



Volume XXVII. No. 12 MELBOURNE, 1st DECEMBER, 1944 Price—Threepence

A Saviour, Christ the Lord.

(Luke 2:1-20)

THE message of the angels to the shepherds on Bethlehem's plains sounds more and more precious to each child of God in proportion as he grows in grace and knowledge. As his eyes and ears of understanding open more widely to the lengths and breadths of God's great plan of the ages, that prophetic message is the more highly esteemed as an epitome of the entire Gospel. Nor can our attention be too frequently called to the great event which lies at the foundation of that message—our Saviour's birth.

For four thousand years and more the promises of God, clothed in more or less of obscurity, had been given to mankind, intimating that ultimately the great curse of sin and death which had come upon the world through Father Adam's disobedience in Eden would be rolled away, and instead of a curse, a blight, would come a blessing of the Lord with life-giving refreshment. In various types, figures and shadowy promises this lesson had come down through the ages to the time of our Lord's birth, especially amongst the Jews, who were the divinely favored and covenanted people. And since the Jews were of a commercial spirit, many of them were to be found in all parts of the civilized world; and thus amongst every people the faith in the one God and the hope of Israel through a Messiah were more or less made known, so that at the time of our Lord's birth, we read, "All men were in expectation" of a soon-coming Messiah. Doubtless this expectation was built upon the interpretation of Daniel's prophecy, which we now see clearly marked the year of our Lord's majority, when He was thirty years of age and made His consecration to His work and received the begetting of the holy spirit, His anointing as the great antitypical High Priest and as the great antitypical King over Israel and the world.

The Angels and the Shepherds.

Noble shepherds those must have been to whom the Almighty sent the angelic message respecting the birth of Jesus, the Messiah, which has rung down the ages and reached our ears—the message which thrills us the more in proportion as we are able to grasp its meaning. First a single angel appeared to the shepherds and allayed their fears, saying,

"Fear not; behold I bring you good tidings." It would appear that fear is one of the dominating impulses of the human mind, especially in conjunction with any revelations from the Lord. Men realize—even the best of the race—that they are imperfect and that the Almighty and His laws are perfect. Instinctively the world seems to realize that a curse or condemnation of the Almighty rests upon it, and instinctively it

fears a further curse and further condemnation, realizing its continual and increasing sinfulness. The same is true today with all except the comparatively few who are well informed respecting the divine character and plan. Thus the subject of religion is generally obnoxious to the world in general—a subject which they prefer to avoid, because of a feeling of guilt and a dread of further knowledge and condemnation.

It is for the true children of God today, as it was for the angels at that time, to assure the world that God is better than all their fears—that God so loved the world as to redeem them from the just sentence of death, the curse that came upon all as inheritors of Adam's imperfections and sentence.

“Good tidings” is another translation of our word “gospel.” How beautiful the thought that the Gospel is really and truly good tidings. Alas, for the misrepresentations of God's plan, under which so many of His professed people misrepresent His character and His Word, and apply the term “Gospel” to their various messages from the dark ages, teaching purgatory and eternal torment as the portion of the race. Let us get away from this false thought and get the truth that the Gospel is good tidings. The angel elaborated, saying that his message was good tidings of great joy, which should be unto all people. Ah, thank God, His plan is wider and deeper and higher and grander than anything we had ever conceived. The Gospel is not merely to be good tidings to the comparatively few that now have ears to hear and eyes to see its beauties, but in God's due time it is to be good tidings of great joy to all people.

As every member of Adam's race shared in his fall and in the curse of death which came upon him as a result, so every member of the race was included in the great redemptive sacrifice which our Lord Jesus offered and which was finished at Calvary. God's plan in Christ, as it is being worked out and shall ultimately be accomplished, will mean great joy for all people, and the tidings of this were given at the very moment of our Lord's birth, because He was the one through whom all the glorious things of the divine purpose and plan shall ultimately be accomplished.

Although nearly nineteen centuries have rolled away since that angelic message was delivered, it has not yet been fulfilled except in a limited measure by faith to those who have the eye of faith and the ears of faith, in all a “little flock.” But the tidings of great misery for nearly all people has been spread abroad in the name of Christ, much to the discredit of the divine plan and to the dishonor of the divine character. Instead of carrying joy the message has very generally carried grief and sorrow, especially to the kind-hearted and more generously disposed. Indeed we may say that no message of the Lord Jesus either true or false, has ever reached all people. Even today, after nineteen centuries of propaganda, only a comparatively small portion of the human family has ever heard of the only name given under heaven and amongst men whereby we must be saved—“nor is there salvation in any other.”—Acts 4:12.

