



Volume XXVI. No. 8 MELBOURNE, 1st AUGUST, 1943 Price—Threepence

She Hath Done What She Could.

(John12:1-8).

MARY'S anointing of our Lord with the costly ointment was in itself a simple act, but how expressive it was of her love for, and devotion to, the Master. Commenting on this incident one has said—The opportunity for honoring the Lord was limited—a little while and His sufferings would be ended and He would be glorified, beyond the veil, beyond the power of human attention. It was appropriate then, when viewed from the right standpoint, that Mary should spend a great price upon her Lord—that the head upon which fell the sanders and anathemas of the chief priests and doctors of divinity of that day, and upon which shortly the crown of thorns would be placed, should now be honored by one amongst a few of those who realized His true worth, His true grandeur, His Kingship, that He was indeed the Son of God. It was appropriate, too, that those feet which had trodden the valleys and hillsides of Palestine, and that were so weary at times, and that symbolized the feet of consecration treading the narrow, rugged way, and that so soon would be pierced with the nails on the cross, should now be highly honored by one who appreciated and trusted them, who loved them and who was seeking to walk in the Master's steps.

When we get the right view of the matter, we can indeed sympathize with our Lord's expression, "Let her alone," Trouble her not, Take it not from her—as though when the first motion was made to use the spikenard the apostles had wished to have it spared that they might sell it, and as though our Lord hindered them from using persuasion to that end, saying "Let her alone, do not hinder her."

Spikenard Mary represents one of the most beautiful elements of Christian character amongst the Lord's people from that day until the present. For be it remembered that the entire church of Christ in the largest sense is the "body of Christ," as expressed by Jesus and also by the Apostles. The Mary class, who would rather purchase perfume at great cost whereby to serve the anointed church, the body of Christ, than to spend the same upon themselves, is still with us, and has been of the church for these eighteen centuries. Not only was the Head of the body anointed, perfumed, honored, comforted, cheered, but all of the members since have likewise received a blessing from this class, this spikenard Mary class. It is composed not always of the orators, the wealthy or the wise—its ministry is unostentatious and to many, especially of the world, it seems foolishness and waste—but the Lord appreciates it, and so do the members of His body who are comforted and refreshed thereby. Blessing be upon this Mary class. It is helpful and encouraging to remember that every fully consecrated Christian may be of the Mary class. In other words, each member of the body of Christ may to some extent serve the fellow-members of the body, as Mary served the Lord.

“By Love Serve.”

Let each one of the Lord’s true people as he studies this matter conclude that by the grace of God he will join the Mary class, and purchase spikenard very costly and lavish it upon the fellow-members of the body of Christ. This will mean love, sympathy, kindness, gentleness, patience and assistance and comfort. It will mean large and growing development in all the fruits and graces of the spirit, whose combined name is love. The little things of life, the little words, the little tokens, the kind looks, the little assistances by the way, these and not great things are our possibilities, our perfumes, the one for the other.

“Wash One Another’s Feet.”

The washing of the feet in olden times in oriental lands was very necessary to the comfort, and hence to wash one another’s feet would signify to comfort and refresh one another even in the most menial services. This is the essence of the Lord’s lesson to us, that we should be glad for the opportunity for serving one another, for comforting and helping one another, however menial the service. Apply this now to the expression of our lesson. Mary washed our Lord’s feet with perfume, and the Mary class, the most loving and devoted class in the church, are to help one another, to wash one another’s feet; and they are to do so not in the rudest and clumsiest manner imaginable, but, inspired by love and devotion one to another, they are to wash one another’s feet with the kindness and sympathy and love and appreciation symbolized by Mary’s spikenard; and their comforting of one another is to be with that love and solicitation which was represented by Mary’s using the very locks of her head for her Master’s feet.

There are evidences that this love, this spikenard-Mary love and sympathy, is growing amongst the members of the Lord’s body; that as they perceive the animosity of the world and the flesh and the adversary against the Lord’s anointed they are all the more devoted one to another, and all the more disposed to honor one another with care and love and sympathy, and to speak and act generously and kindly one toward another. This gives evidence of growth in grace on the part of the consecrated. Let the good work go on until we shall have filled the house with the perfume of love, until the whole world shall take knowledge of how Christians love one another—not in a narrow or partisan sense, but in the broad sense that Christ loved all who love the Father and all who sought to walk in the Father’s ways.

Let Us Do It Now.

