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The Bible Solution to Present World Unrest

IN considering this subject—"The Bible Solution to Present World Unrest"—we believe that all thinking people will agree that the unrest now existing throughout the world is not really new to humanity. Those who can remember world events over the past half century and more, realise that what is now happening, is however, greatly intensified. We know that certain sections of the world have had their spasms of trouble, back over the centuries, but never before has such serious unrest been world-wide.

However, there are some people today who do not agree with our opinion, and have coined a phrase which expresses their idea of world events in the words—"history repeating itself." We have a statement from the Apostle Peter, telling us about such people, in 2 Pet. 3:3, 4—"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his presence? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." Such people either imagine that there is no change in world affairs, or they are wishfully thinking, hoping their desires about history repeating itself will work out in some way unknown at the present time. Again, we know of some people who have used the words "history repeating itself" in the past, who now admit that world conditions are getting out of hand, and there seems no human solution for all the unrest in the world.

Who that is an intelligent thinker today would really wish the present order in the world to continue as it has been from the beginning of creation? Do we become used to the present human existence of declining health and strength as the years pass, and finally death, that we could wish it to continue for all time? In other words, can we really wish that as each generation is born into the world and grows up and passes away in death, this should continue for eternity? How can there be real peace and happiness in the world while loved

ones are passing away to the land of the enemy, death? We never get used to death, for the simple reason that man was never intended to die. Death is the great enemy which takes hold of everyone. Sooner or later, therefore, human life comes to an end, and we pass away to "where the wicked cease from troubling; and where the weary are at rest"—Job 3:17.

Space will not be given to describing conditions in the world, which are so well known, but rather to refer to the Scriptures which clearly outline a solution, or remedy, which will bring honour to God and blessing to all mankind, in due time. When we begin to study the Bible, one of the most encouraging features of God's Plan for the redemption of the fallen human race is the fact that as soon as the just penalty of death was pronounced on our first parents in the Garden of Eden—"dying thou shalt die"—there was also proclaimed the hope of salvation from death in the words—"the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head"—or words to that effect, as recorded in Gen. 3:15. "Dying thou shalt die" was a just sentence. Man could and should have obeyed God. The just sentence had to go into effect, but the promise that the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head meant, that in due time there would be born into the human family One who would conquer the sad result of Satan's deception of our first parents, which brought about the death of the whole human family, through Adam.

Most people who agree that the Bible is the Word of God know that the One promised to "bruise the serpent's head" and bring salvation from death for the human family is Jesus Christ. However, very few, comparatively speaking, know how that salvation is to be brought about. Some well-known texts which connect the fulfilment of the promise in Genesis with the birth of Jesus as the human Babe—"the seed of the woman"—are helpful, as follows—Matt. 1:21 referring to Mary, the mother of Jesus—"And she shall bring forth a son, and

thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." We ask, Who were Jesus' people? In John 1:11 we read—"He (Jesus) came unto his own, and his own received him not." So, first of all, His people were the Jewish nation. Then, when we examine the Plan of God, we find that all human beings who ever lived are "His people", and we are thankful about that.

Turning to the incident when the Babe actually arrived, we remember the lovely record of the shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem and the angels coming with the important messages, and the thought that the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head was established in the lovely message from the heavenly angel to the shepherds at that time.—"And the angel said unto them, Fear not." Undoubtedly they were afraid, with the glory of the Lord revealed from the angel;—"For, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord"—Luke 2:10, 11.

Most people say, How can the promise of a Saviour be possible? It is possible because "Jesus, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man"—Heb. 2:9. Paul, the great Apostle, looking back on the life of Christ, and His sacrifice on Calvary, says—"We see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man." Paul knew that had actually happened—"By the grace of God." This is God's great Plan of the Ages. God sent Jesus; by His favour He provided Jesus, who was so willing to co-operate with the Father in this great plan of salvation for fallen humanity. Jesus gladly "tasted death for every man."

From Gal. 4:4 the Apostle Paul gives us further helpful reference to the "seed of the woman"—"When the fulness of the time was come God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law." God sent forth His Son—God provided the sacrifice. God is the Saviour of all men, with Christ as the Redeemer used of the Father, so that all mankind ultimately may know of this wonderful Redeemer, and accepting Him, fall into line with the laws of His Kingdom, and gain lasting life on the restored earth.

