

# The Latter Rain Kvangel

The days of Heaven on Earth

## Which Are You Building?

IN THE building of our spiritual house the Bible is the blue-print. In the erection of a little shack there is no need of a blue-print, but in the building of a great sky-scraper the blue-print is an absolute essential. Some people do not need a blue-print at all to guide their lives because they are building only a little shack—something that has no detail to it and which is of very little use when completed.

Other lives, whose souls are set upon higher destinies, who determine to go up, and up, and up into the heights of glorious experiences and holy living and much usefulness, study the blue-print very carefully that they may be guided in the building of their spiritual structure; for such a structure must be able to withstand a great deal of opposition, much criticism, and many storms of persecution.

The higher up we go with these great lives that some are trying to build, the more we reach up into the realm of the spiritual where not only the Spirit of God is active in helping us, but the spirit of evil is active in opposing us. And so, if our spiritual house is to stand, it must be built according to the most perfectly drawn blue-print.

Now a blue-print is the work of an architect and is costly. The blue-print we are using costs a great deal. It cost much to write the Bible. It was an expensive undertaking, and if you and I will build our houses according to the blue-print furnished, we may rear a structure whose towers will pierce the clouds of opposition and mount up to the very throne of God.

B. E. W.

Ask Ye of the LORD Rain in the Time of the Latter Rain

Why I Preached the Second Coming - - See Page 3

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## Our Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

**T**HIS month *The Latter Rain Evangel* celebrates its Twenty-fifth birthday. The godly man who founded the paper in 1908 had a burning desire that only Christ should be exalted in its pages, and that it should be a mighty factor in restoring to the church of Christ the precious truths of Divine Healing, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the Second Coming of Christ, which had been lost for centuries.

When the paper was three years old its founder, Wm. Hamner Piper, went to his reward. His dying message was, "Go on with the paper," and for a quarter of a century we have endeavored through its pages to magnify the Name of Jesus, inspire readers to holy living, and warn Christians and sinners of the soon coming of the Lord. There are missionaries working in foreign lands today that have been called, either directly or indirectly, through the influence of *The Latter Rain Evangel*, and we praise God for the channel of blessing He has made it to thousands. Our readers will share with us the blessings that result in sending it forth, for we could not continue without their help. Do not think, when you are tempted to discontinue the paper, that you are the only one affected. You continuing on our list is essential to our sending out the entire issue. If impossible for you to renew, pray that God will lead somebody to subscribe in your place. Our subscription list is made up of individuals and each subscription is a necessary part of the whole which enables us to carry on.

What a mighty force is the printed page to

change and mold lives! The spoken word is often forgotten, but the printed message can be preserved for centuries, and will convict, enlighten and inspire every time it is read. Its power and influence never wane or die with age.

Help us to send out *The Evangel* by subscribing for your friends. It will speak to them of their souls' need and draw them Godward. Would it not be a source of untold happiness to find a soul was saved for eternity because you invested \$1.25 in his behalf? Take the risk. It will be the most profitable investment you have ever made. Five subscriptions for \$5.

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**T**HERE is a scripture in I. Corinthians 12:26 which says, "If one member suffer all the members suffer with it," which is true today in a monetary sense of Christ's body. So many of God's people in the homeland being out of employment and others having reductions in salaries, their contributions to foreign missions are almost *nil*, which brings suffering and privation on the field. One missionary writes that these are truly "acid-testing" days and they could not go on were it not for the help of God. If you are now deprived of the joy of giving to missions, pray that God will lay the need on someone else, so that our faithful workers in heathen lands will be able to carry on. The "fervent, effectual prayer of the righteous" will avail and loosen purse-strings, so that there will not be want.

# Why I Preach the Second Coming of Christ

## The Tragic Outcome When Men Lose Their Way

Sermon by Bert Edward Williams, Pastor of the Stone Church, Aug. 14, 1932

(Continued from September Issue)



**D**URING the World War we were given the slogan, "We will fight this war till we end all wars." A prominent New York minister who didn't believe in the Second Coming of Christ was responsible for that slogan, but we have had a dozen wars since then. And now the greatest leaders in world affairs are trembling terribly in fear of the next war, which all of them say, will make the World War appear almost insignificant, so terrible do they anticipate the next war to be. Just before the Arms Conference of Geneva last year (1931) William Philip Sims, Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor, wrote:

"With 30,000,000 men already under arms and more being trained every day, and in the face of a world which is again talking of another war virtually as an assured thing, representatives of the United States and the League of Nations will meet next week at Geneva, to see what, if anything, can be done to head off the danger.

"The League Assembly last month considered the situation too strained to risk setting a specific date for an arms conference. It did instruct its preparatory commission charged with arranging for such a conference, however, to meet on Nov. 6 and make a survey.

"But today such is the mood in which Europe and the rest of the globe find themselves, the fear is openly expressed that little, if any, practical good can come of the meeting.

### BILLIONS FOR WAR

"It is estimated that the world is now spending approximately \$4,300,000,000 a year on land, sea and air armaments. Of this, Europe is spending 60 per cent despite the fact that almost every nation over there shows an annual deficit in its budget. The United States spends another 20 per cent of the total and other nations the remainder.

"America, Britain and Japan have just concluded a three-power naval limitation agreement but this may turn out meaningless unless France and Italy can come to an understanding with regard to their fleets. Even if the London agreement holds, however, the surface of the world's arms' problem would still have been hardly scratched. The main difficulty is not with the fleets but with the armies and the air forces.

### STANDING ARMIES OF 1,700,000

The total naval personnel of all the five principal sea powers, number less than 380,000 men, whereas the standing armies of these same countries add up to about 1,700,000 men, not counting trained reserves.

"According to the records, France heads the list with a standing army totaling 607,000 soldiers. Russia is second, with 565,000; Italy is third, with 365,000, and Britain a close fourth with 345,000. Poland comes fifth, with 280,000 and Japan sixth, with 200,000. Spain and Roumania are, respectively, seventh and eighth, with the United States and Czecho-Slovakia practically tying for ninth place, with about 125,000 men.

"These figures however, give little idea of the real story. With the exception of America, Britain and Germany, all of the principal powers have colossal numbers of conscripts, trained reserves, so many that, as indicated above, all the nations combined could throw upward of 30,000,000 drilled soldiers into the field very soon after mobilization.

"As if the outlook were not black enough already, Director Mussolini had chosen this week to explode with another fighting speech predicting war. German Fascists continue to threaten the Treaty of Versailles and to restore Germany's pre-war frontiers. France is building the greatest chain of military defenses along her Eastern borders the world has ever seen and Russia is again plotting against the capitalist powers. Poland, Austria, Jugoslavia, Hungary and the rest are involved in the general unrest, and Britain is afraid for India, Egypt and her far flung interests."

Without this teaching of the Lord's Second Coming the world is as though it were lost in the wilderness of time and the people are as though they had a lapse of memory. You know when people are afflicted with that trouble they wander around for a few days and then recover but do not know where they are. Every now and then the world comes to think she is secure and then after a few years, through some calamity, she recovers from a lapse of memory and wonders where she is. Soon, however, we are told that everything is improving; then all at once there comes this moral upheaval of the youth, followed by a terrible period of moral debauch and sin and crime, and then the world depression, and once more we are awakened to the real facts of life and we wonder where we have been and what has happened. And all of this in the face of the plain teachings of Christ in Matt. 7:13, 14 where He says, "Wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

The doctrine of the Second Coming of Christ keeps us from losing our way, and misdirecting our efforts. Many preachers who will not believe in the Second Coming of Christ have lost the way and instead of preaching the Gospel they are giving book reviews and depending on moving picture shows to interest the people. Others have actually given up the ministry because they have been unable, without this doctrine, to harmonize the teaching of the Bible with their ideas of world betterment. The insurance business is filled with these ministers who have lost their way and many of the better trained among them are teaching in our institutions of higher learning, shamefully leading our college youth into the maize of skepticism. It is reported, and reliably so, I believe, that Charles Smith, the president of the A. A. A. A. (The American Association for the Advance of Atheism) is a backslidden student of theology who was preparing for the Methodist ministry.

Churches, and even whole denominations as such, have lost their way because they have failed to retain the Bible viewpoint of world conditions. Perhaps the Methodist Church is a very good example. That institution which was born in the flaming revivals of the Wesleys, is reported to have decided at her recent Eccumenical Council that she will spend much of her effort during the next few years in the cause of Prohibition. What will this church say to the Lord about the souls that have been lost while she misdirected her efforts to the cause of Temperance and neglected the cause for which Christ died?

But when the bishops of a denomination lose their way it can only be expected that the laity will follow. The increasing tendency in this direction is well expressed in Bishop McConnell's book, "The Christlike God" in which he writes: "Is not the tendency to deify Jesus more heathen than christian? Are we not more truly christian when we cut loose from a heathen propensity and take Jesus simply for the character he was and for the ideal that he is?" Belief in the Second Coming of Christ would have saved the bishop from losing his way in the darkness of unbelief.

Belief in the Second Coming of Christ establishes the authority of the Bible, and I preach the doctrine for that reason also. If we become accustomed to interpreting current events in the political, social, economic and religious life of the world, in the light of the prophecies regarding the second coming of Christ we will soon discover that the Bible speaks with positive author-

ity on all matters pertaining to life on this globe. But because many will not thus read the Bible a terrible result has occurred. Modernism has come.

When one, a minister for example, reads the Bible as it is and sees that certain events are predicted that indicate world decline, yet has preconceived ideas of world betterment in his mind, as the average preacher does, but finds in spite of his ideas that the world is actually growing worse—wars break out, pestilences rage, famine stalks the land and morals rapidly decline—then he has two alternatives before him. He can either become a Modernist and believe the Bible is wrong and his preconceived ideas right in spite of undeniable evidence; or he can follow the other alternative and accept the premillennial teaching and believe the Bible is right and his views concerning the world are wrong.