If Mary had waited another week she might have used the perfume upon herself but not upon the Lord—within a week from the time of this incident our Lord was buried, the tomb was sealed, the Roman Guard stood before it and there would have been no opportunity even to have poured it upon His dead body. How much better that she improved the opportunity, that she showed the Lord her devotion while he was still her guest. The parallel is here: it will not be long until all the members of the body of Christ will have filled their share of the sufferings and have passed beyond the veil “changed.”

Wisdom tells us that we should not delay in bringing our alabaster boxes of ointment and pouring their contents upon our dear ones of the body of Christ. No matter if they do not notice us, or think of us, or pour any upon us as members of the body; let us do our part, let us be of the Mary class, let us pour out the sweet perfume upon others, and the house, the church of the Lord, will be filled with the sweet odor, even though some disciples might mistakenly charge us with being extravagant with our love and with our devotion, not understanding that the Master by and by will say again, “Let her alone, she hath done what she could.” Our Lord’s estimate of this spikenard and anointing is that it is all that we can do—nothing could be more or better. It indicates love, and is the condition of heart acceptable in the Lord’s sight.

“Let us consider one another,” said the Apostle—consider one another’s weaknesses, consider one

another's trials, consider one another's temptations, consider one another's efforts to war a good warfare against the world, the flesh, and the adversary—consider one another's troubles in the narrow way against opposition from within and without, and as we do so it will bring to our hearts sympathy, a sympathy that will take pleasure in pouring out the spikenard perfume, very costly, purest and best, upon all who are fellow-members of the same body.

Respecting the propriety of using present opportunities for the comfort and encouragement one of another, a writer has pointedly said: "Don't keep the alabaster boxes of your love and tenderness sealed up until your friends are dead. Fill their lives with gladness. Speak cheering, approving words while they can hear them . . . If my friends have alabaster boxes full of the fragrant perfume of sympathy and affection laid away, which they intend to break over

my body, I would rather they would bring them out in my weary and troubled hours, and open them, that I may be refreshed and cheered by them while I need them . . . I would rather have a plain coffin without a flower, a funeral without a eulogy, than life without the sweetness of love and sympathy . . . Flowers on the coffin cast no fragrance backward on the weary road."

Another little saying that is helpful along the line of grasping our opportunities of "doing good to all men, and especially to the household of faith" is as follows: "I expect to pass through this world but once; any good thing therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now; let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again." (Col. 3:12:17.)

Question Box.

This question is repeated from last month's issue as three lines were omitted.

Question.—In what sense can the statement in Job 19:26 be true, since we understand he will not have power as a human being to "see God"?

Answer.—The passage might be understood in two different ways: (a) As an expression of Job's trust in the Lord that notwithstanding the serious malady with which he was afflicted, and the apparent utter destruction of his skin, by a loathsome disease, yet he hoped for recovery and that he should yet see God's hand in the permission of the severe experiences through which he was passing, and praise Him in the flesh and in health. See Job 42:10-17 in this connection. Or (b) it may be understood to refer to a future life and Job's confidence that though his sickness might result in death, yet it did not mean in him an everlasting extinction. As previously stated (Job 14:15) God would call and he would answer in his flesh. His seeing God in the flesh should not be understood, as that is impossible, of which our Lord said, "No man hath seen God at any time," and of which the Apostle says, "Whom no man hath seen nor can see." During the "times of restitution" under the favourable influences of Messiah's Kingdom, Job, together with all the willing and obedient of mankind, will be lifted up to the perfection of human nature from which Adam through disobedience fell. When man's original likeness to God is restored to Job, it may be said that he will "see God" for he will perfectly understand the character of God. God's laws will be written in the hearts and minds of restored humanity and find perfect expression in their thoughts and words and actions.

Booklets Reprinted.

“God and Reason,” originally produced by our U.S.A. brethren, has now been printed in our office to supply local needs. In paper covers, 64 pages, this booklet is very helpful for general witness work. Single copies 5d., two for 9d., or 4/3 per doz., post paid. Special rates for quantities without postage.

“Hell, Death, Spiritism,” has been recently reproduced, and will be found most instructive on the particular subjects. In improved paper cover, 24 pages, price 4d. per copy, four for 1/2, or 3/3 per doz., post paid.

PEOPLES PAPER AND HERALD OF CHRIST’S KINGDOM.

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

When there is No Peace.

VIEWING the world to-day in the grip of the mighty global struggle, and with the frequent references to peace feelers, when destruction from the skies is increasing in Europe and the Pacific from week to week, the Lord’s people are more than ever impressed with the words of St. Paul, in his prophetic statement to the brethren at Thessalonica—“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”

That we are living in the day of the Lord there can be no doubt, though it is only those who are acquainted with the fulfilment of God’s Word who are not in darkness respecting this most important period in the history of the world.

