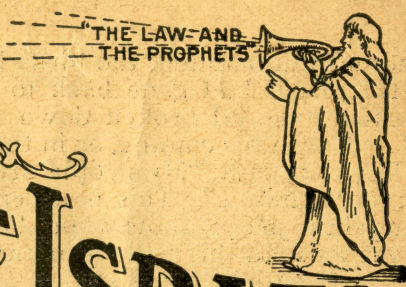


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THE ENSIGN OF ISRAEL
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The REMNANT OF ISRAEL

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"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.

Vol. 10

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., JANUARY, 1929

No. 7

The Future as Viewed by W. W. Walker

FROM THE BIBLE, THE NORTH AND THE FAR EAST MAKE CONQUEST AGAINST THE UNITED STATES IN THE LAST DAYS.

By W. W. Walker

Many Bible readers seems to have lost the importance of the study of the Old Testament scriptures. We think this is due to the fact that in almost every instance they try to apply everything in the past, instead of applying their fulfillment in the future as this study will show. You will notice in this study that ancient names as Israel, Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, and five grand sons of Noah, Gog, Tubal, Me-chack, Gomer and Togarmah, are to be carried down and studied in connection with the universal war in the last days.

The authority for the nations not having any more war is taken from the second chapter of Isaiah. Isaiah 2:2 tells us that it is a latter day prophecy, and reads thusly: "And it shall come to pass in the last days."

The third verse tells what the people will say, "And many people shall go and say, 'Come ye, and let us go up to the house of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his path, for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem!' This is what the Lord says the people will say in the last days. They say they will walk in the Lord's paths just as Israel of old said, "All that the Lord said we will do."

Now the people say in verse four, "The Lord shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plow-shares, and their spears into pruninghooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war and more." There has been many

conferences held at the Hague, and much money spent by the nations to prevent war by mutual agreement and the people have said, "We won't have war any more." This is what the Lord says the people will say.

Here is what the nations of the earth will do. "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, let them come up, beat your plow-shares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears; let the weak say I am stronger." Joel 3:9-10.

The Gentiles referred to here are so-called Christian Nations as hereafter shown. When these supposedly Christian Nations prepare for war, that will arouse the mighty men or the heathen who number two to one, and all who have prepared for the war will be drawn into the conflict. Instead of destroying their weapons of war as the people say, the nations will change their implements of agriculture into weapons of war.

There are those who are looking for a thousand years of peaceful reign with all the nations of the earth dwelling here. This is also untrue as the following scriptures reveal, "I beheld the earth and, lo, it was without form and void, and the heavens and they had no light. I beheld the mountains and they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly; I beheld and lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled; I beheld, and lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and lo, the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by his fierce anger. For thus hath the Lord said, the whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end, for this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black, because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it." Jer. 4:23-29. Here the prophet saw the earth in its chaotic state without form and void,

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dark, and uninhabited, the birds had flown and the fruitful places had gone back to a wilderness, and the cities were all broken down at the presence of the Lord, or at his coming, or in the future.

Verse 22 says, "My people are foolish and have no understanding." This is a very harsh statement calling those people fools whom he claims as his people, yet we read this without notice.

The twentieth verse shows that it will be war that will cause the desolation, and the forsaking of the cities.

It is a fact well established by the scriptures, that when Israel or Christendom rejects the council of God, and with madness establishes isms and isms, that the heathen powers were brought against them, and this scripture teaches that there is a power coming against God's people in the last days that will finally result in the extermination and desolation of the land, and modern Christendom in universal conflict with the heathen will be affected by famine, pestilence, sword and captivity. In Ezekiel 38 we have the powers located that will make conquest against the United States in the last days as you will see.

In Ezekiel 38 we have the prophecy of the gathering of eight tribes of people in the last days, covering a large area of the northern and eastern hemisphere, as will be seen by the study of this chapter. In verse 2, "Son of man set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal and prophesy against him, and say thus saith the Lord God, 'Behold I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.'" Here Gog is introduced as a leader and the Lord directs his movement. The Lord says, "I am against thee, O Gog."

The following scriptures reveal some of the movements of these eight ancient heathen tribes, and says it will take place in the last days. Gog is the second son of Jephtha, and is a grandson of Noah. Gen. 10:1. The land of Magog lies north of the Caspian Sea, and is now Russia.

