

# The Berean Christadelphian

*A monthly magazine devoted wholly to the exposition and defence of the Faith once for all delivered to the Saints, with the object of helping to make ready a People prepared for the coming of the Lord. Opposed to the unscriptural teachings of the papal and protestant churches of the world.*

**Edited and Published by:**  
**G. A. Gibson, Apt. 607, 1501 Woodbine Ave., Toronto 365, Ont., Can.**

*“They received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many believed.”—Acts 17: 11.*

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**We are anxious to send the Berean FREE to any desiring it that way. Please do not hesitate to request it. If you know of any who might like it, please send us their names.**

**CHRIST IS COMING SOON AND WILL REIGN ON EARTH**

## **Ecclesial News** **AUSTRALIA**

**ESPERANCE**, W. Australia—2 Emily St.—Mem. 11 am; Class Thur. 7:30 pm. Bro. Ray Hodges (same address).

TO our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, loving greetings in the Hope we share.

It is with joy we record that our Heavenly Father has used us to help another put on the Saving Name. On June 11, JOHN L. MULLETT, after confessing to the things of the Gospel of the Kingdom and the Saving Name of Jesus Christ, passed through the waters of baptism to rise a new creature and enter the race for life.

Our new brother will be in isolation, his home being 300 odd miles from the Esperance ecclesia. His address is: 62 Dampier St., Bruce Rock 6418 West Australia.

Like each one of us, our new brother must manifest faith by trial. Your prayers added to his will help gain that guidance and strength from above needed so greatly by all of us.

World events encourage us to believe that the words spoken by the angel—

"Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven?

"This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

—will soon come to pass.

Our thanks go out to the many brethren and sisters who by their letters and tapes have given us much joy in the Truth and that sense of oneness in Christ. May the Lord bless thee and keep thee one and all unto the coming of the Lord. With love in the Truth from all here.

—bro. Ray Hodges

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**BRUCE ROCK** 6418—Bro. John L. Mullett, 62 Dampier Street.

## **CANADA**

**EDMONTON**, Alta.—Bro. & sis. David Blacker, 12308 39A Avenue.

**HALIFAX**, N.S.—Bro. & sis. J. Jackson, 82 Glenforest Drive; Ph. (902) 453-0731.

**HAMILTON**, Ont.—Sherwood Rm., Wentworth Arms Hotel, Main & Hughson Sts.—Mem. 11 am. Bro. John Fotheringham, Apt. S-32, 895 Upper Gage; Phone (416) 389-8595.

**JAFFRAY**, B. C.—Bro. Fred Glazier.

**LETHBRIDGE**, Alta.—633 Seventh St. S.—Mem. 11am; S. S. 12:30 pm; Lec. 7:30 pm; Class Wed. 8 pm; Bro. W. Blacker, 1225 6th Av. S.; (403) 3275663.

**LONDON**, Ont.—Christadelphian Hall, 166 Central Ave. (1 block west of Richmond)—S. S. 10:15 am; Memorial 11:30 am; Lecture 7 pm; Class Wed. 8 p.m. Bro. Dan E. Gwalchmai, 29 Devonshire, Phone (519) 438-7730.

**MONTREAL**, P.Q.—Massey Rm., Central YMCA, 1441 Drummond—Mem. 11 am. Bro. E. Kercher, P.O., New Glasgow, P.Q., Ph. 514-438-2635. Phone near hall: sis. Irene Baines, 514-768-5306.

**RICHARD**, Sask.—Mem. 10 am; S.S. 12 noon; Lec. last Sun. of month 8 pm; Class Fri. 8 pm. Bro. Fred G. Jones, Rt. 1; Phone (306) 246-4628.

**TORONTO**, Ont.—Home of bro. James MacIvor, 29 Peacham Cres., Downsview 464, Ont., Ph. (416) 247-4411—SS 10 am; Mem. 11 am; Sun. eve home of bro. G. Gibson, Ap. 607, 1501 Woodbine, Toronto 365, Ph. (416) 425-1256.

**VANCOUVER**, B. C.—At home of sis. Mary Newton, 4125 Smith St., Burnaby, B. C. Phone (604) 433-9998—Memorial 11 am. Bro. Ralph Hobkirk, 949 Belvedere, North Vancouver, B. C. Phone (604) 988-5941.

**WATERFORD**, Ont.—Bro. & sis. J. Edward Williams, Box 338.

## **GREAT BRITAIN**

**BIRMINGHAM** 34-46 Falmouth Rd.—Mem. 11 am—Bro. Leslie Allcock.

**NEWPORT**, Mon.—3 Constance St.—Mem. 11 am—Bro. Ken Williams.

**PENGAM**, Mon.—"Ashleigh House," Commercial St.—Bro. T. Lambert

**WORKSOP**, Notts.—Bro. Eric Moore, 15 Lincoln Street.

## **NEW ZEALAND**

**PAPAKURA**—Bro. A. Starr, Ardmore R.D., via Auckland.

**WHANGAREI**—YWCA Hall, Rust Ave.—Mem. 10:30 am; Lecture 7 pm. Bro. M. J. Griffin, PO Box 55, Whangarei.

## **UNITED STATES**

**ASHBURNHAM**, Mass. 01430—Bro. E. Sargent Jr., 8 Proctor St., Bx. 296.

**BALTIMORE**, Md. 21207—3617 Forest Hill Rd.; Ph. (301) 944-3870—Mem. 10:30 am (home to home). Bro. Russell C. Frisbie (same address).

**BOSTON**, Mass. 02115—Hastings Hall, 320 Huntington; Phone (617) 536-7800— S.S. 10:30 am; Mem. 11:45 am; Lect. 2 pm 1st & 3rd Suns.; Bible Cl. Tues. night south of Boston, Wed. night north of Boston. Bro. Kenneth MacKellar 86 Walnut, Reading, Mass. 01867, Phone (617) 944-9094.

**BUFFALO**, N.Y.—IOOF Hall, Kenmore at Myron, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217; Ph. 716-877-9363—Mem. 10:15 am; S.S. 11:45 am; Class Wed. 8 pm. Bro. W. J. Kling, 372 Ellicott Crk. Rd., Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150; Phone 716-692-3605.

**CANTON**, Ohio—YMCA, 205 Second St. NW—S.S. 10 am; Mem. 11 am. Bible Class Thur., 7:30 pm, homes. Bro. Paul Inman, 1520 Bonnot Place NE, Canton 44705; Ph. 216-456-5319.

**DENVER**, Colo. 80209—432 S. Emerson, Ph. (303) 777-9575—SS 10 am; Mem. 11 am; Class Tue. 7:30 pm. Bro. John Osborne, Phone (303) 424-4894.

**DESOTO**, Kansas 66018—Bro. James Ross, DeSoto Rest Home.

**DETROIT**, Mich. 48227—12954 St. Marys—S.S. 10 am; Mem. 11 am.; Class 7:30 pm, Bro. G. Growcott (same address): 313-272-0349.

**EVANSVILLE**, Ind. 47711—Sis. Carolyn (Mrs. K.) Thompson, 3015 Blossom Ln.

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**HOUSTON**, Tx. 77012—8008 Junius St.—S.S. 10 am; Mem. 11 am; Lecture 7 pm every 3rd Sun.; other Suns. 7 pm Revelation Class; Wed. 7 pm Elpis Israel. Bro. J. Packer, 210 E. 3rd, Deer Park, Tx. 77536, Ph. (713) 479-4292.

WE certainly thank our Heavenly Father for the strength given us that we now have completed our new building and have moved into it.

Bro. John Randell of Portland visited with us and has strengthened us with exhortations and 2 lectures.

We are indeed happy to report that after meeting with the arranging brothers and found to be of one mind with us, bro. Bucky Wilhoit (formerly Central) has been received into the Berean fellowship.

Bro. George Booker of the Lampasas ecclesia has found employment in Pasadena and is now considered a member of our Houston ecclesia.

We feel certain that these young brethren can be a great help to us.

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**LAKE ARIEL, PA. & WANAQUE, N. J.**—Mem. 10:45 am—Home of bro. H. Sommerville, Lake Ariel 18436, or home of bro. D. Sommerville, 224 Conkintowo Rd., Wanaque 07465, Ph. (201) 835-4751.

