



THE REMNANT OF ISRAEL

"All ye inhabitants of the world and dwellers on the earth, see ye; when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountain, and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye."—Isaiah 18:3.

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CREEDS MAKE CHRISTIAN GROWTH IM- POSSIBLE

By I. C. Sultz.

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up in him IN ALL THINGS, which is the head, even Christ." Eph. 4:13.

"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Pet. 3:18.

The above scripture teaches that there is no such thing as a stand-still in the Christian life. As long as we remain true to God we have a close connection with the source of all growth. Therefore it would be just as impossible for us to stop growing as it would be for the little tree so long as it is supplied with rain, sunshine and heat.

Not the river with its abundant supply of water. You may place great dams across it, or throw any obstacle in its way you wish, yet the never failing supply at its source pushes it on and on. Just so with the conscientious Christian. Discourage, hamper and persecute him; the abundant supply of grace at the fountain; the never failing book of truth, brought from the source of all knowledge and wisdom, crowds him on to perfection in Christ Jesus.

Some good brethren come to me and say, "Why don't you join our church and help us carry the message to the world?" My reply is, I can't join your church because you have an organization made by men which of necessity must have a creed to define certain limits or bounds to the faith, and fixes definite limitations as to the meaning of certain parts of the Bible. One says, Our church is based on Peter. Another says, Our church is founded on baptism. And still another says, The foundation of our church is the sanctuary question as taught in the testimonies of Mrs. E. G. White. Paul says, (and I am confident he knows), "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:11. If these churches were all founded on Jesus Christ and his truth then they would all be one and nobody could knock the props from under them.

The fence built up around each organization necessarily limits the spiritual growth of the Christian by defining the scripture and the so-called truth which they shall teach. There can be no development as the organization never changes its positions on any subject.

We can now see that if the Christian insists on a natural growth according to the scripture first quoted, he will soon surmount and pass over any creed which is only a narrow boundary or limitation set by man, and being an overgrowth he must be disposed of in one way or another.

All churches will say you must grow in knowledge and grace, but some of them have had prophets who have defined the denominational boundaries or teachings. Now these prophets have passed away and left them in an awful predicament with this well determined set of limited boundaries. Can they grow? I say it is absolutely impossible. And this must apply alike to all denominational organizations. Oliver Cromwell once said, "If I cease to become better, I shall cease to be good."

When I thoroughly got hold of this idea of growth I went into the study of the Bible as a whole. Then to my surprise I found that the church to which I belonged was teaching only a part of the Bible, and many of the positions which they held on the scripture they taught, were out of harmony with that part of the Bible they did not teach. For instance, in my search I found that there is no such expression in the Bible as the remnant church. I also found that instead of the major portion of any one denomination being saved, the remnant will be gathered as individuals from these churches. The remnant will be those who have outgrown the denominations at that time. The two witnesses, instead of being the Old and New Testaments, I found to be as stated by Paul to be the LAW AND THE PROPHETS. Rom. 3:21. I found that the seven last plagues, the wrath of God and the indignation are all one and the same thing. Isaiah 51:1; Isaiah 61:1; Jer. 10:10; Zeph. 3:8; Isa. 34:1, 2. That the twenty three hundred days, instead of ending in 1844 would end in the last end of the indignation which would be at the end of the world. Dan. 8:14.

After farther search I found that instead of the Lord coming at any day as has been taught for 77 years, that he would not come till the six thousand years allotted to the world is finished. Also that the law of Moses was never nailed to the cross but that the commandments and traditions of men were, from which Paul's Gentile converts were delivered. These and many other things which I might mention placed me in such an attitude toward the denomination that I could no longer pose as a true Seventh Day Adven-

tist. So I was compelled to step down and out.

If professed Christians expect to grow as admonished by the scriptures, they must study the Bible as a whole, or they are doomed to disappointment and discouragement. I look at the Bible as God's love-letter to man. It is one continued harmonious story.
Maybell, Colo.

THE PERILS OF THE LAST DAYS.

By Adolf Schenk.

(Continued from last issue.)

A certain preacher with whom I got into a conversation over the law of God told me the following interesting experience of his. He said there came into his town at one time a certain Adventist missionary who held some meetings at that place and whose meetings he attended and enjoyed them very much. However when the binding claims of God's law was presented, and he began to see that both the Old and New Testaments demand the same, he was at once convinced that he must obey it if he ever would enter God's kingdom else Christ would class him with the workers of iniquity in the final judgment. But he also saw that in order to keep his position in his church he would not dare to obey and preach the law of God else he would be cast out. Fearing this he became uneasy about it and found himself between two fires. If he obeys he will lose his position which he loves, if he obeys not he will keep his position but will lose eternal life. So this caused him much trouble and remorse so that finally he began to wish he had never heard of the law, because, knowing that he continually transgressing it destroyed his peace. At last he became tired of this continual struggle between right and wrong, and he said that one day he decided to have that thing settled between himself and God, and so he went on his knees and earnestly prayed to God to let him know as to whether his law is to be kept or not. Then there came a voice to him saying, "God's law needs not to be obeyed," and at the same time there came into his heart such a sweet peace and firm conviction that he is accepted of God even though he does not obey his law. And from that time until now he never felt any more uneasiness about his transgressing of the divine law and nobody will ever be able to disturb his peace any more he says. Now the truth of the whole matter is, God knew very well that that man was very anxious to be excused from obedience to his law. We are told by the word of God that in a case like this he will always give us our desire. If a man wishes truth, truth will come to him, otherwise error will come.

The above experience is nothing less than Loyola's experience over again. And because, says the unerring word of God, they have not the love of the truth, God will send them strong delusions that they may believe a lie and be damned. 2nd Thess. 2: 10-12.

Now the experiences of Loyola and the other minister mentioned above are given here to serve as examples to help the people understand better as to how Satan has power to deceive everyone who has not the love of truth in his heart. The word of God calls it Babylon, the mystery of lawlessness. Satan himself is called the lawless one and it is his spirit that leads the whole world to set aside the sacred law of God. His spirit comes to the children of men posing as the spirit of God, and because this spirit does not impress the human heart with the seriousness of transgressing the divine law, but instead flatters the natural inclinations of the heart, therefore the great mass of pro-

fessed Christians are following him and they are just as firmly convinced as Loyola and the other minister was, that they are possessed by the spirit of God. And to complete the counterfeit, Satan lets them do many good works and even wonderful works in the name of Jesus. The spirit of God if he works with a man he always reproves the transgression of God's law. In the days of the Reformation when Luther began to preach God's plain word, and many had accepted the message, then right among those who had accepted it there rose up false reformers who claimed that God had sent them to reform the Reformation.

The historian says that in the town of Zwickan, there lived a few men who, agitated by the great events that were then stirring all Christendom, aspired at direct revelations from the Deity, instead of meekly desiring sanctification of heart, and who asserted that they were called to complete the Reformation so feebly sketched out by Luther. "What is the use," said they, "of clinging so closely to the Bible? The Bible; always the Bible. Can the Bible preach to us? Is it sufficient for our instruction? If God had designed to instruct us by a book, would he not have sent us a Bible from heaven? It is by the spirit alone that we can be enlightened. God himself speaks to us. God himself reveals to us what we should do, and what we should preach." Thus did these fanatics, like the adherents of Rome, attack the fundamental principle on which the entire Reformation is founded, the all-sufficiency of the word of God."

"A simple clothier, Nicholas Starch by name, announced that the angel Gabriel had appeared to him during the night, and after communicating matters which he could not yet reveal, said to him, 'Thou shalt sit on my throne.' A former student of Wittenberg, one Mark Stubner, joined Starch, and immediately forsook his studies; for he had received direct from God, said he, the gift of interpreting the holy scriptures. Another with name of Thomas Munger, a man of fanatical character, gave a regular organization to this rising sect. Starch, desirous of following Christ's example, selected from among his followers twelve apostles and seventy-two disciples. All loudly declaring as some do in our days, that apostles and prophets were at length restored to the church of God."

If the reader would take time to study the history of the Reformation, he would be surprised what a holy appearance these false prophets had and what wonderful spiritual experiences they could tell the people the Lord gave them, and how mightily God works with them. The whole Reformation was shaken by these prophets. Luther was at that time a captive in the Wortburg. When he heard of the character of this movement he wrote to Melancthon to "ask these prophets" "whether they have felt those spiritual torments, those creations of God, that death and hell which accompany a real regeneration. And if they speak to you only of peace and agreeable things, of tranquil impressions, of devotion and piety, as they say, do not believe them, although they should pretend to have been transported to the third heaven. Before Christ could attain his glory, he was compelled to suffer; and in like manner the believer must go through the bitterness of sin before he can obtain the true peace. Otherwise it will be a false peace. Do you desire to know the time, place and manner in which God talks with men? Listen: As a lion, so hath he broken all my bones. I am cast out from before his face, and my soul is abased even to the gates of hell. No; the divine Majesty, as they pretend, does not speak directly, so that men may see; no man can see my face and live."—Luther.