With the turn of events in Italy, bringing about the downfall of its aggressive dictator, the cry for peace will apparently be increased; indeed, at the moment it would seem there is likely to be large scale demonstrations in favor of peace with the Allies. The effect on other countries which are under the heel of the aggressor can also be imagined, for surely the poor masses in these lands long for rest and quietness from the stress and strain of enforced war, with the loss of loved ones on the battlefields.

We call to mind the great and noble efforts towards world peace on the part of the Allied nations in particular, throughout the twenty years preceding the present conflict. Surely the League of Nations was a wonderful effort to keep the peace, and the words of Paul—“Peace and safety,” were no doubt fulfilled in part, at least, at that time.

Alas! Man’s best efforts were thwarted; much greater lessons had to be learned by mankind in general, and World War No. 2 is running its deadly course. A further and final fulfilment of St. Paul’s words may be possible within reasonable time, and truly the cessation of the terrible conflict will bring a sigh of relief from all hearts. But then, the further words of the Apostle must also be fulfilled,—“Then sudden destruction cometh upon them.”

Some measure of destruction has already been experienced; the first World War could be said to be one spasm of destruction. The present global struggle is a greater spasm, but the closing period of the day of the Lord will mean the overthrow of this present order of things in its entirety. (See 2 Pet. 3:10.) But the outcome will be glorious. Mankind, released from all bondage, will be in a thoroughly humbled

condition, and ready to receive the refreshing and uplifting influences from Christ's Kingdom, then established in the earth.—"He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers that water the earth. In His days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth."

In these momentous times, "perilous times," the Apostle calls them, the Lord's people are truly favored. Being informed of the trend of events in these "days of the Son of Man," and desiring only to serve the cause of the Gospel of Christ, they are not entangled with the affairs of this life,—"God hath not appointed us to wrath (to be associated in any way with this world's arrangements) but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." Viewing matters from this standpoint they are provided with the whole armor of God, for their own upbuilding and the encouragement of fellow members in Christ, and are also able to use, to the Lord's praise, "The sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God," for the assistance of all others who now desire the help which alone can be received from the Lord.

Radio Extension.

ALL interested friends will be pleased to know that an extension of the Radio witness has been possible over the last month. After extensive enquiries it seems that station 3SH (Swan Hill-226 metres) would serve best in conjunction with 3GL. In this way many people will be reached throughout Northern Victoria and well into New South Wales.

The opening session with 3SH took place on Sunday night, July 18th, the broadcast being relayed from 3GL. There has not yet been time for response from this new effort, but we trust and pray for the Lord's blessing to go with the message to those who can receive it. Meanwhile, some further good responses are to hand from the witness through 3GL.

The voluntary financial assistance to this work, by the Lord's over-ruling providence, is most encouraging, and if further extension is possible in the future, it will be a pleasure to enter into the opportunities, as seems to be indicated. Request is made for the continued prayers of the brethren for the Lord's guidance in this, as in all features of His work.

Those friends living in the area covered by these two radio stations should esteem it a privilege to encourage people to listen to the broadcasts; advertising slips are available in quantities, for the asking, and all who engage in this service will no doubt realise a blessing themselves. There cannot be a great time now till all opportunities for service of this kind will be ended.—"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things." (Rom. 10:15.)

It will be realised that the same Dialogue is broadcast on the two stations each Sunday night. The subjects for this month are:—

August 1st.—"Masters of Destiny."

August 8th.—"The Prince of Peace."

August 15th.—"Sons of God."

August 22nd.—"Time of the End."

August 29th.—"The Angry Nations."

The Dialogue following was broadcast on Sunday, July 4th, and this and other dialogues are available in tract form, following each broadcast.

Christ's Second Presence.

FRANK: Yes, Ernest, we should indeed rejoice when we realise what wonderful things the Lord is about to do for mankind. Why, all the utopian theories of which the world's poets and philosophers have ever dreamed, come far short of what God proposes to do for the people through the medium of Christ's Kingdom.

ERNEST: Yes, that is a very pleasant thought, but from the practical standpoint, just how is Christ's Kingdom to affect the world? How will it enter into the every-day affairs of life?

FRANK: It will mean a world in which there is no poverty, no wars, no revolutions, no crime, no sickness; therefore no need for doctors; no death, hence no need for undertakers; and then in place of these evils there will be universal understanding, peace and happiness.

ERNEST: That certainly sounds good, but unless the Scriptures thoroughly support such an optimistic outlook, it's just a matter of wishful thinking.