Another verse which helps to reveal this wonderful Plan of God, because God so loved the world of mankind, is Rom. 6:23—"The wages of sin is death." Yes, the death sentence was a just sentence. "But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." No one of us merited the gift of life; that is the lovely part of God's Plan. It would have been quite just to allow all mankind to die and remain dead. But God loved His human creation, created in His image—a human image of the Almighty God. God still loves everyone.

That is why the choicest treasure of His heart, Jesus, was sent—"The gift of God is eternal life." When we think about this Gift, are we not humbled and drawn to the Father and to our dear Redeemer, so that we may be as much as possible worthy of that Gift bestowed on us through Jesus Christ.

Some may ask, As the gift of eternal life is possible through Christ Jesus, how is that gift to reach every human being for whom Christ died? How can everyone know about this wonderful Saviour, that they may believe in Him and have life? The answer is found in 1 Tim. 2:4-6. This passage gives us a thrill every time we examine the Plan of God contained in it. "God will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." Notice how verse 4 is worded—All are to be saved and then come to a knowledge of the Truth. Most people think it should be worded the other way—coming to a knowledge of the Truth and then being saved. But Paul knew what he was talking about; he knew how to present this wonderful Plan of God. All are to be saved from death in Adam, they not knowing about salvation at all, at that time. All who have ever lived are to be raised from the dead, so that they may learn that Jesus died for them.

This is well revealed in the words of Acts 4:12—"There is none other name under heaven given among men (than the name of Jesus), whereby we must be saved." There are more people in the world today who have never heard the name of Jesus than those who have heard His name. So most of mankind will hear His name in the resurrection day, and learn that He tasted death for them. They will then have the privilege of everlasting life when they accept the Saviour and obey the laws of the kingdom. It will not be a dying life like we have today, but a living life for all time, as Adam and all his children would have had had he been obedient in the Garden of Eden. We see from this text in Acts 4:12 that no one is saved by ignorance.

Reference to the Plan of God thus far has been respecting the world of mankind as a whole. God has provided the opportunity for everlasting life to be gained by all mankind, but how does that solve the problem of world unrest? That is only part of the solution revealed in God's Word. Before men come to a knowledge of the truth that Christ died for them, which will be in the resurrection day, the work of God in "taking out a people for his name" between the two Advents, must be completed. The Apostle Paul explains this beautifully in 2 Cor. 5:18-21—"All things are of God"—Yes, this is God's Great Plan; He is the Author. "Who hath reconciled us (Christ-

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While it is our intention that these columns be used for teachings strictly in accord with the Lord's Word, we cannot accept responsibility for every expression used, either in the correspondence or in the sermons reported.

Christmastide

AS we draw on towards another Christmas Season, it is surely good to call to mind the many blessings, both spiritual and temporal, that have been bestowed upon us again over the year past by our loving Father in Heaven. "Every good and perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights"—James 1:17—and while we do praise God for them all, no doubt we cannot be thankful enough for the greatest Gift of all time, the gift of God's dear Son. Now, well over nineteen hundred years ago, He came into the world in the likeness of men, and "Gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works"—Tit. 2:14—this being the first portion of the great redemptive work on behalf of poor, fallen humanity. The words of the hymn seem so fully to express our thoughts—

"O Lord of heaven and earth and sea,
To Thee all praise and glory be;
How shall we show our love to Thee,
Who givest all?"

"Thou did'st not spare Thine only Son,
But gav'st Him for a world undone;
And freely with that Blessed One,
Thou givest all.

"To Thee, from whom we all derive,
Our life, our gifts, our power to give;
O may we ever with Thee live,
Who givest all."

Happy, then, are those whose hearts are thus in tune with praises and thanksgiving to God for His priceless Gift, even "In the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world"—Phil. 2:15.

Free Booklets

Supplies of the following booklets are available for distribution, where good may be done. These are provided through the General Tract Fund, which many of our brethren support in their desire to co-operate in serving the Lord's truth which has been such a blessing to themselves. All who can use these booklets to advantage should have a supply in hand for opportunities of serving others who are seeking the Lord and His truth. Please order freely.