A modern reformer in his "Book of the Law Found Again," makes the following important statement: "Any religion based on feeling or imaginary acceptance, and not first layed in deep repentance for sin, which is in the transgression of God's law is worthless."

In the above the reader will see the contrast between the true and the false. Herein we see the perils of the last days. Luther, the man of God, said: "If I have four hundred heads, I would sooner have all four hundred heads cut off than to give up the Bible. Although he was a happy man in Christ, yet he had little to say about dreams, visions and ecstasies. His great joy was to talk of the word of God, and in it he meditated day and night. On the other hand the false ones always talked about peace and of visions and dreams. Says God, "The prophet that had a dream, let him tell the dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? said the Lord. Is not my word like a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?" Jer. 23:28, 29.

As soon as Luther left the Wortburg and again began to preach the word of God, those prophets were soon scattered and the Reformation prospered. To the law and to the testimony if they do not speak according to that word, it is because there is no light in them. Isa. 8:20.

We need men like Luther today who will preach the plain word of God. The perils and spiritual delusions of the last days are upon us and are fearfully deep, and they will deepen and grow stronger as the years pass by until they would deceive the very elect if it were possible.

Loyola is a good representative of the spiritual condition of professed Christians of today. Loyola was convinced by the spirits that he was a very good Christian and also were those prophets among the Protestants. If anybody approached them with the real truth of God's book they rose up against it and considered themselves as far superior in spiritual things than those who clung so closely to the Bible, for they received their teachings directly from heaven. This is the condition of the majority of professed Christians of the last days. So Christ testifies that in the last days they would feel rich, and in need of nothing; but do not know that they are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind and naked. They are ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. And as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed no further. 2nd Tim. 3:7-9. Says Christ, "Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whether he goeth." He also warns us and says, "Repent, else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. And thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee." Remember Loyola.

No reasonable man or woman will deny that we have reached the last days of this world's history. This being so, the false apostles, claiming to be the apostles of Jesus Christ, must also have appeared on the stage of action, saying, "Lo here is Christ, and lo there," for Christ declares that this will be the case especially in the last days. The man who walks in all the light of God's word, who has accepted Christ Jesus as his Saviour and seeks earnestly by the help of God to keep the same law in the same manner as Christ did, sees very clearly that these false apostles are very numerous today, indeed on every hand he finds them. Each one claims he has the truth and

invites people to come and join his church, for Christ says he, is with us, (lo here is Christ, and lo there) Everyone makes the same claim. They have much to say about Christ and the Holy Ghost, of peace and of Joy which they enjoy in their religion, and they are fully satisfied with their spiritual condition. Because of this they conclude that they are accepted of God and will certainly enter the kingdom of God just the way they are without further reformation.

Speaking of peace and joy, the writer can testify of having experienced the same also and he wishes to express his thanks toward Christ for his great goodness and kindness which he shows me. However by the study of God's word he finds that the false Prophets and false professors have always been loudest in proclaiming their peace and safety. Because they feel so secure, they take it for granted that in the sight of God they are alright. It is true that Christ loves every man and deals kindly with all, because it is his heart's desire that all be saved. We are told by God's word that **he lighteth every man that cometh into the world.** John 1:9. And further he says: "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, **will draw all men unto me.**" John 12:32. And furthermore, "**I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh.**" Joel 2:28. It will be seen in the final judgment by every soul that God has done everything that possibly can be done to save them. The trouble is not with God but with men. Says God: "Judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes? For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plants; and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry. Isa. 5:3, 4, 7. Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost; as your fathers did, so do ye. Acts 7:51.

The above scriptures ought to be enough for anyone to understand that because men are not saved is, they resist the spirit of truth which is sent upon every man to lead them into all truth that they might be saved.

In these last days much is said about Christ and the Holy Ghost, and indeed it is worth while to talk about it, but only to talk and make a noise about it and not do right, will avail nothing. Professed Christians today everywhere believe that because of pleasant spiritual experiences they have, and do enjoy, it is now settled that they will go into heaven. Pleasant spiritual experiences every Christian has, but if anybody thinks that this is all that is needed in order to gain heaven, there can not a greater delusion befall him than this one. We are dealing with facts here and not with mere imaginations and feelings.

Let us now turn to the word of God to find out how God deals with his people, for everything that was written aforetime is written for our learning. Rom. 15:3. And the thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done; and there is no new thing under the sun. Eccl. 1:9. We will now first consider the case of King Saul.

"And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day. And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them. And it came to pass when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people

said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?"

Now the first point of importance in the foregoing passage is the fact, that God gave King Saul another heart, and also the Holy Spirit so that he began to prophesy. All this was so remarkable that all who knew him before couldn't help but see the great change that had taken place in his life. Now for the benefit of professed Christians of today who have had similar experiences. I like to ask the following important questions. Was Saul saved, or rather will he ever be saved into the kingdom of God because of his remarkable experience and change of heart? No! God's word tells us that he was rejected. And why was he rejected? Did he not receive a new heart? Did he not receive the Holy Spirit of God? Did he not prophesy like the other prophets? Was not the kingdom of God given him? No man can dispute that, all these things are only too true to be argued away. But why then is he not saved? According to the belief of modern professed Christians he certainly must be saved. But listen to the judgment of God which was pronounced upon King Saul years after his experience:

"And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold to obey is better than sacrifice, and to harken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of God, he had also rejected thee from being king. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice." 1 Sam. 15:22-24.

So it must be plain to everyone that although a man may have great spiritual experiences, the Holy Spirit, a new heart and so on, it is not yet settled as to whether he will ever enter the kingdom of heaven or not. When Christ makes a new creature out of a man then he stands exactly on the same spot where Adam and Eve stood when they were created. Such a man receives, like Adam, power to choose to do right or wrong. It is fully in his power to choose God's commandments to keep them or to let them alone. Every man that hears the glorious gospel of Christ, that he has been delivered from the slavery of sin and Satan, upon him, and him alone rests the responsibility as to whether he ever will enter the kingdom of heaven or not. "As many as receive him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." John 1:12. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." Joshua 24:15. However the responsibility is much heavier upon us than it was upon Adam from the fact, that he did then not understand the fearful consequences of transgressing God's law. He had never before heard of evil nor seen any, and therefore was not able to comprehend what it really was. But King Saul and we all have seen and heard enough of it. Especially we who are living today, before us lay the history of nearly 6,000 years of a world that has set aside the law of God, and as a result this history is written, as it were, with blood. Language fails to picture the consequences of underestimating the laws of God. The experience of this world since the day its inhabitants set aside the divine law, speaks to us with a thunder voice and warns us to stop and think. No wonder that the God of heaven sends such a fearful warning to the last generation that lives on earth, as recorded in Rev. 14:6-11. To no generation that ever lived on earth was ever given such a threatening message. God says that whatsoever is written aforetime is written for our learning. Rom. 15:4. But the

generation living today is not willing to learn the lesson. How many are there today whom God has blessed as he did King Saul by giving them a new heart, the Holy Spirit and the Bible, and although there stands Saul's case recorded as a warning and yet in full view of all this, professed Christians take the same course as King Saul did.

There are those who love to talk of the Holy Ghost and of the blessed spiritual experiences they enjoy, and yet when the great things of God's law are presented to them they are counted a strange thing and rise up against it. God will deal with them as he did with King Saul. Please read Mat. 25:14-30.

Let us now consider the case of Joshua, the high priest. In Zech. 3:3-7, we read: "Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will cloth thee with change of raiment. And I said, let them set a fair mitre upon his head, and cloth him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by. And the angel of the Lord protested unto Joshua saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, **If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.**"

Now the first thing in the above scripture we note that Joshua was clothed with filthy garments which represents an evil character. The next thing is, this filthy garment or evil character was taken away from him and his sins were forgiven. Afterward he was given new garments which represents a new heart, a new character. Then after all this was accomplished, Christ spoke the following important words to him: "**If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, (commandments) then shalt thou also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.**"

The above case demonstrates again that although a man may receive a new heart, the Holy Spirit and so on, it is not yet settled as to whether that man will go into the kingdom or not. After Joshua was converted, Christ said to him distinctly, "If now thou wilt keep my commandments," and so on. Yes, the little work "If" is a very important little word in the sight of God, for every one whom he has blessed and given him experiences. Says Christ: "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14.

Let us now look at Solomon's case. In 1 King 3:5-14, we read: "In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. And Solomon said, Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had

asked this thing. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for myself understanding to discern judgment, Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. . . . **And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days (eternal life).**"

Now the first point of importance in the above scriptures is, Solomon asked of God not for long life nor for riches, but for an understanding heart that he might be able to discern between good and evil, that he may judge Israel righteously according to the law of God. This pleased God very much that Solomon desired these things above every other thing in the world. So Christ gave him the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of wisdom in such a large measure, so that there was none like him before, neither after him should any arise like unto him. However, there comes in again that weighty little word "if," for afterwards God said unto Solomon, **"If thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, then I will lengthen thy days (eternal life).** Although Solomon was full of the Spirit of wisdom and power from God, although through the Spirit of God he fully discerned between good and evil, and was fully able to keep all of God's commandments, yet with all these things at his command, failed to keep them. For a time he walked in God's commandments but about 22 years after God filled him full with his Spirit of wisdom, the following startling message came to him from God: "And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice. And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he kept not that which the Lord commanded. Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant. 1 Kings 11:9-11.