What, then, shall we say of the salvation which is come to those who have truly accepted Christ as their Saviour, and who are today rejoicing in Him as such, and who by faith are seeing the salvation of God begun in their own hearts and yet to be fully accomplished under the whole heavens? This the Apostle calls the salvation by hope. His words are, “We are saved by hope.” (Rom. 8:24.) We are not saved actually; we are still surrounded by sin, pain, sighing, crying and dying; the curse is not yet rolled away. All that the best of the Lord's people have received is salvation by hope, by faith. Yet this anticipation of the future salvation, of the resurrection from the dead, of a participation in the glory, honor and immortality of the divine nature promised to the faithful, is so strong, so clear, that those who possess it are enabled to rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory, even in the midst of trials and difficulties and weaknesses and unfavorable conditions incident to the curse upon the race.

A Prophecy of Good Things.

Yes, the angelic message was a prophecy of good things to be accomplished for the Church and also for the world during the Millennial Age. The Church is to have the first blessing. The first resurrection is to

be composed only of the blessed and holy who shall live and reign with Christ during the Millennium, the thousand years in which Satan shall be bound, and when the good influences of truth and righteousness shall enlighten the whole earth. The declaration of the Scripture is that the deliverance of the Church will come first, as the prophet declares, “God will help her early in the morning.”—Psa. 46:5.

But much as we rejoice in the glorious hopes of the Gospel set before us who now see, who now believe, who now rejoice with joy unspeakable, we are glad that the divine mercy and love are of such lengths and breadths and heights and depths as to encompass the whole world of mankind, and to provide a blessing for every member of Adam’s race through Him who loved us and bought us with His precious blood.

It will be during the Millennial Age that this prophecy of the angel will have its fulfilment, and the great Saviour who has already redeemed us by His sacrifice will stand forth as the King, the glorified Messiah, and establish His dominion of righteousness in the world for the blessing and uplifting of every member of the race. In harmony with the words of the Apostle, those will be times of restoration, “times of restitution of all things spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets since the world began.” (Acts 3:20, 21.) If the Lord had based the hope of the world upon some works of merit or righteousness of the world’s doing, then indeed we might have feared—indeed the more we know of the world, the less hope we would have. But, on the contrary, the Lord has based the entire proposition for the future blessing not upon our worthiness, but upon the worthiness and sacrifice of His Son—to you is born a life-giver, which is Messiah the Lord.

How it adds to our enjoyment of the coming age blessings to know that the trials and difficulties of this present Gospel Age are subject to the divine supervision in the interest of the little flock that is now being gathered in advance from amongst men—the “elect,” the Church. We see how the present trials and difficulties are the chiselings and polishing necessary to our development in the fruits and graces of the holy spirit in the character-likeness of God’s dear Son, our Lord, our Hope, our Bridegroom. How joyful the thought that soon the elect number called from the world to be the Bride, the Lamb’s wife, will be completed and enter into her glory. How precious the thought that then they shall be privileged with their Lord and Master to extend the divine favor of blessing and uplift to the world. What higher honor or privilege or blessing could possibly come to any?

It was after the giving of the message of good tidings and great joy by the heavenly one that a host of angels appeared to the shepherds, saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men.” This, too is a prophecy. It is not yet true, but will be fulfilled in every particular in God’s due time, which we believe is now nigh, even at the door. Not yet does God receive glory in the highest, not yet is there peace amongst men. Quite to the contrary. God’s name is blasphemed, not only by those who vulgarly and in ribald jest take the divine name in vain, and not merely by the heathen who worship devils and think they are gods, but even by Christian people, God’s name is blasphemed every day. For be it known that blasphemy is any dishonorable misrepresentation of another. God be merciful to us, for at some time or other every one of us doubtless has blasphemed the holy name in this manner — by misrepresenting the divine character and divine plan, by picturing the God of love and mercy and justice and truth as the originator, the planner, the perpetuator of the eternal torment of the great mass of His creatures, born in sin and shapen in iniquity, born to sin as the sparks fly upwards.