- "The Lord is My Shepherd"
- "The Greatest of These is Love"
- "The Abrahamic Seed of Blessing"
- "Watch Israel—God's Time Clock"
- "Earth's New Ruler—Humanity's Only Hope!"
- "The Mystery of Christ"
- "The Christian's Joy"
- "Where Are the Dead?"
- "God's Best is Yet to Come"

Behold—The Bridegroom

The Purpose and Manner of Our Lord's Return

ALL who studiously read their Bibles know that the second coming of Christ is important in the establishment of the promised Kingdom of God upon earth. It is clear that two advents are referred to—the first advent of Christ was for the purpose of giving His life a ransom for all, to redeem mankind; the second is in order to bless and restore all the redeemed, to bring in the "times of restitution"—Acts 3:21.

Every true Christian today is interested in the Lord's second coming, but too few are instructed how to expect Him. The Bible does not bear out the old expectations that Christ will suddenly appear in the literal clouds of heaven, in a moment as a flash of lightning, and that all will see Him thus arrive. There is no Scripture declaring that Jesus will ever again be seen in a body of flesh.

At Jesus' first advent the religious element queried John the Baptist's authority to preach as he did—that the kingdom was at hand. John, disclaiming any self-importance, declared that "there standeth one among you, whom ye know not."—John 1:26. Strange as it may seem, the religious element never recognised Jesus at His first advent; only those who became His true and close personal disciples were apprised that He was the One, the promised Messiah. See Matt. 16:13-16.

So well concealed was the first advent from all eyes save the faithful few; and so intense had been the searching and watching necessary to discern that He was indeed the Christ, the Son of God come to earth as a perfect man, that the disciples hearing Jesus teach that He was going to leave them, and return again, were anxious that they should not miss out recognising Him at His second advent. "Tell us, what shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world?"—Matt. 24:3. Any student can confirm that the correct translation of this passage is,—"Tell us, what shall be the sign of thy presence, and of the end of the age?"

There are no Scriptures, properly understood, declaring that anyone will know the actual moment when the Lord returns, but several showing that His watching people will know WHEN He has arrived. No literal human eye will see the Lord's second advent, but a few (all true Christians) will discern when He has come—signs will declare it to them. These signs are with us today, but discerned only by those who "watch." The majority of professing Christians "slumber and sleep" with no oil (holy spirit)—Matt. 25:3-5; and when the announcement is made "Behold, the Bridegroom!" they are not ready to welcome Him. The Revised Version and other translations point out that the word "cometh" has no right-

ful place in the above text in Matthew. The announcement is not made when the Lord is coming or on the way; it proclaims His "presence"—the Bridegroom has come for His Bride.

Revelation 3:20 is portion of a message to the Laodicean church, the last period of the church on earth prior to the establishment of Christ's Kingdom. The one represented as standing at the door knocking is the returned Lord with the "knock" of fulfilling prophecies—signs that tell of His presence. The ones who hear His voice and open the door are the true watchers, the bride class, with oil in their lamps—wonderful truths relative to our time does the Lord reveal to these as they "trim their lamps"; that is, as they examine the Scriptures and investigate the subject. To all others the Lord stands as "one among you whom ye know not."

No other understanding of our Lord's return fits all the Scriptures harmoniously. If every eye were to see Him come like lightning on the literal clouds, then how can 1 Thes. 5:2 be explained—a thief does not expose himself for all to see. Verses 4-6 of this same passage show that our Lord's second presence is discerned by "signs" understood by those who are spiritually alert or awake.

Two other Scriptures require brief mention. Any student with Bible Concordance can verify that the Greek word rendered "lightning" in Matt. 24:27, is more properly translated "bright shining." The only "bright shining" which consistently comes out of the east and shines to the west, is the sun. The discernment of the presence of the Son of Man will be after like manner. Only the awake watchers will discern His secret presence at the "sunrise"; but eventually it will be true as Rev. 1:7 expresses it, "every eye shall discern him" (scholars suggest that "discern" is the sense of "see" in this text).