FRANK: I agree. The fact is though that there are hundreds of Biblical promises which tell of this good time that is coming, when even the dead will be brought back to life, to enjoy the blessings purchased for them by the death of Jesus. For example, there is the promise in the 21st chapter of Revelation which says of the time of Christ's Kingdom that, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. There shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor sighing, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things have passed away." Isn't that grand?

ERNEST: Certainly it's grand. In fact, almost too grand, it seems to me. It is like those proverbial good things that are "too good to be true."

FRANK: Ernest, it is too good not to be true.

ERNEST: Well, it always has been a suffering world, and the easiest thing to believe is that it always will be. Why, don't you realise that it would require miracle working power to accomplish all the things you claim Christ will do for the people, when He establishes His Kingdom?

FRANK: Yes, I certainly realise that, but as I have mentioned before, we, as Christians, believe in the miracleworking power of Christ. Don't you believe what the Bible says concerning the blessings of Christ's Kingdom?

ERNEST: Oh I believe the Bible all right, but there are many things that seem so very difficult to understand. Time and again you have told me about Christ's return and about His Kingdom that is soon to be established. I would like to think more about the second coming of Christ, but somehow that is a subject which seems so vague.

I guess I am like a great many other people in this respect. Perhaps it is my fault and perhaps you can help me. I hope so.

FRANK: Ernest, have you read the booklet I gave you recently dealing with the subject of Christ's second coming?

ERNEST: Yes, and it has been a great help to me, but there are some points I would like to discuss further

with you. As I said it is a very difficult subject for me to understand as clearly as I would like to.

FRANK: What seems to be your chief difficulty, Ernest?

ERNEST: Well, there is, for example, that passage in the first chapter of Revelation, the 7th verse, which reads, "Behold He cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see Him." Now in the first place, how could every eye see Jesus up in the clouds? The visibility of the human eye is very limited; and while I grant that God may be able to perform a miracle on the eyes of mankind, enabling them all to see Jesus at the same time, it doesn't seem reasonable to suppose that He will do so. What do you think?

FRANK: So that's your big problem.

ERNEST: That's one of them, yes, is there an answer for it?

FRANK: The answer is, briefly stated, that the Scriptures use the term "see" to denote discernment. The Apostle Paul, for example, says, "We see Jesus." What He meant was that we discern Jesus as the Redeemer and Saviour of the world.

ERNEST: But what about the clouds? How can Jesus be discerned in the clouds?

FRANK: The clouds of this prophecy are pictorial of trouble. In Ezekiel, chapter 38, verse 16, armies that come against Jerusalem in the final phase of Armageddon are said to cover the land like a cloud. In verses 22 and 23 of this same chapter, God tells us that He will defeat this army, and thus save the Israelites then in Palestine by raining down fire and brimstone upon the enemy. The Lord says, "Thus will I magnify Myself and sanctify Myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord." Thus you see, Ernest, in this particular prophecy clouds are descriptive of the trouble that is heaped upon Israel at that time. In the defeat of the armies of Gog and Magog, God's glory is revealed in the eyes of all the nations. Evidently this will, in part at least, fulfil the prophecy of Revelation 1:7 which tells us He will come in clouds and every eye shall see, or discern Him.

ERNEST: I'll accept that answer for the present, but there is another prophecy of the Second Coming of Christ, recorded in the 24th chapter of Matthew. There Jesus says that He will return as a "thief in the night." A thief, as you know, doesn't put himself on display in full view of everyone. It seems to be the opposite to coming in the clouds, where every eye could see Him.

FRANK: You are finding things in the Bible, aren't you? You know, Ernest, that booklet on the subject of "Christ's Return," shows from the Bible that the prophecies pertaining to the subject cover the whole thousand years of the

Messianic Kingdom upon the earth. These prophecies reveal, as this booklet points out, that to start with Christ's presence upon the earth will be as a thief in the night, and that later. His presence will be revealed to all mankind.

ERNEST: I can see how that could be. But there are still other prophecies which also seem difficult to understand. I have marked one here in the book of Thessalonians. It says that Christ will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God. Now. I know that a thief doesn't shout and blow a trumpet.

FRANK: That's quite true, but at the same time, this passage is fully in harmony with the prophecy regarding the thief-like presence of the Lord. But is that all that you have found?