The experience of Dr. Cortland Meyer, former pastor of Tremont Temple, Boston, will illustrate this condition. For many years Dr. Meyer believed and preached that the world was growing better. But right in the midst of his complacent satisfaction the World War came. Mr. Meyer faced the fact squarely and examined his theology. After several months of the most careful study of the Word of God, comparing its prophecies with world events he concluded that the Bible was right and the foolish teachings concerning world betterment, all wrong. Why did he not see it before? He could not see it because his mind was made up. The situation makes me think of a minister who said, "If it were stated on every page of the Bible that there is a hell I would not believe a word of it." There are many people who would not believe that Jesus is coming again if it were written on every page, but would go on believing a lie in spite of volumes of undeniable evidence to the contrary. The Bible says that "evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived" (II Tim. 3:13). "In the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (I Tim. 4:1). "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold" (Matt. 24:12). How can one take the great galaxy of scriptural statements on this subject and make out that the world is growing better?

I quote here a very interesting statement from that famous preacher, Dr. A. T. Pierson, who like Dr. Meyer finally came to believe in the personal, visible, premillennial coming of Christ. He says, "For many years I was much in doubt

and difficulty as to certain obscure truths of the Word of God. I had, as I thought, a tolerably complete system of theology, but one which made very little account of the Lord's Second Coming, and as it is not easy to be satisfied with any method of interpretation that leaves out so prominent a feature of scriptural landscape I betook myself to study and prayer; with the result that a key was found that unlocked for me two-thirds of my Bible which had been before closed and sealed: that key was the coming of the Lord."

What the acceptance of this biblical doctrine did for Dr. Pierson, it will do for anyone who will accept it. It will enable him to harmonize the teaching of the Word of God with what he sees in the world about him. And that is a sure safeguard against Modernism. D. M. Panton, the world noted English writer says, "The second advent is the Master-key by which alone all modern problems are solved, and the only safe optimism established."

Another reason I believe and teach the doctrine of the Second Coming is because it gives us a sense of national security. If you have been reading about the negotiations and efforts in the direction of world peace, you have found that the great outstanding key-word of all the negotiations is "security". "This nation will be *secure* in view of these treaties," etc. Some have expressed the same thought by the word "confidence"—restoration of confidence. Well praise God! there will be security for the nations when the Lord comes and establishes a permanent, righteous government, and not before. Miss Christabel Pankhurst gave an address in London sometime ago and Lloyd George was there, acting as chairman of the meeting. At the close he said, "The Twentieth Century has seen the greatest war that has ever been, and still the world goes on preparing for greater destruction than before. There is a need for the Second Coming to put that right. The world has not yet heard the message that was heralded by the angels. I agree with what the speaker has said—that we might have covenants of the League of Nations, Geneva and Lacarno Pacts, Kellogg Agreements among the nations that war will be outlawed, but we have not reached peace until there is a complete change of heart among the nations, and we want it, not only in nations but in the individuals. I wish the message we have listened to tonight could be delivered to millions here—and in America—and on the Continent of Europe."

I preach the Second Coming of Christ because

this is the only real evangelism for the day in which we live. It is the only satisfactory message that the church can honestly and consistently give to the people in this ever changing and perplexing world. It is the only message that will answer all the vital questions regarding personal sin, eternal salvation, biblical authority and inspiration, prophecy, world conditions and the natural interest that all men have in the things related to the end of time.

And not only so, but this is the message that appeals universally to men and women when once it is clearly set before them and they grasp its great significance to their own lives and the world generally. People want a gospel that not only satisfies their heart cravings, but also disposes in a satisfactory way, the perplexing problems that are related to their natural life in a material world and that are forever staring them in the face and demanding an explanation. The gospel that includes the Second Coming of Christ meets all of these needs, and it is the only gospel that does.

As to the practical application of this gospel, and the satisfactory results which inevitably follow, Lord Shaftesbury, the renowned Christian statesman of England said, "I may speak a word as the result of my own experience, and I hold it out to all the clergy, if they will allow me to give them a word of exhortation—I give it not upon the stand-point of interpreting the Bible, but from the standpoint of having had much knowledge of the working people, from the best of them down to the lowest dregs of the population—I maintain that if you will go among the mass of the people in all their misery and filth and sin and hold out to them the great doctrine of the Second Coming, and enforce it by all the eloquence that you can command, and all the spirit that may be given you by the Holy Ghost, I have no doubt (I feel it from what I have seen and heard myself) that thousands of the people will receive the gracious and consolatory doctrine, and find in it the solace of their present misery, by living in the hope of an immediate and blessed hereafter. I saw it in the very depths of human misery. I saw it and heard it in the lowest receptacles of human sorrow, in Whitechapel, where were collected some three hundred of the most miserable of human beings. There they were addressed upon this very subject; and when I called upon them to sing the ever-stirring hymn with which we begin today, with the great chorus, in which they all joined—

(Continued on page 20)

# The Great Tribulation or The Coming Reign of Terror

Evangelist Albert J. Lebeck



**K**NOWING therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." Realizing the nearness and the terribleness of the Great Tribulation which shall come upon the earth, I have felt it my duty and responsibility to write this article in order that the readers of this paper who are not familiar with this subject, may be fully aware of this coming reign of terror; and that they may know and have the opportunity to avail themselves of the avenue of escape which God has provided (I Thess. 5:2-11).

I shall take for my text Matt. 24:21, "*Then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world, to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*" In studying the scriptures on the subject of The Great Tribulation we note that it shall be a period of great trouble lasting three and a half years (Dan. 9:24-27; Rev. 11:2-3). Although the Tribulation period shall be seven years in length, only the last half is referred to as the "GREAT" Tribulation. This period of trouble is to take place at the close of this age or dispensation (Matt. 24:3, 8, 21), and just before the beginning of the Millennial Age or the thousand years of peace (Rev. 20:1-6). We see by the text that this period of Great Tribulation shall be such as the world has never seen or ever shall see. We know that the world has seen some very trying times. People have suffered a great deal at the hands of their enemies; also from pestilences, famines, and wars which have swept over different parts of the earth at various times. Therefore if this Great Tribulation shall be worse than anything the world has ever witnessed then it will certainly be a time of terrible trouble. The question, no doubt, arises in your minds; "WHAT IS THE REASON OR CAUSE FOR SUCH A PERIOD OF TROUBLE?"

## SATAN AS A CAUSE

According to Revelation 12:9 Satan and his angels are to be cast out of heaven to this earth. Rev. 12:12 reads, "Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." Satan, realizing that he has only three and a half years left in which to carry on his work, after he is cast down

from heaven, will do all in his power to hinder the cause of Christ and will wreak as much evil as possible. At that time many will yield their lives into the hands of Satan and become possessed with his spirit as was Judas, thus becoming his emissaries and instruments to carry on his destructive work. No wonder the Bible says of that time, "WOE TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH."

## THE ANTICHRIST ANOTHER CAUSE

At that time there shall arise a great world ruler called the Antichrist or the Beast. He shall have tremendous power and shall reign and rule during the tribulation period (I. Thess. 2:9, Rev. 13:7). This *superman*, as some are prone to call him, will do great wonders and miracles which shall astonish the world and gain the favor and the confidence of the people (Rev. 13:3-5). After he has obtained a large following and shall have gained sufficient power, he will endeavor to compel everyone to worship his image and receive his mark (Rev. 13:14-18). Those refusing to do so will be considered and treated as obstinate and rebellious creatures, slackers and traitors to the cause; because the Antichrist and his followers can see no reason why all should not readily comply with these simple requirements. If they still remain obstinate, in spite of the severe pain and the excruciating torture that they have undergone, they shall be considered worthy of death by the most gruesome methods which could be devised by hellish inquisitors and tormentors, thus making them an example to others and revenging them for their unconquerable spirit. THE ANTICHRIST'S WAR AGAINST HIS ENEMIES AND AGAINST THE SAINTS (Rev. 13:7) WILL BE ONE OF THE CHIEF FACTORS IN MAKING THE TRIBULATION PERIOD SO TERRIBLE.

## PAST HISTORY ILLUSTRATES ANTICHRIST'S WORK

We might briefly review some of the things which the Christians have suffered at the hands of their enemies in the past centuries since the time of Christ. Then remembering our text, we will realize to some extent what the Christians will have to suffer at the hands of the Antichrist.

## ROMAN PERSECUTION

In Foxe's Book of Martyrs we read how the Christians were persecuted and tortured at the hands of the Roman Emperors, for the purpose of forcing them to give up their faith in Christ:

they were sent into slavery, cast into dungeons to perish, used for sports in the arena, fed to wild animals, thrown to wild bulls to be gored to death, crucified, burnt at the stake, buried alive, etc.

#### INQUISITION OF THE MIDDLE AGES

A few centuries after the fall of the Roman Empire the Christians were again cruelly treated by the Inquisitors. They were thrown into dungeons, suffered starvation, were bruised, stretched on racks until their limbs were pulled out of joint, hanged by their feet, hanged by their hands with heavy weights attached to the feet, weights placed on their bodies until their lives were pressed out, their flesh pinched with pinchers, bones broken, tongues cut out, eyes plucked from their sockets, feet placed in stocks and then roasted, thrown into boiling oil, burnt at the stake, roasted over fire, fried on hot iron plates, covered with honey then placed in iron baskets and hung up outside where the insects could get at them and torture them to death, strangled, hanged, drowned, skinned alive, thrown in limekilns, pulled apart with teams of horses attached to each member of the body and many other atrocious tortures were applied.

#### RUSSIAN MARTYRS

The Christians not only suffered throughout the Middle Ages, but even in these last days in the land of Russia we find many suffering for their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Space is lacking to relate more than two incidents which took place in that land. A Bishop relates that the Bolsheviks took a Priest and drove wooden pegs through his hands and feet to mock the Crucifixion of Christ, then poured hot lead into his mouth, thus ridiculing the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Not satisfied, they completed their devilish deeds by throwing him into a tank filled with boiling water. According to a news dispatch, on another occasion one hundred religious prisoners were taken out of the Soloveytsky Prison on a cold February day and commanded to dig their own graves. When they had finished their difficult task, their arms and legs were chopped off, and in that awful condition, while screams of unspeakable agony filled the air, they were thrown into the graves to suffer, bleed and die. Thousands have suffered untold agonies, been imprisoned, tortured and martyred in that land in the last ten or fifteen years, of which God alone knows the suffering.