But the Lord had mercy upon us because we did it ignorantly. And we also should have’ compassion upon others who still ignorantly misrepresent our God, and our energies should be continually bent to their assistance that the eyes of their understanding might open more widely to perceive the lengths and breadths and heights and depths and know the love of God which passeth understanding.

Noting that peace on earth and goodwill to men have not followed the Saviour’s birth thus far, and not discerning that this is a prophecy of what is to be accomplished during the Millennium, many have been

inclined to change the translation of this verse so as to have it read, "On earth peace amongst men, in whom he is well pleased." However by thus changing it, the statement would not be true, for even the Lord's people have no peace on earth. Whatever peace they have is in their hearts, and based upon their faith in the Lord and in the glorious things which He was promised. Our Lord Himself and the apostles testified to this, assuring us that whosoever in this present time would live godly should suffer persecution, that a man's foes would be 'they of his own household, etc. (2 Tim. 3:12; Matt. 10:26.) Let us not confuse ourselves nor abridge the testimony of the Word, but with the eye of faith look forward to the day of Christ in which all these glorious things shall have their fulfilment, in which peace shall indeed fill the whole earth with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, bringing divine favor and rolling away the curse from the entire groaning creation, as pointed out by the Apostle.-Rom. 8:22.

Not even with the inauguration of the Millennium will this prophecy be fulfilled: not until , its close, when the human family shall have been lifted by the kingdom regulations out of sin, sickness, pain, sorrow and death, up, up to all that was lost in Adam-not until then will there indeed be glory to God in the highest, not until then will there be peace amongst men. Nor are we to understand that the entire race will be appreciative of the divine love and favor even after they have fully seen the righteousness of God in Christ manifested. On the contrary the Scriptures seem to clearly teach that there will be a class who will then prove unfit for life eternal, unappreciative of the divine favor and we learn that all such shall be utterly destroyed from amongst the people in the second death. Thus eventually by the close of the Millennium, Satan and all wilful wrongdoers having been destroyed, the time will come as declared in the Scriptures when all voices in heaven and in earth and under the earth shall be heard praising God, Him that sitteth upon the throne, and the Lamb forever and ever. Hosanna! Glory to God in the highest! Peace and goodwill to men, will be the final shout of a redeemed race when the great salvation shall have been fully outworked according to the divine plan set forth in the Scriptures.

He wakeneth morning by morning, He wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord God bath opened mine ear Isaiah 50:4, 5.

Lord, in the stillness of the dawn Before the world breaks in To flood the mind with its concerns Its hurry and its din,

Let me breathe deep of heavenly air,
And may my inner ear
The music of the heavenly land
In all its sweetness, hear.

New Price List of Bible Helps.

In view of the greatly increased cost of all printed matter, the following prices will apply for publications, thus cancelling all other price lists. These prices are for single copies, post paid.

“Foregleams of the Golden Age”-2/9.

“Divine Plan of the Ages,” pocket edition, blue cloth, 2/6. In red cloth, ordinary size, 1/6.

“Battle of Armageddon”-(4th vol. Scripture Studies) in pocket size, blue cloth, 4/6.

“Atonement Between God and Man”-(5th vol. Scripture Studies) pocket size, blue cloth, 4/6. In red cloth, ordinary size, 2/6.

“The New Creation”-(6th vol. Scripture Studies) pocket size, blue cloth, 4/6. In red cloth, ordinary size, 2/6.

“Daniel the Beloved of Jehovah.”-Complete exposition by R. E. Streeter. Well bound in cloth, 493 pages, 4/6. “Daily Heavenly Manna”-Vest pocket size, cloth bound, 2/-.

Bible Students’ Hymnal.-462 hymns, words only, blue cloth, 2/3.

“Plan of God-in Brier”-112.

“Tabernacle Shadows”-1/8.

“The Beauty of Holiness.”-60 pages, 10d.

“Some of the Parables”-9d.

“Parables of the Kingdom”-6d.

“God and Reason”-8d.

“Hope Beyond the Grave”-8d.

“Hell, Death, Spiritism”-5d.

“Christ’s Return”--5d.

“Where are the Dead?”-4d.

“A New Dictator”-4d.

“The Greatest of These is Love”-4d.

“Times of Refreshing and Christ’s Return”-4d.

“The Offerings for Sin”-4d.

“The Day of Judgment”-4d.

“Armageddon”-4d.

“Good News”-4d.

Two or more copies, especially small booklets, are supplied at reduced rates, according to postage costs.