ERNEST: Oh no, there are still other prophecies about the second advent of Christ that are different from any of these I have mentioned. One of them says that He will come in flaming fire; another says that He will come riding on a horse; another says that He will come and serve food to His followers, another that His feet will stand upon the Mount of Olives, and that there will be an earthquake which will split the mountains in two, and that one of His feet shall stand on one part of the mountain and the other foot on the other part of the mountain. How could Jesus stand on the Mount of Olives and be up in the clouds at the same time? To me, Frank, this is a serious problem. I want to believe that Christ will establish a Kingdom of peace and happiness through which the sphere of His influence will extend to all nations. But when I try to put all of these prophecies together, they don't seem to add up to anything that I can really understand. Can you help me out, Frank.

FRANK: Ernest, you have given me a big order this time but one that can be filled, nevertheless, because the Bible itself harmonises all these apparently conflicting prophecies. We must recognise that they describe a whole series of events covering a period of a thousand years, rather than merely the moment of His coming.

ERNEST: Would you mind explaining that point a little more fully, Frank?

FRANK: A good illustration of what I mean is the manner in which the Old Testament prophecies foretold the first advent of Jesus. Some of these prophecies told of the Saviour's birth, some told of His suffering and death, some told of His riding into Jerusalem on an ass, some told of lots being cast for His garments, etc. Now all these prophecies were different, yet they were all fulfilled in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The point is that each one referred to a different time and a different experience in connection with Jesus' first advent.

ERNEST: But how does that illustrate the manner in which the prophecies of the Second Advent are to be fulfilled?

FRANK: For the reason, as pointed out in that booklet, that while Jesus' First Advent covered, in all, less than 34 years, His second presence will continue for a thousand years. Naturally, therefore, the prophecies which describe the happenings of that long period of time present a great variety of ideas, which if we should try to think of them all as being fulfilled in a given moment, would, indeed, be very confusing.

ERNEST: But, Frank, it doesn't require a thousand years for Christ to come, does it? Regardless of how long He is here after He comes, His coming or arrival must be suddenly, it seems to me.

FRANK: The exact moment of Christ's arrival is not what the prophecies of this advent particularly portray. The prophecies relate to the period of His second presence, referred to by the Greek word *parousia*. We learned in a former discussion that this fact had been obscured in our Bible by a mistranslation of this Greek word *parousia*. According to Greek scholars the word really means presence. It is a proper understanding of this word *parousia*, plus the fact that His presence is to continue for a thousand years, that helps us to understand the matter clearly.

ERNEST: Frank, would you mind giving me an example of what you mean? Perhaps that will help me to grasp the idea a little more clearly.

FRANK: Well, let's take, for example, the prophecies you referred to a few moments ago pertaining to the thief-like presence of Jesus. These prophecies reveal that there is a short period of time immediately following Christ's second coming, when only His faithful followers would know of this important event that is taking place. Following this, the Scriptures show, the fact of His presence will be revealed to all mankind, thus fulfilling the prophecy that every eye shall see Him.

ERNEST: How about the blowing of the trumpet? and the shouting that is mentioned in Paul's letter to the Thes- salonians?

FRANK: Another point we need to remember is that God talks to us to a considerable extent in pictorial language, just as we often talk to each other. We speak, for example, of the clouds of war, which sometimes, fortunately, have a silver lining.

ERNEST: Are we to understand that Christ will blow a literal trumpet when He returns?

FRANK: No. A trumpet is used in the prophecies to symbolise a message or an announcement. In the case of our Lord's second presence, this announcement or message is the truth concerning the Divine program for the blessing of the world during the thousand years of Christ's Kingdom. Those Kingdom blessings were foreshadowed by God's dealings with the nation of Israel. There was an arrangement whereby every fiftieth year was to be a jubilee year, during which there was a general share-the-wealth program inaugurated, when the people had their lost homes and lost property restored to them. This jubilee year was introduced by the blowing of the jubilee trumpets.

ERNEST: And there is to be a whole thousand years of jubilee blessings for the world, is that it?

FRANK: Yes, and man's lost home in Eden is to be restored to the whole human race, and the whole earth will become a veritable paradise in which the people will live in happiness forever. You know, Ernest, this is almost too big a subject to discuss properly at one sitting. I feel that I should urge you to read that booklet that I gave

you some time ago. I have already mentioned it but I wonder if you really appreciate the valuable information it contains on this all important subject of Christ's second coming?

ERNEST: You mean the booklet entitled "Christ's Return."

FRANK: Yes. My suggestion is that you read the booklet carefully, and then, when we have an opportunity, we will talk the matter over again. Will you promise to do that?

ERNEST: I certainly will. By all means, I'll read it. But Frank, before I believe anything I'll make sure that it's in harmony with the Bible.

Earthly Course Finished.