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**LAMPASAS**, Tex. 76550—Christadelphian Hall, Ave. I East—S. S. 10 am; Mem 11. Bro. Ross Wolfe, 1802 Rumley Rd., Lampasas 76550, Ph. (512) 556-5249

LOVE to those of like precious faith.

We were thankful that so many could be here for our June Fraternal Gathering.

The two ways were clearly placed before us from Cain and Abel to Christ and Judas.

We appreciate the labor of love shown by our speaking brethren John Packer, John Randell, Bob Carney, Fred Higham, and George Gibson who traveled so far to be with us.

It is with joy we report that another of our Sunday School members, WESLEY BOOKER, has put on the Saving Name of Jesus through baptism. After a good confession on Wednesday, he was baptized on Sunday, June 28. It is our prayer that he may continue faithful to the end.

Bro. George Booker has moved to Houston, where he will be a member of that ecclesia. —bro. Ross Wolfe

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**MASON**, Tex. 76856—Christadelphian Hall, Hwy. 386—Mem. 11 am; Class 2 pm. Bro. W. Edwards, Ranch Rte., Harper, Tex. 78631; Ph. (512) 864-3064.

**MIAMI**, Fla. 33155—3428 SW 65th Ave.; Ph. (305) 6677828—Mem. 10:30 am; S. S. 11:30 am; Class Wed. 7:30 pm. Bro. Thomas S. Lumley (same address).

**MINNEAPOLIS**, Minn. 55409—Bro. Roger Walker, 4210 Nicollet Ave

**NEW PORT RICHEY**, Fla.—Bro. & sis. Chris Bird, 421 Lafayette Street.

**PORTLAND**, Ore. 97212—3344 NE 24th Ave.—S. S. 9:45 am; Mem. 11 am; Lec. 7 pm; Bible Class Wed. 8 pm. Bro. Arthur R. Tilling, 2212 NE Precott, Portland 97211, Phone (503) 287-3064.

**SAN ANGELO**, Tex.—English Room, Cactus Hotel (All but 1st Sundays)—S.S. 10 am; Mem. 11. Other Sundays at homes. Phone near hall: sis. LaRue (Mrs. Donald Smith, (915) 655-7665. Rec. bro: bro Bill Muter, 1506 S. Van Buren, San Angelo, Texas 76901, phone (915) 653-7434

**WARREN**, Ohio 44483—Bro. Thomas Tulloch, 1043 N. Park Ave.

**WORCESTER**, Mass. 01607—Vasa Hall, 1 Ekman St.; Ph. 617-753 4492—S.S. 10 am; Mem. 11; Lec. 2nd-4th Suns. 2:30 pm; Bib. Cl. Tue. twice mo. 8 pm; Bro. W. Davey, Strawberry Hill Dover Mass. 02030; Ph. 617-653-1148.

**S. CALIF.**—S. S. 10:30 am; Mem. 11:30 in homes. Bro. W. Sharp, 140 Princeton. Claremont, Calif 91711 Phone (714) 626-0490.

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## **EDITORIAL**

## They Shall Sanctify My Name

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge"—Prov. 1:7*

OUR system of Bible reading takes us through the Old Testament once and the New Testament twice each year. This method was designed, first for information, and then for daily sustenance in spiritual things.

If it is our desire to have our minds filled with the divine ideas, principles and affections that are exhibited in the Scriptures, it is essential that we **give attention** to what we read. As Paul said to Timothy—

"Till I come, give attendance to reading, exhortation and doctrine."

It was not ordinary reading, where one reads something without assimilating the ideas presented by the written word, for he also said in 2 Tim. 2:15—

"STUDY to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing (expounding the word of truth.)"

It is important to note the word "study," for in this place it means to be in earnest, to make an effort, and to be diligent. If we merely read because we feel that it is a duty to do so, and just rush through the Word without stopping to consider its message, we will not grow very much in our knowledge and understanding of the Word of God.

One of the first and foremost things a believer must learn is that knowledge **of God is essential to our salvation**. It is the rock upon which God's purpose with the human race is built. This is plainly evident from what Jesus said in his beautiful prayer in John 17:3—

"This is life eternal, that they may KNOW Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent."

Following this basic principle, the next thing for us to learn, and to learn well, is that God is not a man, and can only **be approached on His Own terms**.

There are many lessons revealed in the Bible on this subject, but we will select one from 2 Sam. 6 that should give us something to think about for our own benefit.

One of the first acts of David, after being anointed King over Israel, was to gather a great company of the chosen men of Israel, and go to Kirjath-jearim to get the ark of God, where it had been for many years in the home of Abinadab. It was taken out of the house and placed upon a new cart which was drawn by oxen, under the care of Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab.

When they reached Nachon's threshing floor, the oxen stumbled, and Uzzah, anxious about the ark, placed his hand upon it to steady it, and keep it from falling. As a result of his action, we read in v. 7—

"And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his rashness; and there he died by the ark of God."

This judgment was so severe in the eyes of David, that he became afraid and stopped the proceedings at once, and took the ark into the home of Obed-edom.

At first sight, this seems harsh treatment for one whose intentions were for good, but **God does not cater to our "good intentions" unless they are based on divine principles**.

We must remember that the whole course of action was out of order. In Num. 4:5-6, the charge given to the sons of Kohath regarding the transportation of the ark, was—

"Aaron shall come, and his sons, and they shall take down the covering vail, and cover the ark of testimony with it:

"And shall put thereon the covering of badgers' skins, and shall spread over it a cloth wholly of blue, and shall put in the staves."

Whether any of these instructions were carried out, we do not know; but we do know that it should not have been placed upon a cart, for the staves were provided to carry the ark upon the shoulders of the Levites, and when doing this, we read in Numbers 4:15—

"They shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die."

**The command was clear and unmistakable**. Therefore, it was the duty of Uzzah to see that the provisions of the Law were observed. Because he failed to do this, he suffered the **forewarned** penalty of the Law. This occasion would be included in Paul's remark in Heb. 2:2 that—

"Every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward."  
Therefore, said Paul (v.3)—

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?"

Note the word he uses— NEGLECT—not deliberate wrongdoing, but just **neglect**. The death of Uzzah teaches us a grave and sober lesson regarding the growing tendency of many brethren and sisters treating divine things with undue familiarity.

You will recall that when Nabad and Abihu were struck down for "offering strange fire," Moses said (Lev. 10:3)—

"This is it that the Lord spake, saying, I WILL be sanctified in them that come nigh Me, and before all the people I WILL be glorified."

This incident occurred in the early stages of the establishment of that great divine system known as the Law of Moses, which Paul said was a schoolmaster that led them unto Christ. It was necessary, therefore, that God should enforce the discipline of the Law, especially that which related to the duties of the priests.

When God sets before man the principle upon which He may be approached, there can be no deviation from it. The principle ordained through the medium of Moses was clear. The high priest must approach Him with implicit reverence, and profound respect, mingled with devotion. Therefore, said Yahweh—

"I will be sanctified in them that come nigh Me."

"I WILL be sanctified." That is, He must be hallowed or revered by those who approach Him. Like Abraham, we should always recognize our place, and realize that we are but creatures of dust and ashes. When we perform any service in the Truth, it must be done with profound respect, mingled with love and awe, or reverential fear. This is one of the stem lessons of the Law.

As we look at the totality of all who claim the name "Christadelphian," do we see them showing forth the praises of Him Who has called us to live in His marvelous light?

Does it not almost break your heart to see many indulging in godless habits, and empty pastimes? Instead of that, they should be a holy community, adorned with spiritual beauty; a community wholly dedicated to the worship and service of God—

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning—the PRINCIPAL PART—of knowledge."*

—Editor

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## **The Water of Life**

By **BROTHER JOHN THOMAS**

*"And he showed to me a pure stream of Water of Life, clear as crystal, flowing out from the throne of the Deity and of the Lamb."*

### **REVELATION CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO**

IN the things communicated to Ezekiel by the Spirit of Christ, he saw much that he could not discern, or penetrate to the bottom of, from a lack, common to all the prophets, of what Paul terms "spiritual understanding," in (Col. 1:9).

They prophesied of the grace and truth to come through Jesus Christ, and inquired and searched diligently to find out, if possible, what the Spirit signified by the things they were commanded to write; but they were informed that it was **not for their special information** that what they saw and heard was made known to them; but that they ministered as prophets the things they wrote concerning—

"The sufferings of the Christ, and the glory that should follow."