The next example I wish to call the reader's attention to, is Judas Iscariot. If the reader now will read Mat. 10:1-9, there he will see that Christ gave to Judas Iscariot power to preach the gospel, to heal the sick, to cleanse the lepers, to raise the dead and to cast out devils. This power Christ gave to Judas and to all the disciples. Now Christ knew beforehand as he does with any other man in the world, that Judas could not be saved into his kingdom, yet he gave him the same power as he did to all the rest of the disciples. And Judas preached the gospel of Christ, he healed the sick, he cleansed the lepers, he cast out devils and he had power to raise the dead. Judas did many good works and even wonderful works in the name of Christ, for when the disciples returned from their missionary tour they said to Christ with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

Although Judas was able through faith in Christ to perform all these good and wonderful works, yet every Bible reader knows that he was not saved. And why was he not saved? Did he not believe in Christ? Did he not belong to the company which Christ had chosen? Did he not do many good and even wonderful works? Did he not have the power of God at his command? Indeed he did, and no one who has read the Bible will deny that. But although this was all true of Judas Iscariot, the fact is, he will never go into

the kingdom of God, for so says the word. See John 6:70, 71, and 17:12. Why will he not be saved? Because with all the good works he did through the power of God's Spirit, there was bound up with it lawlessness. He knowingly transgressed some of God's commandments and never repented until it was too late. But Judas Iscariot is by no means the only one that is guilty among professed Christians in this matter. As Judas failed to walk in Christ's steps in regard to obedience to God's laws, so today there are many Judases among professed Christians which do the same thing. Says Christ: "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (lawlessness). Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; **but he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven.**" Mat. 7:21-23. So we see that of all those who profess to believe in Christ and have received of his Spirit, **only those who actually do God's will, will ever enter the kingdom.** Now what is the will of God and where is it to be found? Says the apostle Paul, **"Thou knowest God's will, and approve the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law. . . . For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified."** Rom. 2:18, 13. When one came to Christ and desired to know as to what he must do that he might gain eternal life, Christ answered, **"What is written in the law? how readest thou?"**

The next example is the church of Corinth. This church through the apostle Paul received Christ and the Holy Ghost and so were enabled to become something, namely, to become the sons of God. Different gifts of the Spirit were manifested among them, one of these was the speaking in other tongues, but at the same time they were disobedient to God's law and did not walk in it as Christ did, and commanded them to do the same. Then Paul spoke the following cutting words to them: "I speak to you shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brother?" 1 Cor. 6:5.

The Hebrew Christians also heard the glorious gospel of Christ through Paul, and received the gift of the Holy Ghost, and thus were enabled to become heroes like Abraham, David and Paul. However, sometime after they received Christ and the Holy Spirit, the following message was sent to them, "Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for 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; (the oracles of God are the laws given on Sinai, Acts 7:38), 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. 5:11-14.

Now the Hebrew Christians after they had received Christ and the Holy Spirit, are reproved for neglecting to study the laws which God gave on Sinai, and as a result become weaklings, dwarfs and babies in Christian experience and character. Paul declares that he who is yet a babe, is still carnal. See 1 Cor. 3:1-3. And the carnal mind is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. Rob. 8:7. Paul accuses them as not yet knowing the very first principle of the laws of God.

The word of God tells us the following important thing: "The Lord created man of the earth. He endowed them with strength by themselves and made them according to his image. And put the fear of man upon all flesh, and gave him dominion over beasts and fowls—counsel, and a tongue, and eyes, ears, and a heart, gave he them to understand. Withal he filled them with the knowledge of understanding, and showed them **good and evil**. He set his eye upon their hearts, that he might shew them the greatness of his works. He gave them to glory in his marvellous acts for ever, that they might declare his works with understanding. And the elect shall praise his holy name. Beside this he gave them knowledge and **the law of life for an heritage**. He made an everlasting covenant with them, and shewed them his judgments. Their eyes saw the majesty of his glory, and their ears heard his glorious voice. And he said unto them, **Beware of all unrighteousness**; and he gave every man commandment concerning his neighbor. Their ways are ever before him, and shall not be hid from his eyes." Ecclesiasticus 17:1-15.

The foregoing needs no explanation, the thoughtful one sees that God in the beginning, after he had created all the intelligent creatures, and filled them with his Holy Spirit of understanding to enable them to do right, and so perfect and holy he made them that he could pronounce them very good, then he called their attention to his holy law, which was to be the foundation of his kingdom for ever. By doing this he set before them life and death. Life, if they would always walk in his law. Death, if they would transgress his law. In the law we read, "Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments." Which if a man do he shall live in them: I am the Lord." Lev. 19:5. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Eze. 18:20.

Although God created man upright, holy and perfect, full of the power of the Holy Ghost, did this insure to them eternal life? Not by any means. The question still remained, will they obey God's law or not? Only by continual obedience to the principles of the divine law, eternal life was to be had, and this they failed to do and got lost, but through the merits of Christ a second chance was given them.

Of the Exodus we read the following, "Moreover brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." 1 Cor. 10:1-4.

Yes, we are told by the word of God that the Holy Spirit was given them. Neh. 9:20. They did eat the spiritual meat and they did drink in the spiritual drink, and Christ the Saviour of the world was right there with them. They also rejoiced greatly for all the blessings Christ poured upon them. Because Christ bestowed such great blessings upon them did this secure for them eternal life? Far from it. It must first be demonstrated that they are willing under all circumstances to be obedient to all of God's laws, then they would have eternal life. Soon after Christ had delivered them out of the bondage of Egypt, he began to give them his laws. On the mount of Sinai he proclaimed to them his laws in the most solemn and impressive manner. Under loudest thunder and fear-lightnings his voice was heard making known to his holy law. And so strongly were these commandments emphasized by God's voice that while he was speaking them to the people the whole solid earth

trembled. Says the word, "Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only but also heaven. And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake. Heb. 12:26, 21. Yet in view of all these great things which Christ did with them, only two of all this great host that came out of Egypt, fully kept God's law and entered the promised land. The great mass transgressed and consequently perished in the wilderness. Now says God's word, "All these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall." 1 Cor. 10:11, 12.

Yes, it is very easy to make a failure in gaining eternal life. It is very easy to think that we stand solidly. And it is very easy to feel rich and in need of nothing. It is very easy for Satan to fool a man that does not know and love the real foundation truth of God. Be not so sure, but fear. For if God spared not his beautiful angels, and his ancient people that transgressed his law, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Let us fear therefore lest a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. Heb. 4:1.

From the various cases which are presented in this article, anyone will see that it matters not how great spiritual experiences, how sanctimonious his appearance, how loud his praise, how rich he feels spiritually, all will avail you nothing if you have not even enough love for Christ, to walk in all of his commandments. For he says: "In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Mat. 15:9. This is the love of God that we keep his commandments. 1 John 5:3.

We are told by the word of God, that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now in these last days all the church members everywhere call Jesus Christ, "the Lord," and this the word of God tell us, cannot be done without the Holy Ghost. But Christ says, "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?" Luke 6:46. Again, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven." Mat. 7:21. He further says: "**Strive to enter in at the strait gate**: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." Luke 13:24. "If a man also **strive for masteries**, yet is he not crowned, except he **strive lawfully**." 2 Tim. 2:5. "Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, **striving against sin**." Heb. 12:4.

The man who finally enters the kingdom of heaven, is one that can tell you of severe conflicts and battles, and victories won over self and all lawlessness. He is one that has been striving lawfully, to bring all his words and actions into harmony with God's law as Christ did cannot be done without overcoming, and only the overcomers will enter the kingdom at last.

There are those who make a heaven high profession of godliness, and in their spiritual experiences they know of nothing but of tranquil impressions, of continual peace, ecstasy and heavenly visions. But of striving against sin, and conflicts in overcoming, they are strangers, because they have no law which convinces them of sin. They are in the same boat with Layola and multitudes of others who teach that the laws of God and of Moses are no more binding. One of the old Reformers, John Wesley, says the following on this important question: "In the highest rank of the enemies of the gospel of Christ are they who openly and explicitly judge the law itself, and

speaking evil of the law; who teach men to break (to dissolve, to loose, to untie the obligation of) not only one, whether of the least or of the greatest, but all the commandments at a stroke." "The most surprising of all the circumstances that attend this strong delusion, is that they who are given up to it, really believe that they honor Christ by overthrowing his law, and that they are magnifying his office, while they are destroying his doctrine! Yes, they honor him just as Judas did, when he said, 'Hail, Master, and kissed him.' And he may as justly say to everyone of them, 'Betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss?' It is no other than betraying him with a kiss, to talk of his blood, and take away his crown; to set light by any part of his law, under pretense of advancing his gospel. Nor indeed can anyone escape this charge, who preaches faith in any such a manner as either directly or indirectly tends to set aside any branch of obedience; who preaches Christ so as to disannul; or weaken in anywise, the least of the commandments of God."

