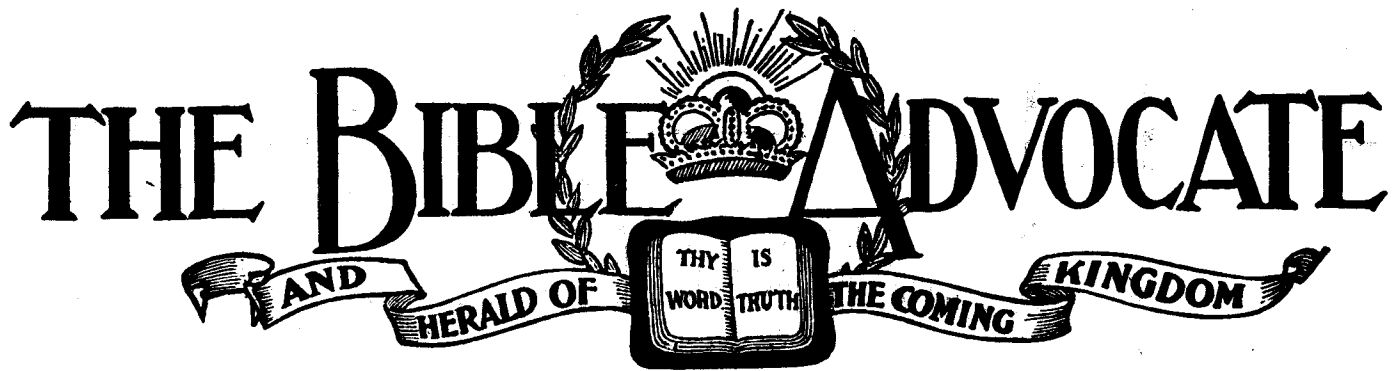


THE BIBLE ADVOCATE



AND HERALD OF THE COMING KINGDOM

THY WORD IS TRUTH

"THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET, AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH."

VOLUME NO. 70.

STANBERRY, MO., AUGUST 10, 1936.

NO. 32.

Where Standeth Thou?

M. S. Marrs

The Master left a task to do,
To test our faith and patience too,
And train us for a life anew;
—Supernal.

With longing voice He makes the call,
And offers peace to great and small,
And happiness to one and all;
—Eternal.

Then do you wish to take your place
In the game of life, and run the race,
With human zeal and Christian grace;
—Undaunted?

Or will you always, from afar,
Just be content from where you are,
To criticize a shining star,
—Thats wanted.

Pray were you into being brought,
By some who had no careful tho't,
Or have you set good works at naught,
—O Youthful?

Nay Sleeper! Now's no time to dream
Of worldly wealth and pleasures mean,
Yea, rather seek a righteous theme;
—Be Fruitful.

Palestine News Items

(The following appeared recently in "The New Palestine", the weekly journal about the rebuilding of Palestine. It occupied the entire back page of the paper and shows the spirit of Jews the world over in their determination to continue the great work of building up their homeland.)

PROCLAMATION
Of A

Campaign To Plant 100,00 New Trees in Palestine

Tree-Murderers Shall not Have the Last Word! Fellow Jews:

Boundless confidence in the unshakable foundation of the Jewish National Home has been the response of Jews everywhere to the acts of wanton destruction which took place in Palestine. With spirit undaunted, we must go on with our work of reconstruction even though the need for defense and vigilance has not yet passed.

Afraid to meet the strength of the Yishub in open encounter, the cowardly marauders hide under the cover of darkness to attack the inanimate expression of Jewish achievement — trees, man's best friends in a country where the sun reigns supreme for the majority of the year.

Scores of thousands of trees, principally in the forests of the Keren Kayemeth at Mishmar He'emek and at Ginegar, where woods were planted and had been flourishing in tribute to the memory of Theodor Herze, Lord Balfour and George Washington, have gone up in flames or fallen under the axe . . . trees that were put into the rejuvenated soil to cover the denuded hills with verdure, to absorb moisture, to improve the climate, to restore to the landscape its former fertility and beauty, and to provide shade for rest and recreation to the men, women and children who seek, with unmatched devotion and endless toil, to create a Home for a homeless and persecuted people.

SHALL THE VANDALS BE PERMITTED TO HAVE THE LAST WORD?

"NO!" was the immediate and determined resolve of Palestine Jewry. With the end of the disturbances not yet in sight, our pioneers vowed to "remember the soul of the blazing forests and the agonies of the uprooted trees." They pledged themselves to spare no effort or sacrifice to replace by myriads "each burned sheaf and to plant a thousand for each uprooted tree."

The challenge thrown by the forces of destruction has been answered with a courageous call to **DEFENSE THROUGH RECONSTRUCTION**. The Jerusalem headquarters of the Keren Kayemeth (Jewish National Fund) has issued an urgent appeal to Jews throughout the world to emulate the example of the Yishub by immediately raising a Fund

for the planting of 100,000 new trees in place of those wantonly destroyed.

AMERICAN ZIONISTS TAKE UP CHALLENGE
Shall the tree-murderers be permitted to have the last word? "NO!" was the determined and enthusiastic response of the delegates who attended the 39th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, at Providence, Rhode Island. Amid scenes of heartrending grief over the acts of destruction, in exalted rededication to the purpose of the Jewish National Fund, the Convention unanimously resolved,

"As an expression of our determined will to proceed with the upbuilding of Eretz Israel and as a token of our undying love for its soil, to proclaim a nation-wide action, to be started forthwith, in order to enable the Jewish National fund to plant our hundred thousand new

(Continued on page 16)

The Bible Advocate

August, 10, 1936.

C O N T E N T S

THE WHOLE MIND OF GOD 3

By Virginia Nesbit

An article showing the effect of Christ on the life of the sinner, telling of an actual individual experience. The greatest change in the life is brought about by the Word of God and earnest prayer.

HOW WILL GOD PUNISH SINNERS? 5

Bible students want the real Bible truth on every subject which effects our faith. It is important to have a true understanding of this subject, for in it we find revealed the true plan of God and His righteous judgments revealed. Truly, God is Love.

THOUGHTS ON THE S. S. LESSON 7

EDITORIAL—IS IT RIGHT TO BE ON RELIEF? 8

This article is written by request, on a subject which comes very near the lives of many in these days. We seek to present a true Bible view of these things.

JESUS IS COMING IN GLORY 11

By W. R. Peterson

As the signs are fulfilled in greater degree and the outlook grows darker in the world, we are encouraged by considering the hope we have of the glorious appearing of our Lord.

SIDELIGHTS ON THE SCRIPTURES 12

The ancient stones and tablets which have been dug up in Bible lands help us to see that the Bible is truly inspired.

THE ORGANIZED CHURCH OF GOD 16

By Elder Z. V. Black

Some interesting thoughts of the true place of organization in the work of the Church.

The Whole Mind Of God

BY

Virginia Nesbit

More than 30 years ago a consecrated mother prayed for her baby girl to grow up to love Jesus; a few years later a consecrated Bible School teacher presented the little girl with a Bible with this Scripture as the dedication verse: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Tim. 2:15. Years slipped by. Satan interrupted the working of God's plan in that life. Fear of facing the world alone at 16, increasing interest in earning a living, increasing ambition to achieve a position in the world, interest in an earthly home—an outstanding combination of circumstances to keep that child from the house of the Lord. For nineteen years that Bible lay in the bottom of a trunk. Back and forth across the Continent it travelled. Valuable articles got lost, poverty struck, floods, thieves but some how or other the Bible remained. True, its pages were unturned from the day it was received but it stuck just the same. In nearly as miraculous a way as the Eternal Word of God remained with mankind when it was on the verge of being destroyed in flames, after Titus burned Jerusalem.