—for the use of those to whom the Gospel of the Kingdom should afterwards be preached by the apostles and the Bride; into which things the angels desire to look (John 1:17; 1 Pet. 1:10-12).

### **LIVING WATERS from JERUSALEM**

Among the things pertaining to "the glory that should follow," Ezekiel, Joel, and Zechariah saw living waters flowing out from Jerusalem. Ezekiel saw the exact locality of the fountain from which they issued. It was, he says, at the **south side of the Altar**, and from under it they came. From thence, they made their way under the threshold of the

front, or east, gate of the Temple. They continued their outflow eastward: and were measured by the angel from the brink 4000 cubits, or 4 separate measurements, representative of a square.

He was informed that after a certain distance the streams flowed in 2 channels; one towards the Dead Sea, into which it is discharged with healing effect upon its waters, so that it teems with finny tribes, as the fish of the Great Sea; while the other half of the stream flows into the hinder, or Mediterranean, sea.

These things are all stated with such geographical and practical particularity as to make it evident that these healing waters are as **literally** rivers of waters as the Hudson or the Thames.

### **JERUSALEM THE WORLD CENTER**

We can see how that Jerusalem can become the center of navigation and commerce, as well as the metropolis and capital of the world. By the waters flowing between the rent divisions of the Mt. of Olives (Zech. 14:4) into the Jordan and with it into the **Dead Sea**, and thence by an old channel into the Red Sea, a water communication will be established with Hindustan, China, Australia, California, and the islands and shores of the Pacific generally.

And by the branch flowing into the **Mediterranean**, with Europe, and the Atlantic coasts of N. and S. America.

This gives Jerusalem a position highly favorable for a geographical center of government and religion; and for the easy access of Hindus, Chinese, Japanese, Americans, and Europeans, when they shall go up from year to year to worship the King, Yahweh Tz'vaoth, to be instructed in His ways, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles (Isa. 2:3; Zech. 14:15).

### **HEALING WATERS**

But the Eternal Power has a higher and grander purpose to be accomplished than that of geographical changes in the physique of Palestine, and filling the Dead Sea with fish. It is evident that more is signified in what was revealed to Ezekiel than this.

The waters he saw came out of a **holy place inaccessible to flesh and blood**, and had **healing properties**. There must therefore be flowing with them a stream of healing power. Pour all the waters of the Hudson and the Amazon into the Dead Sea, and they would not heal it any more than the Jordan has been able to heal it, though emptying itself therein, ever since the days of Lot.

Hence, the waters Ezekiel saw must be regarded in the light of the visible containing the invisible, whose existence is discerned by the supernatural and unwonted effects attributed to the visible stream. In other words, there is deep spiritual significance underlying all that Ezekiel saw, which was apocalyptically exhibited to John in Rev. 22.

### **HOUSE of PRAYER for ALL PEOPLE**

Ezekiel saw and described the Temple, which Zechariah says, far off peoples shall come and build (6:15); and Isaiah testifies shall be called a House of Prayer for all the people, and upon the altar of which, the rams of Nebaioth shall find acceptance (56:7; 60:7). This is a Temple in Jerusalem, as literal and visible as Solomon's, when she becomes the residence of the Great King, and the capital of his dominion.

But in the New and Holy Jerusalem, John saw—

"No temple therein; because YAHWEH ELOHIM all-powerful, and the Lamb, are the Temple of it."

The Eternal Spirit embodied in the Saints are the Temple in the highest sense; and the Most Holy Priesthood, the Seed of Zadok, who minister unto the Invisible Deity in the House of Prayer for all people.

### **LIFE TO THE DEAD SEA**

Ezekiel saw the Dead Sea in 2 states—without any living soul in it; and afterwards teeming with life of every kind. John saw the same thing in its spiritual significance—the sea of nations dead in trespasses and sins; and the same sea full of nations walking in the light of the New Jerusalem.

Ezekiel saw that it was the stream effluent from under the altar that gave life and health to the Dead Sea; and John saw that it was the stream issuing from the throne that gave to the leaves of the tree the power of imparting health and life to the world.

### **THE STREAM IS GOD'S POWER**

The pure transparent stream of water of life issuing from the throne of the Deity is His almighty power, or spirit, by which He creates, regenerates, makes glorious, and subdues all things to Himself (Isa. 23:20):

"Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities. Thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation; a tabernacle that shall not be taken down:

"But there the glorious YAHWEH will be to us a place of rivers and streams; wherein shall go no galley with oars, neither shall gallant ship pass thereby."

In this the place, the rivers, and the streams, stand for YAHWEH and His power. That the water of life represents the Spirit in all its relations and effects, is evident from the words of Jesus in John 7:37-39—

"If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

"He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his body shall flow rivers of living water."

"This spake he," adds John—

". . . of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive; for holy spirit was not yet given, because Jesus had not yet been glorified."

#### **POURED OUT AT PENTECOST**

A stream of this pure, transparent water of life was poured out upon the apostles on the day of Pentecost. That, however, though great and marvelous in its effects, was only the earnest of what is yet to follow. It anointed them with knowledge, wisdom, and power; but it left them as it found them, subject to disease, sorrow, pain, and death.

Now people have so much holy spirit in them as they have of the words and ideas of the Deity understood, affectionately believed, and obeyed (John 6:63). But, when the time of the great pentecostian outflow of holy spirit shall arrive, the assembled multitude of the approved convened before the judgment seat of Christ will be filled, and covered over, and thoroughly saturated in all the atoms of their substance, with the flood of down pouring spirit from unapproachable light; whereby they will be changed, and all that is in them of earthiness and mortality "swallowed up of life."

Henceforth, the pure, transparent stream of living water is distributed through them as its channel to mankind, until the knowledge of YAHWEH, the Fountain of living waters, shall cover the earth as the waters covers the sea (Isa. 45:8).

#### **THE WOOD OF THE LIFE**

*"In the midst of the Broadspace of the City, and on each side of the stream was a Wood of Life"—Rev. 22:2*

THE "Broadspace" of the New Jerusalem is the 4-square area within the Wall. We read of no rows of habitations dividing the intramural space into avenues, and streets, broad or narrow. The Broadspace is constituted of all "the wise" who shine as the brightness of the firmament; and of "the stars" who have turned many to righteousness (Dan. 12:8); in other words, of—

"The General Assembly—Ecclesia of the Firstborns—spirits of just ones who have been made perfect"

(Heb. 12:23).

To him, then, who believes—

"The things concerning the Kingdom of the Deity, and the Name of Jesus Anointed"

—and has therefore been immersed (Acts 8:12), and thenceforth—

"By a patient continuance in well-doing, seeks for glory and honor, and incorruptibility" (Rom. 2:7).

—and thus overcomes the world

—"to him," saith the Spirit—

"I will give to eat from the Wood of the Life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of the Deity" (Rev. 2:7).

#### **THE PARADISE OF DEITY**

This passage taken in connection with 22:2, shows that the New Jerusalem is identical with "the Paradise of the Deity," in the corporate sense of the phrase. Every individual of the Bride adorned, upon whom hath been engraved—

"The Name of the City of the Deity, New Jerusalem"

—is therefore a constituent of His Paradise in the territorial paradise of the Holy Land. Hence, in Song 4:12—

"A **Paradeisos**, or **Paradais**, is my sister-Spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.

"A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon."

#### **THE WOOD OF THE LIFE**

In this Bridal Garden of the Deity is planted the evergreen, and aromatic, and fruit-bearing, trees of THE WOOD OF THE LIFE that shall never end.

The reader will perceive that I have rendered **xulon zoes** (which in the English version, is expressed by the phrase, "the Tree of Life") by the words "a Wood of Life." The sound of this form of words is not so euphonious but it is more in harmony with the mind of the Spirit, as will appear from what follows.

In the Apocalypse there are 2 Greek words, **xulon** and **dendron**, which are both rendered "tree" in the A.V., but incorrectly, as I believe. I cannot suppose that the Spirit selected these 2 different words to express exactly the same idea; but the rather, because there was a distinction of ideas, which required different words to convey it.

#### ON BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER

To translate **xulon** by "tree" involves one in a difficulty from which there is no satisfactory extrication. If **xulon** be rendered "tree," the difficulty is, how a tree can be at one and the same time on both sides of a river?