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.
Wednesdays, 76 Robinson Rd., Hawthorn-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.

Diaglots Available.

Copies of the Emphatic Diaglott are now available in blue imitation leather covers. While not as small as a previous edition, these are very nice and should give good service. Price is 16/-.

No Christmas Cards.

Will our friends please note that it is impossible to handle Christmas Cards again this year. Please do not send money for cards etc.

PEOPLES PAPER AND HERALD OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM.

Published by the Berean Bible Institute, 19 Ermington Place, Kew, E4, Melbourne,

Victoria, Australia.

The Witness by Radio.

It is now six months since the last report on the Radio witness was presented in these columns together with the balance sheet covering this feature of the Institute's work, and it is a pleasure now to present a brief account of the privilege of sounding forth the Gospel message in this manner, made possible by the loving co-operation of a number of our friends, through the Lord's overruling providence.

That the Lord has blessed the message of truth sent out in this way to a considerable number throughout the various states is well indicated by the appreciation expressed by listeners. And one of the most pleasing results is that the radio sessions have found a number of friends who had rejoiced in the truth years ago and for various reasons had become discouraged; it is pleasing to know that the short session on the air on Sundays has brought much help and refreshing to these, as well as to those who have come in contact with the truth message for the first time.

Early in July this year radio stations 3B0 (Bendigo, Vic.) and 2CA (Canberra) were engaged, and 3SH (Swan Hill, Vic.) was discontinued shortly afterwards. In this way new areas are covered and some very good responses have been received through these stations. With stations 3GL (Geelong, Vic.) and SAD (Adelaide) which cover the larger cities, as well as country areas, there is a steady response from new cases, as well as a regular listening circle of friends. It is encouraging to know that some real help and comfort is being conveyed to listeners, and also to realise that the Lord will give the full increase in His own time and way.

Some of our brethren have done good work in making the radio sessions known, and all who are able to engage in this work, as unto the Lord, should esteem it a privilege to have some part in the service of the truth. Truly the time is short now for opportunities of this kind, for the time of trouble must be expected to close in on all lands within reasonable time, and then no one can work. There is a blessing received also by those friends who seek to point others to the only hope of life and comfort. Advertising cards are available to all free, supplied from the Radio Fund.

Another service made possible since the radio work has been undertaken is the sending out of the dialogues in 'printed form. After each broadcast a copy of the discussion is offered to all listeners, but in addition to this, large numbers of copies are mailed each month with the "Peoples Paper" to subscribers and others who desire them. These copies are often used as tracts for passing out where good may be done; all our friends are welcome to samples of the dialogues.

The balance sheet presented below shows some details of the financial side of this work, covering the past six months, and while the credit balance has been greatly reduced, there has been a reluctance to discontinue any of the radio stations for the time being, knowing that each area being covered has its circle of appreciative listeners. Any changes that may be necessary later, will be announced in the "Peoples Paper." It is felt that in these days the Lord's people have the last privilege of proclaiming the Gospel message, while the heavenly calling is still available to "as many as the Lord our God shall call." While it may seem that the radio witness is expensive, who can value, in this world's treasures (which after all must soon pass away), the privilege of being used of the Lord to enlighten and comfort some of His little ones, for whom Christ died?

The many sacrifices of our friends generally to enable this witness to go on, under the providential care of the Lord, is most encouraging, and the desire is to use faithfully, as unto Him, the means made available for this service of the truth. It is requested that the prayers of our friends be offered for the Lord's guidance and blessing, that His will may be done in this, and all features of the harvest work.

Booklet Replacing January “Peoples Paper”

Instead of the usual issue of “Peoples Paper” for next month, a booklet entitled “The Offerings for Sin” is taking its place, and copies are being posted out with this issue under the one cover. It is felt that this booklet will be found helpful on the subjects covered, and subscribers desiring extra copies may obtain these while the supply is available.

Melbourne Christmas Convention.

As announced last month, the Melbourne Class has arranged for the Annual Convention to be held (D.V.) for the four days 23rd December to 26th December, and all friends able to attend these assemblies will be very welcome. A very profitable time may be expected, by the Lord’s favor.

The gatherings are to be held at Masonic Hall, 254 Swan Street, Richmond, which is only a few minutes from Melbourne city. Programmes will be ready shortly, and these and other information may be obtained from the Class Secretary, Mr. J. B. Hiam, 44 Heath Avenue, Oakleigh, S.E.12, Victoria.