#### SCIENCE INTENSIFIES TORTURE

Other reasons why the Great Tribulation will be such a reign of terror are the inventions of

modern warfare, the powerful chemicals, and the physicians' knowledge of every nerve, vital and delicate place in the human body. With these tormentors who will be inspired and possessed by the devil himself, having this knowledge and material at their disposal, ruling in a time when all restraint of the Holy Spirit is lifted, we exclaim, "GOD PITY THEIR VICTIMS!"

#### GOD'S JUDGMENTS ANOTHER CAUSE

Now those who yield to the will of the Antichrist to escape his wrath, shall not escape the wrath of God. In Rev. 14:9-12 God warns all mankind against taking the mark of the Beast. The Bible prophesies that God shall revenge the blood of those who have been tortured and martyred for His Name's sake and shall pour forth His judgments against the Antichrist and all his ungodly followers and punish them for their evil deeds (Rev. 6:10; 16:5-6). Not only will the Antichrist and those who receive his mark suffer for their misdeeds during the Tribulation period, but they shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, after the Great White Throne Judgment, where they must remain throughout the endless ages of eternity (Rev. 19:20). For this reason the faithful will refuse to yield to the Antichrist. They would rather suffer for a season here than to be cast into outer darkness to suffer forever.

#### CALAMITIES

In the Book of Revelation we have a horrible picture painted by the Apostle John, describing what shall befall the inhabitants of the earth during the Tribulation. God will have endured all the iniquity possible and so will pour out His wrath upon the ungodly and Christ-rejecting people on the earth for all their sins and wickedness. He shall send and permit the earth to be swept with calamities which shall make those of the past seem nothing in comparison. There shall be terrible famines as indicated in chapter 6:5. We read in 16:2, "There fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men, which had the mark of the beast, and upon them that worshiped his image." In chapter 9:3-6 we read of the terrible plague of scorpions that shall visit the earth and torment these same people. We also note that there shall be great disturbances in the skies, exceeding great hail storms, stars falling to the earth and the sun and moon undergoing tremendous changes. There shall be earthquakes, "such as was not since men were upon the earth," causing mountains and islands to move out of their places and even to disappear (Rev. 6:14; 16:18-21). Water will be lacking and many shall die of thirst. Men shall gnaw their tongues for pain

(16:10) and many shall perish. In 9:15 we read where one third of the people are killed. There are also several other scriptures indicating large numbers of people being destroyed (Rev. 16:3; 6:8; 8:9-11). "For in those days shall be affliction such as was not since the beginning of creation" (Mark 13:19). No wonder Luke writes in Chapter 21:26 that men's hearts shall fail them for fear of those things which shall come upon the earth.

To be faithful to the Lord during this period and to refuse to take the Mark of the Beast and bow to his image will result in horrible persecution, suffering, and even martyrdom at the hands of the Antichrist and his followers. On the other hand they who take the Mark of the Beast, etc.; will receive the Judgments of God throughout the Great Tribulation and must spend eternity in the Lake of Fire. ON WHICHEVER SIDE YOU MAY BE, YOU WILL BE IN GREAT DISTRESS. No wonder it shall be a "GREAT" tribulation.

#### TRIBULATION NEAR AT HAND

Many, no doubt, will admit that this coming Great Tribulation period will be a terrible time of trouble, but yet they do not believe that they will ever see it in their life time. Jesus said after He had given His discourse on His second coming, "Watch ye therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour where-in the Son of man cometh." Jesus is here referring to His Second Advent. Knowing that the Great Tribulation is to take place soon after Jesus has come for His own, we are made to realize that the Tribulation will also be in such an hour as ye think not. When we note how rapidly prophecy is being fulfilled in these last days and see the present spiritual and moral decline, the apostasy, the increase in crime, false religions, atheism, present-day merging, etc., one cannot help but see that this time of terror is near at hand. Realizing that many of the signs of His coming are fulfilled and that He shall soon appear we can readily perceive that the Tribulation Period is not far hence.

#### OUR ONLY ESCAPE

Though the future may look very discouraging, thank the Lord WE HAVE AN AVENUE OF ESCAPE PROVIDED BY OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST. As Lot was taken out of Sodom before the city was destroyed, so shall we be taken out of this world before the great and terrible period breaks forth in all its fury (Matt. 24:37,42). Those who are worthy when He appears shall be translated as were Enoch and Elijah (I Thess 4:13-18); and as Philip, when

he finished his dealings with the Eunuch in the desert, found himself in Azotus (Acts 8:39, 40), so shall we find ourselves in that glorious place that Jesus has prepared for us (John 14:2, 3). While we are partaking of our greatest joy, the world will be partaking of its deepest sorrow.

In order to be among that blessed number which shall be caught up, we need to repent of our sins, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, love Him with all our hearts, have a born-again experience, and live holy and consistent Christian lives. Let us be sure to walk in the light that is revealed unto us, live pleasing in His sight and keep filled with the Spirit. He that overcometh shall be worthy to be among that number.

To miss this coming Tribulation we must meet the qualifications that the Lord requires of us for translation. Failure to do so will mean that we will be severely persecuted because of our faith in Christ. If we then fail the Lord and yield to the Antichrist we shall suffer the wrath of God during the tribulation and throughout eternity. If we cannot be faithful to Christ and overcome now, when we have so little opposition, how can we overcome the severe opposition of the Antichrist? Therefore realizing how terrible it would be to be left behind at the coming of the Lord, let us be determined by the help of God to BE PREPARED FOR HIS COMING (Read Luke 21:34-36).

#### Book Review

##### WHY SCIENCE CAN NEVER DESTROY THE BIBLE,

The casual reader does not care to delve into this subject exhaustively but this booklet of 32 pages interestingly sets forth instances where Science agrees with the Bible. Proof is given through the findings of Archeology of the Flood, Joshua's long day, Jonah swallowed by a whale, and other important and interesting discoveries. The closing chapter gives an irrefutable argument why science can never destroy the Bible, and is a fitting climax to the booklet.

##### THE HISTORICITY OF JESUS

##### OF EVIDENCE OF HIS EARLY LIFE FROM HISTORICAL FACTS

This book of 39 pages was compiled by the author because of the growing tendency to deny not only the atonement but also the very fact that Jesus Christ lived. It is very informative and will give the Christian reader a fund of knowledge which would require many hours of research work to otherwise obtain.

The statements are given from Roman and Greek historians, Josephus and other Jewish writers, the mute witness of the catacombs, later historians, men of note and current encyclopedias.

These two booklets by Pastor B. E. Williams are 25c each, 3 for 60c 6 for \$1.

## In the Hands of the Divine Surgeon



MAN with a priceless soul—a pressing physical need—a humble street meeting and a simple testimony. . . . This the patient, these the instruments, and the remedy used by the Divine Surgeon of soul and body.

Chemists tell us that up to date about 258,000 organic compounds have been discovered which are beneficial for healing purposes and that an average of 20 more are being discovered daily. One great medicine cabinet is this world and yet, with all its vast resources, earth's remedies oftentimes fail. But the prescriptions and remedies issued from heaven's pharmacy never fail, for there, the Divine Specialist never lacks wisdom nor perfect judgment in administering the proper remedy from out His endless store. And how often He makes use of the instrument of affliction to bring about a double cure.

It was in 1910 that a young man, possessed with an all-absorbing desire to make money in this land of opportunity, emigrated from foreign shores. His air-castles were all built for he hoped to return in a few years with his fortune made, then to own his own vineyards in Hungary, for it was through this source that the greatest profits were realized in his homeland. But somehow, after a few short months, he became aware that another desire had slipped into his heart, a great hunger for God, and with the passing of the days and the months that hunger grew until it all but crowded out his first ambition, that of making money. Often, after working hours he would slip into some corner of the Catholic church—for he was of that faith—there to pour out his heart to God. Did God hear? Did God care? Ah yes, even then a prescription for soul hunger was being filled up in heaven's pharmacy.

But the need of this man was not only spiritual—long had this patient sought a cure for his physical suffering caused by rheumatism, appendicitis and inherited heart trouble as well as acute stomach trouble. Over in Europe he had experimented with some of those remedies which earth's medicine chest offered him, such as mud baths, electric and other treatments, tablets and medicines of all kinds, but his suffering only increased and now he was really in a desperate state. If he ate any meat he suffered excruciating pain and after each meal he was forced to take medicinal

tablets to give at least partial relief. Perchance even then, the Divine Surgeon was preparing His surgical instruments in order to work the double cure.

It was one Sunday morning, while this young man was out for a stroll, that he heard the strains of some sacred hymn which drew him near a little open air service conducted by some German Pentecostal people. Their claims as asserted in their testimonies were all new to him but he listened eagerly and it was here that he learned for the first time of Jesus the Healer Divine. As he heard one of the ladies testify to her own healing he first questioned, then half believed, then was fully persuaded that here was something he needed, something for which his heart longed. How skilfully the prescription was being administered by One who, though unseen, was personally attending His patient.

So tenderly and so wisely did He work that He verily guided the footsteps of some of His under-attendants, for on the following week a few of the members of that very group who had testified on the street, chanced to call at his home while canvassing the neighborhood with tracts, and there a further invitation was extended to him to attend their meetings. Rapid progress towards a complete cure was thereafter made; the patient's great physical need drove him to inquire further into this "new thing" which had so miraculously fallen across his path, and it was just a few nights later that he made his way to the mission. To his great surprise it was only a store building. How different it all was from his own church with its beautiful appointments and rigid ceremonies! But his astonishment knew no bounds, when in the course of the service, a member of the congregation suddenly arose and gave a message in tongues, under the anointing of the Spirit. Much of it was in the Slavic language which our young brother understood and the message cut him to the very core. A most extraordinary surgical instrument was this. Too extreme for one so new in the way. So we might have thought; but in His hands, the instrument, though sharp, proved successful.

