men. These lessons test the love and loyalty of every creature in Heaven and on earth, and when rightly learned, will serve their purposes to all eternity.

All of God's dealings with His intelligent creatures arc along the lines of absolute Justice, guided by Love Divine. But while Love can guide Divine Justice, Justice must rule, as we read: "Justice is the foundation of Thy Throne." (Psalm 89:14.) The Bible record is that at the time of the Flood wickedness had become so great that the conduct of mankind and the thoughts of their hearts were "only evil continually,"—Genesis 6:5.

This great increase of wickedness for 1600 years ' explained to have come,, not merely from human depravity, but by the connivance of some of the angels. These, although created holy, perfect, become enamored of sin through humanity, until they became disobedient to God, and by their greater intelligence led humanity into depths of iniquity.

The Bible cites many instances in which holy angels have materialized, assuming humans bodies and clothing. Thus three spirit beings, naturally invisible, appeared to Abraham as men and did eat and .talk with Abraham; and he 'knew not that they were angels, until afterward. This power appears to have been possessed by all the holy angels before the Flood. It was then that some of them, 'becoming enamored of the beautiful daughters of men, took to themselves wives, and lived in their materialized bodies, preferring to live as human beings.

The Apostle Jude declares that thus they "left their own habitation," or condition as spirit beings, in violation of -the Divine Law. Thus, instead of using their—permission to appear as men to help and ,instruct mankind, they used this power to still more rapidly degrade humanity. Moreover, the children born of those angelic sons of God by human mothers were human beings of a new order—different from Adam's family. We read that they were giants—physical and mental—"men of renown."

The fact that they grew to manhood and became renowned proves, that this improper relationship between angels and humanity continued for centuries, because in that primitive time full manhood was not reached in less than a hundred years. Those giant sons of the angels, begotten in lust and in violation of the Divine Law, would not, naturally, be renowned for their virtues or holiness, but the reverse. Therefore, it does not surprise us to read further that those sons of the angels tyrannized over humanity, and that the whole earth was filled with violence.

The time had come when God's displeasure with those conditions should be manifested—not by sending those angels and 'their giant-renowned sons and the depraved antediluvians of Adam's race to a hell of. torture, but by merely overwhelming them in the Deluge. God thus set an example of His opposition to sin and His determination that, eventually, it should be fully stamped out. But neither in this, nor in anything else, did God ever suggest any thought of torturing sinners, or anybody, throughout eternity.

On the contrary, all those antediluvian sinners of Adam's race Were as much redeemed by Christ's sacrifice as other sinners of the race at any time. They belonged to the great mass of mankind, with whom Messiah will deal during His Millennial Reign of righteousness. They will all be 'brought to an accurate knowledge of the Truth, like the remainder of the race. The object in so doing will be that after lessons of chastisement for any wilful disobedience, they may be, if they will, fully recovered from sin and death, and brought back to all that was lost—human perfection and everlasting life in an earthly Paradise restored—world-wide—at Jesus' cost.

As for the sons of the angels by human mothers, there is no hope for them. Their begetting and birth were not authorized of God. They were cut off in death. They were not redeemed. They will never be awakened nor resurrected.

As for the fallen angels themselves: The Bible tells us that for these 4400 years they have been exiles from God, restrained "in chains of darkness," "until the Judgment of the Great Day."—Jude 6; 2 Peter 2:4.

Correspondence.

Victoria.

Dear Frank and Ernest—Please find enclosed 5/- for twelve months' subscription to "Peoples Paper," balance postage costs. We very much appreciate your broadcasts and free literature sent. It has helped us wonderfully in understanding Scripture and God's plan for the redemption of mankind. May God bless your work. Yours sincerely.

Frank and Ernest —I listen to your Talks on Sunday over 301.; Geelong and was very interested in the Talk on the "Beasts of the Bible" of which you spoke some Sundays ago: have never heard it explained like that and enjoyed the Talk, so would you mind sending me that one, and carry on with the good work. Sincerely yours.

Dear Frank and Ernest—We look forward with great interest to, your Bible Talks on Sunday mornings; you are both doing a grand job. Will you please send me copies of your Bible Talks of last Sunday and the Sunday previous. Thanking you. Yours sincerely.

Dear Frank and Ernest—I do enjoy your Talks over the air and wish that all who have a radio would listen in. I do my best to make them known. . . . Wishing God's richest blessings on these Talks from 3GL. I am, yours very sincerely.

Frank and Ernest, Dear Sirs—I received the'^ book "Fore gleams of the Golden Age," thank you: it is a very beautiful book and explains a lot: also we enjoyed the one "Chosen People." . . . Please send me the booklet "Hope Beyond the Grave," also the Dialogue that was over the air last Sunday. am enclosing a small sum for expenses. Yours gratefully.

Berean Bible Institute, Dear Sirs—We have received from Corporal , now serving with the A.I.F. in the

Philippines, a request for copies of your Talks "Christ the Foundation" and "Evolution Versus the Bible" advertised in "The Listener-In."