Patience and Comfort of the Scriptures.

(Convention Address).

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime, were written for our learning that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.” (Rom. 15:14.)

PERHAPS the best meaning of hope is fervent expectation with the desire of receiving it. If we let our memories go back to the time when we first saw the light, what was the hope that first gladdened our hearts? Would it not be God’s wonderful Plan of Restitution and the destruction of death? How poets and bards of every age and clime have written of death, the old, old fashion which came in with our first parents and will last unchanged until this age has run its course. Longfellow wrote:

“There is no home—but has some vacant chair, There is no flock, however well attended, but one dead lamb is there.”

Then from I. G. Whittier:

“Still memory to a grey haired man
That sweet child face is showing,
Dear girl the grasses on her grave
Have forty years been growing.
Touched by a loving hand,
Wakened from Slumber, ‘
Chords that lie shattered
Will vibrate once more:” .

What say the Scriptures? “Thus saith the Lord: A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not. Thus saith the Lord: Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be

rewarded, saith the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.” (Jer. 31:15, 16.) Glad will be that day when all shall know the Lord. Isaiah tells of a day when the whole world is at rest, and they shall break forth into singing.

What is the patience of the Scriptures?—”In your patience possess ye your souls.” When Jacob had to give up Benjamin and cried, “All these things are against me”; when the water bottle gave out and Hagar cast herself against a juniper bush and lifted up her voice and wept, that she might not see death of her child; when Naomi cried, “Call me not Naomi (pleasant), call me Mara (bitter): for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full, and the Lord hath brought me home again empty: why then call me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?” These are experiences that were written for our admonition, but whatever be our experiences, as God’s children we may always have the comfort of the Scriptures, for no other book is like the Bible.

In the Scriptures are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, and they have a message of help for our every need;—whether weary with the trials of the pilgrim way, perplexed with what is the will of God concerning us, or when we are, so to speak, on the mountain tops.

That sweet singer, F. R. Havergal, in “Evening Radiance” wrote:

“His spirit shines upon His Word,
And makes it sweet indeed:
Just like a shining lamp held up
Beside me as I read.

And brings it to my mind again,
Alone upon my bed;
Till all abroad, within my heart,
The love of God is shed.”

“Leaves which grave experience ponders,
Soundings for her pilot charts;
Pages which we read adoring
Him who writes on human hearts.”

“Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart.” (Jer. 15:16.) “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder 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.) “Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass.” (Deut. 32:1, 2.) There are many lovely and comforting verses in the Scriptures and they are most precious to God’s children, because it is in the study of the Scriptures that we may meet with the Lord in sweet fellowship. “Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts.” (Psa. 65:4.) This beautiful verse of the Psalmist is expressive of the calling of this age. “If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7.) Chosen from the “Camp” of alienation and brought into the “Court” of friendship. Fellowship means oneness; atonement brings peace with God in justification and the removal of all condemnation at consecration. Having access to God by His spirit makes possible increasingly close fellowship as we walk in the light of truth and feed upon His Word. Our fellowship deepens in the course of time, becomes more precious, more intimate, and we learn what it is to dwell in the antitypical Holy— to walk in the light of the golden candlestick, to feast on the shewbread of truth, and to offer up incense

acceptable on the altars of the will of God. “That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.” (Phil. 3:10). “While the king sitteth at his table, my spikenard sendeth forth the smell thereof.” (S. of Sol. 1:12.)

As our pilgrimage lengthens and God’s wonderful plan unfolds through His Word the spiritual treasures and beauty of holiness, how the fragrance of our devotion rises to our Lord. A Christian writer recently wrote that when the employees of a perfume factory come out for lunch the whole street smells of the fragrance because the employees had been in contact with the very essence of the perfume. As a woman might take into her bosom an aromatic sprig of myrrh, so we may take the Lord Jesus into our hearts—
”More dear, more intimately nigh, than e’en the sweetest earthly tie.”

What is a Christian-perfumed life? It is one that lets it’s light shine in kind and loving deeds; by your prayers for others; winsome words for the Master’s use made meet, that all who come in contact with you perceive an indwelling Christ, and go away helped. “The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.” (Psa. 28:7.) But good perfumes are never cheap. A holy, fragrant life is not obtained without cost. It may be gathered in the crucible of difficulty and perplexity, of pain and suffering, or of sorrow and bereavement. Incense is liberated by the action of fire. Your own physical suffering may have particularly fitted you to help others, when they come to learn your secret.