No student believer in the Bible would disagree that Satan is the prince of this present evil world, but no human literal eye has seen him on his throne; rather, events reveal him to our mental vision; we "discern" his rulership. When Christ's Kingdom is established and fully under way, Satan is to be bound that he deceives mankind no longer; then it will be that Christ will shine forth as the sun (at its zenith)—every eye will discern him, "all shall know him from the least unto the greatest"—Jer. 31:34.

But ere that happy phase of Christ's second advent is fact, His secret presence as a thief in the night foreshadows some trouble—He comes on trouble "clouds." When, as Daniel 12:1 shows, Michael (Christ) stands up to assume control and wrest Satan's kingdom from him, all Satan's deceived agents will oppose—there will be a time of trouble such as never was; men's hearts will fail them for fear as they note events upon the earth.

"But ye brethren (true Bible Christians) are not in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief." When ye see these things come to pass know that the Kingdom of God is near at hand, and beyond the trouble all things are going to be made new—Rev. 21:1-5. Even those in their graves shall hear the voice of Jesus awake them from the sleep of death, offering them opportunity to participate in the New Order—a resurrection to the wonderful judgment day of Christ—John 5:25-29.

The Boy who 'Found' Noah's Ark

UNDER the above heading, the following from Ruth Inglis of the London "Daily Express" appeared recently in the Melbourne "Herald." Permission to reprint has been kindly granted.

The petrified remains of the world's most famous ship, Noah's Ark, are said to be lying on top of a Turkish mountain. Former shepherd George Hagopian says he came across the Ark in 1902, when he was 10. What he saw has remained vividly in his memory.

He recalls: "One day my uncle said, 'Georgie, I'm going to take you to the mountain'—meaning Mt. Ararat. As we climbed, my feet began to get sore and the donkey kept wanting to go in the wrong direction. But we continued until we got about half-way. It took us eight days ... and then we got to the holy Ark.

"An immense stone mass loomed threateningly ahead of me. It was like a wall. My uncle dropped his pack to the ground and together we piled up huge boulders at the side of the ship. Then I stood on the rocks and helped by my uncle, looked over the ship. It was about 1000 ft. (305 metres) long and 40 ft. (12 metres) tall." George looked inside the Ark and saw thick, green moss. "I scraped it away and the grain of the wood was right there", he says.

Hagopian, now 88, tells his amazing story in a new book by archaeologist and writer Rene Noorbergen. Noorbergen has himself been obsessed with the Ark for more than 35 years. He went to Mount Ararat in 1978, but bad weather prevented him from getting to the top. He plans to go again.

"I pray I will get what they call a 'Smooth Year' in Eastern Turkey", Noorbergen told me when I spoke to him at his home on another mountain top, this one near Chattanooga, Tennessee. "This means no snow on the top—the kind Hagopian had in that miraculous year, 1902." Dutch-born Noorbergen, 52, added: "From what I can ascertain, the Ark is colossal—you can place three QE2's inside it."

Hagopian's eyewitness account—coupled with recent U.S. spy satellite pictures of a ship-like object on top of Mount Ararat—confirm his conviction that previous Ark searchers (there have been 70 expeditions in the past century)

have been looking in the wrong place. But why should Noorbergen assume that the "ship-like object" on Mount Ararat is the famous Ark which, according to the Book of Genesis, saved mankind during the Great Flood?

Noorbergen says it has to be Noah's vessel. "Who else built a giant ship which has been reported in so many different Oriental legends—even in Chinese?" he went on. "No one would build a gigantic ship on the top of a mountain and then leave it there", he says in his guttural Dutch accent. "It had to have been conveyed there by water. Of this there is no doubt in my mind. Many mountain tops in the world show traces of tiny fish fossils and preserved water ripple marks pointing to evidence of a global flood."

Noorbergen's contention—shared with a dozen or so "ark-eologists" as he likes to call them—is that the Flood occurred 4400 years ago and that a Noah figure did exist. "My obsession was sparked off when I was a teenager studying in Washington, D.C., and I heard about an American group going to Mount Ararat to look for the Ark" he says. This group led by an American Biblical scholar, Dr. Aaron Smith, made an abortive attempt to scale the mountain in 1949. But Noorbergen and Smith kept up a correspondence for years and in 1960 the old fundamentalist Christian bequeathed him his "Ark File"—"two four-drawer filing cabinets" of research.