Then one day a circumstance brought that child, now a woman bowed with grief, poverty, a buried baby, a broken home, a body racked with the mars of sin, a brain befogged by liquor, under the power of the preaching of the Word of God, into a church where the only literature allowed was the Bible.

So one of those incidents so unaccountable to the carnal mind, happened. That woman had to get the Bible out and take it to church. Pretty soon under the power of preaching the Bible was read a little bit, it was true at first only in the Lord's House and then it began to be marked a little pit. Aren't marked Bibles sweet. Then it began to be read a little at home. Then a consecrated woman began to tell this poor lost soul about the sweetness of God's word. But to her bewildered mind there seemed so much that could not be understood. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit." John 3:5. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." 1 Cor. 2:14.

Finally under the convicting power of the

preached Word the Spirit of God drove home into that heart and the miracle of regeneration was accomplished. This child, prayed for before her birth, whose Bible lay in the bottom of a trunk for 19 wasted years, at last had reached the point where she might read her Bible with spiritual discernment. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." 2 Cor. 5:17.

Then experiences with the Word of God began to be so different. The truths with a personal application began to unfold, the doctrines became clear and understandable. When body and mind were weary with the day's work, with the unkindness of life, then the precious Word of God would provide sweet solace. When a problem was faced for which there was no solution the Word of God would provide it. When a situation arose, when the spirits must be tried, "believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world" 1 John 4:1 then the Word of God formed the measuring stick. Indeed the Word of God became the measuring stick of every situation in the life of this woman. That is a measuring stick that can never fail us. For we know that nothing of Satan will acknowledge Jesus and His Atonement. So using the Word of God, we can find if the spirits are of God or of the powers of evil by seeing if they glorify Jesus, the crucified Jesus, the resurrected Jesus. "There is nothing it does not offer, nothing it does not give to the man who feels his want and seeks its bounty. Truth that never grows old, riches that never decay, pleasures that never cloy, a crown that is never tarnished, griefs assuaged and fears tranquilized, and incorruptible immortality, are the gifts of God to all the lovers of the Bible All Christians have this internal and spiritual evidence. All testify to the reality of the change, wrought through the instrumentality of the Bible, upon their own hearts; the effect produced by it on their own minds and character is different from that produced by any other book in the world; nor is it possible for any other to produce the same moral transformation. It has disclosed to them the inmost recesses of their own bosom, which nothing else could do. When polluted, it has made them holy; when anxious and troubled, it has given them peace; when miserable, it has

made them happy. It has given the most accurate and vivid representation of their sorrows and their joys, their burdens and their relief, their temptations and their succors, their doubts and their fears and their hopes, their unfaithfulness, and their relentings, their conflicts and their triumphs; which no book could give unless its Author knew what was in man, and is able to write out their own inward history."

Then the moulding hand of God rested heavily at times on this life. And speaking of the moulding hand of God there is a difference in the original language of some words which are translated the same in our language but has a different shade of meaning in the original. In the Hebrew when God made the physical creation He is spoken of as using the tips of His fingers lightly by David in Psalm 8:3: "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers." In Ezekiel 1:3, "The hand of the Lord was there upon him" and Ezekiel 3:22, "And the hand of the Lord was there upon me", we find that not just the finger tips but the whole hand of the Lord was upon His chosen one whom He is moulding. After all Ezekiel is a type of any regenerated child of God who goes forth to warn the wicked. This would include anyone called to preach or called to teach or who had a part in a Holy Spirit led church program. So only the Divine finger tips were used in the creation of a Universe so awe-inspiring as to beggar description but His whole hand is on the life He chooses. "Ye have not chosen me but I have chosen you." John 16:16.

Passages and selections from Scripture were the frame work on which this newly born spiritual life was built. As the bones support the physical body so the Scriptures formed a frame work in this spiritual body. "Now no chastening for the present seemeth joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" Heb. 12:11. At those moments of chastening so lovingly given by our Heavenly Father when our own stubbornness causes us so much suffering then passages began to blaze out of the Word of God in letters of fire. It began to see that there was not an hour passed that the Word of God did not in some way affect this life. "He that believeth, hath the testimony written in his own bosom, not by those sensible exhibitions of Divine power by which the laws of nature are arrested, but by power equally great and wonderous, the omnipotent power of the Spirit of God."

In this life was working the leaven of the Word. How awe-inspiring, how compelling a testimony to the all-hovering love of God that

this experience which has come down through the ages was being felt in this person's life. From Abel to the present hour, in all climes and under all forms of government, the same in the villages of Greenland and the vales of the Vaudois; in modern cities and in African wilderness; on land or sea. Oceans and miles and years may separate, natural causes of all kinds exert their influence but everywhere the same experience resulting from the same conviction—that God is God. No matter what their sex or condition or nationality or period of history; whether children or old; rulers or rustics; soldiers of business men; sailors or seamstresses, the same high-born and impelling force sends the same spiritual nourishment through every channel of the spiritual body. It is given with the same uniformity and explicitness to all classes of minds and temperments. The gifted as well as the simple minded; the cautious and the rash; the poet and the historian; the calm and the sensitive; all have the same spiritual sympathies and speak the same spiritual language. That blessed language taught by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God. "But the anointing which ye have received him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you; but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him" 1 John 2:27.

"For when the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness; for he is a babe, but strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age; even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Heb. 5:12-14. And as the new born babe in Christ reaches the point where the milk of the Word becomes the meat of the Word there was a growing conviction in this heart of the need of studying "the whole mind of God".

We know that it is the fashion, today and in ages past, for unregenerated mankind, under the guise of intellectualism, but really "dead in trespasses" and under the leadership of the angel of light "For such are false prophets, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ and no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (2 Cor. 11:13-14), to use verses and phrases out of Holy Writ, to prove incongruous points, to mention fancied discrepancies, to prove unorthodox theories. Of course for the unspiritual man this is a very convenient way of excusing his actions.

(Continued on page 14)

How Will God Punish Sinners?

For centuries the doctrine of an ever-burning hell has been believed by many Christians. Perhaps there are not so many holding that tenet today as formerly, but still there are millions of Protestants and all the millions of Catholics who actually believe that when a wicked person dies he goes to punishment, and that that punishment consists of everlasting torture by burning in a lake of fire.

There is no doctrine that has made the number of infidels that this doctrine of an eternally burning hell has done. It so misrepresents God that multitudes conceive of Him, not as a loving Father, but as some omnipotent monster who delights to see His creatures suffer in hell torment. Thus the devil has used this terrible doctrine to malign God and to turn many away from the one great Source of love and mercy and pardon and forgiveness.

God is love. His deepest desire is that all men should accept His love and become citizens of His kingdom. It is true that those who persist in rebellion against the kingdom of God and who refuse the offers of Christ's grace, will some day be removed from the universe, but their end will be mercifully shortened. They quickly will be as though they had not been. The Scriptures know nothing of a process of eternal punishing.