#### ONE WOOD—MANY TREES

The difficulty, however, vanishes in rendering **xulon** by the word "wood." A wood may be "on this side and the other" or "on each side" of a river, and yet be one wood; a **singular noun of multitude**, or plurality, which harmonizes with the structure of other apocalyptic symbols, which are formed upon the principle of many in one; as many sons of men in One Son of Man; many emperors in One Head of the Beast; many clerical orders in One False Prophet; and many **dendra**, or trees, in One **xulon**, or Wood.

The word **dendron**, "a tree," occurs in Rev. 7:1-3; 8:7; 9:4, and is so rendered there correctly enough. But in 2:7; 22:2, 14. "tree" in the A.V. is, in the Greek, **xulon**; and in ch. 18:12 it is also **xulon** twice, but in both instances rendered by the A.V. "wood"; as "thyine wood," and "precious wood."

It may be remarked that while **dendron**, in the singular, only represents one tree, the word **xulon**, in the singular, may represent a plurality: as, "they made their feet fast **eis to xulon**—in the stocks." In short, the matter of all trees is used symbolically for any number of individual trees—one material, or **xulon** typical of a whole forest, or aggregation of **dendra**.

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### Fraternal Gatherings

*(If the Lord Will)*

**RICHARD, Sask.: Fri.-Mon., July 17-20 inclusive**

Bro. Fred G. Jones, Route 1, Richard, Sask., Can., Ph. 306-246-4628

**HYE, Texas: Mem.-Sun., July 27 to August 2**

Bro. C. Banta, 815 Boston, Deer Park, Tex. 77536, Ph. 713-479-2568

**LONDON, Ontario: Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 10-11**

Bro. Dan Gwalchmai, 29 Devonshire, London, Ont., Ph. 519-438-7730

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#### Reprinting of Bro. Thomas' Apostolic Advocate, 1834-39

IT IS purposed, God willing, to publish in one volume of about 900 8½"x 11½" pages, the complete 5 volumes (approx. 1800 pgs.) of bro. Thomas' Apostolic Advocate magazine, 1834-39, his first venture in producing a scriptural magazine.

While it was very early in his search for the Truth, it contains much that is intensely interesting, and much that is profitable and thought-provoking.

It will be an exact facsimile of the original, photographically reproduced. The price (postpaid) will be \$8.50 paperback, \$12.50 hardback.

Printing equipment is gradually being assembled, and it is hoped, God willing, to make this the beginning of an arrangement to print and reprint works on the Truth.

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*"I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"—Phil. 4:11-13.*

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### Voyage to Australia

By **BROTHER ROBERT ROBERTS**

*"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country"—Proverbs 25:25*

**PART THIRTY-NINE**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 1896**

A DAY like yesterday. The Pacific is justifying its name.

I have had such deep divings into the Scriptures during the past 24 hours—extra to the readings you know, and have been able to feel so strong in God! All our clouds and failings are nothing but the mists of human weakness. Lord, forgive! The glorious sun will break at last. It will not be always talk.

I have eased my mind by writing the said article on the Jewish cry, "Our Hope Is Lost." It will come in I dare say, for the October number.

In four more days, I suppose, I will land and encounter the pile of waiting letters and papers at Victoria. What shall I find? It takes away my breath a little.

During the night the engines stopped, and the steamboat made such an alarming noise in the dark, blowing off her steam. In a short time, after some hammering, she went on again. I never knew a steamboat stop so many times in mid-ocean. It seems as if this boat were most unwilling to expedite my return, dallying a month before starting, and then loitering like this on the way.

\* \* \*

**THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1896**

WE are now 21 days out from Sydney, and nearing Vancouver, but we call at Victoria, 6 hours sail from Vancouver, and I get off there. The boat is expected to arrive at Victoria at 1 in the morning—unearthly hour. I will have to drive to some hotel, as there will be no one to meet me, because the brethren have no means of knowing when to expect me; first, because the Miowera is so far past her time, and secondly, because there is no telegraphic communication with the Sandwich or the Fiji Islands.

\* \* \*

**FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1896**

PASSED through a shoal of whales. Their water spouts were visible at various points, but only one or two came near enough to show their impressive persons.

Everybody getting alert in prospect of landing.

\* \* \*

**SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1896**

SIGHTED the American continent tonight—the south end of the island of Vancouver, which we approached, in the darkness, in an oblique line from the southwest. The headland lights were visible on Cape Flattery (U.S. mainland) and Carmanah Point (British Columbia), and in a couple of hours, we were steaming along the comparatively quiet waters of the strait separating the dominion of the Stars and Stripes from the territory owing allegiance to Queen Victoria.

This strait is about 40 miles broad, and is named the Strait of San Juan de Fuca. Forty miles, which seems a great distance ashore, does not seem much at sea. The opposite shores are not only within sight, but seem near, after being so long out on the boundless ocean. Both shores are hilly, especially that on the south, which towers to a great height in the magnificent range of the snow capped Olympian mountains—over 12,000 feet high.

Victoria is on the northern side of the strait, on the south of the island of Vancouver. It was at Victoria that I was to land. I did not know that the Miowera would stop at Victoria, until I got aboard. I supposed, because I had been informed that she went straight to Vancouver, and that I would have to take a coasting steamer there for Victoria. The information would no doubt be correct at one time, but in these days of progress, things soon change, and no information is long "up-to-date."

Vancouver is one place, and the island of Vancouver is another. Vancouver is the name of the city on the Canadian mainland, which forms the terminus of the line of railway running right across the immense Canadian continent to Montreal.

The island of Vancouver lies in front of the town of Vancouver at a distance of about 70 miles—that is, if it is proper to talk of an island nearly the size of Great Britain being in front of any city whatever.

I am informed that the Miowera will arrive at Victoria early next morning (Sunday morning) and that she will only stay about a couple of hours. "Early" means 4 o'clock, and the shortness of the call involved the risk of being carried on to Vancouver unless I was ready to land by 4 a.m.

Retired to rest, determined to be ready. This meant poor sleep, so slight as to amount to none in the real sense.

\* \* \*

**SUNDAY, JULY 5, 1896**

AT 4 o'clock the engines stopped, and I got up. My bed steward, who had been very attentive in insignificant things, and who said he would be on hand to see me ashore in the morning, was now invisible when his services would really have been of some value.

How was this? Well, to save time at the last moment, I had during the previous day, settled up with everybody as regards those gratuities to which stewards on a long voyage consider themselves by custom entitled.

In this I made a mistake, according to common advice. "If you want your man," say they, "to be civil and alert to the last moment, put off the fees till then." The poor motive that keeps these creatures at work being gone, the man was gone too, and I pressed the button of the electric bell in vain to cause a reappearance.

Isn't it wretched, this absence of all true neighborliness—this universal inspiration of the mercenary? It is part, and a heavy part, of the evil of "the present evil world." It is needless to look for anything else or to be in the least out of temper with it. Recognize your surroundings and act accordingly.

I had to help myself in getting my things on deck, one by one. I would not have minded if I could then have gone ashore, but there was a box in the hold which I could not go without. The hands were busy getting out cargo at the fore hatchway, and I was told they would start getting out the heavy luggage from the after hold in about 10 minutes. The 10 minutes were prolonged to 2½ hours.

There was nothing for it but wait as patiently as possible. It gave me an opportunity of looking round a little. It was a bright summer morning, for though it was winter (in Australia) at the beginning of the voyage, it was summer now. The clear morning air was healing.

The steamer was drawn up and moored at a wooden wharf in Victoria harbor, in front of an immense shed, into which the hands were conveying bundles and packages of merchandise taken out of the *Miowera*, with much noise of donkey engine and shouting porters.

The picture of tranquil land and water all round was beautiful. Across the water at a great distance, rose the Olympian mountains before spoken of. The snow mantled summits might have been clouds, only that the shadows had a depth and a sharpness of outline and a massive fixity of aspect that told their true character.

I was not in the best condition to enjoy the scene, after such a night. Still the effect was pleasing, and the prospect of terra firma delightful.

In due time my trunk was heaved up from the depths, and swung ashore: and the Customs official having barbarously looked through my things to see that there was no pig iron or contraband, I was free.