However, Noorbergen is less interested in reinforcing Biblical history—and the legend of the animals entering the Ark two by two—than in overturning some geological concepts. He believes global catastrophes have happened in relatively recent history. The geologists speak of world upheavals happening millions of years ago. He thinks they're wrong and that the flat-bottomed barge on top of that forbidding mountain will prove him right.

(Continued from page 3.)

All who have this heavenly hope in their hearts, true followers of the Master, also have **no unrest** in their lives. This is God's progressive Plan for eliminating unrest. It was eliminated from the Patriarchs who died in faith, and all the faithful followers of Christ have no unrest in their lives. They are not resentful of the course of events in their lives; they do not oppose the Lord in any way, like the masses of humanity, who oppose themselves and everyone else. So it is the masses of the world who promote the unrest.

What solution has the Lord in His Plan for the great unrest in most of humanity? God's solution for world unrest is the taking over of all earthly kingdoms. We call to mind that the promise in our Lord's Model Prayer is that His Kingdom shall come, and God's will shall be done on earth, as in heaven. When God's will is done on earth as it is in heaven, there

will be no unrest here. God will not permit it. God has enough power to still the raging masses of humanity in His own time. In the meantime, God allows humanity to experience evil, so that when the blessings of the kingdom come, they will not wish to taste the sour grape again. Each generation has to taste the sour grape, endure the course of death, experience it to the full. When all people of every generation have had their full experience with evil, they will be ready to benefit from the blessings of the wonderful kingdom time. That is God's solution.

The change of rulership of the earthly kingdoms to Christ's Kingdom does create much turmoil at the time. This is what we are experiencing today to an extent, but it must get much worse before earthly governments are overthrown, as our Lord indicated in Luke 21: 25, 26—" . . . Upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring"—that is, the masses of humanity in conflict. "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken." In God's heaven? Certainly not! It means the ecclesiastical heavens on earth. They will be shaken so much they will be dissolved. God sees the present ecclesiastical heavens will be of no use to Him in His Kingdom, so they will be swept away. Bible students are aware that the word rendered "perplexity" in the Greek means "a quandary, to have no way out." Mankind will have no way out of their dilemma by their own plans. We should be sympathetic with the rulers of the various nations today, because someone must try and conduct affairs until the Lord's Kingdom commences. The presidents and heads of various countries are trying to do their best; but their best will fail. God has something better in store for humanity, and so we can rejoice. That is why our Lord told us to pray for the Kingdom.

The Lord has a way out by His Plan. Man has no way out. Unrest shall cease. But first of all the present world order must pass away to make way for God's new order. 2 Pet. 3:10 shows this. There is no doubt about the Apostle Peter, along with Paul, being guided and instructed from the God of heaven by His holy spirit. They were able to write and tell us what is happening in our day, and what will follow in the wonderful Kingdom. God's Plan does not leave us in any doubt and timidity. He has given us the spirit of confidence and trust. God sent Jesus, the treasure of His heart to redeem humanity, because He so loved His human family; and surely we can trust Him to bring mankind out of their difficulties in the best way. 2 Pet. 3:10 reads—"The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat." Some elements of the "heavens" are

uniting now; they will be dissolved more quickly when united. God's people are not in any denominations, but are called to the Lord alone—"Come out of her, my people . . . that ye receive not of her plagues"—Rev. 18:4. "The earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up"—man-made works shall be burned up. This is symbolic language; and it is going on today in the preparatory stages.

"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conduct and godliness"—2 Pet. 3:11. This is a solemn warning and exhortation to all the Lord's people. Are we attached to the world, in any organization dishonouring to God? We need to live very closely to the Lord, rejoicing in His Truth, and not be associated with any element of the "heavens" that will be destroyed and pass away with a great noise. With the passing of the present "heavens and earth" what a comforting assurance the Apostle presents in the words—"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness"—2 Pet. 3:13. Thus will God's new order be established throughout the whole world, Christ and His Church being the "new heavens", and the "new earth" as the new order of society, with God's will being done on earth, as in heaven.