The term "hell" suggests to many minds the idea of a cavity in the earth somewhere, in which cavity a fire is constantly burning, and into which fire wicked men and women are cast. The word "hell" is an English word. It is translated from the Hebrew word "Sheol" of the Old Testament, which is variously rendered "hell," "grave," and "pit." In the word "Hades," "Tartarus," and "Gehenna" are translated "hell" and "grave." The original meaning of the Hebrew word "Sheol" and the Greek word "Hades" was to hide or to cover up, and was a term applied to the tomb, or grave. The Hebrew word "Sheol" is translated thirty-one times "grave" and three times "pit" in the King James Version. The Greek word "Gehenna" is found twelve times in the New Testament. It is derived from the name of the Valley of Hinnom, which is the name of the place of burning outside the city of Jerusalem, where the city refuse was consumed by fire. The word "hell" occurs fifty-three times in the English Bible; thirty-one of these fifty-three are found in the Old Testament, and are translated from the original Hebrew word "Sheol." Cruden's Concordance says, "Hell—in Hebrew Sheol. This word most commonly signifies grave, or the place or state of the dead."

"Sheol" is not the place of the wicked dead only, but of the dead in general, whether good or bad. It is nothing less than a travesty on the word of God for men to attempt to build upon it the horrible, infidel-producing doctrine of an eternally burning hell.

But you ask, Does not the Bible speak somewhere of everlasting fire, and doesn't it say sinners will be burned forever?

Let us study for a moment those passages in the Scriptures which are often misunderstood. In Revelation 14:11 we read: "The smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."

Again, in Matthew 25:46 we read: These shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." Mark writes, "If thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Mark 9:43, 44.

The reader will kindly keep in mind the three challenging expressions, "The smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever," "the fire is not quenched," and "everlasting punishment." These are very strong and positive phrases. Let us read some texts of Scripture now that make plain the real meaning of these phrases.

Here is a very illuminating statement: "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." Jude 7.

"Eternal Fire" Now Gone Out

We are told very plainly that Sodom and Gomorrah suffer the vengeance of eternal fire. But are the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah still burning? No, they are not. What became of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah? We will let the Bible give us the answer. It is found in 2 Peter 2:6: "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly." Here the Lord tells us plainly that the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah have been turned into ashes; and Peter declares that is just what will happen to those who live ungodly.

How can it be said that those cities suffered the

vengeance of eternal fire when the fire is no longer burning? God knew that He was going to cover the site upon which those cities had stood with the Dead Sea, and hence man would never be able to rebuild those cities. Therefore, the results of the fire which destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah were eternal results. The results of that fire can never be undone. Therefore, the cities suffered the vengeance of fire, the result of which is eternal.

Now, let us notice how the Bible explains that term, "forever and ever." In Exodus 21:6 we read: "Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the doorpost; and his master shall bore his ear through with an awl; and he shall serve him forever." Does this mean that the servant was to serve his master throughout eternity? Oh no, only so long as he lived. "Forever and ever" he would serve no other master, just this one who had bored his ear through. His service would belong to that master forever and ever.

As Long as He Liveth

Now turning to 1 Samuel 1:22, we find this statement: "But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the Lord, and there abide forever." Turning to verse 28, we read, "Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord. And he worshiped the Lord there." Here we have a chapter in which we are told that he shall "abide forever," and also that he shall serve Him "as long as he liveth." Hence serving as long as he lives is said to be serving Him forever. How can that be. His service as an everlasting service belonged to the Lord. Samuel could never serve anyone else, but would always serve the Lord. That "forever" meant just as long as he lived.

"Unquenchable Fire"

Now, let us come to that third very strong expression, "the fire is not quenched." In Jeremiah 17:27 we have that term explained where we read, "But if ye will not hearken unto Me to hallow the Sabbath day, and not to bear a burden, even entering in at the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in the gates thereof, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched."

Is Jerusalem still on fire. Every one knows that it is not, and still God says that the fire which was to destroy Jerusalem was an unquenchable fire even as the fire which should destroy the wicked is unquenchable.

What does it mean to quench a fire? We are all familiar with the fact that when we do not need

the fire to continue in our heater or stove or furnace, we simply cease to feed it. We do not have to form a bucket brigade and pour a lot of water on that fire in order to get rid of it. All we do is to discontinue supplying combustible material for it to feed upon. It will continue to burn as long as it has something upon which to feed; but as soon as the fuel is gone, the fire naturally goes out.

But suppose your house should catch on fire. You do not want your house to burn, so you call the fire department. The fire department plays the stream of water upon the fire. What does that water do? It quenches the fire. God simply said, When I set fire to Jerusalem, there are no fire departments anywhere in the world capable of stopping that fire. No human being shall hinder Me from doing what I want to accomplish with that fire.

In telling us that He will destroy the wicked with a fire that shall not be quenched, He is simply assuring us that the devil and all his followers will not be able to invent any kind of fire extinguisher capable of quenching the fire God kindles with which to burn up all the works of iniquity and those who cling to sin in the day when fire shall cleanse the earth.

They Will Cease to Be

In Psalms 37:10, 20, 38 we read: "For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be." "But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the Lord shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away." "But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off." Obadiah, verse 16, says, "They shall be as though they had not been." In Hebrews 2:14 we are assured that our God not only has power to destroy the wicked but also "that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." In Malachi 4:1-3 we have the positive statement that the wicked shall be turned to ashes: "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch."

Absolute Separation From God

The Scriptures teach nothing more clearly than the fact that all those who ultimately reject God will, in the final judgment suffer endless expulsion from God and His government. "Depart from Me, ye cursed," is the decree of Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead. Matthew 25:41.

Observe now how the apostle Paul enunciates the same truth: "And to you who are troubled rest with

us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power." 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9.

But nothing can be more certain than that banishment from God, "from the glory of His power," implies destruction, obliteration, annihilation, — death! For God is "the fountain of life;" it is "in Him we live, and move, and have our being." Acts 17:28. "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear," are the words of Paul. Colossians 3:4. If, then, man cannot live, can have no being, apart from God, his expulsion from God—and, of course, from His kingdom, or government—must inescapably culminate in destruction, in cessation of life and being. The Holy Scriptures stress nothing more frequently than the fact that the impending kingdom of God, for which we pray in the words, "Thy kingdom come," is a kingdom of righteousness, of sinlessness. In the very nature of things, therefore, the subjects of that kingdom will all be sinless, righteous, as the Bible so insistently declares. Hence there will be no place for the traditional hell peopled with immortal sinners and devils. We see, then, that the inexorable verdict of reason and logic, as well as the infallible testimony of inspired revelation, declares the punishment of the irreclaimable sinner to be absolute destruction, final extinction.

Don't Follow the Devil

The devil is the chief sinner of all time. Surely if the Bible declares that some day God will turn him to ashes and that he will cease to be, that should settle this entire question of whether the wicked keep on burning throughout all eternity, or whether they are consumed in the fires of destruction, and therefore cease to be throughout eternity. And here's the text:

"I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity, by the iniquity of thy traffic; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more." Eze. 28:16-19.

Here we have the assurance that God will destroy the devil. Surely, then, those who have fol-

lowed him will also be utterly destroyed. In the beginning, Satan was created a perfect being and continued to be perfect until iniquity was found in him. The iniquity of self-exaltation changed a perfect being into a demon. Immediately Satan became very active in gaining sympathizers from among the angels of heaven. He and his sympathizers brought on a rebellion against the government of heaven. That rebellion resulted in a warfare resulting in casting the devil and his legions down to the earth. The devil and his angels immediately became busy trying to persuade human beings to rebel against God's government; and that is the program he has been carrying on ever since.