Word has been received from Gawler, S.A., of the passing of Sister Rusby, who had been a member of the Gawler Class for many years. Sister Rusby had been in indifferent health for some time, but the end came rather suddenly. Our late Sister was much loved by her family, who will keenly miss their mother. Also the friends at Gawler will miss one with whom they had fellowshipped for so long, yet no doubt all will be glad that our Sister's sufferings are all finished, and that she has gone to her reward. It is a precious thought that since we are now living in the time of our Lord's presence, the faithful overcomers as they finish their earthly course, do not need to remain in the sleep of death; but are raised "in a moment" to be with the Lord (Rev. 14:13; 1 Thess. 4:17; 1 Cor. 15:51-52), and will soon share with Him in the grand work of uplift for the world.

New Booklets.

Two booklets from England are now available as follows:—

“The Beauty of Holiness” is a 60 page booklet explaining the development of God’s plans to make the world holy and showing how the call to consecration is a part of that greater plan. Its principal use is for passing on to Christian friends. Price, 10d. post paid.

“The Golden Future — Our Hope for years to come.” This is a useful booklet to convey in a general way the wonderful plan of salvation, and is timely for the days in which we live. Containing 36 pages, price 5d. each, or 3 for post paid.

Please make this known ! !

BROADCASTING THROUGH

3 G L and 3 S H

Geelong Station Swan Hill Station 222 Metres 226 Metres “ FRANK & ERNEST “ BIBLICAL
DIALOGUES SUNDAY NIGHTS 9 p.m. — 9.15 p.m.

8.30 p.m — 8.45 p.m., S. Aus.

Send for Advertising Circular and Information about this work BEREAN BIBLE INSTITUTE,

Ermington Place, Kew, E 4, Melbourne, Vic., Aust.

Tried in the Fire.

Clothed in his royal splendor, seated upon a throne
A king, in the pride of empire, reaped where he had not sown.
He had built a mighty image, established a decree
That all at the sound of the cymbals, worship with bended knee.

The world acknowledged the order, like slaves obeyed the command,
For the mighty Nebuchadnezzar ruled with an iron hand.
All knelt, save three young Hebrews, brave and strong and free,
Who stood before the monarch in grave humility.

The king rose up in fury from the throne where he sat in state.
“Do you dare to refuse my order? Has my royal word no weight?
Who are you that you should defy me? I am your lord and king !
I command you to kneel and worship. Once more let the cymbals ring.”

“Nay king ! May you live forever! We worship God alone.
He is the great Creator to Whom all allegiance own.
He will serve you well and truly, obey each just command,
But worship belongs to Jehovah, the God of sea and land.

He is able to deliver us, even from you, oh king.
But whether He saves or slays us, we will His praise sing.”
Bound fast in chains and fetters they were in the furnace cast.
The bravest and finest heroes of all the ages past.

Mocked at and scorned by their fellows, they faced the cruel heat,
But those who serve Jehovah can never know defeat.
The flames only burnt off their fetters and set God’s children free.
They walked in the fire uninjured and a miracle they did see.

For the Son of God walked with them. He was their strength and stay.
His power was able to save them, and His grace is the same to-day.
No smell of smoke on their garments, not a hair of their heads could fall
Without the Father’s notice. Can we trust Him to-day with our all?

The golden image is rising out there on the plains again.
We can see it slowly taking shape as it did on Shinar’s plain.
Yes, men are erecting an image to the beast. It is made of gold
And into its cruel clutches the nations are being sold.

Men bow in meek submission, accepting its mark in their hand
Or in intellect acknowledge its right to rule over the land.
All the world is being sold into bondage to the god of gold and might,
And only God’s faithful children will have courage to stand for the right.

Shall we kneel, when the cymbals are sounding, give homage to man-made gods?
Or stand like the Hebrew children and defy the oppressor’s rods
In the courage and strength of Jehovah to Whom our lives were given ;
For we have sworn allegiance to the gracious god of Heaven.

In the fiery furnace, Beloved, our faith is about to be tried.
Shall we be judged and found wanting or stand at the Master’s side?
Yes, the image of gold is rising out there on the plains once more,
And bonds and affliction await us as the hungry lions roar.

Our God seeks to test and try us as He tested the Hebrews then,
That He may reveal His presence through the flames, to the sons of men.
If we stand in His strength undaunted, faithful to God and His Word,
We too may be cast into the furnace—but there we will meet our Lord.

The flames—unable to hurt us—will only burn off our chains.
He has promised that, even our garments will not be scorched by the flames.
Then the world and its governing system will recognize our God
By His power to save His people from the fierce oppressor’s rod.

Then all men shall be called to worship and to serve the King of kings
Who comes in the clouds of trouble with healing in His wings.
In standing with God Beloved, a wonderful strength is shown.
The weakling follows the crowd still, but the hero stands alone.