Meshech and Tubal are also grandsons of Noah and sons of Jephtha, and settled south of Magog between the Caspian and Black Seas. For authentic information consult Smith's Bible Dictionary on Magog and the first map in your Bible for the location of Gog, Tubal, Mechack, Gomer and Togarmah, for it is important that you understand where these grandsons of Noah located and what country occupies their territories now, for the people that occupy that territory in the last days will come against Israel as a cloud to cover the land. Ezekiel 38:16.

(To be continued)

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

By RAYMOND T. SHANKLIN

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."—Matt. 24:14.

Christ proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom everywhere he went, and gave all the apostles instructions to do likewise. Matt. 4:23. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease

among people. Matt. 10:5-7.

In the above scripture Christ gave the apostles instructions in regard to the kingdom. "These twelve Jesus sent forth and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not; But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Philip and Paul proclaimed the same truth. "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Acts 8:12. Paul continues the good work, "And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him in his lodging, to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets from morning 'till evening." Acts 28:23. It is glorious for us to know what God has in store for us who know Him as a personal, living presence within us, instead of being far away, as most Christian People believe, not having been born again, for that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit. Marvel not that I say unto you, ye must be born again." John 5:5-7. Being born again not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." I Pet.:2-3. People wonder now as Solomon did, if "God will in very deed dwell upon the earth; behold the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee, how much less this house that I have builded." I Kings 8:27. It is absurd for a denomination to attempt to contain God and control Him, instead of letting Him control the believer. "Howbeit the most high dwelleth not in temples made with hands," as saith the prophet, "Heaven is my throne and earth is my footstool. What house will ye build me, saith the Lord; or what is the place of my rest? Hath not my hands made all these things?" Acts 7:48, 50.

The present day churches, with very few exceptions, are given wholly to idolatry as those heathen were in Paul's experience with them on Mars hill. "For as I passed by and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD, whom ye ignorantly worship, Him declare I unto you." "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands, neither is worshipped with men's hands, as tho' He needeth anything; seeing he giveth to all life, and breath and all things;" (and notice the 27th verse, "That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after Him and find Him though He be not very far from every one of us." Acts 17:23-25. "Come and let us return unto the Lord, for He hath torn, and He will bind us up." Hosea 6:1.

(To Be Continued)

Have you obtained your "Gospel of Health" yet? If you wish to know how to care for yourself through colds, flu and other winter diseases, now is the time to get it. Two hundred and thirty-one pages for one dollar.—J. J. Jobe, Box 1533, Stockyards Station, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Do I Understand the 28th Chapter of Isaiah?

BY JOHN S. STANDFORD.

Yes, sir, I do. And now, dear Bro., let us consider what it says and the Lord will give us both to understand it.

First, it is a prophecy that applies to the very closing years of this world. A last-days prophecy. The 22nd verse shows that "A consumption determined upon the whole earth." This never has taken place (since Isaiah's time), so we know, and know positively, that it is a prophecy which applies to the very closing years and days of time. The years when "mockers, as it points out in the first line of the same verse, exist and are saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?" (II Pet. 3:3.) So by the Scriptures we know, without question, that the 28th chapter of Isaiah is a prophesy of the "last days."

Second. The "woe," pronounced, in the first verse of Isaiah, 28th chapter, is pronounced against a ruling and a "proud" power of this earth. The earthly power today, (1928 A. D.), that is the highest ruling power on this earth, is the United States of America.

They have not always been so nor for so very long, been so. But it is unquestionably so now, and they will remain so, until the Lord takes that position and power away.

The word crown, in the first verse, does not mean a king; it means ruling. "Crown of pride," means that they are a ruling nation and are filled with pride because of it. And they are. The expression, "Drunkards of Ephraim," means that just as Ephraim was one of the tribes of Israel and was camped on the west of the camp, so the United States of America, professedly, are a part of Christendom, which is latter-day Israel, and are located in the western world, and just as Israel of old was carried away and became drunken with the temptations and false doctrines of the heathen in their day, so today the United States of America are drunken with the false doctrines and customs of the heathen nations. They are "overcome with wine of the wrath of her fornication," as it says, in Rev. 14:8.