Satan may come to us, promising us all sorts of liberties and things the natural heart may desire, assuring us that we can have anything we want if we will only follow him. However, we ought to keep in mind the fact that while Satan is very ready to make wonderful promises to us, he is wholly unable to fulfill any of these promises, or to give us the things he assures us we shall have if we will but rebel against God's plan and God's program. When Satan comes with temptations, remember he is destined to extinction, and if we are led by him to live lives of rebellion against God's revealed will we shall share his fate.

A Sinless Universe Restored

The gospel has for its all-inclusive purpose the "restoration of all things" from the power of Satan, from sin and death, to the power of God, with its truth of the foregoing thesis is divinely attested by consequent righteousness and endless life. The many Scripture declarations. In the latter part of verse 8 of the third chapter of 1 John, is the following testimony of the divine Spirit: "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." We see, therefore, that the works of the devil are doomed to destruction; and that means the obliteration from God's universe of sin and pain and death, and, of course, the author of all these, the devil. One of the results of Christ's sacrificial death is, "that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, "the devil." Hebrews 2:14. And if sin shall be annihilated, then all sinners who refuse to be redeemed from sin must perish with, or in, their sins. See Malachi 4:1, 3.

A normal or righteous universe is a sinless universe; and a sinless universe necessarily means a sinnerless universe. To perpetuate sinners endlessly would perpetuate sin endlessly, and this could mean nothing other than the perpetuation of the devil and his works unendingly. God in Christ has set Himself to the restoration of absolute perpetual and universal righteousness. He cannot fail of His

(Continued on page 13)

THE BIBLE ADVOCATE

AND HERALD OF THE COMING KINGDOM

"THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET, AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH."
Official Organ of the Church of God

ISSUED WEEKLY

By the "Church of God" Publishing House
Stanberry, Missouri

W. C. Rodgers, Milan, Mo. Editor
Stanley J. Kauer Office Editor
Burt F. Marrs, Wewoka, Okla. Associate Editor
J. F. Williams Business Manager
Subscription rates \$1.00 per year
For three months 25 cents
Foreign subscription rate \$1.50 per year

Entered as second class matter November 11, 1887 at the
Post Office, at Stanberry, Mo., under Act of March 3, 1879.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFICERS

A. S. Christenson, Pres. Carl Carver, vice Pres.
Frederic, Wisconsin. Marion, Iowa
Stanley J. Kauer, Sec'y-Treas., Stanberry, Missouri

COMMITTEEMEN

J. T. Williamson Hugh Miller
Appleton City, Mo. Bassett, Nebr.
H. N. VanderSchoor Ennis Hawkins
Middleville, Mich. Rattan, Okla.
C. F. Knott, 544 E. 11th St., Spokane, Wash.

Elaine Christenson, General Sec'y-Treas., Young People's Dep't
Stanberry, Missouri

Is it Right to be on Relief

This is a question which has perhaps come to many of our people during the past few years and may confront still more during the time just ahead of us. We believe in having faith in the Lord, trusting that He will provide if we are willing to do our part. But we have come to a time in the world's history when it has in many places become impossible to get any work except relief work. And where there are those who are unable to do this work, the only recourse has been to accept direct "relief" from the government. The usual agencies of help have largely been absorbed by government relief and many who formerly would have been glad to help their friends and neighbors who might be in need, have come to depend on the government to do it. The question then that has come to some is, are we really showing faith in God to accept this kind of help? And if we refuse it, could we in faith, expect the Lord to provide in some other way?

When it comes to the matter of relief work, the answer should be simple. Any form of labor during the 6 days allotted for work, and which does not in any way involve the violation of the Word of God, is honorable and right. "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might;

for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." So long as the work is worthy of our labor, the very commandment tells us to work. The tents that Paul made were not Gospel tents — they were sold to men of the world and some may even have been used to house idols or for other evil purposes. But Paul did not worry about what happened to the tents after he made them. The work itself was honorable and his responsibility ended when he sold the tents. And the work itself gave him opportunity to preach the gospel. Likewise those who work in relief groups, should not fear to witness for the Lord. And even tho the money so earned may seem small, we will find the greatest blessing in the use of it if we first give to the Lord His portion.

And so while relief work may bring problems, yet it is honorable, and if we are careful not to let it interfere in any way with our keeping of God's law, there is nothing wrong in this kind of work.

But what about accepting direct payments from the government without working for them? Should we believe that the Lord is helping us in this way in answer to our prayers?

Let us notice the example of Jesus while He was on earth. He did not have a regular home during His ministry. He depended entirely upon others and often spent the night on the mountain in the open. But when the rich tax collector invited Him to dinner, He accepted. The very food He ate there may have been purchased with extortion money. That could not be helped then, but the Lord could bring the message to the tax collector so that he found salvation and forgiveness for his wrong deeds. The temple and its courts were built by the government. It was the temple of Herod, a Roman governor. yet it had been provided as the house of God and Jesus used it freely. The highways, the fountains and many other public conveniences were then and still are provided by the government and Jesus used them and we still use them freely — whether we are in the position of paying taxes or not. If we "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's," we should not count it unjust to accept the things thus provided to help us. "The powers that be are ordained of God." They may not be christian or God-fearing in any sense, yet God allows them the rule they have. Some time or other we all provide something to help maintain the government. Most of the money now provided for relief has been loaned to the government by the wealthy people. The billions of dollars of the public debt are practically all owed to the rich people of the nation. Every time we buy a manufactured article, some wealthy

factory owner has gained a profit. Even the money we may receive in relief, will again go to make a profit for these same men. And so from every view point, the Christian should not feel that it is wrong to accept relief money, if actually in need of it.

Consider the example of the Children of Israel and the instructions God gave them. They had been made slaves in Egypt and their labor had enabled the Egyptians to be rich. The wealth was in the hands of the taskmasters, yet rightly should have been in the hands of those who produced it. Just before the Children of Israel left the country, the Lord told them to "borrow (the Revised Version says "ask") of his neighbor and every woman of her neighbor, jewels of silver and jewels of gold . . . and the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians . . . and the Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent (gave) unto them such things as they required; and they spoiled the Egyptians." Ex. 12:35, 36. Israel was very poor, having been kept that way by Egypt. So in a way this was a form of "relief" and the Lord provided for the people in this way.

And so in these trying "last days", let us pray much and look to the Lord and His Word for guidance at all times. We are to be separate from the world and the Lord tells us not to be surprised if the world hates us for it hated Him first. But yet we are still "in the world" and the Lord may provide for us through the agencies of the world. Let us feel indebted to the Lord, who is the real giver and not feel under any obligation to disobey the Lord, because of these things. Rather continue to trust Him fully and praise His name, for He truly "careth for you."

S. J. K.

Camp Meeting Notices

MISSOURI CAMP MEETING

By the time most of our readers receive this paper, the Missouri Camp Meeting will already be in session. Notice the last few issues for the complete announcement. We again mention that the location is on South 8th St., about seven blocks from the business section, with plenty of shade, good places for camping, plenty of good drinking water and rest rooms on the grounds. No dining tent will be operated on the grounds this year. Rooms are available near by and the Church of God building will also be open for use of the brethren. The meeting is at Rich Hill, Mo.

We hope that many will attend this meeting for the real spiritual feast and go home again encouraged to press on in the Christian Way.