I gave myself up to a clamorous vehicle hirer, who had kept his eye pertinaciously on me for nearly 3 hours. He wanted to drive me to a hotel. I said,

"No: I have a friend in the town: drive me to his house (giving him the address): and when you get there, don't ring the bell or rap or make any noise. Just lay my things on the footpath in front of his door, and I will do the rest"—all which instructions he duly executed.

It was 7 in the morning when I was let down in front of 45 Hayward Ave., on the outskirts of Victoria, close to Beaconhill Park (I think that was the name), by the sea. There was a little garden enclosure in front of the house.

I laid my things partly inside this enclosure, and partly on the wooden footway (American style), and went for a walk. I could not think of rousing the inmates at an unusual hour; and a walk in the sweet morning air, after being so long cooped up in a steamboat, would be a treat.

And so it was. Vegetation was everywhere luxuriant and green as at home, and there was an odor of flowers in the air—the scent of roses, honeysuckle, woodbriar. Nobody was astir: everything was quiet and delicious.

I afterwards ascertained that the island of Vancouver, owing to its position, has a remarkably temperate climate—free from extremes of heat and cold—allowing the same bedclothes all the year, and fostering every variety of field and garden produce.

Victoria itself is a place containing 20,000 inhabitants. It was the first town to be established after the British occupation, when there was no railway across the country. Since the opening of the Canadian-Pacific line from the east for a distance of 3,000 or 4,000 miles, Victoria has had an important rival in Vancouver, 80 miles distant. Victoria, however, is likely to retain the start it has obtained. The coast scenery in all directions is grand.

In my delicious walk among the meadows, in the quiet and sweet morning air, I kept well in sight of 45 Hayward Ave.—in case of prowlers or friends. In due course, there were signs of people waking up.

By-and bye, a figure came out of 45. After a little delay and uncertainty of movement, it came down the avenue towards where I was sitting on the wooden footway, with legs dangling into a hollow place. It was bro. Edwards. I had never seen him before.

He asked, and yet didn't ask, but assumed that I was bro. Roberts. He ejaculated in tones of distress, "Oh, bro. Roberts, what a reception!" repeating the remark several times.

I told him it was beautiful: it was entirely to my mind: he could not have contrived it better if he had invented it.

He could not see that at all. I told him it would have been a distress to me to see anybody down at the steamer at the unreasonable hour at which she had arrived; and that nothing could have been more acceptable than to be allowed to have a quiet morning walk all by myself in the scented morning air.

Bro. Edwards said the steamboat was so much behind her time, and they were so cut off from intelligence of her movements across a sea where no telegraphic cable had yet been laid, that they were all out of their calculations. They had been on the qui vive for several days, and had concluded from the absence of signal at Carmanah Point on Saturday that the vessel could not possibly arrive till Monday.

When they found on getting up that my things were piled up in front of their house, they concluded that I had sent them up as an intimation of arrival, and was waiting on board the steamer; and he was just on the point of mounting his bicycle to go down to her when he spied a loiterer.

He conducted me to his house, where sis. Edwards most cordially received me. I was soon amid the delights of home life on terra firma, which are very delicious after tossing on the deep for over 3 weeks.

The zest was greatly increased by the pile of happy letters waiting for me from home and elsewhere. I had a deep plunge in the letters while sis. Edwards was getting breakfast ready.

Then breakfast, mingled with lamentations from my hosts about my "reception," which I tried hard to convince them were misplaced altogether. The reception could not have been better. How much better to drift quietly and unceremoniously to a friendly door of true welcome than to have the full ceremony of a wintry courtesy. I think they were convinced at last.

At 11 o'clock, I accompanied them to the breaking of bread at bro. Drysdale's, where several brethren and friends were assembled. One sister (McCarter) had been there for 3 or 4 weeks, waiting me from Moose Jaw, 1000 miles away, with her husband (not yet in the Faith, but veering that way). They had gone by the time first appearing in the Christadelphian, which would have been all right but for the delays of the Miowera.

None of them were now expecting me, as they had persuaded themselves it was impossible I could arrive before Monday on account of the absence of signal at a remote point of the coast, where the steamboat is usually seen and announced. The fact was, in this case, that the steamboat had passed immediately after dark, and therefore unobserved and unannounced. (As it is said, "all signs fail," mortals never can be sure).

When I arrived with bro. & sis. Edwards, they thought I must be a certain interested stranger, whom they had heard he was in tow with. My introduction, therefore, took them somewhat aback. They could not believe their eyes for a moment. It was one of those special sensations that come only now and then. (I am afraid this will seem awfully egotistical to some of my wintry friends. Let it pass).

We had a pleasant breaking of bread together. Sis. McCarter had become an invalid since her arrival in Victoria, much to her disappointment. She had to take the meeting lying on the sofa, and was unable to attend the lectures afterwards arranged for, except the last.

Not knowing when I would land, no final arrangements had been made for lectures. But now, arrangements were hurried up for 4 lectures during the ensuing week, with at least a day's interval between each lecture.

There was no meeting for this Sunday evening, for which I was thankful, for after a sleepless night and a long early wait for cargo discharge, I was in a state of fatigue which welcomed a quiet evening and an early bedding, with a late waking next morning.

\* \* \*

**MON. & TUES., JULY 6-7, 1896**

THERE were many letters to write. Quite a number of invitations to visit various parts of Canada and the States were waiting me. These I had to decline at this time on account of the time lost by the delays of the Miowera, promising to accept on the next occasion of my passing through America from Australia for home.

I had also (by permission) to drop several appointments actually made so that I might reach Birmingham by the middle of August—confining myself to those places that were on the line of route to Boston and that had spoken earliest for my services. To all these I had to write. I had also to write home and various friendly letters to Australia. It was several days before I accomplished all this.

The Victoria ecclesia is a sort of connecting link between the eastern and western worlds, so far as the system of the Truth is developed in modern times. It numbers something over 20, with prospects of increase.

It was at one time as high as 50, but was rent asunder by the importation from Scotland of the leaven of partial inspirationism. From this disaster, it has now recovered. The section that stood for partial inspiration has dwindled away to nothing—having now no meeting and only one representative in Victoria.

Those who were faithful to the Scriptures in association with bro. Edwards are a well-knit body with increased spiritual vigor and prospects of numerical increase. This is pretty much the history of that mischief throughout the world.

\* \* \*

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1896**

LECTURE tonight in the AOU Hall, the largest in Victoria. Subject, "Is Man Immortal?"; fair audience.

\* \* \*

**THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1896**

QUIET tea meeting at bro. Drysdale's, for sis. McCarter's sake, who was unable to attend the public meetings.

\* \* \*

**FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1896**

LECTURE, "The Kingdom of God: What, Where, and How?" better audience.

\* \* \*

**SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1896**

BOATING picnic up the river; bro. & sis. Cook present from Ladner's, some 60 miles distant; they had asked me to come there, but time would not allow.

\* \* \*

**SUNDAY, JULY 12, 1896**

PLEASANT breaking of bread; in the evening, lecture on "The Gathering Storm in Europe"; still larger audience, and much interest.

\* \* \*

**MONDAY, JULY 13, 1896**

LECTURE, "Signs of the Nearness of Christ"; again a large audience.

\* \* \*

**TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1896**

SOCIAL gathering at bro. Edwards, preparatory to departure in the S.S. Charmer for Vancouver. The steamboat was to start at 2 a.m., but passengers were allowed on board the night before. I was accompanied to the vessel by several of the brethren, and with some sorrow bade them adieu at 11 p.m.—retiring at once to rest.

(I have a pleasant memory of my stay with bro. & sis. Edwards, who are of the sterling spiritual type that Paul gave thanks for in his day, and that have been a refreshment, courage, and mainstay to believers in these thirsty times ever since. God increase their numbers! They will at last fill the earth. I had some pleasant walks by the picturesque seashore, looking across the wide strait to the Olympian snow capped mountains.)

There are not many passing ships in these quiet seas. A sunk steamboat lying outside gives a touch of melancholy to the solitary waters.

\* \* \*

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1896**

THE Charmer arrived at Vancouver (a voyage of 70 miles) at 8 p.m. The passengers were landed close to the terminal railway station of the Canadian Pacific line; but the train was not due to start till 2 o'clock (for a long run of 6 days and 6 nights to Montreal).