“Dear name! the rock on which we build,
Our shield and hiding-Place:
Our never-failing treasure, filled
With boundless stores of grace!”

“That the trial of your faith being much more precious than ‘gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire.’” But then, “Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.”

F. R. Havergal left this testimony: ,

“Then hush, oh hush, for the Father
Whose ways are true and just,
Knoweth, and loveth, and careth,
And waits for thy perfect trust.

The cup He is slowly filling,
Will soon be filled to the brim,
And an infinite compensation,
Forever be found in Him.”

Waits for thy perfect trust. How meaningful those words from one who went through tribulation, as we might say, to the very swelling of Jordan.

“Have faith in God.” Oh, what power and comfort are in these words of our Master’s when they flash into the mind of the child of God in the furnace of affliction. God waits to be gracious. “It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.” (Lam. 3:26.) Those who will be with Jesus in the Kingdom must expect trials, to develop faith, and God will permit the trials. Take as an example of suffering affliction, Job. He had lost his sheep, his oxen and cattle and camels; his ten children had been taken from him; he was covered with boils; even his wife turned against him; every one was trying to discourage him, but Job said, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust him.” God did not deliver Job

out of his difficulties, but let him go through with them; nor may He deem it best to deliver us quickly. The Lord is good unto them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeketh Him. God will not suffer us to be tempted above what we are able to bear, but He wants us to go through with our trials rejoicingly as Job did. "Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: On the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him: But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." (Job 23:8-10.)

"Thy cheeks are comely with rows of jewels, thy neck with chains of gold." (S. of Sol. 1:10.) Gold represents the divine nature. This chain of gold which we are each making for ourselves is composed of the sacrifices we willingly and understandingly make for the Master's cause. Every time we do something for the Lord in the way of sacrifices, that costs us something in suffering, we add a link to that chain. The greater number of links, the more beautiful the chain. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" (Isa. 52:7.)

"Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer." (Rom. 12:12.) Here the apostle gives us excellent advice in tribulation. Wilhelmina Stitch's "Prayer in Adversity" is helpful:

"Lord, keep Thou my temper sweet."
Thus, I used to hear her say,
As she trod life's lonely way,
Faced so often by defeat.

"Lord, keep Thou my temper sweet."
Phrase of wisdom; how it clings,
Troubles now I never meet,
But within my heart there rings,

"Lord, keep Thou my temper sweet."
Sullen is the storm-swept sky,
Everything is going wrong,
That's no reason you or I

Should broadcast a bitter song.
Fret not with life when things go wrong,
Chant this helpful little song—"
Lord, keep Thou my temper sweet."

This is very good advice amidst the irritations and tasks that sometimes seem never to end, and troubles that come so unexpectedly.

In Luke 21:36 the Saviour gives us a remedy how to keep our minds from being too much occupied with the cares and distractions of earthly things—"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

How lovely was Jacob's prayer at Bethel in gratitude for the Lord's providences in his life—"Who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went." This seems to harmonise with the walk to Emmaus—"And Jesus drew near and went with them."

Hagai's experience was an acute one, but how lovely was God's providence—"And God opened her eyes, and they saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink."

(Gen. 21:19.) These things were written for our admonition, upon whom the end of the ages have come, and we too have acute experiences.

Then, above all things, strive to let the peace of God rule in your hearts and minds, for without peace there can be no true healing; worries weaken reasoning power and darken the outlook on life. Remember, "Every tomorrow has two handles; we may take hold of it by the handle of anxiety or by the handle of faith."

Then, why not determine to cultivate an abiding trust in God, with confidence and fortitude, and thereby gain inspiration and a daily uplift. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:2 7.)

WHAT SORROW SAID.

'Look thou beyond the evening sky," she said,
Beyond the changing splendours of the day:
Accept the pain, the weariness, the dread—
Accept, and bid me stay.

I turned, and clasped her close with sudden strength,
And slowly, sweetly, I became aware
Within my arms,
God's angel stood at length,
White robed and calm and fair.

And now I look beyond the evening star,
Beyond the changing splendours of the day;
Knowing the pain
He sends more precious far,
More beautiful than they.

Have You Been in the Valley?

Have you been in the valley of sorrow and grief
Where there's nothing but death And despair?
Where the mists are so dark
And your life seems so stark
And there seems to be no one to care?