THE KANSAS NEBRASKA COLORADO CONFERENCE

As has been announced in the Advocate before, the date for the Gospel feast and state Conference of the church is Aug. 27 to Sept 2, which is to be held at Cambridge, Nebr., which is 25 miles east of McCook on highway No. 3. The first business meeting of the Conference will convene on Sunday, Aug. 30, at 10:00 A. M., and the sessions will run till all business is completed.

Anciently all the male population of Israel over 20 years old were commanded to meet three times a year, and they were greatly blessed in obeying the command of the Lord. In view of the great light that the Lord has given us shall we not be more faithful than the children of Israel? This meeting has been appointed not only for the spiritual uplift of our people, but also for the benefit of those not of our faith. I trust that the brethren will see the importance of helping to give the message of salvation to the town of Cambridge and vicinity. We are pleased to send out this invitation, knowing that we have loyal Children of God who will deny self, and by their presence at this assembly, work for the conversion of sinners.

We all know that in Rev. 14:6-12 are presented before us three great movements, represented by three angels flying in the midst of heaven. We also know that the Lord has put us in trust with the last of these great messages. As our Father sent Noah, and afterward John the Baptist to proclaim special messages in their day, so also the Lord has entrusted us with the above special message. This consideration makes this Conference meeting more important. We should all want a part in this great work. How can we expect to hear the words, "Well done," unless we have done well?

We are pleased to report that three talented ministers from other states have promised to come and help in this effort, and perhaps others.

The tent will be pitched in the city park, where there will be shade in the afternoon. As there are two buildings on the grounds that can be used for dining rooms, and sleeping rooms, therefore it is left optional with those coming from a distance whether they wish to stay on the grounds, or go to the homes of the brethren. Do not forget to bring bed clothes. It need not cost the brethren, while at the meeting, as much to live as when at home. To those who are short of funds, I would say, let not this prevent you from coming, unless you live too far away. Write to me for the expense of gas and oil, and I will send you funds.

J. F. Jensen, *President*
McCook, Nebr., Gen. Del.

Thoughts on the Sabbath School Lesson

DAVID, THE YOUTH

Scripture Reading: Psalms 91:

Golden Text: 1 Samuel 17:47.

In last week's lesson, we studied about the grandmother of David. In this lesson we study about David himself. It seems that for a youth, David was a man who fully trusted God and in many ways his life resembled the life of Christ.

We find at this time that Saul had been king over the Israelites, but had failed to follow the Lord's directions and the Lord had rejected him as king. The Lord had told Samuel to choose another king to reign over Israel. Samuel didn't feel that he could choose a man suitable for king over God's people, but the Lord told him where to go and how to tell when he found the right man. He was directed to the house of Jesse who had eight sons. Jesse had the eldest son to come before Samuel and it seems that because of his stature and countenance, Samuel thought surely this was the one that should be anointed king. But the Lord told Samuel not to look on the height of stature or outward appearance. The Lord looketh on the heart. Christ verified this in His teaching. The Pharisees liked to make a great outward show. They wanted to appear unto men that they were someone. They were covetous of the praises of men. Jesus told them that God knew their hearts. That which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God. Luke 16:15.

Samuel knew that one of these sons of Jesse must be the one God would have king of Israel. Jesse had each of the other six older sons to come before Samuel but none of these were suitable for the kingship. Jesse told Samuel his youngest son was out herding the sheep and Samuel asked that he be brought in. When he was come in the Lord told Samuel to arise and anoint him for he was the chosen one. We find he was filled with the Spirit of the Lord from then on and the Lord was always with him.

About the time of the anointing of David, the Philistines were causing the Israelites trouble and were getting ready to make war with them. There was among the Philistines a man large of stature (or a giant as he was called) who came toward the Israelites and challenged any man among them to come and fight with him and if he was able to kill the giant, the Philistines would be servants of the Israelites. The Israelites were all afraid to fight with the giant. David had gone back to tending his father's sheep but

some of his older brothers were in the army of Israel. David's father was desirous to know how the older sons were faring so he prepared food and sent David to carry it to the brothers and see how they were faring. When he reached their camp he saw the giant and heard the challenge.

When David saw how fearful they all were of this man he asked, "Who is this Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?" He said, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. I will go and fight the Philistine."

Saul answered, "You are not able to go; you are only a youth." But David knew the Lord was with him and was not afraid to go out against his enemy. How like Jesus he was in this! When Jesus was only a youth we find Him among the learned men of that time discussing the Scriptures with them. He was not afraid to stand up for God and the truth altho they were considered great men of that time.

The lesson comes to us that altho we may not be considered anyone in the eyes of the world, yet if we have decided to follow the Lord and let Him guide us, we should not be ashamed to stand out and hold up the truth against those who are considered great in the eyes of the world.

David told Saul how while tending his father's sheep a lion and bear had taken a lamb and he had followed after them and had slain them and recovered the lamb, saying, "The Lord was with me and delivered me out of the paw of the lion and bear; surely He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine."

When David persisted in going against the giant, Saul put an armor on him like the other soldiers wore. David refused to wear it, taking only his sling and five pebbles he picked up in the brook. David was not trusting in the weapons of carnal warfare, but his trust was in his God and he was able to kill the giant and put the Philistines to flight.

So it is with us, who are Christians, when we go forth to fight against sin we should realize it is not only to free ourselves from the service of sin but it will also free others. We should not go forth fighting with the weapons of the world but be armed with the weapons God has told us to use. Can we expect to free souls from sin if we use the same methods that Satan uses to keep them serving him? We have churches today using the same methods to get people to come to church that Satan uses to keep them away. Is it any wonder more are not drawn to the church

(Continued on page 12)

Jesus is Coming in Glory

BY

W. R. Peterson

Jesus said, "I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you"—"I will receive you unto myself." John 14:28, 3. "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then shall He reward every man according as his work shall be." Matt. 16:27. Yes, the very same Jesus that was seen to ascend into heaven, shall come again. Acts 1:11. He went away 1900 years ago, despised and rejected of men. He will return soon in resplendent glory, with hosts of shining angels, to execute judgment and reward every one of the race of man who has lived. He will raise the righteous dead to immortal life, and bestow on the living righteous the same life. ?

Every eye shall see Him, so His coming will not be secret as many claim. Matt. 24:30 and Rev. 1:7. A day is appointed, and will surely come. Acts 17:31. Be sure to be ready and looking for His glorious appearing. Titus 2:13. He will descend from heaven with the angels, a great sound of a trumpet, a shout of victory over death and sin, and call the dead to arise. 1 Thess. 4:15-17. In a twinkling of an eye immortal life will be given to all deemed worthy. 1 Cor. 15:51-55. There will be great mourning of all the tribes of earth. Matt. 24:30.

The sinner and scoffers will be dismayed as they realize their fatal mistake in rejecting God's offered pardon and salvation. The righteous will truly rejoice as they realize they have not believed in vain, and worshiped God, in the face of the scoffing of the world. Many will think they are saved, but will be told, "Depart from me, I never knew you; ye that work iniquity." Matt. 7:22, 24. The trouble was, they professed to worship God, but continued in sin, by breaking God's law. They did not love and obey God. 1 John 5:1-5; 2:4. Professing with their lips their heart was far from God. Isa. 29:13; Ezek. 33:31, 32. They have a form of godliness, but deny God's power. 2 Tim. 3:5.