To those who urge that "the preaching of the gospel answers all the ends of the law, Wesley replied: "This we utterly deny. It does not answer the very first end of the law, namely, the convincing man of sin, the awakening those who are still asleep on the brink of hell." The apostle Paul declares that "by the law is the knowledge of sin; and not until man is convicted of sin, will he truly feel his need of the atoning blood of Christ. They that be whole, as our Lord himself observes, need not a physician, but they that are sick. It is absurd, therefore, to offer a physician to them that are whole, or that at least imagine themselves so to be. You are first to convince them that they are sick: otherwise they will not thank you for your labor. It is equally absurd to offer Christ to them whose heart is whole, having never yet been broken."

According to the testimony of God's word, especially in the last days, dangerous deceptions will sweep over this world, which will take captive every man and woman who has not learned to know and love the truth as it is in Christ. These deceptions come to us in the form of holy appearing men, women, and also in the form of spirits posing as the Holy Spirit of God. They speak with the tongues of men and of angels, of the baptism of the Holy Ghost and many other sweet things. (Lo here is Christ, and lo there.) Whosoever believes and follows them, gains an experience like Loyola, feeling rich and in need of nothing and sure of heaven. All the world is captivated by these pleasing delusions except the true remnant.

God is powerful and would be fully able to put a stop to these things, but he will let it have its course for certain reasons. In the law of Moses we are told (Deut. 13:1-4) that he would allow these things to come, in order to test every one who professes to be a Christian as to what kind of a man he really is, whether he would under all circumstances keep his commandments and thus honor God or not. The apostle Paul in speaking of these things says the following, "But though we or an angel of heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Gal. 1:9.

The apostle Peter, who understood these important things from the study of the laws of Moses, at one time had a great vision. He says, he fell into a trance, and saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit

at the four corners, and let down to the earth: Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. But Peter said, **Not so Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.**" So here we see that Peter utterly refused to transgress the laws of Moses even though heaven was opened and a voice from there told him to do so. It must be remembered that God through Moses commanded us that under no circumstance, no matter what signs and wonders may take place, to lead us to forsake any of the commandments written in the entire law, should we forsake them. But under all circumstances we should keep them. This explains why Peter refused to eat of unclean beasts. This is the way Christ acted. There came to Christ beautiful angels, spirits and holy looking men, tempting him to do something contrary to the law. But Christ always met them with the written word of God. "**It is written, it is written.**" This is the way he defeated Satan and his agents. Christ never said, as Christians do today, "I feel this is right, and I feel the other is right." No! To every instruction he gave, and to every act in his life he could say, "**It is written.**" He believed every word in the Bible. This is the faith of Jesus.

The country through which the remnant travel, is a labyrinth of misleading paths and pitfalls. The inhabitants thereof are soothsayers of a bewitching influence. The king of that country has had nearly 6,000 years of practical experience in the art of counterfeiting the work of the Spirit of God to deceive men. He is about to perform his crowning acts. No people that ever lived before has ever had to face such artful, and masterly deceptions as do the remnant. Whosoever passes through that country without falling under that bewitching influence of these delusions, will have the honor of belonging to that remarkable company of 144,000. They have the same faith as Jesus and Peter and Paul. Of them we read, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Rev. 3:10. "Here is the patience of the saints, here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12. They sing the Song of Moses, and the Song of the Lamb. And no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

One more question. Where is the secret of this great success of the remnant? Answer: "They follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth." Rev. 14:4. Further, "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life; as I was with Moses, So I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." Joshua 1. "But if thou wilt not keep all these commandments, I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days. . . . I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Deut. 30.

THE GAMALIEL CORRESPONDENCE BIBLE SCHOOL FOR BIBLE STUDENTS

LESSON SEVENTEEN.

The Offerings to God.

471 Brought Forward.

Which is the first offering required? Lev. 1:3.
The burnt offering is made from the males of either cattle, sheep or goat.

Is it to be made voluntary? Verse 3.

Give the manner of the service. Verses 4-9.

Give the manner of service for the sheep or goat. Verses 10-13.

The same for the birds. Verses 14-17. The bullock, the heifer and the rams are grown animals. Thus they represent men and women of mature age and accountability. The ram is the representative of Christ when here. The bullock the Aaronic priest, the heifer represents woman in the first transgression. These will appear more clearly later.

Give the service of the meat offerings. Lev. 2:1-16. Meat offerings meant food offerings.

What was to be added to the food? Verses 2:13. Salt is a savor, so the salt taught that we must have salt within ourselves. The word and character. Mark 9:49, 50.

Give the service of the peace offering. Lev. 3:1-17. The peace offering taught reconciliation between God and the sinner. Also thanks for blessings received. If his sin be that of violating the civil precepts ignorantly his offering was a goat. If general transgression, desiring to become a Christian, then it was a lamb.

Give the service of the sin offering. Lev. 4:1-35.

Give the different kinds of offerings and lesson taught.

Describe the trespass offerings and what trespass is. Lev. 5:6, 7. If the lesson taught by each of the above five offerings is understood then the rest can be understood. Otherwise the symbolic teaching cannot be understood.

What did the laying on of hands signify? It signified blessings and cursings. Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree. Gal. 3:10.

What did the burning outside of the camp signify? It signified the condemnation of the law as a sinner is condemned.

What did the burning on the altar signify? It signified consecration and acceptance of God.

What did the burning of the head and fat signify? The head is the seat of the mind. The fat is the symbol of sin. Says Paul, "Be ye transformed by the renewing of the mind." Hence the old mind is burned, the new mind is consecrated. Rom. 12:2.

What did the two rams signify? One was to show our faith in Christ and his work while he was here. The other was to be a ram of consecration signifying our work as a labor and ministers in doing and sacrificing as Christ did when here.

Are we permitted to eat the fat or the blood?

What portion of the offerings belonged to the priest?

Give a clear outline of the first seven chapters of Leviticus. There is great need that the first seven chapters of Leviticus become familiar. It only aids in future studies.

Why was the shoulder and the breast offered as a wave offering? The shoulder is for bearing burdens. It says the government was upon Christ's shoulders. Moses said, "Must I carry all this people in my bosom?" The poor man was taken to "Abraham's bosom." Christ gathers the lambs into his

bosom. He bears them upon his heart. The breast-plate with the names of the twelve tribes was worn on Aaron's bosom. It was in this plate the urim and thumin was placed, where God spoke according to his heart, as man speaketh from the heart the honesty of his mind.

LESSON EIGHTEEN.

The Consecration and Ordination of the Priests.

492 Brought Forward.

What was commanded Moses? Lev. 8:1-4.

What was Aaron to bring. Verse 2.

Give the lesson taught by each article brought.

What was first done? Verse 6.

What lesson was taught by the washing?

Give lesson in each article put on Aaron. Verses 7 to 9.

What was next done? Verses 10-12.

What lesson did the oil teach?

What did the blood and seven times signify? It taught, first, the seven thousand years for the redemption of the world; second, that Christ's blood would stand in Christ's work of redemption.

What was next done? Verses 13-17.

What was done with the bullock and why? Verse 17.

What was next done? Verses 18-21.

What lesson was taught by this ram and its service?

What was the next thing done? Verses 22-24.

What did the blood on the ear, the thumb and the great toe teach?

What was next done? Verses 25-29.

Why did he sprinkle the blood on Aaron's garments? Verse 29.

What was the next instruction? Verses 31-35.

Why seven days? Why eat the flesh? We reply, that Christ said, "Except ye eat my flesh and drink my blood." That ram of consecration stood for Christ. The blood on the garments signified the priests, like their Master, were sin bearers. The unleavened bread signified His word which was spirit and was life. Thus the whole life and being of the priest was consecration to God. The tabernacle, the altar, and all services were divine services and of divine origin. The remaining in the tabernacle also taught that the priest was consecrated to his work for life. His confinement signified he was not to engage in any other business, not to be entangled with the affairs of this life. Every truth taught by these lessons are just as true now as then and applies to every minister who is called of God as was Aaron and his sons.

LESSON NINETEEN.

Consecration of All Children of God.

512 Brought Forward.

What was Aaron to bring on the eighth day? Lev. 9:2. The calf signified he was now pure and innocent and ready for the priesthood work. When the prodigal son received the robe of righteousness from his father the fatted calf was then killed.

What was the congregation then to bring? Verses 3-5. Before the Lord appeared on Sinai the people sanctified themselves by washing their clothes and preparing for the event.

Who now visits the clean congregation? Verses 6 to 24.

Is it needful now to clean up our characters to meet God?

Does God require obedience? Lev. 10:1-3.

Shall we put difference between clean and unclean? Verses 4-11.

What is the duty of the priest? Verse 11.

In order to be holy what must we eat? Lev. 11: 1 to 47.

Can people be clean and eat all kinds of things forbidden?

Shall we be physically clean? Lev. 12:1-8.