This nation upon whom this "woe" is pronounced is stated to be one of "beauty" (which they glory in, "Glorious Beauty, 1st verse), and also is said to have "fat valleys" (worldly, physical and temporal prosperity). All of which we know to be literally true. Showing that all the points of description given in the first verse (3rd and 4th verses also), apply to the United States of America.

In the 7th and 8th verses God points out that the United States of America have "erred." That "they err in vision," "they stumble in judgment," and "all their tables are full of vomit and filthiness," "so that there is no place clean." And that the cause of it all is the strong drink of the "wine" they have been drinking, namely: the "wine of the wrath of (certain) fornication" (Rev. 14:8). Or in other words the false doctrines and customs of the heathen world which they have permitted to come in and which they have swallowed.

The Lord, of course, doesn't like this at all. For a naturally bright and intelligent people, who have had the Light of His Word so abundantly, and who

profess Him so loudly. So in the second verse, the Lord begins to warn of what and who is coming against the United States of America, the eastern nations, kings of the East. He says it is a "mighty" one. That means that altho the United States have might of their own, the "mighty and strong one" coming, will have *more* might. So much more that it will amount to a "tempest of hail," "a destroying storm," or a "flood of mighty waters," entirely overpowering the United States and "casting" the United States "down to the earth." Able as they think they are and as proud of their ability as they are (literally "Crown of Pride), the United States of America is to be "cast down to the earth" by the hand of this "mighty and strong one," (which the Lord says He has ready to do this awful work). "Cast down to the earth," to be be "trodden under foot." (2nd and third verses).

Surely the Lord is giving us to understand this chapter. And so far it is plain as day. The description of the country and its condition (spiritually) in the sight of God, is as plain as day.

And the Lord is looking for and calling for laborers (for His Harvest Field), who will *get* this knowledge and understand and begin to teach it to their fellow men before this "overflowing scourge" comes upon this unsuspecting and blinded and drunken nation. And He asks (in the 9th verse) whom shall He teach knowledge? Whom shall He make to understand? (as tho they were scarce) and He says it has got to be somebody that is no longer a babe in Christ, that has to be fed on the *milk* of the Word, but some one who can partake and understand the strong Meat of the Word.

Yes, this "Glorious Beauty" of the United States of America, which is at the head of their "fat valley," is to become a "fading flower." It is a "flower" now, but it is *to fade*. Nobody wants to hear it and will not listen. But *God says it*, and it *is sure to come*.

But God has a "residue" of His people (5th verse) whose ears are listening to His Word. These will know of it and will teach and warn concerning it and when the wilderness experience comes, the restored "Kingdom of Israel" (Acts 1:6), Jesus will be to them a "crown of glory," a "diadem of beauty." And for a "Spirit of Judgment," and for "strength" to those of his people who see and understand and receive and tell it to others, even if it is a battle to do so. A battle even to "the Gate" (6th verse).

This United States of America will be (remarkably) "without excuse." Their opportunities have been many and nearly unlimited. They have heard and been taught for generations. It has indeed been "line upon line, and precept upon precept." But in spite of all this mercy and love from the long-suffering God of Heaven and earth, they have turned away. Therefore when the Wilderness experience comes, when the restored Kingdom of Israel comes (Acts 1:6), when (as the 12th verse points out), the "weary," (the tried and oppressed child of God, come to their "rest" and to their "refreshing," the "proud" and boastful and self-confident United States of America will find (and justly so) themselves cast

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out. And not only that but "trodden down" by the "overflowing scourge" of these Eastern nations, these "Kings of the East" (Rev. 16:12), which God is going to send upon them.

The United States of America has made a "covenant with death." They have made an "agreement with hell" (grave). They have said (and are saying) when the overflowing scourge shall pass thru, it shall not come unto us." (15th verse). That means that the United States of America has let in Spiritualism, one of the false doctrines of heathenism with which they are "drunken." Part of the "wine of the wrath of certain fornication," (Rev. 14:8), which says we do "not surely die" (Gen. 3:4), but we pass on to another and higher life. The *Spirit* life. "Covenant with death," you see; agreement with hell (the grave). All these "lies" the United States of America are guilty of and have made (and are making) their "refuge (15th verse).