The angels will reap the earth, as it is the harvest, the end of the world and time of reward to every one. Matt. 13:39-41; 16:27. Jesus in speaking of His coming, said there would be signs by which it would be known His coming was near, even at the door. Matt. 24:33; Luke 21:11, 25, 26. The apostles gave the signs that

would be seen in the last days. James 5:1-5; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 2 Peter 3:3, 4. A close study of the conditions in all the earth today shows the signs are existing so the coming of Jesus is at hand.

Though the last days are full of trouble, distress and perplexity, fearful sights abounding, increasing evil, earthquakes, famine, death and sorrow in all walks of life, yet it is a time to be glad by those who love and serve the Lord, for the ending of these things by the coming of Jesus is near. Luke 21:28.

In God's eternal kingdom and the new earth there will never be any more conditions such as existed for the past 6,000 years since sin entered the world in Eden. It is God's purpose to restore this earth to its Edenic beauty, destroy all evil and disobedience, and make it the eternal home of those who love and serve Him.

The government will not be left to human hands for Jesus will reign as King, dwelling on the earth. The capitol city of God—the New Jerusalem, now in heaven—will descend upon the earth made new. John saw it coming down. Rev. 21:1-3. The righteous will dwell in the new earth forever. Psalm 37:29.

Jesus warns that there shall be false Christs in the earth, deceiving those who are unheeding, as they will do wonderful things. Matt. 24:24, 25. As Jesus will come with the angels from heaven, those who heed His word will not be deceived. The trumpet sound, and raising of the dead show the true advent.

Reader, are you giving heed to God's Word? Are you preparing and ready to welcome Jesus when He comes? There is no other coming spoken of, and the price—Gift of God, eternal life,—will be given only at that time. It is vital to you not to fail to meet God's conditions of pardon and life. The majority of mankind will perish through their own fault of neglect; do not make the fatal mistake, for Jesus soon will come.

Good Answers to Hard Questions

"What! Giving again?" I asked in dismay,
"And must I keep giving and giving and giving
away?"

"Oh no," said the angel, piercing me through,
"Just give till the Father stops giving to you!"

—Selected.

Thoughts on the Sabbath School Lesson
(continued from page 10)

and to Christ when by their lives you cannot tell a Christian from a sinner? Paul in the Ephesian letter tells us what armor we should use. He tells us to put on the whole armor of God that we may be able to stand in that evil day. Are we not in that evil day now? Having your loins girt about with truth, having breastplates of righteousness, your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. And above all take the shield of faith that you may be able to withstand the fiery darts of the wicked one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit.

If we have on the helmet of salvation our mind will be in submission to God's bidding and conditions so we can be saved. Our head is thus protected against the enemy. If we have on the breastplate of righteousness and loins girded about with truth, the main part of our body will be protected because our heart will be filled with truth and we will live righteous lives. Thus Satan's inducements or darts cannot pierce us thru. Then for double protection we have the very important part of the armor, the shield of faith. The shield as you know is carried in the hand so it can be turned to any position to protect any part of the body. That is why faith is so important; it protects us when we are attacked from any angle. We should carry the sword in the other hand, the sword which Paul says is the word of God. We are then to overcome evil by the word of God. We trust that every one who read this, if you are not already equipped with this armor of God that you will do so before you are overcome by Satan's darts.

Going back to David, we find another striking instance of Christian spirit in Jonathan who was Saul's son and by temporal rights should have been anointed king. Saul resented David being king and tried to get his servant to kill him. But Jonathan loved David and helped protect him even from his own father. This shows the love we should have for our fellowmen. Then David teaches the love we should have for our enemies, as Jesus tells us we should love our enemies and pray for those that spitefully use us. When Saul was seeking to kill David, David and his followers were hidden in a cave and Saul and his men came and slept in the same cave, not knowing David was there. David's followers tried to induce him to kill Saul but David only cut a piece from Saul's cloak and after Saul and his men had departed, David cried after them and showed Saul what he had done, telling him he could have killed him but had spared his life. Can we show that much Christian spirit, when we have oppor-

tunity to get revenge on someone seeking to do us evil? If not we lack that much of being clad in the full armor of God. —Edgar Lippincott

SIDELIGHTS ON THE SCRIPTURES
THE CODE OF KHAMMURABI

Near the entrance of the fourth Egyptian Room (British Museum) stands a tall black stone pillar engraved with cuneiform letters. This is the famous code of laws inscribed by order of Khammurabi. The stone is of great antiquity, possibly the oldest monument in this Assyrian Room for it dates back to the days of Abraham. Some of us remember the words of Wellhausen concerning Abraham, viz:—

"We may not regard him as a historical person; he might with more likelihood be regarded as a *free creation of unconscious art*!"

Since these words of so-called criticism were penned, God has brought to light many wonderful witnesses to the historical accuracy of the Bible. Chedorlaomer becomes a living person; the dominance of Elma, as given in Gen. 14, but denied by critics, proves to be an established fact; Arioch, King of Ellasar, is found in the Inscription as Eri Aka, King of Larsa. Tidal (Tidgal in the Hebrew, and Tud-Khula or Tud-Ghula, in the inscription) has also been found. Amraphel has been identified with the name Ammurabi-ilu, "Khammurabi the god," the Amraphel of Gen. 14 being the Khammurabi of the stone pillar we are now considering.

We are not endeavoring to prove anything directly connected with Abraham, but the link with Amraphel is noteworthy, as also the clear light of the Scriptures on these ancient times. In Gen. 10:25 we are told that "unto Eber were born two sons; the name of one was Peleg . . . his brother's name was Joktan," and from Joktan came the various tribes of Arabia. Peleg's descendants remained near their ancestral home, and when Abram was born are found in the Babylonian city Ur. Documents written in the days of Abraham, and in the land in which he lived, have brought to light his very name! In the Assyrian Eponym Canon we find the name Abu-ramu, or Abraham, a name of one of the inhabitants of Abraham's land in Abraham's day. The ancient records of Arabia, moreover, make it plain that Khammurabi was from that same region, and that his language is closely allied with the Hebrew. Professor Sayce says that Khammurabi, like the rest of his dynasty, is not Babylonian, but South Arabian. The words of which they are compounded, and the divine names which they contain, do not belong to the

Babylonian and Assyrian language, and there is a cuneiform tablet in which they are given with *their Assyrian translation*. We may be able to deal more fully with this line of things when considering various passages of Scripture in the light of Archaeology. We pass on to consider the Code of Khammurabi itself.

The existence of this stone, with its codified laws eight hundred years before Moses, disposes of the fiction which we sometimes still hear that it was not possible in the time of Moses for a stone to be engraved with laws as is definitely set forth in Exodus.

"These laws of Khammurabi governed the people from the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea, and from Persia to the Mediterranean, and were in force throughout Canaan". (*Companion Bible*, Appendix No. 15).

This same Appendix tabulates nine of the laws of Khammurabi operating in Genesis. We give a condensed summary for the sake of any who may not possess a copy of this invaluable work.

1. The law of Adoption. Gen. 15. Code 191.
2. The giving of Hagar to Abraham. Gen. 16. Code 146.
3. Commercial enactments. Gen. 23. Code 7.
4. Taking of life for stealing. Gen. 31:32. Code 6.
5. Taking of life by burning. Gen. 38:24. Code 110.
6. Death for theft from palace. Gen. 44:9. Code 6.
7. Special portion to favorite son. Gen. 48:22. Code 165.
8. Reuben's punishment. Gen. 49:4. Code 158.
9. Inability of Abram to sell Hagar. Gen. 16:6. Code 119.