Of what is leprosy a symbol? Leprosy is a deadly disease. God takes it to teach a lesson of sin in man. The extended examination is to teach the diligence necessary to perfectly cleanse from sin. The minister is expected to know the symptoms of sin and do that which will produce a cure in the children of God. The house, as Christ taught, must be cleansed. There is no half way ground in perfecting a cure from sin. We must be absolutely clean, so we recommend a thorough study of Lev. 13:14.

Describe the offerings in case of healing. Lev. 14:1-57. The earthen vessel is a symbol of our mortal bodies. Running stream is a symbol of the water of life. Scarlet, Christ the sin bearer. Cedar, a symbol of Christ the ruler. Hyssop, a cleansing plant. The dead bird, sin is sure death. The cleansing symbols thus applied removes the disease. The live bird bears the sins away. The blood on the toe, the ear, and hand signify God requires life service. Said Christ, Sin no more lest a worse thing come upon you. The offerings that follow teach a full consecration of the one healed to God. Thus divine healing is only manifest now on those who are willing to comply with God's requirements. Namely, a surrender of all sin manifest in appetite, bodily lusts, with obedience to all the commandments of God. Religion is to do God's will.

Is our holiness to be complete? Lev. 12.

LESSON TWENTY.

The Day of Atonement.

525 Brought Forward.

What does atonement mean? To atone for the violation of law is to meet the penalty. The wages of sin is death. Hence death must be met to satisfy the law.

What preparation did the priest make? Lev. 16:1-4. Linen is a symbol of "righteousness of saints." The ephod was stained with blood. Hence a change of clothing on the day of atonement was necessary. The priest's meditation for the people was then completed. He had also made his offerings for sin. Hence done all he could prior to that. The day of atonement was the last act of his ministry.

What was next done? Verses 5-10.

What was next done? Verses 11-14.

Then what should he do? Verses 15-19.

What was the bullock for?

What was the goat of the people for?

Whose sins did the goat atone for? The people.

Was the laying of hands on the goat called the scape goat a blessing or a curse?

What is the similarity between the goat and the bird of chapter 14, verse 9?

Is an open field occupied or laid waste?

What is the next step to be taken? Verses 23-26.

Thus we see the priest first offers his own sin offering, then casts lots on the goats and kill the goat for the people. Then next he puts on the linen garments and makes the atonement for the people. Next he puts off the linen when he comes out and makes an atonement for himself and for the people through the burnt offering of the ram.

What was done with the goat and the bullock? Verses 27 and 28.

At what time and how long was this time to be observed? Verses 29-34.

Why was the blood taken into the sanctuary?

Because the law violated, demands the life of the transgressor. Hence both the priest and the people had been breakers of the law. (See Romans 3:19.) Death passed upon all men. Why was the blood sprinkled on the mercy seat over the law? That showed they sought mercy for their sins. Could that stop death? No. The law said the sinner should die without mercy. There is no mercy in law. But there is in the blood. But that mercy is shown only through Christ and a resurrection from the dead. See our comments on Numbers 19th chapter in Book of the Law, volume six. The penalty of Adam's transgression must be met. That penalty passed upon all men, even Christ when he took on him the nature of man, must pay the penalty and be resurrected from the dead.

Note. The offering of blood of a sin offering was to satisfy the law which demands the life of the transgressor which life was in the blood. Note further that no blood of a burnt offering, peace offering, nor the blood of the lamb for the passover ever came into the sanctuary, salvation was provided on the altar of burnt offerings and through the passover lamb. Note again the blood of the sin offering being sprinkled on the mercy seat, taught that only those who had faith in a future life plead that mercy. Like the dying thief on the cross, who confessed his sins and pleaded mercy. Like Joab, David's warrior, died with his hands on the horns of the altar. This is why the goat called the scape goat was not taken into the sanctuary. It plead no mercy and was let go till the time appointed for Satan's death.

The laying on of hands signifies a blessing or a curse. Gen. 49:22-26; Lev. 24:14; Gal. 3:10. The laying on of hands is one of the first principles of the doctrine of Christ. Heb. 6:1-3. So in confessing the sins of all Israel on the head of the scape goat by laying on of hands, their sins were placed on the pate of the one who caused them. The law of blessing and cursing teaches the same truth.

Were any allowed to sacrifice elsewhere than at the tabernacle? Lev. 17:1-6.

What had they been doing? Verses 7-9.

What had the heathen been doing? Verses 10 to 16.

Whose ordinances shall we keep? Lev. 18:1-5.

Why were the heathen driven out of the land? Verses 6-30.

Enumerate the laws given in Lev. 19th chapter.

What constitutes true holiness? Obedience to all commands.

Tell what is taught in chapter twenty of Leviticus.

Can a Christian eat all things? Verse 25.

How many of these statutes are binding? Lev. 20:22.

Now tell us the difference between Baal and God's worship.

What is true holiness? Verse 26.

What is required of the ministry and their families? Lev. 21:1-24.

Give further duties of the priest in chapter 22, verses 1 to 33.

Do not pass over these lessons carelessly. They contain the vital things for the children of God for our day. The remnant people are to be a holy people. Hence their lives must be such as will prove they are holy. Ministers who are trusted with tithes and offerings cannot use them for selfish purposes and be guiltless. That is also true with the people. They must render to God that which is his. There is much said about holiness in our day and sanctification, divine healing, the Holy Ghost, and so on. Much of this is Satan's scheme to keep the people from seeing the

genuine and to cause them to accept the counterfeit. True holiness is found only in the actions of men in obedience to all the commandments of God and not in word and bodily exercise. God's remnant people are to be a holy people "without fault before the throne." May we be kept from the spurious is our prayer. What we want is the genuine. We do not wish to reject the genuine as some say, because we do not accept the fraudulent. Give us the genuine and we surely will fellowship it wherever found. In Leviticus, sixteenth chapter, see our writings in "The Book of the Law Found Again." Also in "Time, Tradition and Truth."

The student will notice the strict tenor of this lesson points out true holiness among the Lord's people. That holiness is attained by the purity of our bodies as well as the mind. It states plainly that if we will obey all of God's commandments then we will have the blessings of health with all temporal blessings. I feel safe in saying that the cause of all disease is the result of improper living and bad morals. I further feel safe to say that if true living was adopted that diseases now so prevalent would disappear in the fourth generation at most. By that time the iniquity of the fathers would be removed. Hence death would come as result of old age, having lived out our allotted time. Let this lesson in all its bearings rest in our minds who claim to be followers of the lowly Nazarene, and thus glorify God in our bodies, which are his. 1 Cor. 10:31. Says the apostle, "Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

WILL SOMEONE EXPLAIN

The explanation we want is, what is the difference between the head of a man-made organization saying, I am God, and sit in the temple of God, than for that headship to say this man-made organization is "The Church of God"? it is "the body of God," and its members are the members of "the body of Christ," and so on? There is no difference. For the reason that he is not the head of the church at all. Christ is the head and the only head his church has or ever will made organization is "his church," nor ever will be. The above is the only explanation in truth that can be given as to what Christ's church is.

Next, does the thing follow that because man organized a church and called it the Church of God, that it is the church of God? Not at all. That being a truth, we again ask, Can man make a true church of God? We reply, No. God alone can make his own church. All man can do is to accept the terms required to become a member and thus be added to God's church by God himself. These being absolute truths we ask, Did God ever endue man with authority to rule his church? We again reply, No.

A Published Article.

In the Bible Advocate for February 1, 1921, I read some of the following statements. The Editor, in speaking of the work of Satan in the last days' says:

"There is no better way for him to work in this age than to plant in the minds of those obedient to the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus, a belief of non-organization, or non-union of efforts, which leads to dissolution and division. If Satan can get each one to believe that they are to work alone and not unite together with others, he well knows that the power and strength of the body of Christ is destroyed. "Where there is unit, there is strength." And says Satan, "together we stand, divided we fall," so he is ever about his business of disorganization, dissolving, and destroying, but we are truly grateful to God, that

through much prayer and devotion, **the Church of God** stands together, and the seed of the living word is being faithfully sown, in the hearts of many souls. There is truly a spiritual and national awakening in Israel."

Note what the Editor calls "the Church of God" is his organization bearing that name. We might remark here that we never heard of any denomination who opposed one of their membership, but what always assume themselves to stand as the true church, and their officers to be acknowledged as Moses, Christ, the apostles and prophets to the people and clothed with the same authority and power as they were. That of course is all assumption and nothing but bigotry of the deepest kind. So we read further:

"Organization.

"Organization is one of the great and fundamental laws of the Universe of God. The all wise Creator has demonstrated this, on every hand, and it stands out visibly in all his creation, as a living witness of strength, and the accomplishment of a definite purpose in the earth. The trees of the forest, and the beasts of the field, are each one a definite and wonderful organism, a separate being made up of many organs, all of which work together in harmony and system, perpetuating the life, growth, and increase of those of its kind. The human body is a wonderful organized organism, each member of which works together as one, all having the same and supreme purpose, of perpetuating its own existence, both in this life, and if doing as God intended, it is also endeavoring to be a partaker of the heavenly gifts and joys through eternity.