But God says He will "lay judgment to the line," and "righteousness to the plummet," and the "hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies," and "the waters" (peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues") (Rev. 17:15). (The Eastern nations) shall "overflow the hiding place."

And it will. All these deceptions and hiding places and false doctrines and devilish schemes with which the United States of America are carried away so blindly, and drunken over, will be torn away, fully exposed and every one (who will not repent of and repudiate them) punished and destroyed. For the "bed" they have made for themselves is "shorter than they can stretch themselves on it," and the "covering is narrower than they can wrap themselves" in it (20th verse). For "the Lord shall rise up" (21st verse), and "do His strange work" and "bring to pass his strange act."

And so it is that God is not only calling upon "men every where to repent," (Acts 17:30), but He is calling upon laborers to enter His Harvest Field and give warning of these terrible things coming, that those who are children of God (in their hearts) may be warned and aroused and ready to flee to God when they find these things coming.

July 28, 1928.

Kindly, BRO. JOHN.

Come Out of Her, My People

—Rev. 18:4.

This "Voice from Heaven" came to me over forty years ago, while I was still a Methodist, the church I was raised in. None of my friends understood me, so I had to rely wholly on my Bible and the Holy Spirit as interpreter of the Word.

My mind was directed to the entertainments in our church and the worldly methods used for money raising, and as the Ladies' Aid was foremost in this work, I came out of that Society, giving my reason.

My pastor agreed with me and would not attend these doings, but appeared to have no influence to stop them.

Then light on baptism came, and my pastor discouraged me by making light of immersion; so I waited, still believing, for I desired to be baptized by a believing minister.

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I was always very frail in body and very sick at times, and my mind was drawn to all Scriptures on healing with a longing to obey the Word "and call for the Elders" and be anointed with oil. But there were no believing Elders, so I was healed by faith alone, and was anointed later when a lady evangelist came and preached in our home and baptized many, and we all were baptized in water.

Then I gave up Christmas, for this Scripture was presented to my mind as I went in the room and viewed our Christmas tree: "Learn not the ways of the nation—for the customs of the people are vanity, for one cutteth a tree out of the forest with an axe,—They fastened it with nails and hammers and decked it with silver and gold." Our tree was decked with tinsel, popcorn and candles. That was the only difference, for my son-in-law had gone to the forest with an axe and cut down a small tree or branch and had fastened it with nails and hammers, and the girls had done the decorating.

While in the South I learned that the Scotch people kept January 6 for Christmas instead of December 25, and this led me to study this subject, so I learned that we were not keeping the birthday of our Saviour, but a birthday of all heathen gods, as I found in a work on mythology. So I came out from Christmas and Easter, etc. I sent gifts when and where they are needed, but I do not send Christmas cards, and there is no planning for Christmas.

My pastor said if I "kept on" I would find myself out from all churches, for there were none that fully followed the Bible. I did not realize this at that time, for I prayed often for God to lead me to His true people as I found myself slipping away from the old.

The best was yet to come, for messengers of God came and told us we were keeping a false Sabbath. This, too, was settled the Bible way, and Sunday was placed in its rightful place among the six working days.

The doctrine of the coming of Jesus was the Star that guided and upheld me through all of my wanderings. I believed in His coming from "believing the Word," without human help.

It would sound like the wanderings of the Hebrew children if I went into details of my experiences and trials during these years while tracing the

steps in faith, and would take several tracts or series of talks. This article is only a brief account written to help others who are coming out of Babylon.

I am so glad to know that the dead are really dead, and not wandering about without bodies as is commonly taught, and that there will be a real resurrection of our bodies.

Scriptural eating and dressing, the Beast and Image, interest, tithing, and all money matters, marriage, divorce and other questions have become clear by studying and believing God's Word and has saved me from the sins of sectarianism that scatter God's holy people, and love of the world. We have no big Sunday or Christmas dinner, so we do not have to answer for over-eating. We do not eat eggs to celebrate Easter, or have images of rabbits, Santa Claus, Buddha and heathen temples made of china and glass, with incense to burn, stories depicting Spiritism, and psycho-analysis books, light novels, fortune and dream books with the funny sheets have been burned, and still burning, and every child of God should protest against Evolution being taught in the schools.