The laws of Khammurabi include other interesting items. If a surgeon kills a patient he must lose both his hands. If a house falls and kills anyone, the jerry-builder must be put to death. If a wife be not economical, but is a goer-about, she must be thrown in the river! Some of the penalties it will be seen are rather drastic. Where stealing is punished under the law of Moses by having to restore double, Khammurabi's Code condemns the thief to death. Some of the laws savour of the acceptance of man's person. For injuring a slave the law of God gave the slave his freedom, but Khammurabi's Code compensated the master. A rich or a poor man being injured, the law of Moses penalizes the offence by inflicting identical injury. Khammurabi's Code differentiates between rich and poor. The rich man's injury is punished as under the law of Moses, but the poor man's is expiated by paying a fine of one *mina* of silver.

We do not expect to find "statutes and judgements

so righteous as all this law" that was given to Israel (Deut. 4:8) in the Code of Khammurabi. The fact of a code of laws at all, their witness to a high state of civilization, their reflection in the very customs recorded in Genesis make this monument of great value. As we get nearer to the beginning, so we find traces of a knowledge of God becoming more distant. Romans 1 distinctly declares that the nations had a knowledge of God, but perverted it and were given up by God. Many of the problems that have arisen in connection with some of the laws of Moses would be easily solved did we know more of the time and customs prevailing. For example. To us, from the light of subsequent revelation, "an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth" seems very lacking in mercy, and yet when we remember that the custom of blood feud meant that for an eye, a life, or possibly many lives would be sacrificed, the strict equity of the Mosaic law becomes tinged with mercy and grace. The Bible student we feel sure cannot look upon this venerable witness of Abraham's day without a very real interest. —*The Fundamentalist*.

JESUS IS COMING IN GLORY

(Continued from page 7)

purpose, for "with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26.

Destroyed After the Millennium

The plain teachings of the Bible clearly bring before us the fact that following the second resurrection, at the end of the millennium period, fire shall devour the wicked. It will turn them into ashes. It will totally annihilate them. Then God will recreate the face of the earth, restoring the Edenic condition, with the assurance that rebellion shall not rise up the second time.

Even in the destruction of the wicked, God is seen to be a God of justice and equality. God takes no pleasure in the destruction of the wicked. God pleads with all men so to surrender their lives to Him that it will not be necessary for them to go where sin naturally leads; namely, through the fires of final destruction and into extinction.

Every human being in the world is bound either for Eden restored or for annihilation. May God help us so to live that we may be among those who respond to His love, receive His forgiveness through Christ, and be among those who shall spend eternity in the world made new which shall come after the destruction of sin and sinners.

THE WHOLE MIND OF GOD

(Continued from page 4)

And so the resolve grew in this heart to study, not just a few isolated verses but the whole Word of God "For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two edged 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. "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart" (Jer. 29:13) and "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness". 2 Tim. 3:16-17. This certainly very strongly says "All your heart" and "All Scripture." That couldn't mean that if we must find an excuse for some pet sin we should hang it on a verse or phrase from Scripture as the exiled children of God hung their harps on the willow trees and wailed. but "study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." 2 Timothy 2:15.

To do this meant many hours of study alone with God; much prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit; hours under the preached Word, deep heart searching experiences with God; hours of meditation with God. Until His Holy Word becomes as sweet as the voice of her beloved saying, "I love you." No one in the whole wide world has ever tired of those words, and to the child of God the words of the Holy Writ are sweeter. Nor do we tire of reading and re-reading them. They become sweeter with every reading even as the voice of our beloved whispering, "I love you." Nothing can take the place of those hours alone with God, praying, reading His Word, meditating on His Word. Priceless are the hours that young lovers spend together. More priceless are the hours we spend alone with our God. We have one big job in this world for Him, to *Witness*, but to successfully witness we must first have those priceless and precious hours of sweet communion alone with our Lord.

We cannot advertise something we do not know or understand. And to know our Lord thoroughly, the same as knowing an earthly companion well, we must spend those hours alone with Him, studying His Word, praying, talking with Him, meditating on His amazing grace. And as we read His word we must dig into it, understand the setting of each passage so that we may not misunderstand it because we did not know to whom He was speaking in that particular situation; we must understand something of the meaning in the original languages if there is

a point of doubt. This does not mean university courses in language but may be obtained through good comparative language dictionaries. We must understand all He has said before about this particular thing. The Bible, every word, phrase, situation, sentence, verse and chapter dovetails together but if we do not know previous passages and situations many things will not be clear. The prevalent opinion that the Bible is hard to understand, has inaccuracies in it, contradicts itself, is vague, is due to lack of spiritual discernment for no unredeemed man can possibly understand the oracles of God and to lack of deep heart searching study on the part of redeemed but untaught man. Great doctrines run from Genesis to Revelation, forming a glorious pattern of His divine wisdom and amazing grace.

Witnessing is advertising. We must know what we are advertising and all about it before we can successfully advertise. We cannot talk with ease and familiarity about God's Word unless we have a Holy Spirit guidance coupled with deep and heart searching study and knowledge of its precious doctrines.

If I go to a lawyer for legal advice, at the end of his tongue are countless words and incidents and facts and information about law and so I have confidence in him. If we are chosen of our Lord then we should have the same facility to discuss Him with lost folks as the lawyer discusses law with his clients. And that lawyer did plenty of digging to learn what he now knows. And he didn't do it by himself. Some professor or teacher or some older lawyer helped him. So the Holy Spirit will help us but we must get in and dig and learn the Holy Writ under that guidance.

"Just as in the world of nature there is first the blade, then the stalk, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear; . . . just as the little infant from a helpless babe becomes a vigorous youth, and then comes to matured and well-informed manhood" so does the Bible unfold "from its resemblance to a grain of mustard seed, comes to resemble and overshadowing and fruitful tree; and from a babe in knowledge and grace, reaches the 'measure of the statute of the fulness of Christ'. By nature, the soul is 'dead in trespasses and sin.' On the first communication of spiritual life, its pulse is feeble and languid, its perceptions are obscure, and it is 'a day of small things'. But He 'who begins this work, performs it until the day of Jesus Christ' . . . the spiritual appetite becomes healthful and manly, it hungers and thirsts after righteousness; and the new born babe, who once desired the sincere milk of the Word, has now become like those who have need of strong meat 'The whole mind of God.' "

OXFORD
Basket Weave Bible
POPULAR EDITION



Attractively bound in dark brown imitation leather, with the new basket weave grain. Very durable. Has brown edges and overlapping cover. Contains interesting helps, beautifully colored pictures, presentation page and 4,000 Bible questions and answers. Printed with black-faced type. Size 6 7/8 x 4 3/8 x 1 in.

Specimen of Type

17 And there was a very that day; and Abner w
No. 0355 . . . \$2.00

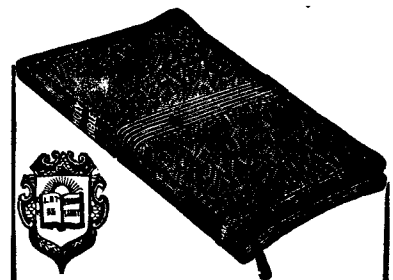
OXFORD
Basket Weave Bible
REFERENCE EDITION



A beautiful gift Bible, bound in flexible brown leather, with the new basket weave grain. New half circuit cover. Brown under gold edges. Has 50,000 references, presentation page and colored maps. Clearly printed. Size 6 7/8 x 4 3/8 x 1 1/8 in.