He was convinced that these people had just exactly what he needed to satisfy that intense hunger of his soul and as happy as a child with a new toy, he hurried home and said to his wife,

"Now I have found some people who are really holy and I know God is with them." Though she was not at all convinced that did not hinder his progress and from then on he became a regular attendant of the humble mission. Every time an altar call was given he made his way to the front and after a struggle of several nights, he finally came through into a glorious salvation. Then followed a severe battle. He had loved the world with all its amusements and pleasures but God graciously worked in his heart and life till they lost their attraction and soon even the desire for them dropped off.

Now while the most important healing, that of the soul, had been attained, he was still in deep need of a physical touch. Would the Great Physician fail him in this? It was a severe test but heaven's Pharmacist knew well that there was needed yet another one of those bitter herbs before complete victory could be his. By nature this man was very autocratic, especially in his home. He was also very proud and perhaps the last thing he ever imagined himself doing was to ask forgiveness of anyone and last of all, of his wife. But God knew just how to mellow him, how to operate on him so that even this hindrance might be removed, that in turn victory might be gained over the greater disease. His Divine Diagnost helped him to see his wretched state and one day he took the bitter herbs, confessed to his wife these unlovely qualities and humbly asked her to forgive him. Peace such as he had never known before, flooded his soul and when he again attended the mission, he went to the altar for prayer and that night God miraculously healed his body. The vicarious suffering of Christ was made so real to him that he saw

the Savior again on the Cross and heard His voice audibly saying, "It is finished!" Then, like an electric current, His power flashed through the wires of his mortal body and from that time on Pastor Peter Jegl never had a recurrence of any of his former troubles.

Wonderful, Divine Surgeon this! How skillful His operations! The never-failing Great Physician He! With what success He administers the remedies compounded in heaven's pharmacy!

Step by step he followed on to know more of God and the one thing that characterized those months of spiritual growth was his great hunger for the Word of God. As a Catholic he had never read the Bible and now that he had begun to feast on this heavenly diet it seemed he could not get enough of it. So intense was his craving that he often read the Word while walking along the street and the Spirit of God sometimes made certain passages stand out in bold relief. Then about three months later he received the baptism of the Holy Spirit in the same mission where he had been saved. With this experience came a strong desire to recommend his Physician to others who needed this all-inclusive Gospel and at once he began to search for ways and means by which he could direct men and women to heaven's pharmacy; he longed to be one of those attendants, under the supervision of his Divine Surgeon. But as yet he was only an intern and needed training under the guidance of the Great Specialist.

R. M.

(The story of how God used Pastor Jegl, now in charge of a German Pentecostal Assembly in this city, in the healing of the sick, will be given in the November issue.)

## Prohibition or the Saloon

Mrs. Trena M. Slagle, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.



DEAR readers, go back with me to 1898, where I live in Plattsburg, New York. We are going out to do a little mission work. Every little while we meet a man staggering from one side of the walk to the other, intoxicated. Now we are passing one lying in the gutter, his clothes besmirched with mud, tobacco juice and vomit. He took a few drinks too many. Where is the police? Why do they not run him in? You have forgotten we are in 1898. No one is run in for the mere act of getting drunk, We would have to make every other home a jail to hold them. Some-

times much of their clothing is removed.

In winter we often hear of those living in the country being found by the roadside frozen to death. All these things are so common when saloons are running it seldom excites a comment. We are now passing a saloon. Two beautiful, well-dressed boys are at play on the walk in front. The proprietor steps to the door saying, "Boys, wouldn't you like a glass of nice cold lemonade?" Of course boys would go scampering in for it on a warm summer day. After the boys were gone one standing by said, "How can you afford that? What is your motive?" "Well,"

he replied, "they are sons of the two most wealthy men in town. I put a few drops of intoxicants in the glass, increasing it gradually in strength, and when the appetite is well-formed they will call for it themselves. Then it will not be long until those grand estates will be mine." Can men be so fiendish? Certainly. This is the common product of the saloon. There must be boys and more boys, girls and more girls, money and more money, to keep the saloons running.

Here are some homes where we must call to see if there is anything we can do to help, but there are so very many of these homes that what little we can do does not seem to help much. We enter: Little barefoot children clothed in rags are crying for bread; one room the extent of their home. The furniture, one old, broken stove, a broken chair, an old rickety table on which was a little sack of flour, a semblance of a bed and a pile of old rags in a corner which constitutes the children's bed at night. What is the matter? Father out of work? Oh no, but his wages go to keep the saloons running.

There is death in this home. The cause? Drink himself to death. Ah yes, death stalks about where saloons are running. He was found lying out in the snow, frozen to death. Dilirium tremens! Drink burned out his stomach, could not digest his food. Heart failure caused from drink. Killed in a drunken brawl, in a saloon. There are hundreds of more reasons and hundreds of other calamities, all originating in the saloon.

We have a call to come over into Vermont state and start mission work. We cross the lake and are in a prohibition state. Does prohibition prohibit? After being here for some months and doing mission work in two cities that are border towns where intoxicants of all kinds can be had by just crossing Lake Champlain, (there is of course some bootlegging going on, but not so much as officers are true to their trust) we exclaim, "Oh, what a change!" We have not seen one man staggering about the streets or one lying in the gutter. We have seen no ragged children, barefooted in the snow; nor have we seen them scamper to their hiding places when seeing father coming, or any crippled for life by the fiendish hand of a drunken father; all of which could be seen in "wet" states. Here we see working-men's wives living in their own homes, smiles wreathing their happy faces, children well-clad, going to school, running to meet papa as he comes home. Peace, plenty and happiness abounding.

From here we go to California—wet. Again we meet drunkenness, poverty, sin and woe. Little tots, ragged, barefooted, hardly large enough to carry a half gallon bucket, going into saloons to get beer for a drunken father lying in some old, tumbledown shack, an old, rat-ridden basement, or one room in an old, shabby tenement house they call home; the wife and mother away working to try to keep their souls and bodies together, but if perchance he sees her come with a few hard-earned dimes, he forces them from her and spends them for drink.

Again, we find ourselves in Nebraska, in not so very large a town but several saloons open. In this small town we can better note the farmers as they come to town bringing scant produce, (for when saloons are in vogue farming is neglected) from rented farms, and as soon as they receive the money for it straight to the saloons they go. Later one may find them gathered about the village square, some lying in their wagons, already too intoxicated to sit up, others drinking, swearing, telling vile stories; and when at last they start for home, not one pound of flour or groceries do they bring; not a pair of shoes nor a yard of cloth—only a jug. Reaching home, far too intoxicated to care for their teams they stagger through the gate which is hanging on one hinge, up the broken remnant of a walk, through the sagging door into the room made dark by so many bundles of rags used for window glass, and begin to curse all about them because there is not a better supper. The family are glad at last to hear the drunken snore, knowing it will be quiet until morning.

Have I overdrawn the picture? Ask any relief person who lived in the days of the saloon. I was in many cities and towns in California, as well as other states of the Union, as evangelist and city missionary and always the same old story of poverty, suffering, sorrow and anguish, so great the most eloquent orator, the most gifted penman, the most skillful artist could not picture as much as a shadow of the awfulness of it. Young women marry handsome young men who, through some influence take their first glass, and in a few years they would hardly be recognized in the bloated, bear-eyed wrecks they have become through the saloons.

A few years pass. We are back again in the little town in Nebraska. No saloons. Well-dressed farmers bringing droves of fat cattle to market with loads of corn and other farm produce, from their *own* farms, receive their money,

(Continued on page 23)

## Is Pentecostalism a Fraud?

Are There Charges Against God and the Apostles?

Richard Carmichael in the Stone Church, June 12, 1932.



AS a Pentecostal Movement have had some very severe accusations placed at our door, but I believe these accusations have been uncalled for. It is true that some things have been done in the name of Pentecost that are lamentable, which ministers have laid at our door, but if they will take time to search they will learn that this glorious Pentecostal Movement is not to blame for the accusations that have been made against it.

How well I recall when the Pentecostal people came our way and the message fell on these Baptist ears of mine! When the news reached me that people were being baptized in the Holy Spirit I said, "Now I must search and find out the truth of this thing." Immediately my brother and I sent to Denver, Colo., for a little book called "Demons of Tongues" by Mrs. A. White, Head of the Pillar of Fire Movement, and what she didn't say! The more we read the book the more we saw the ridiculousness of the argument, and by the time we were through we said, "We want the baptism of the Holy Ghost as on the day of Pentecost." Strangely enough last year while stopping in a home in Sioux Falls, the lady of the house said to me, "When I came into Pentecost I sent off to New Jersey and got a book called, 'Demons of Tongues.' It was an awful book." I said, "I know all about that book, and when I got through reading it, it went into the fire and I got busy seeking the Baptism of the Holy Spirit." She said she did the same thing.

Now, Is Pentecostalism a Fraud? Is it something that Satan has hatched out of hell, as some of our good people would tell us? I was attending a camp meeting at one time, and an elderly woman came up to me and said, "I want to speak to you privately." She took me aside and said, "I am from Denver, Colo. My husband and I have been missionaries for years and years. Now we are too old. You look like an intelligent man, a college man. How did you come into Pentecost?" Of course, it was a very easy matter for me to explain. I told her that I was in the Baptist church, had a very definite case of conversion, and lived a consistent Christian life.

When Pentecost came our way there was something in the services that gripped my heart. The first meeting I attended there were only three in the auditorium, and I sat on the back seat. The speaker spoke as if the place were crowded. The second night I sat half way up, and the third night I was on the platform. I told this woman that I was drawn into this fellowship. I wasn't there because my father and mother were members, or because it had been ground into us in a seminary, but because the Spirit of God wooed us to Himself. Others might call it a fraud, but I was on the inside; and not only that, it was on the inside of me, and I was fully convinced that it was divine.

About twenty-five years ago, Billy Sunday said, "Those Pentecostal people know how to pray." You can go a long way before you will find a group of people who know how to pray as do the Pentecostal people. The Reverend Philpott said, "The most spiritual people get into it." Whether he meant that for good or evil, I do not know. A leading church official said of us, "They are taking the cream of our people." Bud Robinson said in his characteristic way, "They say it is of the devil, but it is drawing the best people. When I preach, line these people up in front of me. They are an inspiration to me." Of course this doesn't prove the movement is of God because they say we have the best people. They may turn around and say just the opposite, but the mere fact that a transformation takes place in the life of the individual is proof to me that the Movement is of God.