Our religion is very old, but will fit any age. Many crafts would be in danger if Christians believed God's Word, and if the wicked and foolish things were burned out of the Christian homes, their value would go far beyond the 50,000 pieces of silver at Ephesus—Acts 19. I do not call ministers Reverend but Elders, Evangelists and scriptural names, and we "pray in the name of Jesus," not for the "sake of Jesus," as is common.

The "Voice from Heaven" is calling ALL, for it is time for "the wife to make herself ready", for our King will soon appear, and we cannot get rid of all these IDOLATROUS CUSTOMS any too soon. One of my daughters had an incense burner broken in bits a few weeks before she died. She nearly missed this privilege. So, let us one and all "Believe the Word," then we will hear and understand the "Voice from Heaven that is saying, "Come forth, MY PEOPLE, out of her." Rev. 18:4.

MRS. L. D. WOODWARD.

Waymart, Pa., R. F. D. No. 3.

The History of the Passover

According to the Scriptures

Let us very carefully read all the accounts, from the beginning of the Passover, always keeping in mind that the even of any date was the first or dark part, each day beginning at sunset. Gen 1:5, 8, 13, 19. Lev. 23:32.

The first mention of the passover is in Ex. 12:3-4. In the tenth day of this month a lamb was to be chosen for each household, and if the family was too small for a lamb, two families were to join, the lamb was to be kept until the fourteenth day; And ye shall kill it in the evening, that was the first or dark part of the fourteenth day, not between the two evenings: v. 6. (That is man's addition to it). We all know that the margin or context is not inspired; then why leave the word of GOD given to Moses, and use in preference the word of man, added 4,000 years later. And they shall eat the flesh "that" night, v. 8., the night of the 14th, not the next evening or night; and ye shall let nothing remain until the morning, v. 10. Note, the head of each household was to take a lamb, or two families join, v. 3, 4. It is quite possible for a lamb to be killed at sundown, roasted and eaten before daylight, for observe, it was to be done in haste, v. 2. And Moses gave them warning that none of them should go out of his house until the morning, FOR, said he, the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. Ex. 12:22-23. That this warning was given for their safety on that particular night, and was not meant to continue, is quite evident, for in Deut. 16:6 they are commanded to sacrifice the Passover at even, (at the going down of the sun) not between two eve-

nings. Verse 4 shows that the lamb was sacrificed on the first day at even, that must have been the first or dark part of the 14th day, as there is only one evening to each day. They were not to sacrifice it within their gates, but at the place that GOD should choose, v. 6. Then, when they had eaten it, and destroyed the remainder, they were to turn (in the-ing) and go into their tents." Now, if they were to remain in their tents or houses all that night, they could not have turned and gone into them "in the morning."

Now, let us go back to Lev. 23:5: "In" the 14th day of the first month, AT EVEN, must have been the first or dark part of the 14th day, and is the Lord's passover, v. 5. And on the 15th day is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD, v. 6. Unleavened bread was to be eaten with the passover on the first night and for seven days. Ex. 12:8-15-18.

The first day of the passover was to be a Sabbath: "IN" the first day that is the 14th day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation, v. 7; also the 7th day, v. 8.

Numbers 9:3. "IN" the 14th day of this month, AT EVEN, ye shall keep it in its appointed season; at the going down of the sun, (the first part of the 14th day) at the season thou camest forth out of Egypt. Deut. 16:6.

Having noted Deut. 16, we will pass on to Joshua 5:10. There they kept the passover "ON" the 14th day at even, in the plains of Jericho, (no mistaking it there for the 15th).

From there we go to 2nd Chron., 30. The whole chapter is taken up with the subject of the passover. The passover had not been kept for some time, or had been kept very indifferently, v. 5. The people had not gathered for it at the right time, v. 3. So they had to hold it in the second month, v. 15. They

"killed" the passover on the 14th day of the second month, even then they were not all prepared, therefore the Levites had the charge of the killing of the passover for every one that was not clean, v. 17, and that was a multitude, v. 18. This was possibly where the change was made, for it was not possible for all that work to be done in one night, and all the refuse to be burnt by morning, for Hezekiah the King, gave a thousand bullocks and seven thousand sheep, besides what the Princes gave. It is noticeable that there is no mention made here about killing in the evening at sundown, but they "killed" the passover on the 14th day, v. 1.