Consequently there was opportunity to visit the city, most picturesquely situated on rising ground, overlooking extensive waters enclosed by high hills on all sides, except on the seaward side.

It is a city of very recent growth, and owes its existence to the construction of the Canadian Pacific Line. Prior to that event, it was silent bush. Now, it is a busy, active, extensive place, with solid streets, large public buildings, electric trams, and electric lighting. It flourished with great rapidity for some years: but like most other places, it has had a setback for some years, owing to the collapse of inflated values, which has depressed business of all kinds.

That it will recover before the coming of the Lord, we do not know. With that event, it will doubtless be involved with the whole world in the terrible upheavals that will mark the prolonged transition from the present miserable dispensation to the glorious one beyond—

"A time of trouble SUCH AS NEVER WAS."

From that time of trouble, it will emerge, after years of humiliation, into the calm sunshine of the Lord, when men will no longer have the management of their own affairs: which they are not fit to manage, for even when prosperity comes, they run it to death, and kick each other into the ditch.

Knowing that bro. Sulley had a brother here in a prominent position, I called at his magnificent business place, for Bro. Sulley's sake, but found he was absent in Europe. I afterwards went into an hotel, and obtained permission to write a few letters during the remaining interval to the starting of the train.

I had also to call on the Canadian Pacific Co. to arrange for my journey. The ticket on which I was traveling was a through ticket, from Vancouver to Liverpool: but required to be renewed at various points. Vancouver was one of those points where I had to decide which day and by which steamer I would cross the Atlantic, and whether I would travel on the railway in a sleeping car or ordinary carriage, and whether I would pay for meals in a lump or pay for them as I had them.

These points being arranged in harmony with the necessities of a comparative invalid, I got aboard the train, which started punctually at 2.

The construction of the Canadian Pacific railway some 10 years ago was a stupendous feat, whether we consider its length (close on 3000 miles); its difficulty (traversing the most extensive mountainous district in the world, amid glaciers, deep gorges, and raging mountain torrents); and its great cost or its incalculable value to England, commercially and strategically.

There is a secret political history in it that was unknown to the public at the time. It never would have been constructed as a merely commercial enterprise. It is partly the offspring of political rivalry and partly an accommodation to the necessities of British imperialism in the world.

The United States had spanned the American continent with a railway connecting New York on the Atlantic on the east coast, with San Francisco on the Pacific on the west, and had established a line of steamers running from San Francisco to Australia, China, and Japan.

This threatened to give the United States a monopoly of the growing trade between the two hemispheres. It was not long before the necessity was perceived of protecting British interests by making a corresponding line through Canada. Such an enterprise required imperial funds. Canada could never have found the money. Rich old mother Britannia found it, and the work was done.

England's position has been greatly strengthened in a military and strategic sense by the construction of the railway. She can now forward troops to any point of her vast dominions at a few days' notice—that is, at the motion of an electric button in England, the nearest military force can be brought to bear in a few days on any point by a series of substitutional garrison movements.

A force at Vancouver (where there is a naval and military depot at Esquimalt) can be ordered by a flash of the wire to embark for China, Japan, or Australia, while the Halifax (N.S.) garrison can be ordered forward at the same moment to take the place of the vacated military force at Esquimalt, & the Jamaica garrison ordered to take the place of the vacated garrison at Halifax, and troops sent from Portsmouth to take the place of the vacated Jamaica force.

The experiment has been tried. It will thus be seen that Britain's striking force has been greatly increased throughout the world by the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway.

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## Bible Questions

1. "Well said!" Who said to whom?
2. "Better than 7 sons": who?
3. "Better than 10 sons": who?
4. "Better that sacrifice": what?
26. Who was a serpent by the way?
27. Who was a "hind let loose"?
28. Who was a "lion's whelp"?
29. Who shall "ravin as a wolf"?

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 5. "Better than a 1000": what is?   | 30. "Fear not, thou worm": who?    |
| 6. "Better than rubies": what is?   | 31. Who was "that fox"?            |
| 7. "Better than secret love": what? | 32. Who was "like a pelican"?      |
| 8. "Better than laughter": what?    | 33. "Goodly horse": who?           |
| 9. "Better than a dead lion": what? | 34. Who was a Lamb?                |
| 10. "Better than the fowls": who?   | 35. Where are hornets mentioned?   |
| 11. "Better country": who desired?  | 36. Where are mice mentioned?      |
| 12. "A sucking lamb": when?         | 37. Frogs in Old Testament: where? |
| 13. "Lowing as they went": when?    | 38. Frogs in New Testament: where? |
| 14. "Her hap was to . . .": what?   | 39. Identify: 153, 666, 1335, 276? |
| 15. "Antipas, my faithful": what?   | 40. 969, 1005, 2½, 3½, 99, 175?    |
| 16. "The 7 stars are . . .": what?  | 41. Aprons in Old Testament?       |
| 17. "Out of his mouth went": what?  | 42. Aprons in New Testament?       |
| 18. Who poured water into a basin?  | 43. Who followed whose bier (OT)?  |
| 19. Who "took water and washed"?    | 44. Who touched whose bier (NT)?   |
| 20. Where are forks mentioned?      | 45. Where are hats mentioned?      |
| 21. "Roll great stones": who said?  | 46. "I called not, my son": who?   |
| 22. What was "dry and mouldy"?      | 47. Who said 'Give a perfect lot'? |
| 23. Why was Gilgal so named?        | 48. "Paper" in OT: where?          |
| 24. Who was a flea?                 | 49. "Paper" in NT: where?          |
| 25. Who was a "strong ass"?         | 50. "Into the theatre": when?      |
- 

### **Strengthen Thy Brethren**

*"Simon, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren"—Luke. 22:31-32*

#### **THE EPISTLES OF PETER**

IN order to fully appreciate the value and understand a letter, one must know something of the writer, his character, and his life's background. These items of information are especially helpful in reading a letter of spiritual intercourse, such as we find in Peter's epistles to the strangers scattered throughout Asia Minor.

First, let us note that Peter appears to be writing to the same people that James addresses: "the twelve tribes scattered abroad," whom he styles "Brethren" and Peter speaks of as "Elect."

We get a hint of who these believers were, and how they learned the Truth, from Acts—

"And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language . . .

"Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and Proselytes, Cretes and Arabians—we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God . . .

\* \* \*

"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 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.

"And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about 3000 souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:5-42).

These Jews and proselytes were in Jerusalem to attend the feast of Pentecost, and would carry the Gospel message back to these countries to form bands of believers which would be revived and increased by Paul's mission about the same time (AD 60) as both Peter and James wrote to them.

Known personally to some, and by report of his use of the Key of Knowledge on the day of Pentecost to the Jews, Peter's letter, as well as James' epistle, would be like news from a friend. Those to whom he wrote would be in both physical and spiritual danger; needing encouragement & warning (1Peter 1:3)—

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

"To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."

God hath called us to a lively hope, made thus by Christ's resurrection. We can feel the pulse, as it were, of an older brother who—knowing the weakness of the flesh (drastically taught him by his own previous failings, and lack of faith)—fears lest under similar trial his brethren should likewise deny their Lord (2 Peter 2-18-19):

"For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."

Is there not danger, in all ages, generations and circumstances, that the present will override the future prospect, and like Peter we will deny our Master? Peter was called "Cephas" by Jesus, meaning "a stone," but even a stone has to be grounded and settled before it can become a foundation stone.

An individual has to go through a sifting process of trial, error, humiliation and weeping, before he or she can become a tried stone or a precious stone or possess a tried faith, more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire.

Our very calling, requiring a good deal of patience by God, and a continuing amount of mercy as we blunder through life, and then face the great Judge, unprofitable servants requiring finally a forgiveness that only can be given by the Spirit of God—all these reveal, as Peter says, God's abundant mercy.

Peter's great mistake had been made in an hour of great darkness and doubt. He possessed plenty of zeal, but lacked full knowledge.

He had seen Jesus manifest power in miracles; he had heard the Good News he preached. Peter had become animated to such a pitch that he was sure he could walk on the sea or even go with Jesus to death.

But when the whole drama seemed ready to crash down and engulf himself with his Master, Peter's faith failed—

"Woman, I KNOW HIM NOT!"

And Peter went out and "wept bitterly." This is perhaps a glaring example of intense trial. Perhaps we fail less under much less trial, but the result may be equal.