An old brother once arose in one of our meetings and said, "When I got saved I felt surely God had given me everything He had, and I built my little Baptist house and put a roof over it. Then I came up against the Holiness people who taught entire sanctification, and I had to put on another story, but I was very careful that the roof was put back on. I was sure then that I had all the truth. Then the Pentecostal people came by and I had to tear off the roof and build another story. Now, thank God, I have left off the roof so if any more light comes my way I will walk in it."

I recall how after receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit I attended the Baptist Church as

there was no Pentecostal work in our city. My brother was an officer in the Young People's Meeting, and I also had an office in the same work. So we decided to bring this Pentecostal message to the Baptist Church. That was a great work for two boys, but when the Holy Spirit leads you you feel you can do almost anything, so we started by having fifteen minutes of prayer. Do you know that that young people's prayer meeting in the basement took on such proportions we were soon filling the entire basement! This service was better attended than the regular evening service. People gathered there from other denominations and delegations from other Baptist churches came to see how we got our people to pray. We were not having suppers or entertainments, we were having fifteen minutes of prayer, but oh the mighty power of God! A good, Pentecostal woman came along from Texas and went with us to the meeting. One night while she was praying in her Pentecostal way, gripping the horns of the altar, she burst forth speaking in tongues. That was like a bomb-shell. The preacher came and said, "You young folks cannot have anymore meetings in the basement." We knew the reason, and felt it was our time to move. We moved out and the young people's work started to dwindle, because God's Spirit had been put out.

Now if Pentecostalism is a fraud, there are several charges that must be laid against God and the apostles. First of all God is responsible for telling a lie. You say, "How terrible!" But that is the conclusion we reach if you say it is a fraud. I will take you to Joel. Didn't God say He would pour out His Spirit on all flesh? And isn't that the very thing He is doing? And it is the very thing people are saying is wrong with the Pentecostal work. Joel 2:28, 29, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit." Where will you find that passage of scripture enacted? God said, "Upon all flesh" and all over the world today the various nationalities are receiving the outpoured Spirit, the infilling of the Holy Ghost, and it is for all who will receive it. Did God tell an untruth when He said, "I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh"? No, thank God, it is a glorious reality. In these last days God has so honored man that He is pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh. Someone has said that

while the big preachers were at the front arguing about the Scriptures and advancing their preconceived opinions, God slipped around to the back-door of the church and put His Spirit upon the sons and the daughters, upon the servants and the handmaids.

If Pentecostalism is a fraud there is a charge that we must lay against John the Baptist. Turn to Matt. 3:11, where he says, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me. . . shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire." John was a great prophet and he says here that the time would come when Jesus would baptize His people with the Holy Ghost and fire.

You will notice there is a beautiful simile between water baptism and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. In water baptism you give yourself over to the one who has to do the baptizing, and if you will properly trust yourself to him all will go smoothly, but if you resist and struggle it causes quite a scene. I remember one time of having a sister to baptize who weighed 300 lbs. and I felt it might help matters a little if I gave her some instructions, so I said, "If you will yield yourself and let me do the baptizing, it will facilitate matters greatly," and she did, making the task as easy as if I were baptizing a little child. You who are seeking the baptism of the Holy Ghost, do not try to baptize yourselves. That is what creates trouble and hinders God in the tarrying room. If you let the Lord immerse you in His Holy Spirit the result will be wonderful. John the Baptist was a true prophet, and on the Day of Pentecost his prophecy was fulfilled.

There is another charge: If Pentecostalism is a fraud then Jesus made a mistake. Turn to Luke 24:49, "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Those are the words of Jesus. Did He make a mistake when He said that if they tarried they would be filled? No, He told the truth and they were gloriously filled when they obeyed the command to tarry.

Then, I want you to notice, if Pentecostalism is a fraud, there is a charge which must be laid at the feet of the Apostle Peter. In Acts 2:38 and 39, Peter said, "Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall

call." Was Peter speaking under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit? or was he drunk as the Jews said? I declare to you that he had a good, sound mind when he gave that command.

If Pentecostalism is a fraud there is another charge, which could be laid at the feet of Paul; he would have been a demon-possessed man. Those are hard words to speak about an apostle, yet there are some who say that of us. In I Cor. 14:18 Paul says, "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all." Thank God that we can be classed with such wonderful people as Peter, and Paul, and James and John, and all the saints who lived in New Testament times. Why do men make such allegations against this Movement? A Movement that will cause the people to exalt the blood of Jesus Christ, a Movement that puts evangelism in the forefront, that prompts us to sacrifice everything in order to carry the Gospel message to all the world? How can anyone lay a charge of fraud at the doors of the Pentecostal people when they deprive themselves of comforts to send missionaries to heathen lands?

The reason people say hard things about us is because they do not know the truth. While in a certain city holding meetings I decided to go out and find out how much people knew about the Holy Spirit. I thought I would visit the mayor, and I said, "How much do you know about the Holy Ghost?" He said, "Well, of course, we teach it in our church, but we do not know much about it." I saw he was very ignorant on the subject. Then I went down to see the hardware man and various others in that city, and it was appalling the ignorance these men showed on the subject, yet everyone of them were members of some church. The question "What do you want to hear preached about?" was asked over the radio sometime ago. And the greatest number of replies were: "We want to hear more about the Holy Ghost." They wanted to know more of the Spirit of God who creates such a glorious atmosphere in a meeting and so changes our lives. The greatest power for good today is the power of the Holy Ghost.

It was New Year's Eve and we were looking forward to a blessed time at the watch-night service. Before it started a young man came to me who had brought a company of people from a neighboring city. He said, "I trust everything will go off all right tonight because we have some friends with us who have never been in a Pentecostal meeting before." I said I was sure

that whatever God did would be all right. Then a young lady of our church came and said, "I have a young lady with me tonight who is the private secretary of the Baptist minister. I trust everything will go off all right because they have been saying some things about us."

We sang a song or two and then we lifted our hands and praised the Lord, and the power of God struck like a thunderbolt. The brother who played the saxophone was prostrated and others were laughing and having a glorious time. We had no preaching that night but the power of God worked throughout the entire service; we spent the time glorifying the Lord. The brother came to me after the meeting and said, "I am discouraged. I wanted to have a good meeting. I wonder what those people will say." The sister came up and said, "I did so want to have a good meeting, but it is all right with me. I believe God has done it." The young man's friends from another city said, "This is the very thing we have been looking for all these years. We do not have it in our church." They both received the Holy Spirit in a short time and are now in the Pentecostal Movement. We were anxious to hear from the young secretary. Going home she said, "Wasn't that a wonderful meeting! I never dreamed people could get so close to God. I shall ask our pastor why we cannot have such meetings in our church. We are drying up for just such refreshings as that." All the preachers that have come into the Pentecostal Movement were born in the fire. You never could get one of these denominational preachers to turn if all you could give them was what they had in their own church. But if you show them there is something better you have accomplished something. That is why our Pentecostal message gets into the different towns. There is absolutely no competition. We have a distinctive testimony.

One of our young boys came back from Bible School and we got him a place to hold meetings and asked him, "What are you going to preach on?" He said, "I have it all outlined. The first week I will preach on Salvation only. The second week on the Tribulation and the Coming of the Lord; the third week I will preach on Healing and the fourth week on the Baptism of the Holy Ghost." We said, "You had better turn that around and tell them about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost first. You will have folks that are dry and thirsty and if you tell them about the Holy Spirit they will say, 'This is something

*(Continued on page 17)*

## The Secret of Living in Victory

S. R. Fostekew in the Stone Church, May 24, 1932



THE Scripture portion we want to read tonight is found in Psalm 44:1-8 and I wish to call your special attention to verses 3 and 8, "For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them. In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name forever." Beloved I believe the secret of victory in our lives is found in our boasting in God and offering the sacrifice of praise unto Him continually. Then in connection with the above scripture let us notice a verse in II. Cor. 2:15, "Now thanks be unto God which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place." Also II. Cor. 10:4, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty to the pulling down of strongholds."

While looking to the Lord for a message for this service He brought to my heart this need of victory in the lives of God's children, so essential for everyone of us. Nowhere in the Word of God do we find any admonition or injunction to put our hope of victory in the arm of flesh, whether it be spiritual, physical or temporal. On the other hand, we are assured that as we place ourselves implicitly in the hands of God and yield ourselves fully to Him, we shall be able to live a victorious life. How many people in our day and age are endeavoring to find the will of God through dreams, visions or some message in tongues when God has distinctly told us that if we would present ourselves a living sacrifice, wholly and acceptable unto God we should then know His perfect and divine will! A dream, a vision or a message in tongues may indicate God's will but the safe standard of guidance for your life and mine is found in this Word of God.

As we trace the lives of men and women throughout the Word we find that leaning on the arm of flesh always resulted in failure. The very first instance was Cain who placed his hope of victory in the offering of his works, with the result that Cain became a fugitive in the earth, a vagabond and a murderer. We read a little further in the Word and find that the people of

the earth wanted to make for themselves a name. They said, "We will build a tower and ascend into heaven," and because they placed their confidence in the work of their own hands, judgment fell upon them; there was confusion of tongues and the people were scattered throughout the face of the earth.

Abraham, the father of the faithful, that great man of God from whom we can learn many lessons, once leaned upon the arm of flesh, God had promised him a son, but Abraham could not understand how it could come to pass so he leaned to his own understanding and endeavored to help God out. The result was that Ishmael was born, who was a thorn in his flesh the rest of his days. If you want God's promises fulfilled in your life do not run ahead and try to help Him out but wait until He sees fit to give that which He has promised; otherwise you may get an Ishmael, a thorn in your side for the rest of your life.