Though the storm that is beating around you today
Destroy all you have cherished so dear,
Though your loved ones forsake you,
Temptations o'ertake you,
Look up for the Master is near.

There'll be light in the midst of your sorrow and grief
If you'll just take the hand he extends.
He'll stay close by your side,
With His wisdom will guide,
Relief for your trouble He'll send.

There'll be visions of joy in the valley of grief
Which Christ in His love will unfold.
Then lift up your eyes
To the light in the skies
And His love and His mercy behold.

In the depths of the valley of sorrow and grief
The stars of His presence appear.
Come close to His side,
With the Saviour abide
And the shadows will soon disappear.

There'll be hope in the valley of sorrow and grief
When once you've discovered His love.
And the way will grow bright
To your wondering sight
When the Father smiles down from above.

L.K.P.

Correspondence.

Victoria.

Dear Christian Friends—I am one of the listeners to your broadcasts privileged to receive the typed dialogues who finds it hard to express in words my gratitude and appreciation of the service that is being rendered to the public on subjects so clearly defined. I commend you also on the splendor of the “Peoples Paper.”

If I may be permitted to do so, I bring to your notice an omission in the dialogues for October—the one on “The Sorrows of Satan” broadcast on 29th October, which was not included in those I receive. These copies I do indeed cherish.

I am enclosing a list of booklets that I would be pleased if you send along to me, possibly when the “Peoples Paper” and this month’s dialogues are despatched, thus making one package do.

I enclose 10/- note to cover cost of booklets, and whatever remains for the expenses of bringing the glad tidings within reach of a vast majority. May God continue to bless you in this glorious work. Yours in Christian grace.

(It is regretted that the dialogue “The Sorrows of Satan” was not broadcast on the majority of stations on 29th October. It will be heard (D.V.) early in the new year, copies of it then being available.—B.B. Institute.)

Frank and Ernest, Dear Christian Friends—It is many months since I wrote to you but I have been studying your booklets, also “Foregleams of the Golden Age,” and enjoyed them all, especially “Foregleams.” I think one could truly say it is indeed a beautiful book and showing the divine plan so clearly too. ,

I am sending 10/- postal note, 3/- for renewal of subscription to “Peoples Paper” which is I think due and would you send me another copy each of August and September issues of same, and enclose two extra dialogues with them; the last two I require, as I wish to send them to a friend who is interested in the Kingdom message. Balance of money to be put to General Fund.

I am a very busy person, but would be glad if you have any copies of “Peoples Paper” for 1942 you could spare. I do enjoy it: I think it is a most instructive and helpful little paper to have on Bible truths. May God bless you in your good work. Yours sincerely.

(Back copies of “Peoples Paper” covering past years are available for those who desire them.—B.B. Institute.)

Frank and Ernest—Dear Sirs—I have been listening with interest to your talks over the air of a Sunday morning and I find them very helpful. Will you kindly send me both last Sunday’s and today’s talks and the booklet on the parables, also the booklet you spoke of last Sunday. I did not quite catch the name but I think it was “Life Beyond the Grave.- Anyway, if that is not the title you will know the one that I am alluding to. Trusting you will send them on to me and thanking you in anticipation. I remain, Yours sincerely.

Frank Ernest, Dear Sirs—I would like you to send me copies of the Sunday mornings’ talks; they have

helped me so much and several other friends of mine join with me in thanking you for your very clear description of the most wonderful Book in the world.

I do wish you both all the very best. Yours sincerely.

Dear Sir—Will you please forward me a copy of, the booklet “Hope Beyond the Grave” and any other booklets that you may have been offering to listeners in the past. I will find these very helpful as I am teaching a young men’s class on Sunday afternoons. Enclosed find stamps to cover postage of same. Yours faithfully.

P.S.—I find that listening to your , talks makes the Bible very clear and also clears up a lot of questions one may be asked as a teacher, and also that come into one’s own mind, and I wish your talks every success.

Messrs. Frank and Ernest, Dear Sirs—I have for some time listened with pleasure and, I hope, with profit to your talks from 3GL on Sunday mornings. Yesterday, 3GL was “fuzzy” and indistinct and we missed a lot of the talk on “The Sheep and the Goats.” Will you please send a copy to the above address and also any other literature you may have? Thanking you, Yours sincerely.

South Australia.