"The Holy Spirit speaks thus in 1 Cor. 12:12: "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that body being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have been all made to drink into one spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, because I am not the hand, I am not of the body, is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, because I am not the eye, I am not of the body, is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were the hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members, everyone of them in the body as it has pleased him. And if we were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. The eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: Nor can the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body which seem to be feeble are necessary. And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, upon these we bestow more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need, but God hath tempered the body together, giving more abundant honor to that part which lacketh. That there be no schisms (divisions) in the body, but that the members should have the same care, one for another. And whither one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member is honored all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular."

"The above reading, 1 Cor. 12; from the 12th verse to the 27th inclusive, shows plainly that God intended his people, who are the body of Christ, to be one organized organism, just as the body of the individual member. It is his will that all should work together, some occupying more important positions than others, but all are of one body, and the "Church

of God," which we believe to be the body of Christ, therefore must work together as one body in the accomplishment of the work in the world, for which the Lord intended, viz. for sending out the gospel, and being light bearers to those in darkness."

The Cloven Foot Appears.

The reader will notice the editor uses very nicely the scripture which teaches unity of Christ's church, which he might not know if he met it before him. Then says, "The church of God **which we believe to be the body of Christ**, therefore must work together as one body in the accomplishment of the work in the world for which the Lord intended, namely, for sending out the gospel and being light bearers to them in darkness."

A more deceptive argument was never put forth by the church of Rome, Greek or Protestant, than this article. However it is the basis upon which they all work the people by their claims, each and every one using scripture out of its place and applying it to them as though they were the direct one spoken of. This wicked principle of using the scriptures should be stopped. Every error promulgated is sustained by the same manner of reasoning.

One says, Doesn't the Bible teach divine healing? Another says, Doesn't the Bible teach the gift of tongues? Another says, Doesn't the Bible teach there were and are to be prophets? And so on. Then they say, that being the case, we are it, and our manifestations are of the Lord. When at the same time they are straight from Satan. So this organization which their editor calls the "Church of God," is no more nor less than a daughter of Babylon which is proven from almost every standpoint. By the doctrines taught, the lack of unity of faith, the fact of being a man-made organization and so on. All tell plainly they are not the church of God any more than to say a black baby is white. One is just as much the truth as the other. The editor further says:

"The Early Church Organized.

"The local churches in the apostles time were organized; 1 Tim. 3rd chapter. These churches worked together, having certain brethren who took the lead in appointing the committees, and having the oversight of the fields of labor for the purpose of thorough, systematic and complete work.

"There was a general conference, of general convention called by the twelve apostles, in response to which the whole multitude of disciples, came together, and a committee of seven brethren was appointed to look after the distribution of provisions and funds needed in the daily ministrations of the widows, a record of which we have in Acts 6:1-6. Then again, we have a record in Acts 18:14, where the apostles at Jerusalem exercised the authority of sending other disciples to Samaria, when they heard that Samaria had received the word of God. There are other instances where general meetings were called to be held at Jerusalem, for the purpose of conversing together over the general needs of the body, the church, in the days of the apostles, which are recorded for our example and our admonition, and the whole visible church on earth was a thoroughly organized organism, and all members were working together to perpetuate its existence and fulfill its mission."

This is simply another assumption. Namely, that men now assume the authority the apostles used. Now the trouble is the editor is no one of the twelve apostles. Generally such assume the place of Moses, when Cora, Dathan and Abiram opposed Moses. The trouble is they are not Moses nor the apostles. But further, the apostles plainly said not that we would

have dominion over your faith. These statements as claimed that the apostles appointed committees, and held general conferences and such like things, are simply assertions without foundation of truth.

Great Liberty and Yet Despotic.

The editor further says:

"It is a true saying, that, 'those who are not against us, are for us,' but one who is fighting the union of the body of Christ, is against us, and therefore are not for us. The person who objects to the members of the church, which is the **'one body,'** working together in union and accord with every other member, is a **dangerous factor, causing division, dissolution, and sowing the seeds of degeneration and decay.** The Church of God does not believe in, practice, indorse, or sanction, any one member lording it over another: we do not **tolerate** any stern hand of dictatorship as to what every **member believes, or does not believe,** but we advise and persuade men: neither does the **Church of God, which is the body,** composed of many members encourage or permit any man or set of men to occupy the position of bosses or **saying just what shall or shall not be done,** but we get together, and in prayer and brotherly love, suggest **what shall be done** for the best interest of all, and especially for the accomplishment in the earth the purpose designed for the church, which is explained to members everywhere, and they all heartily fall in line, and work to the accomplishment of the end desired, which is always for the furtherance of the message of salvation.

"Factions.

"We do not endorse or encourage one person saying, 'I am of Paul, and I of Appolos, and I of Cephas, and I of Christ.' 1 Cor. 1:12. Is Christ divided, and were these men crucified for you? Any similiar positions taken by professed members of the body today, who claim they are for this man or for that, and especially those who claim they do not belong to any 'body,' or organization, is just as it was in the days of the apostles, and the same rebuke is applicable to them, viz. were these men crucified for you, and is Christ, or the body, divided? Remember that in the apostolic days, there was a **visible, organized church** in the earth, every member of which was working together to sustain the body, and to promote the gospel cause, as one body.

"The persons who claim they do not belong to any earthly 'body,' or united working force, as members in particular of that one body, are out of line with Bible teaching, and furthermore they are teaching others errors of a destructive type, which is well pleasing indeed, to Satan, who in this way is going about seeking to destroy the power and influence of the body, of **which Christ is the head.** Furthermore, anyone who is assisting, and in any way encouraging the dissolution, and separation of the members of the **body, and doing service** for Satan, and not for God; regardless of how sincerely they may be going about the work of destruction. The church work and body of our Lord Jesus Christ in the earth, is illustrated by one of the most perfect, and wonderful organized, organisms, ever created, namely, the human body, and just so the church must be perfectly one organized, united body, every member of which is performing their duty in exact harmony and accord with every other member, for the power, life and welfare of the whole to God's glory and praise.

"The Holy Spirit says, **'Now I beseech you brethren, mark them which cause divisions, and offense contrary to the doctrine which we have learned; and avoid them.** For they that are such, serve not our

Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good works, and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.' Rom. 16:17, 18.—Editor."

The reader will notice a member of this supposed church of God can believe or disbelieve what they want. But they must not interfere with the authority and power of the visible organization. This is not only true of this man-made organization, but it is true of them all. Cardinal Gibbons, in writing up "The Faith of the Fathers," on the subject of authority, speaks of the Catholic Church as saying in such cases, "Hitherto shalt thou come and no farther." When that point of authority is reached then dissenters must stop and that suddenly. Each one has the authority which must not be denied. So the cloven foot is always found at that point. You may be a skeptic, you may not deal honestly and may do other things, but don't cause dis-union. That is the crime of crimes in them all, from the greatest to the least.

Organization.

All who have read our position on organization can say the editor's statements of non organization do not apply to me at all. I believe all that the editor says which he has quoted from the Bible on organization. But his organization is not the Bible organization. It is a fraud and imitation. The Bible is full of God's organization and all that man can do to belong to God's organization is to obey all that is commanded. If he does this he and every other follower is thoroughly organized and in fellowship and unity of doctrine. That is something that not one man-made organization in Babylon can claim. It is the truth which organizes each individual and when thus organized he is in harmony with God and with all true brethren who are willing to obey God.

The editor is simply in the dark as to what the church of God and its organization is. We hope he will know better soon.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Nellie Rupert, wife of G. G. Rupert, died April 5 at 11:25 o'clock a. m.

Her age was sixty-nine years next June. Possibly nothing more could be said than to say she was a faithful wife, loved the Lord and his cause. She devoted her life to the cause of temperance and ministering to others.

In early life she became a member of the Methodist church. She also in early life espoused the cause of temperance and became a lecturer, canvassing the state of Illinois. Then later pioneered in an early day the state of Oklahoma in the cause of temperance. We cannot do better than repeat her experience as we have heard her tell it. In an early day Oklahoma City was filled with saloons and they were filled from the cellar to the garret with strong drink. When through her efforts in connection with her associate workers of temperance women these saloons were put out of business.

But on one occasion an opposer met her and said, "Madam, you will never succeed in your work. There is whisky sold now in this city." She says, "Where is it." He remarked, "He knew where there was a tubful under a counter." "Is that so?" said she. "Yes," he replied. "Well," she remarked, "that is better than I could have hoped for in the past." She said, "I have seen one hundred saloons in this city full of drink. I have seen men fighting and being killed here as the result of it. I have seen women praying that their husband and boys might be saved from the awful crime of strong drink, and you say you know of a tub-

ful under a counter. Well, thank God, if it is down to a tubful under a counter, I thank God for the success of the work done.

She raised three orphans from babyhood to maturity.