We could go farther in the Word and find how Israel turned their backs upon God and trusted in their own strength. They refused to enter the promised land at God's command and perished in the wilderness. When the Messiah came, because they trusted to their own understanding, they rejected the Son of God with the result that to this day the Jewish race is suffering. They are banished to the ends of the earth and have been cursed by every nation. They have been persecuted, scoffed at and scorned. Today we are finding the same condition in the church of Jesus Christ for she too is trusting in the arm of flesh, leaning on human endeavor and natural attainments, and tonight she is headed straight for God's judgment. And if you and I put our trust in the arm of flesh we too shall be headed for judgment.

Having seen in God's Word pictures of those who leaned on the arm of flesh let us look into its pages for those who leaned upon the arm of the Lord. When Noah built the ark he did that which was foolishness in the eyes of the world, which would cause the people to laugh and scoff at him. Prior to this there had been no rain and the very thought of a flood was utter foolishness to the people round about but he obeyed God, with the result that he saved himself and his household. His life speaks to this very day for

righteousness—because he leaned on the arm of the Lord and put his faith in Him. Look at Israel under Joshua! As they came to the city of Jericho they leaned on the arm of God, doing that which seemed utterly foolish. The result was that the walls of Jericho fell down and victory was theirs without one casualty among all the hosts of Israel. What an example of leaning upon the arm of God!

We come down into the New Testament where we see the apostles, Peter and John yonder in prison. They prayed and an angel came and set them free. Then they went forth and preached in the temple. We read of Paul, stoned, shipwrecked, imprisoned, beaten, scourged, driven out of the city. As he stood true and leaned on the arm of God, the Lord said to him, "You have been faithful in your testimony to Me in Jerusalem, you shall witness in Rome also," and although it meant death he went to Rome to testify. The very last thing Paul was able to write was that he had leaned upon the arm of God, had fought a good fight and had run the race and was now going to join his Master.

The cry of every heart, preacher and layman alike, should be to live up to the standard of victory which God sets forth in His Word; if we are to have that, it will mean a pulling down of the strongholds; it will mean a treading down of the enemies of our souls, which will cause us to triumph in Christ Jesus.

Now what are we to do if we are to have this victory? First of all we must always hold Christ before us as our salvation and our strength; it is not sufficient that you and I accept Jesus once, but that we keep the vision of Jesus Christ before us night and day. David says in Psalm 16:8, "I have set the Lord always before me," and because He was at his right hand he was able to look up with faith and confidence and say, "I shall not be moved." If we keep the vision of Christ before us, round about us will be the Lord of hosts and all His invisible forces and His glory will be in our midst. Then He will become our strength, our joy, our peace and our victory.

Now there is a second thing that is important if we are to have the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ. As we keep Christ ever before us, our eyes will be cleansed from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit. In Eccl. 9:8 we read, "Let thy garments be always white." God is preparing a bride for His Son and that bride is to be without spot or wrinkle; she is to be holy and without

blemish. That is a tremendously high standard but God has made a way whereby we can attain to this standard of purity. How we should praise God for Jesus for in Him can we be made white! As we dwell in Him we will cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit. Many of us are very careful about cleansing ourselves from outward filth but are rather lax in the cleansing of our spiritual natures. Everything that is unlike Jesus, contrary to His divine nature, should be cleansed out of our lives. We can do this only as the searchlight of God is placed upon our hearts, and as we cleanse ourselves by His power and His grace, then are we "perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord."

We can never know victory, we can never know triumph unless we are obedient to the command of Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself attributed the victory in His life to His obedience to the commands of the Father and when you and I as professors of the Lord Jesus Christ, will cease to be hearers only of God's Word and become doers, there will be greater victory in our lives. God demands that His people shall keep His commandments. And remember, obedience is better than sacrifice. As we become doers of the Word, as we measure up to that Word, God will lead us into higher heights and deeper depths and He will cause us to know the length and breadth of His love, His grace, and His mercy, and He will cause the song of victory to well up in our hearts. May God help us as His children, in these last days to become doers of the Word, obedient to the commands of Jesus Christ.

Then we read that He says, "Be ye holy as I am holy," which holiness will be manifested only in the character of the obedient child of God. There is nothing of the flesh that craves holiness and it is only as we become obedient to the commands of Christ and as we walk in Him that we shall have this worked out in us. God says, "Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself even as He is pure," and so if we believe in the coming of Jesus, we must purify ourselves and become holy even as He is holy. In this connection we remember that picture of the high priest, given to us in the Old Testament. The duty of the high priest was to go into the presence of God and there before the mercy seat make intercession for his people. We read that after the high priest had been robed and had put upon him the ephod and the breast plate with the Urim and the Thummim, there was placed upon his forehead the mitre

with a little plate upon which were written the words, "Holiness unto the Lord." He did not dare to go into the presence of God without this plate and I believe that it is not possible for you or me to come into His presence or be the intercessor that we ought to be unless, first of all, we have "*holiness unto the Lord*" marked and stamped upon our lives, for we read, "Without holiness no man shall see God." While preaching some time ago on the Second Coming of Christ that scripture came to me and I realized as never before that without holiness we should never be partakers of the rapture. We speak continually about the Lord's coming and how we expect to be in the rapture, but beloved, only the overcomers shall participate in that. If we ever expect to meet the Lord when He comes in the glory of the Father and the glory of the angels attending, we must have holiness in our lives.

Then too, if we are to have victory and holiness in our lives, there must be much prayer for if we are to keep the works running smoothly and keep everything well oiled, we must have much communion with God. I have always loved that verse of the hymn:

"Alone with God, the world forbidden,  
Alone with God, O blest retreat.  
Alone with God, and in Him hidden,  
To hold with Him communion sweet."

And it is that communion, that vital touch with God that will serve as the oil to keep us running smoothly. If there was ever a time this message was needed it is now. In the midst of all the depression and every imaginable sort of trial we are often tested severely, but we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against the powers of darkness. These powers are arrayed against us and they endeavor in every possible way to destroy our communion with God, knowing that is what keeps us in victory.

I know of nothing that will give one a broken spirit like meditating upon the Lord Jesus Christ, upon His suffering and death, and the victory He has worked out for us. Try it tonight and I will assure you that your heart will be broken as you enter into His presence. Again referring to the Old Testament we remember that there was in the tabernacle a candle-stick with seven lights; this candle-stick displayed its light and its glory upon the other articles 'round about, and gave light to the priest as he came in. There was one instruction that God gave concerning this and that was that they should teach their children to keep this light burning continually before the Lord. Beloved, God has given us oil,

He has given us the Third Person of the Trinity, who is here in this assembly to bring everyone of us into communion with Jesus Christ, and to supply the oil that will keep us burning continually before God. Don't ever think you can get along without the Holy Spirit. I thought I loved the Lord and knew Jesus in a marvelous way when I was saved and I did know Him for He saved me on the very night when I was contemplating suicide; I had the poison ready with which to take my life. So I had an experimental knowledge of salvation, but when I received the mighty Baptism of the Holy Spirit He became so very real that I wondered if I had really known Jesus before.

Again, if we are to be cleansed in our lives from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit it will be only as we are controlled by the Holy Spirit, for we read, "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." He is here to cleanse our hearts and if we have lost the victory, if we are not in the place before God as we ought to be, He is here to help us. And if we are to be holy it will be only through the Holy Spirit whose consuming fire will burn out the dross and leave only that which is pure.

There are heights to which we have not attained, there are depths which we have not begun to fathom, and God's Spirit is here to lead us into that place of victory where we shall be cleansed and purified if we will only yield to Him.

(Continued from page 14)

new. That is what we want." May God help us as a people so to live and so to give out the message that we will create a hunger in the hearts of the people for this blessed truth.

I believe the Pentecostal people will be attacked by the enemy as none other because of our high profession. Satan is spreading the net and unless we pray much we will fall into it through pride, through worldliness, through formality, but we have to cast these things aside and go through and cry, "Oh God, let this Pentecostal message be fresh and new and sweet." It is a way that is much spoken against but we can say with Paul, "that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written." Some day those who are ready in this movement will move up. May God hasten the day when the Holy Spirit in us will quicken these mortal bodies of ours and gravitation will lose its hold and we will go up. What they say about us will never hurt us at all when we are with the Lord.

## How an Actress Found Christ

Saved—Healed—Filled With the Spirit



WAS the eldest of nine children; five died as babies. We were brought up to go to Church, Sunday School and Bible Class in the week. My mother had also taken me to hear Spurgeon, Moody and Sankey, and other renowned preachers, but, having no desire, and not seeing my need of a Saviour, the meetings had no effect on me. My mother died when I reached the age of fifteen years, leaving four of us.

### ON THE STAGE

Shortly after this, I went from home to live with some rich people, where I had a good time. But this did not last very long as I got a desire for the stage, and at the age of seventeen I started life in a London Theatre. In this I was very successful, and did not leave it until I married, at the age of 25. I continued to live a life full of pleasure, going to dances, whist drives, banquets, etc. I had free sittings in the theatres and music halls. To these I went every week, and spent a good deal of my time in picture theatres. I was a great smoker also. Ten years after I was married, my little daughter was born and she was so dear to me that I gave up a good deal of pleasure in caring for her. Shortly before her birth my father had died. There was another event in my life after I was married: the late General Booth came to the town of Southampton to speak at the Grand Theatre, and I went to hear him. That was about the year 1902, and I was brought under deep conviction of sin. Instead of turning to the Lord at this time, however, I rejected Him and went deeper into a life of sin; but, oh, how great is the goodness of God, to allow me to live and find this wonderful Saviour!

During my life I had a good deal of sickness, having been brought right down to death's door on several occasions. On one of these my doctor told me that I had "almost left the world." This set me wondering what would have been my end, and something told me I should surely go to hell, as I was not fit for heaven. So the fear of death was constantly with me from this time. Attending church and chapel, I tried my best to be good, and also to do good to others, hoping by this means to earn my salvation; but the Bible says, "Not of works, lest any man should boast." I prayed at night, after a fashion, and sometimes

read my Bible, because I belonged to the I.B.R.A. This I joined because my husband belonged to it, and wished me to.