The closing scenes of the present world order are also vividly shown in Psa. 46. The first 5 verses refer to God's own people—"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." We need to realise that, when the unrest about us becomes more intense. "Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea"—the kingdoms dissolved, carried into the masses of restless humanity. "God is in the midst of her"—His Church—"God shall help her, at the dawning of her morning." From verse 6 the earthly scene is depicted, with the Lord taking control—"He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth . . . Be still (He will command to raging humanity), and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

When the new heavens and new earth are finally established, by the Lord's grace and favour all faithful followers of Christ may look forward to being associated in the grand work of the kingdom, as outlined in Revelation—"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth . . . and there was no more sea"—no more unrest throughout the world. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new"—Rev. 21:1, 4.

Our Pillows

THAT commonplace commodity, the pillow, occupies a place in history and in personal life out of all proportion to its size. From the days in childhood when curiosity demands tearing it open to find out what is inside, to the day life ends, this humble piece of bedding makes a valued contribution to human experience.

There is something especially personal about it. Many other bedroom articles we use in common with other people. Sheets, blankets, quilts, bedspreads—even mattresses—we regard as quite impersonal. But since we spend about a third of our life with our heads resting on our pillows, it is natural that we prefer one which conforms best to our physical shape and therefore provides the most comfortable sleep.

As with other things there is no accounting for taste, so with pillows. Some individuals favor the firm, tightly filled variety; others, the soft, yielding kind that caress the neck and head. Some pack their pillows in the car when setting out for nights away from home to help assure sound sleep in a strange bed.

Perhaps this personal relationship with one's pillow is due to other considerations besides physical comfort. While our head rests in silent repose, our subconscious mind which never sleeps, dreams its dreams, thinks some of its brightest thoughts and conceives some of its most inventive ideas.

Most people know the importance of "sleeping on it" when grappling with some puzzling problem. If we fall asleep trying to think of a name we cannot remember, lines of a poem we have forgotten, facts we cannot recall, they often spring to memory when we awake.

The pillow can be a useful adjunct also when considering the pros and cons involved in making an important decision. The matter often appears in clearer light after the mind has sorted things out during sleep. And if pillows could talk, they could tell tales, not only of problems solved, but of words of love exchanged, secrets confided, fears expressed, prayers offered, confessions made.

It is on our pillows that the majority of people utter their last words . . . Benjamin Franklin, asked what were his speculations replied—"I am not speculating. I am not resting my head upon a pillow of guesswork. I know **Whom** I have believed." In view of its importance throughout life, and in life's closing hour, we owe our pillow our deepest respect.

—From the Melbourne "Age."

"The Ten Camels"

A supply of these helpful well-known Bible Stories for children is in stock. Of 144 pages with 4 illustrations, price \$1.00, plus postage 50c.

Extracts from Correspondence

Berean Bible Institute, Dear Brother—Greetings of love, joy and peace in our dear Lord and Saviour. I am writing earlier this year, and enclosing a cheque for £— to cover cost of "Peoples Paper" and booklets etc., which I enjoy very much. Also I would like to order a dozen copies of "The Voice"—"The Glad Resurrection Day"—if still available. Praying the Lord will continue to bless you in your work and service for His names' sake. Your sister in Christ. P.S. Please send me some of "The Voice"—"Armageddon—Then Eternal Life and Peace on Earth", and if you have others, a copy would be appreciated.

Dear Friends—The booklet—"The Mystery of Christ"—which you sent me with the last issue of "Peoples Paper" was, to my way of thinking, exceptionally good. Thank you very much for it. I am writing for a few more copies of the same, as I would like to give them to friends. I want to send some to England in time for Christmas.

I do not know what the value of the booklets would be. They could be very valuable spiritually, especially if those who read them are given the same knowledge by God as the one who wrote the literature. It pleases me a lot that God gave it to me. The trouble is getting others to show an interest in their own eternal well being. I think it would be hard for anyone to make clearer what it takes Christ to do for us, than the writer has done. Christ was certainly living in him... I'm enclosing a cheque for \$—; if you could send me 8 or 10 copies I should be very grateful. May God richly bless you for providing such help. Yours sincerely.