Peter was a chosen vessel for Christ to become a fisher of men, to open the door of faith to Jew and Gentile. Peter was part of the foundation or rock on which Christ's ecclesia would be built, that of Eph. 2:20—

"And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone."

Had Peter sunk when trying to walk the stormy sea, his mission would have ended. Or had he walked successfully to Jesus, a sense of trust in himself would have blinded him, and he could have pursued his hasty zeal unaware of his dependence on Jesus to take him by the hand—

"O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

We must guard against the tendency to be courageous when all is well, but weak and doubting when things go wrong.

\* \* \*

Peter reminds us (2 Peter 1:3) that we are "called to glory and virtue," an inner strength that upholds purity and fidelity to God. It requires troubles and mistakes to promote these characteristics.

It's something different from stubbornness, which is a feeling often generated by a trust in ourselves rather than God. It's a knowledge of God, the power of His Word, and a strong faith in Him (Luke 22:31-34)—

"And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:  
"But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.  
"And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death."

"When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." This sort of "conversion" is not accomplished at baptism, but requires experience in mistakes and trouble of various kinds—

"The Lord is good unto them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeketh Him.

"It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

"It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth; For the Lord will not cast off for ever"

(Lam. 3:25-31).

\* \* \*

1 Peter 4:1-2—

"Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind:

"For he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin: that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God."

The impetuous, confident, sword-wielding Peter was converted, changed, and stronger than ever. He was now feeding Christ's lambs, and was an elder, a witness of Christ's suffering, and a partaker of the glory to come

(1 Pet. 5:1-4)—

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

"And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

\* \* \*

In 2 Pet. 1:12-21, we have the word of prophecy more confirmed. Peter had seen and heard Christ, had witnessed God's sealing of approval of Christ on the mount, and the powers of miracle.

But this hadn't produced the virtue which he now possessed. Peter had been disappointed when Christ was crucified; he also had been disappointed and grieved at his own failing, and lack of knowledge and faith.

Christ's rebuke to the 2 on the way to Emmaus was applicable to them all—

"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have written!

"Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?"

\* \* \*

2 Peter 1:20-21—

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

Peter reminds us here, that prophecy is not of private disclosure, but the source is of God. Finally, 2 Peter 3:1-18—

"This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: that ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord.

"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."

*"GROW IN GRACE." We see how that by a growth in strength and God's favor, men like David, Paul, and Peter can become not loose stones, but pillars, precious stones, foundations, and examples to all. —A. J.*

## He Was Intreated of Us

*"This is our God; we have waited for Him: we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation"—Isaiah 25:9*

IN our recent readings we were in company with the apostle Paul, at which time he had just escaped the hazard of a watery grave in the Mediterranean. The words associated with that escape were—

"And when they were escaped, they knew that the island was called Melita."  
—known today as Malta.

\* \* \*

But before we express ourselves with regards to the apostle's experience, we have some interesting happenings recorded by both Ezra and Hosea.

"For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy in the way: because we had spoken unto the king, saying,

"The hand of our God is upon all of them for good that seek Him; but His power and His wrath is against all that forsake him."

Ezra and his company were on their way back to Palestine from their captivity. They had made a stop at Ahava, and were making certain appointments and adjustments for the rest of their journey. The occasion furnishes us with thoughts in our time that we should not put our trust in the arm of flesh but in the true and living God.

It would be interesting and profitable to read all associated with Ezra's preparation and why it was done, but to quote the **mainstay** of Ezra's preparation (v. 23)—

"So we fasted and besought our God for this, and He was intreated of us."

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Then in Hos. 9 it appears that Israel was in the mood of rejoicing, but Hosea said, "Not now." Why?—

"For thou Israel hast gone a whoring from thy God, and instead loved a reward (RV: hire) upon every cornfloor."

Present-day blessings and worldly indulgences, rather than thankfulness. Where the blessings came from was not the least thought of at that time. We may term it "sociability"—get together and have a good time on the strength of our prosperity. The whole movement is summed up in Hos. 9:17—

"God will cast them away."

And He did. Why? Because they did not hearken unto Him, which is a great warning today to any of us who like Israel have been so blessed, but who have failed to recognize the "day of visitation."

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COMING then to Acts 28, we find that the opening verse, though it does not say it in so many words, reveals Paul and his company thankful that they had been able to escape the raging of the sea. And they learned that the island was called Melita, the modern Malta, a little south of the toe of the Italian boot.

The hospitality of the "barbarous" people, that is, stranger, natives, was greatly appreciated, for they kindled a fire, the comfort and warmth of such in such circumstances may be better appreciated than described. The apostle, showing his appreciation of the warmth and sociability of the people, helped in gathering a bundle of sticks. As we know that association and, friendliness is so much added to if all help in the work or preparation.

But it appeared to the people, and most likely to all, that tragedy had struck at a time when everyone appeared to be rejoicing. (A thought in passing: never in our life, and that in the prospects of eternal life, should we forget or appear to forget from whence all blessings flow).

A viper came out of the heat of the fire and fastened on the hand of the apostle. It is ever the same for workers in Christ, their afflictions are manifold, it is as Jesus said (Luke 12:48)—

"Unto whomsoever much is given of him shall be much required."

Where there is great favor and blessing there is more testing and trial, and more results required. **We in these last days have been greatly blessed and favored.**

The people of the isle felt that surely justice had now caught up with the apostle. It is so easy to judge hastily and unfairly on the basis of another's misfortunes. We are slow to learn the lesson of Job's self-righteous and hypocritical "friends."

But how man is made to recognize that God is not always in all his thoughts? God's ways are beyond our comprehension. We dare not say when calamity falls or appears to fall, it is on account of the wrong so done.

Yes, said the people—

"Though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth him not to live."

(If man's thought did direct man's destiny, how often would the state of life be changed!) The viper is of that family that stands for wickedness and sin. Jesus said—

"Ye are of your Father the Devil. He was a murderer from the beginning."

Yet here in the viper, the serpent family, and the apostle Paul, we have a wonderful symbolic feature of the blessings and the joys that will be the lot of those who shall be worthy to "escape the sea."

As John in Rev. 17:15 shows, the waters, the seas, are descriptive of the seething mass of humanity, the present muddled, restless condition of life on earth. Paul was able to escape the apparent affliction of sin's manifestation, and those who faithfully follow Paul in this present age will in Christ's day be able to escape, due to their being blessed with glory, honor and immortality, bestowed by the Holy Spirit.

Looking at the blessing of the future, which the symbolism associated with Paul makes us do, we can through the eyes of Joel (2:7-8) draw a wonderful and encouraging picture—

"They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war . . . and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded."

They looked, the barbarous people, when Paul should have been swollen, or fallen dead suddenly, but when they saw no harm came to him—

"They changed their minds and said that he was a god."

Paul shook off the beast into the fire and felt no harm. The fire of the wrath of the Lord God Almighty shall destroy all that come against His King and against His Anointed.

In the fire and wrath of that day, God's people will not feel any harm, but how man in that day will "change his mind," or be made to change his mind, at the circumstances that will be brought to bear upon him, at that time, for as they saw what happened to God's servant Paul, so it will be in the days of the Son of man. Man will tenaciously hold to his views, but will finally be made to say—

"Our fathers inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit."

And instead will come the gladsome voice—

"This is our God; we have waited for Him; we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation!"

As Paul healed the father of the chief man of the island, so will Christ heal all that come unto him in that true recognition of the Lord Jesus being the Savior of mankind.

After Paul had healed Publius' father, others who had diseases in the island came to him and were healed. In the day of the Lord, the Greater than Paul will manifest his healing virtues to all that "come unto him," but at present, in the majority, it is as it was in the days of Paul (v. 27)—

"The heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing and their eyes have they closed."

Ears and eyes closed to the true and glorious virtues spoken of in the Scriptures, and which should be the hope and desire of all mankind.

God's ears are still open to the desires and the cry of all who may come unto Him, in the desire of being healed from their present incumbrance of mortality. The salvation of God is still open to us, the Gentiles. Let us hear, that God may manifest His blessings in His healing virtue, as Paul healed Publius' father.

So Christ will heal all that come unto him in the open manifestation of belief and baptism. The great lesson Paul showed unto the people of his day is still the same that will gain for man salvation: the healing from mortality and sin.