Her funeral service was held in Oklahoma City. Mr. Hobbs, the Methodist minister of Britton, officiating with appropriate remarks of her life's work. The attendance was quite large. Flowers covered her casket from the federated W. C. T. U. of Oklahoma City, the Ladies' Aid Society of the First Methodist church of that city, from Mr. and Mrs. Falkner, old acquaintances of Illinois, Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs of Britton, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Wiatt of Oklahoma City, old acquaintances, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Green of Oklahoma City, Mrs. Stone and Mrs. Kramer, prominent women of Oklahoma City, the teachers in the Garfield school of the city where my daughters have taught many years, Mr. and Mrs. Aubery, relatives. She left a brother, Mr. Calvin Shidler, of Capitol Hill, Oklahoma City, the only one of her parental family now living. She left one son, Oliver Lisher, son of a former husband, with several families of relatives, to mourn her loss.

We can say she became very dear to my family. All calling her mother. The ladies' quartett was furnished by the Seventh Day Adventist. The music was especially good.

We can say her faith and knowledge of the Bible had gone under great changes. She observed the commandments and was in harmony with all of my teaching. But seeing no direct reason for asking her name to be removed her name still remained in the M. E. church. Her acquaintances and friends were there. We felt it but right and a privilege to ask the minister to conduct the services, which he did very acceptably.

I am now home after much worry for three years past with much care and labor in caring for her. At this writing I find myself at the desk again taking up the old duties which were neglected the past month.

I am of good courage and feel that it pays to serve God and worth more than all the world besides to have the Christian's hope of the future. I feel that I have the prayers and sympathy of many people scattered from New York to California, who with me are looking forward to the day when old friends will meet and when death shall never more be. I can only say, Be faithful to God and duty and fail not, so as not to lose the crown at the end of the race.

—G. G. R.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

A party from Colorado asks for an explanation of Gen. 4:23, 24, after Cain had slew Abel. The next murder committed was by Lamech. His confession was that if Cain's crime was sufficient to be avenged seven fold, his was worthy of seventy-seven fold.

This is a case where the number seven is the basis of reckoning. Christ used the same expression when he said our forgiveness should be not only seven times but seventy times seven. The thought is in either case fullness and unlimited. Lamech had the example of Cain and God's punishment placed upon him. He realized that his responsibility was much greater than Cain's. Hence he deserved far more punishment than did Cain.

Question Two; Gen. 9:3-6.

Verse three says, "Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you even as the green herb have I given you all things." The question in this case is,

does this include both clean and unclean animals, or does it refer to clean animals only. Noah was told to take in the ark of clean animals by sevens, by unclean by two. Thus showing the distinction had existed from the beginning. We now think of other usages of the same language "every thing." The first is Romans, fourteenth chapter. It says, "One man esteemeth one day above another. Another esteemeth every day alike." No Bible student would understand the subject there discussed included the Sabbath commandment. That was a fixed law. Another instance is where Christ said that "nothing entering into the mouth of man could defile the man." All know the scriptures teach that man is defiled by that which enters the mouth. No man who knows the scriptures would claim such a broad interpretation as to say nothing could defile the man from entering his mouth. God says, "The broth of abominable things is in their vessels." He says that those eating swine's flesh shall be consumed when Christ comes. Isaiah 66:17.

So Christ was not discussing what a man should eat and what he should not eat in the scripture above cited in his teaching.

Another instance where the word everything is used is in Acts, tenth chapter, where Peter saw the sheet full of unclean animals to teach a certain lesson pertaining to the Gentiles. If clean animals had been in the sheet, Peter could not have classed all as unclean, which he did. He could have said he would eat certain animals but not the others. Neither could God have said to Peter to do that which the law had forbidden if he meant for him to really eat snakes, worms and all unclean things. When we consider the sheet there is no reason to believe there were clean beasts in the sheet at all. If there had been then the vision would not have met the needs which Peter was to be taught. Although it says that in the sheet there was "all manner of fourfooted beasts and creeping things." It sure did not include clean beasts no more than the other scripture included the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, neither the sabbaths which were to occur annually.

So now applying the same rule to Genesis where the Lord told Noah that every moving thing that lived should be for man's food, it did not include those things which were forbidden for food. No one has a right to interpret language contrary to God's fixed principles of law. Such is violence to the scriptures. Every thing must be so understood as to be in accord with fixed principles before laid down. Verse four says the life is in the blood. The law says that if a man eats blood he shall be cut off from among the people. That is, he breaks the commandment of the Lord and shall die for his sins. If a man kills his fellow man he forfeits his own life. That is fixed laws of God and cannot be altered. Hence unclean beasts and living things of that class never was given for food, as some have interpreted the above scripture. The blood of clean animals is equally forbidden to be eaten. The life is in the blood, hence must not be eaten at all. Neither are we permitted to eat the fat.

Always in the use of scriptures see that no interpretation is given which causes a contradiction of the law.

BEGIN AT THE BEGINNING

To understand a book one must begin to read it at chapter one. When teaching school we had a pupil 28 years old who wanted to begin the study of arithmetic at cube root, so as to get through quick and

reach algebra. We asked him some questions about notation and enumeration and found him profoundly ignorant of both. We insisted on his beginning at notation and advancing by understanding each successive division thoroughly. With much chagrin and reluctance he yielded. Being anxious to learn he applied himself diligently and made rapid progress with the joy of knowing that he knew well what he had passed over. Although at first inclined to hate us for putting him back so far at his age, he came to love us for dealing so truly with him and offered to loan us money to go through college, which we were then contemplating.

So many complain that it is so difficult to understand the Bible. They probably began to read it in the middle, perhaps at its cube root, and are entirely ignorant of its notation, which is the book of Genesis. Beginning there we readily learn from whence came all things and what God's purpose was in creating the earth and man upon it. In Gen. 1:26 we plainly read God's proposition, "Let us make man . . . and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowls of the air and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." Let us study this text. It is given in the simplest English. Not a word in it difficult to understand. God states here emphatically that he made man for **the earth**, and drops not even a hint that his destiny was to be **heaven** at any time. He declares emphatically that he made man not for a temporary stay on earth but for an eternal stay here. He gave him a perfect right to the tree of life that he might live forever here. When he sinned he shut him away from the tree of life that he might not live forever anywhere. That old serpent, the father of lies, defied God's word and taught that man would live forever anyway, and he has deceived millions of people to side with him against God and yet think they are on the Lord's side. They don't stop to learn well God's notation.

We learn also that the earth which God offered Adam the everlasting dominion over was a sinless world. There was no curse then upon the earth but all was perfect love and peace. The lion and the ox were there as also the tiger, the wolf, the bear and the lamb; but they all played together as harmless as kittens. When sin entered the earth and peace ceased in the animal creation, God denied man the dominion over it and decreed that he should **surely die**, and explained death to mean a returning to the ground from which **he** was taken. Gen. 3:19-23.

Now, friend, go slow here and learn God's notation well. There is no intimation that man came from any other place than the ground, or that death would take him to any other place than the ground.

We learn further that God designed this earth to be one entire kingdom governed by a sinless King. It was offered to Adam, but he failed to keep himself sinless and forfeited the crown. Jesus Christ being the only sinless one connected with the human family is the only rightful heir to earth's throne and God will give it him. Psa. 2:8, 9.

If any one wishes a home in this earth when sinless, deathless and curseless, he must get an heirship from Christ. "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise." Gal. 3:29; Rom. 4:13.

Again, we learn from Genesis that Christ will destroy Satan and every vestige of his work on earth and leave it a new, sinless, curseless and glorious earth as when offered to Adam. Gen. 3:15; Matt. 25:34. Lastly, only those possessing a sinless righteousness will ever abide in this earth when sinless. Adam lost

his inheritance when he sinned. God has never provided an eternal abode for sin anywhere. We have now learned from the first few chapters in Genesis that, 1: the earth was made for man's eternal home. 2. That the condition of his living in it forever was a sinless life. 3. That failing of such a life it was decreed that he should return unto the ground from which he came. 4. That sin came into this world with all its sad trail of woes through that old serpent which is the devil. 5. That the woman's seed (Christ) should crush the serpent's head, which can mean no less than his destruction and that of all his works. 6. That God designs this earth to be one universal kingdom with a sinless king and with sinless subjects—a kingdom with no death, no curse.

Let us remember that the mathematician never gets through using what he learned of notation and enumeration. He takes it with him through all the course. So God takes these six lessons (and more beside those) so early taught in Genesis all through his Bible. He does not allow an author to write in his Book of books that is not in perfect harmony. These six lessons will save us from fatal error.—Messiah's Advocate, from the Editor.

We are thankful for the sentiment expressed by the Editor of the Messiah's Advocate. Possibly our exchange has suggested the thoughts above expressed. For years we have been advocating the importance of beginning our Bible study at the beginning of the book. We again mention that the above paper is one of our best exchanges.

REPORT OF BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL.

The Bible correspondence school has, thus far, exceeded my expectations. I feel sure that many other such things have had smaller beginnings.

We have had a good many good papers from Illinois and Colorado. They have all shown much thought and a desire to learn truth. We do so hope that these will all continue and many more will begin.

One extremely good paper was from a little girl nine years old.

There are many advantages to a correspondence school. We always remember longer what we write down. And then we can get these lessons in our spare time, so it need not interfere with other duties.

We know the Bible teaches that there will be a famine for the word of the Lord. And there is no better way to have it fixed in our mind than this.