If possible, you will, no doubt,' be glad to forward the Talks, or notes thereon, for use up North. . . . We have written to Cpl, telling him that we have communicated with you in the matter. Yours faithfully, Editor "Listener-In."

South Australia.

Frank and Ernest—I always enjoy listening to your Talks from 5AD on Sunday morning; it is just what the world needs to hear and to realise the great truth of it all. Oh that thousands more would listen. It seems to me that the majority ,of our preachers are afraid to touch on that great truth, the second coming of our Lord. You have my prayers for the success of your mission. Keep on talking about this, our blessed hope: God prosper you. Please send me several of 'your latest Talks and booklets. Yours in Christ Jesus.

Frank and Ernest, Dear Friends—I am accepting your invitation to write for a free copy of your Dialogue on the two kingdoms. heard over the air this morning from 5AD at 9.30 a.m.

I have always been taught to love God's Israel, and am deeply interested in present day happenings in the light of prophecy; and have implicit faith in God's promise to gather together, in Palestine, His chosen people. . . .

Some weeks age a Seventh Day preacher said in an address over the air that God had ceased to look upon the Jews as His people and if they did not become Christians there was no hope for them as a nation. I simply could not let this pass; I wrote to him and- gave him several Scriptures to study. . . . I should like a copy of your Dialogue this morning—I think anyone would be blind (deliberately) if he shut his eyes to the truth as stated by "Frank."

May God bless your work and may many be led to see the truth and "pray for the peace of Jerusalem." I am, Yours in Him. -

To Frank and Ernest. Dear Sirs—I was much interested in your Talk last Sunday morning. Will you please send me a copy of the Talk mentioned. The restitution is the most 'reasonable thing I have ever heard, and there is no other way for those who have never had a chance. I am enclosing a small donation for your work. Yours sincerely.

To Frank and Ernest, Dear Sirs—Listening in to this morning's Bible story I was wondering if you would be so kind as to send^ me a copy., as I get great comfort from your, broadcasts. I enclose a stamp for postage. Yours sincerely.

Frank and Ernest, Dear Sirs—Will you please forward me a copy of the broadcast on “Keys of Hell” as given from your station. I am fully persuaded that hell is the grave, but would like more enlightenment upon the subject. Yours faithfully.

New South Wales.

Dear Sirs—I have listened-in with interest, to two of your broadcasts through station 2HD, and I am writing to you for a copy of yesterday’s message on “The Church” and the pamphlet on “The Parables of the Kingdom.” Thanking you. Yours faithfully.

Dear Frank and Ernest—I was so pleased to receive your papers -to-day and am answering it to let you know I received them. Enclosed you will find a 4/- postal note for my subscription’ for further copies of “Peoples Paper,” also for the three I have already received. Hoping to receive your further papers. May God bless you in your work. Yours sincerely.

Dear Sir—I was visiting Queanbeyan just recently and heard over the radio your session of Frank and Ernest and enjoyed it very much. I would be pleased if you could forward me the two papers for the last two sessions.

Could you advise me if they are recorded on a Sydney station so that I can listen again when you continue. Wishing you success in your service. Christian greetings. Yours sincerely. •

(Word is to hand that 2HD Newcastle is heard in Sydney quite well, and the Frank and Ernest Dialogues are heard on this station every Sunday at 1.15 p.m.—B.B. Institute.)

Tasmania.

Frank and Ernest, Dear Sirs—I listen to your Talks and find them most interesting and would like to avail myself of the opportunity of having the Talks sent me. I would very much like to have the last three Talks. Thanking you very much. Yours faithfully.

Western Australia.

Dear Frank and Ernest—I was interested in your radio programme ibis evening and desire to ask if you would be so

good as to supply a copy of the booklet which you offered free to listeners, “Hope Beyond the Grave.” Thanking you. Yours faithfully.

Dear Friend—I intended writing before this to let you know I received the parcel containing two copies of “Divine Plan of the Ages,” and a day or so after one copy of “Fore gleams of the Golden Age,” and yesterday I received the first copy of “Peoples Paper.” Since I wrote last to you I have put all my spare time into reading Pastor Russell’s Sermons/ It’ was loaned to me by a friend. . . I enjoyed it so much that I asked my friend to sell it to me, but now she knows about it through my telling her of what it contains she ‘doesn’t want to part with it. I would so like to own a copy for myself, that I could lend to my friends who are interested in such books relating to the teachings of our loving Father, also another book advertised—”The Atonement Between God and Man.” . . Thank you so much for enclosing the two copies of “An Open Letter to a Seventh Day Adventist.” I will make good use of them by letting -some of the Adventists read them. . . .

I am delighted to let you know that I have got the radii, going well and have had the joy of listening to “Frank and Ernest” the last two Sundays. I am enclosing 10/- note for a , donation to the broadcasting. I would like the “Peoples Paper” regularly. . . . Wishing you every success in the work for the Fellowship. With love and God’s blessing; in all sincerity.