The next is recorded in chapter 35: Where they again KILL the passover on the 14th day, but this time they held it in the first month, v. 1. Note that there is no question of the evening KILLING in this passover either. Read on from 7th v. All the service was prepared the same day, v. 16, the 14th day, v. 1. Thirty thousand lambs and kids, three thousand bullocks for the people, v. 7. Two thousand six hundred small cattle, three hundred oxen, for the Priests, v. 7; five thousand five hundred oxen for the Levites. Read from v. 7 to 18. So, from the time of Joseph, when the passover became a national, instead of a family institution, there was evidently a preparation day for the passover.

We all agree that Jesus died when the passover was being killed, that was positively on the 14th day of the first month, according to the scriptures; but the passover evidently was not eaten until the evening of the 15th day. John 18:28. Therefore, that 15th day was the passover Sabbath. There was a preparation day also for the passover, John 19:14. This is the Bible story of the passover; it harmonizes in both old and new Testaments; there is no other way to account for the evident change of the time of killing the lamb; nor can we say that GOD changed His plans. He knew the end from the beginning. He carried out his intentions, evidently giving his instructions to Josiah, 2 Chron, 30-12.

Whether Jesus ate the passover or not, He certainly expressed His intention to do so, for note, that Jesus said, my time is at hand, I WILL keep the passover WITH my disciples; and they made ready the PASSOVER, Matt. 26:18-19. Again, the Master saith, where is the guest chamber, where I shall eat the PASSOVER with my disciples, Mark 14:14; and His disciples went forth . . . and found as He had said to them; and they made ready the PASSOVER, v. 16. Again He sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that WE may eat, Luke 22:8. The Master saith unto thee, where is the guest chamber, where I "shall" eat the passover with my disciples. Then He said, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer, for I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the Kingdom of GOD, v. 15-16.

There He instituted the ordinances that were to supercede the typical passover. He positively says that He will EAT the passover with them. After that He would eat it no more. Matthew, Mark and Luke are three witnesses to the statement of Jesus that He would eat the passover with His disciples. Matt. 18:16. John 8:17.

GOD said that we were to keep the passover for an ordinance forever. Jesus instituted that ordi-

nance on the even, or first part of the 14th day. I Cor. 2:23-26. Paul said, For I have received of the Lord that which I also delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed took bread.

Shall we not keep it so?

MRS. W. MOORE.

The Book of the Law Found Again

They also did not know that the land of Canaan was simply a type of the whole world to come, but supposed it to be the literal land. And to be received through the law that made them a Nation in that land. Paul met this as follows: "For the promise that he (Abraham), should be the heir of the world was not through the law but through faith." Rom. 4:13. He further shows who the seed is as follows: "For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith." Rom. 4:13.

Gal. 3:27-30, the next point in their lack of understanding was that when they were made a Nation in Canaan four hundred years after Abraham, they were saved by the law as given to them at Sinai.

Paul answers that point, thus: "And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect." Gal. 3:17. In fact, there was not a point of doctrine in the Bible which Christ met of which they were not ignorant. But our point in this is to show the point of difference on the laws taught in the Bible. It is clear thus far that all Jews saw in the Bible was salvation by the law as given at Sinai. They did not see Christ in the Abrahamic covenant. They did not see that every offering in the book of the law in some way taught a lesson of the gospel. It was the outward cold obedience of the law and the forms of service that they trusted in for salvation, called in the Bible the works of the law. No Christ, no spirit, no conversion of heart, though circumcision which they trusted in so much to be saved, taught circumcision of the heart. In brief a cold formal religion without the vitalizing power of God in it. No fountain of living water springing up into eternal life, but simply the letter of the law, and form governed by it. When they should have seen Christ and the Gospel in every ceremony, in every service, in every feast appointed, in every promise and in every blessing enjoyed. All this was dark to the Jew though they had read every Sabbath day the scriptures that taught the spiritual life and faith in Christ that worketh by love. Then, like now, many were led to see it and embraced it but the masses saw nothing. The teachers were blind and the people were blind. This is what Christ and the Apostles had to meet, namely, people ignorant in the scriptures and it is so now as then.