We will make arrangements to give a certificate of some kind to all who complete the course. Possibly one for the Old Testament, and one for the New.

Let us help you any way we can. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

We are glad that many report that they are studying the lessons, even though they do not write them.

LUCILE RUPERT SMITH,
Box. 215, Oklahoma City, Okla.

FAVORABLE REPORTS.

We are receiving many words of encouragement as the people are studying the lessons prepared for the Bible corresponding Bible school each month. Quite a number of subscriptions have come in each wishing the lessons from the beginning. We still have a few of the back numbers of the paper. All wishing them should subscribe very soon.

I hold that these lessons have in them all that any one who wishes to learn the Bible need from the age of ten years and upward. We have received a report from one girl nine years old. If anyone who could read it would say it was a truth that even children can learn the Bible. If Timothy learned it why cannot children now learn it?

It would seem that anyone who is not willing to learn the story from the beginning, they are not very anxious to know what truth is. Such remind me of my early childhood days in school when I wanted to get right back to the back part of the text book and see what was there. I did not then realize that I had to learn the first part first in order to see what was back there in the book. It is interesting sometimes to notice how hard it is to get some people out of their former rut traveled so long. It ought to dawn upon their mind sometime that the system they have followed all their lives never got them very far in Bible study. They ought to see that the religious world was following a plan that never got the people where they could answer the most simple questions in the Bible. They ought to be willing to try and read the book as God wrote it from the beginning. One thing certain, those who will not learn from the beginning the story of Israel will be poorly prepared to meet the issues before us. They will be surely in poor condition to be one of the remnant people. Denominational organizations with their millions of expenditure each year helps the people very little. The prophet says, "They have healed the hurt of my people slightly." I think all had better find something better than they are getting, don't you?

THE GATHERING OF THE NATIONS TO ARMAGEDDON

This is a book of three hundred pages, covering the years before Christ, to the final gathering of the nations to Armageddon. It shows the three great divisions of the world, also the kings of the East with Russia as their leader against the kings of the West, the present movements of the world showing that events is the next great move to be made by these nations. This, also, clears up the mystery of many of the Old Testament prophecies of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah and the minor prophets, and connects these prophecies with those of the New Testament. This is most interesting to the student of prophecy, as well as to the politician and states man. It should be read by every one who loves truth.

This is a companion to the book "The Gathering of Israel into "Their Own Land," and they should be read together.

Nicely Illustrated. Price \$3.00.

ARMAGEDDON

What warfare will the Lord use in the great battle of Armageddon? Job tells us what the Lord asked him

22. Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail,

23. Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war? Jobe 38:22, 23.

The Lord fights not as man fights. His warfare is found in the atmospheric heavens. Anciently when God wished to turn the battle against his enemies He called his armory of Hail, Thunder and lightning to destroy His enemies.

If the reader will read our comments on Armageddon in the "gathering of Israel" they will see that Armageddon is a signal battle fought when the last effort on the part of the armies of the world will be gathered against the remnant people that the name of Israel may be blotted out that no remembrance of them will ever again be brought to mind.

Psalms 83: In this battle 'the Lord fights as he fought in the days of Battle and war, Jobe says the weapons of God's warfare is the treasures of the Hail. John says, Revelation 16: There was a great earthquake such as had never been and in connection with the quake the hail falls, every stone the weight of a talent. (Fifty pounds.) Isaiah says: At that time my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation and in sure dwellings, and sure resting places when it shall hail, coming down on the forest, and the City of Babylon shall be brought low in a low place.

This is Armageddon. The last battle that will ever be fought during the six thousand years that ushers in the coming King. Ezekiel says that they shall fall upon the mountains of Israel and will be given to the beasts and fowls. It is the great supper so often spoken of in which all the fowls are invited that they may eat the flesh and drink the blood of captains and kings till they are drunken with their blood. No eye can picture this battle. No warfare which man can make can compare with it. No rattling of musketry and cannon can compare to it. No battle ever fought could kill as is killed in Armageddon. No military commands will then be heard.

No organization will be regarded, but every man's sword will be turned against his brother. The examples of the Midianite in the days of Gideon, the Battle of Deborah and the Syrians, King Rysesakiah and the Assyrians. These are given us as examples that we may know what Armageddon is. Says the prophet: The waters shall overflow the hiding places, and the Hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies," Isaiah says the cloud as in the days of Moses shall cover the Remnant, and there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the day time, from the heat and for a place of refuge and for a covert from storm and rain, Isaiah 4:5, 6.

SEVEN LAST PLAGUES AND SEVEN TRUMPETS

The similarity in the reading of the scriptures on the trumpets and the plagues have made some think they both met their fulfillment at the same time. Hence have tried to locate the seven trumpets as being fulfilled after probation had closed.

There are difficulties in this position. First the Trumpets have prophetic periods of time designated by 1290 years and 391 years which could not possibly be fulfilled after probation closes. Second the trumpets meet a history which occurred in the eastern and western Empires of Rome which covered many centuries. So to my mind there must be another reason for this similarity of reading.

The seven last plagues are termed by Ezekiel 14: as four score judgments. Why four? We reply there are four distinct lines of prophecy. The seven churches, The Seven Seals, the seven trumpets and the seven thunders. Giving the history of each division these four cover them. Attending each of these divisions during the seven last plagues these judgments are manifest as they apply to each of the four. Why this? We reply the principal of History repeating itself in prophecy does not occur only in ancient and modern time such as an ancient event is taken to teach the same truth as it will occur in modern events. But during the seven last plagues the events which have occurred during the time of the history covered by these four lines of prophecy since Christ. That history will be repeated in a condensed form during the falling of the plagues, as in the study of the four lines of prophecy given under the number seven, if the reader will follow the thought in each line they will see that line continues through to the end through the seven last plagues. Hence especially the description given in the language of the long history of the trumpets is repeated in the seven last plagues. The plagues contain the condensed culmination of all.

The principal taught in the scriptures of ancient events being fulfilled in modern events must be well understood before latter day prophecy can be understood. That is where so many writers utterly fail in teaching prophecy. Then by carrying the same rule in these four lines into the seven last plagues we have no confliction in our teaching. We often say God never changes a principal. What He doeth, He doeth it forever that men may fear before him." So in the study of prophecy learn that ancient names and events are carried down into modern names and events in the fulfillment of prophecy. This principle will help on the correct understanding of latter day prophecy. It is the only thing that will straighten out the Israel Question as to why All Gentile converts become Israel. It is the only principle which will give a clear understanding of the subject of the Gathering of Israel, which so many are applying to the itteral Jew and to the lost ten tribes as they term it. No such positions are true.

The return of the Jew to Palestine and all such positions are untrue, those names apply to all who are saved. The promise that Israel should have their land restored to them always refers to the Earth redeemed as it was promised to Abraham and not to Palestine as some interpret prophecy. The house of Judah is the only house that remains after redemption is complete, to that house every child of God saved will belong. Why ever be staggering around about what is truth. Get these principles fixed in the mind and then our trouble on many of the later day prophecy will end, and we say that in the study of the past history of the Seven Trumpets you are studying the Judgments of those trumpets in the seven last plagues.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

The next issue will begin an article and our review from the pen of an able minister of Paris, France, wherein he presents the doctrines of the S. D. A. people in Chronology and Prophecy. This article was written and translated especially for our examination and publication. The article is a fine presentation, fairly stated, and our reply will be a fair and kind examination. All should read it who wish to be instructed in Bible knowledge. It is not controversial, but a reasoning together for the purpose of arriving at truth. Get subscribers for the paper for six months at fifty cents.

OUR EXPERIENCE

Once when laboring in the Gospel in a city, a storm came. The sky was of a whitish green cast and a steady roar was heard like a multitude of trains or the rapid moving of an army. My wife and I was standing in the Government building a very solid stone structure. We saw it was a dreadful storm. We knew of no place more safe than where we were. Presently the storm came, with it a heavy wind and hail accompanied with lightning and Thunder. Soon the falling hail bursting on the pavement sounded like an artillery battle. The live wires were broken and streaks of fire issued in every direction from them. Hitch straps were broken by the horses and many teams were running with buggies and wagons attached to them. The crashing of thousands of dollars worth of plate glass as they were broken. Roofs were pierced, street car roofs were broken, men received broken arms and were knocked down on the street. Stones fell measuring nine inches in circumference. We stood viewing the scene in silence and fear. That was an experience I never care to pass through again. But can it be compared to Armageddon when God turns the armory of heaven loose in the last great battle, when there shall be a confusion of warriors. When the final time of "God's indignation" and wrath will be visited on an ungodly World who has rejected his mercy? We say it was no comparison. It did teach me in my experience to see the need of divine power in the great day just before us. The seventh Thunder is the next in order we know that much by the compiling of evidences on all the other things which are told us. God in His infinite wisdom told John not to write the full story of the Seven Thunders. The time period the Children of God can know quite well from evidences given us. But there remains and no doubt for our good, things connected with the story of the Seven Thunders not told us and what God has not revealed, we will be contended to know that.

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