Dear Sir—Thank you for forwarding to me the literature I asked for on the telephone. I have read some of it already and find it very helpful. Of course, a lot that you say is difficult for me to understand and believe as I was brought up to believe in salvation for the few believers and eternal punishment for the rest. This, however, has made me seek a better understanding of God's plan, as I cannot accept this teaching that all mankind who do not come to believe in this lifetime will have eternal punishment. This teaching I believe has stopped many a person from coming to know Christ... So I have found your interpretation of much comfort to me, as I believe God is a God of love.

I have read your leaflet "Father, Son and Holy Spirit" and take it that you do not believe in the Trinity... To be honest, it has given me much to think about, and I pray that God will help me to sort out things in my mind so that I can truly serve Him... I have enclosed a small donation of \$—, and I hope this will cover the literature that I am requesting. Thanking you.

Dear Sir—Could you please send me a copy each of "The Divine Plan of the Ages", "The Creator's Grand Design" and "The Book of Books." I would also appreciate it if you could send me other literature about such things as the doctrine of the Trinity, the nature of Christ, and the Last Days. I enclose \$— which I hope will cover the cost of the above. Yours sincerely.

Dear Frank and Ernest—I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed reading "Peoples Paper." I get other papers through the mail, but I think your "Paper" helps in my Christian life the most... I am enclosing \$— to help with expenses. Yours faithfully.

Dear Sir—I have enjoyed reading literature sent to me called—"Where Are the Dead?" I would like also to read—"Resurrection, Versus Immortality of the Soul"; "Why doesn't God Do Something?" and "The Glad Resurrection Day." I would like to add a donation;

I find your work very interesting, as I couldn't understand the Bible, but you always explain each part and the meaning is much clearer. Thank you.

One of our friends in Scotland who lived in Melbourne years ago, kindly sent a Christmas card—Best Wishes from Aberdeen.

Here's warm and tender greetings
From Scotland they have flown,
May this Christmastide and New Year
Be the best you've ever known.

"Peoples Paper" Subscriptions

Subscriptions to "Peoples Paper"—\$1.00—are now due for 1981. In view of the high postage cost of \$1.32 per annum (\$1.68 overseas), this postage expense is covered by the Tract Fund (which is supported by the brethren generally) to enable all who desire the "Peoples Paper" to receive it regularly.

Melbourne Christmas Convention

The brethren of the Melbourne Class extend a cordial invitation to all friends able to attend their Annual Convention to be held this year (D.V.) on December 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th, in the Auxiliary Room, Kew City Buildings, Charles Street, Kew. Further information from the Class secretary—Mr. J. B. Hiam, 27 Redhill Avenue, Burwood East, Victoria, 3151.

"God's Best is Yet to Come"

A booklet bearing the above title has been printed, and a copy is being supplied to all friends receiving this issue of "Peoples Paper." Extra copies are available supplied through the General Tract Fund to all who can use them to advantage.

Books Available

In view of the greatly increased postal charges, literature prices are now as follows:—

- "God's Promises Come True"—\$2.00 (Postage from \$1.00 to \$3.10, according to distance in Australia).
- "The Divine Plan of the Ages"—50c (Postage 80c in Victoria; 90c interstate).
- "The Creator's Grand Design"—50c (Postage 80c and 90c).
- "The Book of Books"—50c (Postage 80c and 90c).
- "Daily Heavenly Manna"—50c (Postage 80c and 90c).
- "Daily Heavenly Manna" pocket size—75c (postage 50c).
- "Songs in the Night"—50c (Postage 50c).
- "Emphatic Diaglott", New Testament—\$3.00 (Postage 80c and 90c).
- "Poems of Dawn"—\$2.75 (Postage 80c and 90c).
- "Tabernacle Shadows"—50c (Postage 50c).
- "God and Reason"—10c (Postage 28c).
- "God's Plan"—10c (Postage 28c).
- "Hope Beyond the Grave"—10c (Postage 28c).
- "Israel in History and Prophecy"—10c (Postage 28c).
- "Our Lord's Great Prophecy"—10c (Postage 28c).
- "Manner of Christ's Return"—10c (Postage 28c).
- "Christ's Return"—10c (Postage 28c).
- "Some of the Parables"—10c (Postage 28c).

Numerous other smaller booklets.

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