Specimen of Type

9 Behold, "O God our shi look upon the face of thine a
10 For a day in thy courts"
No. 03255 . . . \$3.00



The Best Bible That Can Be Made

HOLMAN
INDIA PAPER

EXTRA LARGE PRINT

Self-Pronouncing

REFERENCE BIBLE

With Concordance

Contains Authorized Version Old and New Testaments, Complete Column References and Concordance; also Section of White Linen Paper Leaves Suitable for Writing Notes, Outlines of Sermons or Important Memos for Ready Reference.

Regular List Price \$11.85

Now Offered at **\$7.85** Post Paid

No. 1875XCS

Size 5 3/4 x 8 inches x only 1 inch in thickness

Flat Opening, Will Not Break in the Back Durable, Flexible (Goat) Morocco Binding, Overlapping Covers with Indestructible Linings, carmine under pure gold edges. Titles stamped in pure gold.

Part Page Specimen, Easy-to-read Type

NEB-U-CHAD-NEZ'Z
king, "unto all people, and languages, that dwell in

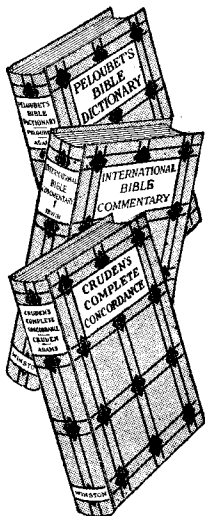
Broad open-face type. Self-pronouncing. Ample space between both letters and lines which makes easy reading. No strain on the eyes.



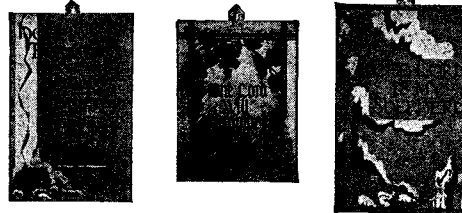
SCRIPTURE TEXT SEALS

For use on stationery

At the head of the letter or on the envelopes, these beautiful seals add the "Christian" touch. Twelve blue and silver and twelve in brilliant gold. Ten cents per package.



Brethren attending the Missouri Camp meeting may see the books, Bibles, etc., advertised on this page, in the Book and Bible display which the Publishing House will have at the Camp meeting.



"ART SUEDE" MOTTOES

These mottoes have a soft velvety finish and are in beautiful harmonizing colors. The lettering can not come off. "Blessed are the Pure in Heart, is 10 by 13 inches, price 30¢; The two next in size are 6 1/2 by 10 inches, 20¢ each. The smaller motto is 6 1/2 by 8 inches and is 15¢, all postpaid.

CRUDEN'S CONCORDANCE INTERNATIONAL BIBLE COMMENTARY
PELOUBET'S BIBLE DICTIONARY

These three books should be in the library of every careful student of the Bible. If you have an old, hard to read Cruden's Concordance, you can not realize the wonderful improvement which has been made, until you see this new edition.

The Dictionary and Bible Commentary are both especially for information. They are written so as to be acceptable to all Bible Students, stressing information rather than doctrine. Thumb index on any of these books, 50¢ extra.

Price \$2.00 each, postpaid.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF FALVIUS JOSEPHUS

Josephus was a famous Jewish historian and his writings give us a great deal of valuable information which is a help in understanding the Bible. The book includes an explanation of Jewish weights and measures, coins and reckoning of time and has an exhaustive index. This is a new edition, beautifully cloth bound and stamped in gold. A large book, 7 1/2 by 10 inches, containing 1050 pages. \$2.50, postpaid.

FOX'S BOOK OF MARTYRS

A book which is famous for its influence on present day Christian faith. The story of the sufferings of the faithful during the dark ages brings inspiration and trust to us in this present time. The book also contains much interesting and valuable history. Size 6 by 8 3/4 inches, 392 pages. Bound in a beautiful maroon cloth binding, with gold title. \$1.50, postpaid.

No Paper Next Week

The next issue of the Bible Advocate will be dated August 24th. The Office Editor and other workers at the office plan to attend the camp meeting at Rich Hill, Missouri, representing the Bible Advocate and the Church of God Publishing House, there.

Altho this has not been done the past few years, it was always customary for many years to drop two issues each year, making the complete volume of 50 issues a year. We hope all look forward with pleasure to seeing the paper again after the weeks absence.

A Good Meeting

The all-day meeting held at the Stanberry Church of God, August 8 was very well attended with many brethren from the nearby churches present. All felt that it was truly a good meeting, to the glory of God.

(Continued from page 2)

trees in place of those wantonly destroyed!" This was not just another resolution. Within the brief space of fifteen minutes, the Tree Planting Campaign of the Jewish National Fund was launched with subscriptions for more than 25,000 trees.

Then followed a direct appeal to all Jews and friends to contribute directly to the fund for planting trees. It is wonderful how these people are putting their efforts together to rebuild Palestine. But it is clearly the fulfillment of the prophecy, altho this fact is never mentioned in their papers. God is drawing them together by persecution both throughout the world and even in their own land.

The Organized Church of God

BY

Z. V. Black

We wish to call your attention to some facts of organization back in early Bible history: "And to Seth, to him also was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the Lord." Gen. 4:26. (Marginal reading, "Call themselves by the name of the Lord.")

A unity of action is shown here and that was just what was needed. In a former article we went back of the flood and produced evidence of a body of believers in and followers of God. Now we will step this side of the flood and show you an organized body that had for its purpose another object than the one of worshipping God. "And they said, Go to, let us build a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. Gen. 11:4.

Here is an organization that would appear innocent, one that could do no harm. Yet like many others it lead away from God. While God recognized its power He also tells us it was leading away from Him and was leading to harm.

You cannot conduct any movement without some plan or system either written or orally understood. God knew the power of organization, yes, and knew where it would lead—that all labor and thought would be after the name of the building. God at all times calls the people that obey Him, His people. He gives them His name, because they call on the name of the Lord. If our heart and treasure are builded in God we will work to make a name for the Lord on the earth.

We pass by the flood and find Noah building an altar unto the Lord and offering sacrifice. We are wont to call the leader of meetings the head of the church when he is only a spokesman for us. The Lord is the head and we are working to build for the name of God.

I wish to call your attention to Gen. 14:18. Melchizedek went out to meet Abraham and blessed him. Here is a recognized authority on the matter. Abraham was used in the hand of God to punish the kings. Abraham paid tithes, a custom, yes, a law in the church as we shall learn as we procede. It is the custom of some today to expect all tithe to be payed to them direct and as they labor and teach an unorganized group of some kind and teach the people to pay tithes to them. We find Abraham, the worker, to whom the promise was made payed into the priesthood. You do not suppose he made a mistake, do you? I want you to get this thought lodged in your mind for Abraham the father of the faithful was mindful of the church and its teachers.

At present we will leave this record and advance to other facts bearing on the case. Let us see if there is not a lesson to be learned from the children of Israel. The promise was made to Abraham and his seed so let us study them. God is the author of system and He has put His rule of organization in writing and handed it down to the entire world. I am satisfied that all mankind recognize this rule whether they are ready to adopt it or not, but like the people in the organization spoken of in the 11th chapter of Genesis they are building themselves a name. So they have to form their own rules and cannot conform to God or else it would be God's body. This body of God was organized through all the Bible. We read of it in the promise made unto Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and was carried down into the New Testament and fully explained in the 3rd chapter of Galatians and especially the 16th verse.

(To be continued)