### HUSBAND SAVED

In the year 1918 my husband was saved, through an old school-fellow of his, and this friend used to come to our home and was constantly talking about the coming of the Lord. This used to stir me up and make me very angry, but I did my best to be polite to him. At the same time I began to feel very miserable, though I could not tell why. There was no fellowship between my husband and myself now, and I had an awful feeling that there was a great gulf fixed between us. I found out after a time that this man and my husband were praying for the salvation of my soul; hence the feeling of darkness that hung over me.

In the year 1919 my husband went to London to attend a Whitsuntide Convention at Kingsway Hall, leaving me at home at Southampton. This made me very angry with him, as I would have liked to go to London to have a good time with my friends. On the Saturday before Whitsunday my maid came home and told me there was a convention at a mission in Southampton. I did not take any notice of this, but on the Sunday morning, suddenly, I asked her where this convention was, and said, "My husband has gone to a convention; I will go also." Feeling very bad-tempered, I started off, with my nephew, aged fifteen (this boy had been saved during his stay in Mueller's Orphanage, Bristol) and my daughter, then eight years of age. We were dressed all in our very best clothes, which were most unsuitable for a meeting of this kind. The place was packed when we arrived, and we were shown to the only three vacant seats, three rows from the front. For the first time in my life I heard that Christ was crucified for me, and I was under deep conviction of sin. During prayer time the speaker said, "Is there a sinner in this meeting?" and I heard a voice saying, "You are a sinner." The speaker asked that the hand might be put up of any sinner who wished to accept the Lord as his Saviour, and I raised my hand; I felt compelled to.

### A VISION

I was called out to the front and a lady came to speak to me, and asked me what I wanted. I said I wanted to be saved, and she told me to kneel and tell the Lord exactly how I felt. As I

started to speak, I was lost in a vision, in which I was carried to the bottomless pit, and there, with thousands of others, I cried to be delivered, and heard a voice again saying, "Too late!" I struggled to get out of the pit, which was terrible—too terrible to describe—and as I tried to escape, I was pulled back by the others. At last, making one terrific effort, I felt I had got away, and looking to the right I saw the Lord upon the Cross, not dead, but living. I saw the wounds in the hands, the feet, the side; and the great thorns in the brow. The sight was terrible to look at, and it broke me down completely when He said, "For you I died, and My blood cleanses you from all your sin." I cried, "Lord, let it cleanse me now." Opening my eyes, I found I was alone in the building, except for the two children and the caretaker. Leaving the place, I asked my nephew how long I had been in the trance. He said, "Three-quarters of an hour"—they had not known what to do. I was not invited to go back to that hall again as they thought something strange had happened to me, and truly it had. John 3:3 was now my experience.

I had been cleansed from all my sin in the precious blood of Jesus, and was born again of the Spirit. I was now so completely happy, knowing that I had passed from death unto life, I did not want anything or anyone but Jesus. This completely changed my life: I no longer wanted anything of the world. But before this happened I had promised to take two friends of mine to the theatre at separate times, and I thought the right thing to do was to keep my promise, so I went to the theatre and had a most miserable time, expecting the roof to fall on everybody there, because I was there, and should not have been. On the second occasion I went into the dressing-room after the performance, and told everybody that I was not coming to the theatre any more, that I had given my heart to the Lord, and I would serve Him. My husband, having returned, knew that something had taken place in my life during his absence. From this time, I went around telling all my friends and relations the wonderful story of God's love in giving His Son, Jesus, to die for us, and they all left us, not desiring to go the way of the Cross. Now we began to go to different churches and chapels in Southampton, to find food for our souls, but could find nothing satisfying, so, in August, 1919, we consecrated our dining-room to the Lord's service, and started a prayer meeting with two or three others who were thirsty for more of God; then we started Gospel meetings,

and several got saved in that room, and also baptized into the Holy Ghost.

#### BAPTIZED IN WATER

Some months after I was saved, my husband was baptized in water, which I thought very unnecessary, and I was not at all pleased with him; but, as time went on, I was reading my Bible one day, and I came to "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). A few days after this I found there was to be a baptismal service at a church in the town, and I went to the pastor's house and asked him to baptize me. The following Sunday he baptized me, and our maid also, who had been saved in the meantime. Never shall I forget what a wonderful time I had. I really felt that my old self was dead and buried, and that I had now risen in newness of life—"a new creature in Christ Jesus." I felt the Presence of the Lord, and I praised Him as I came up out of the water. The deaconesses of the church told me the following Sunday that they had never before seen such a wonderful baptismal service, and that my face shone as I came out of the water. My whole being was almost bursting with the joy of the Lord.

#### HEALED BY THE LORD

In November, shortly after my baptism in water, a message was given on James 5, 13 to 16, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up." At the time I was suffering from neuritis and varicose veins. The Lord spoke to me and I asked to be anointed, not really understanding, but the Lord healed me completely. I might say that the Lord has healed me several times since then. On one occasion I was taken seriously ill and the doctor was sent for, but could not diagnose my case. It seemed as though I had been poisoned, and it was proved afterwards that I had. After lying ten days, not having taken anything but water with bi-carbonate of soda in it, I lay praying to the Lord and I said, "Lord, your Word says, 'I am the Lord that healeth thee,' and I believe it, and 'By His stripes I am healed'; but, Lord, I would like a manifestation of the healing." Immediately I was able to get up and dress, and have never had any return of the trouble since. Six years after I was saved, I met with an accident whilst shopping one day and hurt my leg, which grew worse till it was three times its ordinary size. I was prayed for, according to the Word, and delivered from pain, which was most severe, but the leg still looked

dreadfully bad. After five weeks I was advised to see a doctor, and he told me it was thrombosis, (which is a clot of blood in the main artery), and in a worse form than he had ever seen before; it would cause me to drop dead if I put my foot to the ground. I was told to go to bed, put twelve-inch blocks under the foot of the bed, and not move. Three doctors visited me, expecting to find me dead each time they came, and at the end of nine weeks my doctor, knowing nothing of God's salvation and healing, except what I had told him, said I was a living miracle and in the natural would have died fifty times over. He said that no man on earth could have saved me.

#### BAPTIZED IN THE SPIRIT

Having been taught that there was another baptism besides the baptism in water, the baptism in the Holy Ghost, we waited on the Lord, according to the Word in Luke 24, 29, "And behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you; but tarry ye, in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." This blessing I received, according to Acts 2:4, one Sunday, exactly twelve months after I was saved, and I have proved this to be power indeed, not only to overcome, but to speak of the things of God to others. From this time, the Lord began to teach me that certain things in my life must be put away, such as jewelry, photographs, etc. (they were my idols), and He showed me how to dress "as becometh godliness" (see I Tim. 2:9 and 10). I would like to say that I did not get victory over smoking until some months after my conversion, but was convicted each time I did it, and so I tried to give it up, but could not succeed. Talking with my husband one day, I asked him how he gave up smoking. I said that I had tried but could not. He said, "You are trying to do it; let the Lord do it." I saw it in a flash and immediately got on my knees and cried to the Lord, "Lord, take this thing from me; I don't want to do it; and it does not glorify You," and the Lord did it. I have never had a desire to smoke since. All glory to Him!

My daughter was saved eight months after I was, and we are now all baptized in the Holy Ghost, and serving the Lord with grateful hearts.

#### CALLED TO WORK IN LONDON

The Lord called us from our home in Southampton to take up the work at the Missionary Rest Home, 73, Highbury New Park, London, N.5. This work was previously in the hands of the late Mrs. Cantel. I did not want to give up my country home and go to London, and He had to break me down before I would say "yes" to

that call, but I do praise Him that He gave me grace to say "yes" and to do His will, because "Obedience is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

If this should be read by anyone who has not had the experience of this great salvation, I would urge them "to seek the Lord while He may be found," and call upon Him while He is near."

*Florence Tilling.*

*(Continued from page 5)*

Hold the fort, for I am coming,  
Jesus signals still;  
Wave the answer back to heaven,  
By Thy grace we will!—

those 300 wretched human beings burst as one man into song for ten minutes, and then for ten minutes more did they repeat it, and many of them went back to their homes comforted and strengthened because they heard for the first time that a Redeemer was at hand, and that any hour He might be expected to take them to Himself, regenerated and happy, there to dwell with Him forever."

Finally, I preach the Second Coming of Christ because of its purifying effects both upon the church which preaches the doctrine and the individual who accepts it. Indeed, this teaching is set forth in the scriptures as the purifying hope of the gospel for in I John 3:3 we read, "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

Observe the expression, "*purifieth himself.*" Is not this personal purification exactly what many Christians need today? Does not the church generally stand much in need of this purging process? And is not the charge of conformity to the world a just accusation? There is no quicker or more satisfactory way to overcome this fault than to believe in the personal, imminent coming of Christ, and to live in the hope of that coming.

It is obvious that Christ gave to the church the knowledge of His second appearing at any moment for the express purpose of inspiring His followers to keep themselves "unspotted from the world." And those to whom this fact has become a reality—a "blessed hope," do keep themselves, by the help of God, from the pleasures and sins of the world. As to the effect of this *hope* upon the early Christians, Gibbons, the historian formerly quoted says, "It was productive of the most salutary effect upon the faith and practice of Christians." The doctrine will produce the same effect upon the Christians of the Twentieth Century if they really believe it.

## Leaving All for Christ and China

The M. S. Hiye Maru, sailing from Seattle October 5th, will carry as part of its human cargo two Stone Church missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur G. Johnson and their little daughter, Pearl, who are returning to West China for their second term. A precious farewell service was held in the Stone Church on Sunday, September 25th, at the close of which the congregation circled around these two ambassadors of the Gospel, pledging themselves anew to stand behind them as they go forth as our—and His representatives. Our readers will be interested in having a few glimpses into the life of Mr. Johnson as given in his farewell message.



In Matthew 5:13 Jesus said to His disciples, "Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." There was an old chorus the colored folks sang in the south:

"Oh read the 5th of Matthew, go read the chapter through;  
It is a guide for preachers, it tells them what to do."

But we might change that and say, It is a guide for Christians and tells them what to do, for His precious Word is a guide to laymen as well as preachers.