Our God is a tower and fortress as He was in the long ago.
To stand for truth while others kneel, requires great strength we know.
Our Captain will stand beside us when the waves are leaping high.
The chains will drop off at His bidding if we on His grace rely.

He will walk with us in the furnace and shield us from the flame.
Our faithfulness to Jehovah will bring honor to His great name.
If we can maintain love’s standard when the world is mad with hate.
Trusting in Christ—our Redeemer—the reward will be rich and great.

The world will behold the PRESENCE of the Son of God in the fire,
And acknowledge His righteous judgments AND THAT IS OUR
HEART’S DESIRE. L,K,P

Correspondence.

NTH. TERRITORY.

Dear Brother—Glad to note the Radio Work is still going, and no doubt some good is being done to the right type of people, and if it be the Lord's good pleasure He will invite to the High Calling in Christ. And perhaps some who have known these Truths in the past, will be again encouraged. Pleased to know that there is a possibility of extension; however, all these things are in the Lord's arrangement and we only want to co-operate as He opens the way.

The books you mentioned will arrive soon no doubt. At any convenient time send also the following Radio talks— "The Messianic Theocracy," "Hope for the War-Stricken," "The Jew and the War," "The Millennium," and "Armageddon."

My friend Mr. — and I are having a good time studying Vol. 1, and I think he is genuine and will come to see and appreciate all the good things the Lord has provided in these latter days for His people. Yours in the One Hope.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Dear Brother in Christ—Please accept L1 postal note for the Wireless Fund. I feel sure that if we venture to extend the Wireless programme the Lord will raise the needed funds in His own way for we have a rich Heavenly Father.

(Psa. 50:10-12.)

I am receiving the "Watchers of the Morning" direct from America now, and it is indeed Meat in due season, and I enjoy the Scriptural food from its pages.

The Frank and Ernest session would be a Godsend to Adelaide, if put over a local station. God is blessing your effort, and will increase the work, if we put forth our best endeavours. I remain, Yours sincerely.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Bearean Bible Institute—Dear Sir—I want to thank your Institution very sincerely for the interest and help you, have shown us in our sad loss. Our little son was only 4 years and 11 months; so full of energy and so happy. Life seemed to hold so much for him, he was loved by all who knew him. He was our eldest child; we have another little boy, who misses him.

In these sad times so many questions enter one's mind. Is there an afterlife? We all believe and hope so. How will

we meet again, and will our little boy know us as he did on this earth? Do we all live together in the next world? We know our little darling was free from sin. Why do these things happen? In the country where we live our children are all we have to live for.

Would you kindly send me the books mentioned in your papers—"Foregleams of the Golden Age," and "The Divine Plan of the Ages" and any free literature that may be helpful. I am enclosing 3/3. Yours very sincerely.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Berean Bible Institute—Dear Sir—Please find enclosed 10/-, and would you kindly forward me the following books:—”Daily Heavenly Manna,” “Foregleams of the Golden Age,” “The Beauty of Holiness,” “The Golden Future,” “Some of the Parables,” “Hell, Death, Spiritism.”

If you have enough to spare will you please send me a copy of all Frank and Ernest talks except those which appear in the “Peoples Paper” and I would also like some back ones. I can pass them to others who live around and would be pleased to read them. Names of the back talks are “God’s Remedy,” “The War of Survival,” “The Third Heavens,” “The Last Days,” “What is the Soul,” “Jerusalem,” “The Second Advent,” “The Sun of Righteousness,” “The Jew and the War,” “God Has a Plan,” “God’s Promises,” “John the Baptist not in Heaven,” “A People for His Name,” “The Millennium,” “The Earth Removed.” I will gladly pay postage, and we find the “Peoples Paper” a great help.

If there should be change please keep it to go towards sending papers to someone else. I would be pleased if you could name some other books I could buy suitable for children as we are nearly finished “Son of the Highest.” Thanking you for sending us the Light when we lost our little loved one. She is only sleeping. I am, Yours sincerely.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

My Dear Friends—I have just received your latest notice in regard to the other new station that will be on the air proclaiming the good tidings from the 18th and thereafter. This is so much more to give God thanks for, while it is yet called today, the day of light and liberty, for soon the night will come when liberty will not be ours as we enjoy it today.

We have been listening in on Sunday nights with great interest, although the messages have not been very clear at most of the time. The only time we could hear it plain is when the other station might stop for a minute or two. I am hoping and praying that we may be able to get it clearer on 3SH, and have less of the interruption.