JUSTIFICATION

The above question, whether a man could be jus-

tified by works of the law or faith, was one the Apostles had to meet in every place. The Gallatian Church was troubled over the question as a result or the Jewish teachers.

"O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?"

"This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?"

"Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?"

"Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if ye be yet in vain.

"He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?"

"Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

"Know ye therefore that they which are of faith the same are the children of Abraham.

"And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

"So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." Gal. 3:1-9.

This sets the matter clearly before us.

Remember the Galatian church were converts from the Gentiles and those who troubled them were Jewish teachers who had rejected Christ and taught that a man was saved by obedience alone and not by faith. Paul puts some hard questions to them in the above scripture. They had received the spirit and were converted by him through faith. Now, he said, did you receive the spirit through faith or by the works of the law? Then he refers them to Abraham who was converted and how it was done, namely, by his believing God's promise, and as he believed it was counted to him for righteousness. That is, as faith entered his heart God forgave him of all his sins. A thing that no sinner can do only through faith. He cannot work out his salvation by works. That does not reach the heart and bring the blessing to him. It does not say he will not do the works of the law when he is accepted by faith, no indeed—that is just the very thing he will do. He is so rejoiced through the realization of forgiveness through the promise of God that if we confess our sins he is just and faithful to forgive us our sins, that obedience is then a pleasure, and not works of penance or of servitude, but a joy and a delight. Paul says further, as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse, for it is written cursed is every one that continueth not in all things that are written in the book of the law to do them. Verse 10.

That is, no man can do the works of the law in fact, who does not do it by faith, for the blessing of God is not with him, hence only disobedience is the result. So they are still under the curse of disobedience. This is shown in Romans:

"Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God.

"And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the

law;

"And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness,

"An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knoweldge and of the truth in the law.

"Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?"

"Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?"

"Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?"

"For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

"For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law; but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.

"Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?"

And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfill the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?"

"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

"But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly, and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men but of God."—Rom. 2:7-29.

The above shows clearly that the Jews who took the position that salvation came by works or obedience alone, they themselves did not keep the law. And we say no man can keep the law only through faith and acceptance of God through Christ. Then the spirit writes the law in the heart and they keep it. This is why Paul said the Gentiles who were not circumcised could keep the law and the Jew who had the form of the truth in the law did not keep it. This shows as plain as language can make it, that the Gentile and every other person who accepts Christ is a keeper of the law.

"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

"But if ye be led by the Spirit, ye are not under the law." Gal. 5:16-18.

The leading of the spirit is ever to keep the law, but it is only those who receive the spirit by faith that can be led by it, and when they are so led, they are not under the curse of the law for it has led to obedience. Having this point now clear, that obedience can come only through faith, we notice further, justification by, works of the law, or by faith.

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

"Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that be-

lieve: for there is no difference:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

"Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith, in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

"To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

"Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

"Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:

"Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

"Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Rom. 3:20-31.

Is it not strange that such ignorance should exist today? We hear them say you can not be justified by the law, therefore you are not under obligations to keep it. How can they with this plain scripture in the new testament staring them in the face? Who ever heard of a good, just law justifying a transgressor of the law he had broken? Law is not to justify men but to show them a correct rule of life and when it is broken it condemns, not justifies. Justification comes only through by being forgiven. But forgiveness only comes by repentance and is connected with a desire to obey in the future. If this is the condition, then he is forgiven by Christ and he believeth unto salvation. Then, the Apostle continues, will such an one then make void the law through faith? No, he will establish the law. Thus the Jews were met on every point of justification by law. Men argue now, that when men are justified by faith, they need not keep the law. Remember, such are just as blind as were the Jews. Does the reader suppose for a moment that Christ died to save and take to heaven a lot of rebels against God and his law? If so, you are badly mistaken for such will not be. Neither will he change His law to suit our convenience or custom. We will be judged by it just as it is written. And because we have been wrongly taught and kept in ignorance, and while God has winked at it (overlooked it), he says now he calls men everywhere to repent:

"And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

"For if the inheritance of the law it is no more of promise: but God give it to Abraham by promise.

"Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

"Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one."

(To be continued)

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