In the fifth chapter of Matthew, Jesus taught His disciples their relationship to mankind and we today have the same relationship to our fellowman, not only in this country but wherever the Lord may see fit to send us. This is a responsibility I bear toward my fellow beings, and as the day approaches for us to return to China I feel the obligation resting heavily upon me to preach the good old Gospel to those benighted Chinese. Only God knows the full responsibility and what it would mean if we should fail at this juncture of our lives, but we have consecrated ourselves afresh to His service that we may indeed be salt in the earth for the glory of God. Some might ask the question, How are God's people to be the salt of the earth? Take a lesson from salt as a preservative. We know that salt preserves meat but it is not the salt that is kept in a bag on the pantry shelf, for salt must come in contact with that meat in order to preserve it from decaying. Just so, Jesus Christ likens us to salt, and as we come in contact with the world of sinners, we will act as preservatives and prevent it from decaying and going to destruction. I rejoice that this is actually possible and that there is something more to Christianity than just a song. Jesus is speaking here of practical Christianity. So many people today are content to be

stuck away on a shelf instead of being used as savour and preserving the earth from premature judgment.

Now we know that prayer is a part of the program for the salvation of the world today, and every true Christian is praying for a revival. But there is another phase which I wish to emphasize and that is witnessing for Jesus. A man of God was praying for the salvation of a friend and he prayed in this fashion, "Lord touch him with Thy finger" and God from high heaven answered, "Why not you be the finger?" The man accepted the challenge, went to his friend and won him to Christ by his personal contact. You know we can go into our prayer closet and pray for a revival, which is all very well, but perhaps the Lord wants us to do a little personal work—go from house to house to witness, and warn men to flee from the wrath to come—before results will come. That is what we are called upon to do over in China. How often have I seen our Christian boys standing on the street corners, witnessing with the tears running down their cheeks, and warning men of coming judgment. Let us be faithful, at home and abroad, to declare this wonderful Gospel of Jesus Christ to the people.

We know that Jesus is coming soon; if you have been in close contact with Jesus there is a witness to the fact in your very soul. We have heard this message of His soon coming for more than eighteen years and though it may be waning and in some places dying out, that does not alter the fact that Jesus is coming. It was this message of His soon coming that gripped my heart as I stumbled into the Stone Church about eighteen years ago and I praise God that I still have that hope within me this afternoon which I trust will grow brighter and brighter as the days go by. In this connection we remember how the disciples were tarrying in the Upper Room in accordance with the command of Jesus. After ten

days the Holy Spirit descended upon them and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and went into the highways and byways to declare the unsearchable riches of Christ, which is just what we must do. When giving some lectures to the young people on personal work some weeks ago, our pastor made the statement that the average Christian goes down to the grave with sealed lips, never having given a testimony to his fellow man of the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. How sad! Ever since the Lord saved me I have had a burden on my soul for others.

The Lord saved me when I was a wretched sinner, down deep in sin, and cleaned me up over night. It was truly a wonderful salvation that I received. I had smoked cigarettes for fifteen years but the night I was saved I threw them over the back wall and I haven't touched one now for eighteen years. Before that I had tried and tried to give them up, made resolution after resolution, only to find that the flesh was too weak; but Jesus came into this wicked heart of mine and transformed me completely, and what I had failed in doing for years He accomplished over night. Then He filled me with His Holy Spirit. And so, from personal experience, I can testify that Jesus loves the publicans and the sinners. Let us follow in the footsteps of our Master who mingled with the publicans and sinners. They are ready to hear the message and are looking for that which will satisfy. They will only learn of Jesus as you mingle with them and testify to what God has done for you. Some plead their inability to witness, but God has given to each at least one talent and He doesn't want you to hide that in a napkin. Uncover your latent talent before Jesus comes and get to using it quickly.

He will hold us responsible for the way we have discharged our duty in regards to carrying the Gospel story, and I for one realize more and more how much God is depending upon me. Jesus gave this Gospel into the hands of a few men who have in turn passed it on, until today we find it in our hands. What shall we do with it? We have the Word of God today because someone was burned at the stake, because someone was thrown to the wild beasts, because someone did not recant in the last hour. Nero burned the Christians in his court-yard because they did not deny their Savior, and today we have the privilege of suffering that this same Gospel may be given to others.

These are days of depression I know, but we are having glorious opportunities of proving God. Many people say, "My money is all tied up in

bonds. I cannot give"; others say, "I haven't enough food for my table so I cannot give anything to the Lord's work." I haven't any other advice to give you but that you should be faithful in what God has given you, and let me say that if you don't give to God the devil will get it sure enough.

After this little exhortation I would like to tell you about my call to the foreign field. After I was converted eighteen years ago I felt a burning desire in my heart to go to the foreign field but it took a long time of preparation before God saw fit to send us. As the years went by the desire became stronger. I remember how, one time in the middle of the night I had a vision of the Lord and I saw His blessed face. I felt so humble before him. I had used His Name in blasphemy so much when a sinner, that I was ashamed to look into His blessed face, so I turned my head away and pulled the blankets over my head. From the early days of my conversion I have had close contact with Jesus and have had His Spirit dwelling within day by day. There have been times when it seemed He had gone away but I have His Word to prove that He is always near, and once in a while He gets so close that I can see His precious face.

As the time went on I felt led to go to Bible School to prepare for God's service. While in School I prayed much and told the Lord I would give Him two years to make plain to me His plan and place for my life. But it was only three months later that He revealed His will. My room-mate and I were praying very earnestly one night and the Spirit of God came upon both of us. I remember so well how I lay on my back and while in that position I seemed to lose all my strength, my limbs began to stiffen out and I had both arms stretched out. Suddenly I felt the Spirit of God take one hand and force it down flat on the floor, then likewise the other hand and I felt I was nailed to the floor. I could not move a muscle and after lying there for a time God spoke to me in the still small voice and the words were, "Until death you must follow Me this way. Take up your cross and follow Me and it is until death." Then He gave me a call to China and told me that I was to have a part in His kingdom. How I praise Him that right down here on this wicked earth we are having a share in His work and I can testify from my heart that we couldn't be any happier if we were given a million dollars. You know joy doesn't consist in dollars and cents but in the peace of God and the knowledge of sins forgiven. In due time I

graduated from Bible School and soon after my wife and I entered upon our first term in China. God marvelously supplied then and I believe He will do the same this time and in the days to come.

Some folk say, "Well, the Stone Church has so many missionaries; it seems there ought to be a stop to it very soon." My reply to that is that as you take strides in faith God will bless you. Have you ever had a lack? Has anyone in this house ever come to the point of starvation? I believe He will supply every need to the very end. God has blessed and prospered the Stone Church in days gone by and He will in days to come. I know times are hard and the money is scarce, but let us take new strides in faith and trust God. Let us grip the horns of the altar and pray though. God will always meet the people who trust Him and that applies not only to the natural but also to the spiritual. We limit God with these natural minds of ours. He is so great that the heavens cannot contain Him and yet we, as a band of His people, limit Him until some of us have Him in a thimble. I trust God will enlarge our vision and our hearts. I remember one time while praying in Bible School, the Holy Spirit came upon me until I felt as big as the city of New York itself. If your faith is waning, seek His face till your vision is enlarged again.

We thank God for those who have stood by us on our first term. We know it has meant real sacrifice, for some of it has been blood money but we pray and believe that God will abundantly reward. When Jesus was standing alongside the treasury one day watching the people throwing in their tithes and offerings, a woman came and threw in just two mites. Jesus called the attention of the disciples to her and said that she had given more than they all, for she had given out of her poverty but they out of their abundance. And a memorial of that woman's act is still standing in the Word of God. It is not so much what we give but the spirit in which it is given that counts.

And on this last Sunday before we leave you for the field, let me say that we as missionaries are on the altar; I have given everything I have and my last drop of blood is at stake for missions right now. I know something of what I shall face on this second term, but we are going in the strength of the Lord; our times and our lives are in His hands and we know that whatsoever we commit unto Him He is able to keep. I trust He will enable us ever to remain on the altar for I

do not want to be a failure. I know the devil would like us to be defeated but we are marching behind a Captain who has never lost a battle and we are marching on our knees. You know the devil can imitate about everything we have in Pentecost excepting prayer and it is prayer alone that will carry us through. I do praise God for a company of people who stand behind us in prayer; it means so much. May His grace be upon everyone of your lives and may He send you forth with this message of salvation to those round about you, in the office, in the shop, on the street car or wherever people make contact with you. I know of nothing that will give greater joy for truly I have found my supreme happiness in witnessing for Jesus and yielding my life wholly to Him. Only as we do that will we know the truth of the song,

Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?  
Your heart does His Spirit control?  
You can only be blessed, and have peace and sweet  
rest,  
As you yield Him your body and soul.

(Continued from page 11)

put a nice deposit in the bank, take a load of groceries, shoes, dry goods, etc. home to the happy wife who, having something to cook, has a good, warm dinner ready to serve, while the children scamper, not to their hiding places, but to meet a sober, kind father.

How could anyone but a fiend want those old days of anguish, suffering and sin back again? "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babblings? who hath wounds without cause? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red—At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder." Prov. 23:29-32. "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink,"

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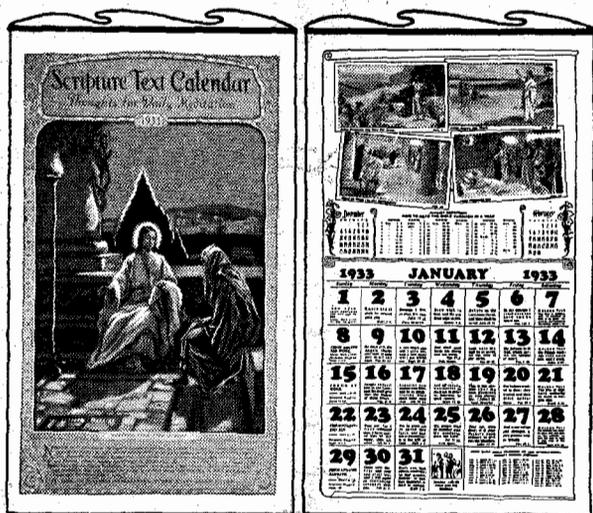
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