Will you please send me 300 of the advertising slips and I will put them on ground that I have not touched yet. I will send 5/- to pay for the slips. Best wishes to Frank and Ernest and my prayer also and Christian love to you all. I am ever your Brother by the grace of God.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Dear Brother—Greetings and Christian love in our Redeemer’s Name. Hoping you are still being given the spiritual guidance and physical energy to carry on the Lord’s work in a manner pleasing to Him and with the blessed assurance that those who hear the Message may be comforted, whether through the printed page or by the Radio. Now, knowing the work cannot be carried on without finance, I herewith enclosed £ 1, to be used in proclaiming the Good News in whatever phase of the work you choose. I remain, by His grace, Your Brother in Christ.

VICTORIA.

Berean Bible Institute—Dear Sir or Madam—I am enclosing card and would be very happy to receive literature which you mention. I thank you very sincerely for your interest in me during my great sorrow, and I sincerely trust that in reading it I shall find the comfort which you by sending it, would like me to find. Thank you again; Yours faithfully.

VICTORIA.

Dear Brother—Yours to hand recently and very pleased to note its contents. It is splendid to think that the message can be extended to Swan Hill, 3SH, and I trust and pray that we shall be pleased with the results and if the Lord will, that it may be able to continue for a good season. Yes, I shall be glad of circulars advertising 3SH when they are available. As yet the way is not yet right to get away down the line, but I hope an opportunity will come along.

Mr. — rang me on the phone an evening or two ago and enquired when I could give another address. He said several were enquiring and he thought the indications were that quite a number would go along. Although at the last meeting mention was made of the possibility of holding another meeting, it was not pressed, but thought best to wait and see if it was desired. So, I have been making preparation and all being well we will go on with another in a week or two.

The prayers of the brethren are humbly requested that the Lord may fit me as His messenger again on this occasion and that His blessing may be realised by faithful ones who hear and understand.

With warm Christian love; Your Brother in Christ, by grace.

VICTORIA.

Dear Frank and Ernest—I wrote to you a few weeks back for some literature respecting the Second Coming of

Christ and the booklet, “God’s Plan in Brief,” for which I thank you for sending so promptly, and also for your answer to the Seventh Day Adventist problem.

I have been baptized in the Baptist Church but I could not agree to their doctrine; at present I do not belong to any order but I have been trying to seek truth whenever I can, and hearing your broadcasts through 3GL I was greatly interested. I have a friend who is a Seventh Day Adventist, and we have been holding a weekly service at my home on Thursday evenings; he insists that it is God’s will, that it is a command for us to keep Saturday as the Sabbath. Also my friend states that there is no hope after the Gospel Age closes for salvation to all who have not received Christ during this period of grace.

I would be pleased for any comforting literature which you can send. I am enclosing 5/- for the book “The Divine Plan of the Ages,” priced at 1/3, and with the balance you can send me whatever literature you think will be most beneficial to me.

Trusting that God will bless your work and may there be a great pouring out of the holy spirit upon the poor world. May God bless and keep your light ever shining. Yours seeking light.

(The book “The New Creation” in which there is a full chapter on the Sabbath Question, is recommended to all who have doubts on the subject of the seventh day; also the pamphlet, “An Answer to a Seventh Day Adventist” is available to all.—B.B. Institute.)

Frank and Ernest—Dear Sirs—I am interested in your talks over the air, and would be pleased to have any literature you have concerning the second coming of our Lord. Praying God’s blessing on your good work. Yours in His service.

Dear Frank and Ernest—I have been listening in on our radio to your Bible Talks with interest, on Sunday

nights. Will take advantage of your kind offer to supply free a pamphlet on Bible Revelations. Please send me one to abovenamed address. Thanking you. Yours faithfully.

Frank and Ernest—Gentlemen—Listening in to 3GL, Sunday night, to your very fine exposition of “The Earth Removed” I noted you invited requests for literature concerning the subject discussed. Would you kindly remit same to me at above address. Yours in sincerity.

Frank and Ernest—Bible Institute—Dear Sirs—My wife and I are very interested in your interpretation of the Bible, and look forward to your discussions every Sunday night.

Will you kindly post on the booklet on the Second Advent of Christ, and any pamphlets you may have to spare? Thanking you in anticipation. Yours truly.

Frank and Ernest—Will you kindly forward me the little book so much spoken of in the 9 p.m. Sunday night broadcast, and oblige. Yours in Christ Jesus.

Printed by Hickling & Powell Pty. Ltd., Lygon St., East Brunswick

for Berean Bible Institute, Ermington Place, Kew, Melb, E4.