Frank and Ernest—As I am a regular listener to you over the air, I feel I would like some advice from you as regards the sabbath. I have always been a Methodist, but of late have been attending meetings of Adventists and, as you know, they believe it is openly ignoring the commandment by not keeping the seventh day as the sabbath. I would be very pleased to receive your advice. Yours sincerely.

(Paul’s epistle to the Galatians very clearly shows that “Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to every one that believeth.” Adventists fail to see that, “The Law was added. . . TILL THE SEED SHOULD COME.” See Gal. 3:19, 23-26; also Gal. 4:9-11, etc. The leaflet “An Open Letter to a Seventh Day Adventist” is available free to all.B.B. Institute.)

Frank and Ernest—Will you please forward to the above address a copy of your last broadcast discussion, also the leaflet “The Troubled World’s Hope.”

I would pass on a word of thanks for your splendid, helpful discussions, and I pray God’s blessing to rest upon your future work. Enclosed please find small donation toward your work. I remain, Yours sincerely.

Dear Sirs—I am a young Sunday School teacher, and regularly listen to your Sunday morning discussions, finding and learning a lot by them, and so am writing asking for a copy of “Hope Beyond the Grave.” Yours sincerely.

N. S. Wales.

Dear Frank and Ernest—Please find enclosed cheque for sum of _____ for which please forward to Mrs. _____ one

year’s subscription “Peoples Paper” with dialogues; to myself, address given, one year’s subscription “Peoples Paper” with dialogues. one booklet “Zionism in Prophecy,” and one “Hell, Death, Spiritism.” If it is not asking too much

would like you to post to Mr. one booklet “Good News.”

It is thirty years since I first heard the good news myself through Vol. 1, "Divine Plan of the Ages." and have seen strange things happen to the publishing of the truth since, so you can imagine the surprise and pleasure I feel in hearing the message go out in such a proper manner as it does over the air every Sunday morning at 10 a.m. I pray the Lord's blessing and guidance to be with you in your work. It surely must bring much comfort to some.

Any balance left from cheque enclosed please keep for benefit of the work. With kindest Christian regards. Yours sincerely.

Frank and Ernest, Dear Sirs—Would you please send me a copy of your talk broadcast over station 2CA this morning, also if possible would you please send me any back copies.

Do I have to write each week for further copies, or will you continue to send them each week? May I add that I am a regular listener to your sessions and that I find your talks very interesting. Thanking you.

(The copies of dialogues are usually sent out monthly, with "Peoples Paper" where desired.—B.B. Institute.)

To Frank and Ernest, Dear Friends—Your lovely packets of booklets and broadcasts reached me safely. . . I was so pleased with all; they helped me greatly. I haven't a wireless so the broadcast copies were such a treat; I hadn't heard any for quite a while; will pass these on to my friends when finished with them.

Have been away for a few days and on my return received your little book for which I thank you. I am sending you the money for the "Peoples Paper"-3/- per annum. I would love to have a few more of any literature; they are all interesting to me and so helpful. Again thanking you for your helpful explanations of the Scriptures. Yours sincerely.

To Frank and Ernest, Dear Sirs—I have recently seen several copies of the "Peoples Paper" magazine. . . I have not a wireless so am unable to listen in to the dialogues but I would be exceedingly grateful if you would send me a few copies, also the "P.P." from month to month. And have you any back copies which deal with subjects on "Our Saviour's Return," "Salvation," and "The Holy Spirit"? Enclosed 5/. . . Yours for the extension of Christian living.

Western Australia.

Dear Sirs—Many thanks for the book "Atonement." I received it this afternoon and have just glanced through the index. I am sure I shall thoroughly enjoy reading it. I frequently hear from Mr. Nicholson and it is a treat. I also thank you for the monthly "Paper." I think it very good. I have also had several of the dialogues of Frank and Ernest; also I always listen in each Sunday evening. I had the three dialogues on the Trinity and loaned them to our Methodist minister; he thought them very good, had no fault to find with them. Also he thought the two articles in your "Paper" on the second coming of Christ very good, likewise "The Unity of the Father and Son." He has just had the latest, "Why is the Bible Hard to Understand?", also likes that, and is now reading "Foregleams of the Golden Age." Sundry others I have loaned to also like them very much, and you may be sure I do.

Please find enclosed postal note for 3/-. If I understand correctly the book is 2/6, so 3/- should pay for it, plus postage. You might kindly let me know if that is correct. Again thanking you and wishing you all the best. Believe me,

Yours sincerely.