Paul as a prisoner—

"Dwelt 2 whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in to him."

And his teaching was—

"The Kingdom of God, and those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ."

The appointed time of Paul's preaching was limited by Divine Wisdom, and so is ours. In Noah's time, the days set for hearing were 120 years, and so it would seem; today. Let us hope and pray we come within that allotted span, knowing it is fast drawing to a close! —W.J.P.

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## Eternal Weight of Glory

*"I am the Light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the Light of life"*  
—John. 8:12

THE Scriptures point out that Jesus is the example that we must follow. To follow Jesus we must deny the flesh and glorify God in word and deed, always walking soberly, and doing that which would please our Father in heaven, for we have been blessed above all people on earth.

How? Because we have been called to a high and holy calling from the darkness of the world that surrounds us, to be sons and daughters of our heavenly Father. And we have been given the hope of eternal life in the Age to Come, for we have opportunity to take part in God's plan of preparing a people for His Name.

We should be the happiest of all people in the world, for our hearts were divinely opened that we might understand the Truth of the Gospel. We have understood the "precious promises" in their true light, and we were anxious to become a part of the family of God, so that we too could rejoice in the One Hope.

Has our zeal and love for the Truth increased since our baptism, and since the Light was revealed unto us, that we might not walk in darkness? Or has our love diminished? ARE we the happiest of all people? We should be.

True, we have many causes for sorrow, and sometimes we are troubled, but Paul says—

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted but not forsaken; cast down but not destroyed.

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

"While we look not at the things which are seen; but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor. 4:8-18).

We must keep our mind on the things which are not seen, for perhaps we are looking too much at the temporal things which we can see, as the Israelites did in the wilderness. If we do not look forward to the coming of Christ with all our heart, then we should search it to find out what causes us to wish that the time of his coming might be delayed.

Perhaps our once fervent love and zeal for the Truth has cooled, and the vision of the Kingdom of God and what it will mean to us has faded with the passing years?

Let us with all of our minds strive to keep the vision of those things that God has prepared for those that love Him at all times in the forefront of our minds.

It is written that man cannot comprehend all of the glorious things which are prepared for those who are found faithful and await them in the Kingdom of God, but in God's love and wisdom many things ARE revealed to us, so let us dwell on them to keep the vision of the Coming Age bright before our eyes!

Let us renew in our minds some of those great and precious promises that God has given to His children. The greatest promise of all is that if we are judged righteous we will be given eternal life. This promise was because—

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have eternal life."

If we are found faithful we shall be changed from a flesh-and-blood body, to a body of flesh and spirit, and will be bodies subjected to death no longer, but will be spirit bodies, for Paul says (Phil. 3:20-21)—

"Our conversation (citizenship) is in heaven, from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ:

"Who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like to his glorious body."

He also says (1 Cor. 15:44)—

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

"It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

"It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body."

The only body we know is a natural body, which we have now, and as Paul says, it is weak, it is corrupt. How wonderful it is to look forward to a body which will be perfect, and incorruptible, and have no death in it!

It is impossible for us to imagine having a body which never grows tired, never will be sick; no more tired muscles, or aching bones. Never again will our minds and bodies need sleep to function properly, for when we are given eternal life we are given the assurance—

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles;

"They shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint" (Isa. 40:31).

And we are also promised we will be made equal unto the angels, for Christ said—

"But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage.

"Neither can they die any more; for they are equal unto the angels;

"And are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection" (Luke 20:35).

The angels are spoken of many times in the Bible, and if we will study carefully we will have a preview of what lies in store for those who are made immortal. These immortal beings were seen on many occasions by mortals.

We have on record that 3 appeared to Abraham, and he invited them to dine with him, and they ate of the meal prepared for them. Not that it was necessary to sustain life, as is the case of mortal life, but it gives us a picture of their personal reality, and their friendliness and sociableness with Abraham, and harmlessness to one who obeys God.

But to the enemies of God in their destruction, they will show no mercy, as the Sodomites experienced when Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed. One day soon, and not far distant, we will have the prospect of becoming acquainted with them, and of sharing the wonderful life which they enjoy, as immortal servants of God.

Also during the time that Daniel was a captive in Babylon an angel named Gabriel appeared unto him with a message from God. This same angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to make that startling announcement that she would be the mother of Jesus. It had been over 500 years since this same angel Gabriel had appeared to Daniel, yet he was the same powerful immortal being. Time had not made any change of the power of his spirit body.

And so will it be with us. Going from one place to another will present no problem to us when we become immortal for it is written of an angel that he was—

"Caused to fly swiftly."

Crude popular notion (and also taught by many of the world's churches) is that an angel has wings, but we know that is not true. Wings would be useless in outer space. The power that enables an angel to fly from one place to another is the spirit-power of God. This power does not need any external contraptions to assist it.

Man with his limited power can send a missile to the moon in a period of a few days, but it takes 1000's of men and years of planning and 100's of millions of dollars, But God with His unlimited power can transport an angel infinite distances in the "twinkling of an eye," for nothing is impossible with God.

Let us think of these marvelous truths, brothers and sisters, and keep striving for that privilege of becoming "like unto the angels."

Let us read of another promise made unto us in Rev. 2:26-23, which Christ revealed to John on Patmos—

"He that overcometh and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

"And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers; even as I have received of my Father.

"And I will give him the Morning Star."

It is very difficult for us to realize that we may be among those who will take vengeance upon the enemies of God, and bring destruction upon human beings, for at present we are exhorted to be meek and lowly, kind and gentle, and to accept wrong to the point of turning the other cheek.

We are exhorted to follow in his steps, for he came "as a lamb led to the slaughter." We too must go through this period of probation during which we must manifest these lamb-like qualities, and overcome the flesh, before we are given the honor of assisting in the work of subduing the nations. When Christ comes the 2nd time, he will come as a lion, with power and strength, which no man or nation can resist.

Let us refer to our elder brother, Dr. Thomas, for what is meant by the phrase, "I will give him the Morning Star." Dr. Thomas says—

"The morning star is also promised to him that overcomes. To appreciate the importance and value of this great promise, we must know what is signified by the phrase. The 'Morning Star' is the star belonging to the morning. The morning is alluded to in Gen. 49, where it is written concerning the tribe of Benjamin (styled a 'wolf')—

"He shall tear in pieces: **in the morning** he shall devour the prey: and at the evening he shall divide the spoil."

"In these words of Jacob's prophecy of 'what shall happen to Israel in the latter days,' we are instructed to look for a period in which Benjamin shall devour his enemies instead of being himself devoured, as he has been for the last 1800 years. This is styled 'the morning'—an era of triumph and conquest for Israel.

"The 'morning' referred to by Jacob in his prophecy is manifestly the time of the rising of a Sun in the political heavens, because he is treating of a great political revolution in the affairs of Benjamin and the rest of the tribes.

"The Eternal Spirit, in His multitudinous manifestation, is the Sun belonging to the morning of that great day, in which the world shall be ruled in righteousness, and Yahweh's glory shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

"When God raised up the dead body named Jesus, He transformed it into a spirit-body. This became the Bright Star, the bright particular star, of that galaxy of stars pertaining to that morning when 'Israel shall do valiantly.'

"The Bright and Morning Star, then, the Eternal Spirit glorified in Jesus, promises to give the morning star to him that overcomes. In other words, that he shall be a glorified constituent of the One Body when it is adopted at the manifestation of the sons of Deity. He will then be a star pertaining to the Millennial Dawn—a 'morning star.'

"Of all the stars of the New Heavens, Jesus will be the brightest, for in all things it is the Father's will and pleasure, not only that all the fulness shall dwell in him, but that also he shall have the preeminence.

"There is one glory of the sun'—and that is his. 'There is another glory of the stars'—and that is his brethren individually. 'There is another glory of the moon'—and that is the glory of his companions collectively. As his Bride, they—

"Look forth as the MORNING: fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners."

"He that overcometh, to him it shall be given to be one of these— a splendid one sparkling in the glory of the great and fearful Name of Yahweh."

Dear brethren and sisters, how wonderful are these promises! And we should dwell in loving meditation on these wonderful things that have been promised us, for they will give us strength in our fight to overcome the flesh.

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Let us turn to the prophecy of Ezekiel, for he tells us about the Temple to be built when Christ's Kingdom is set up on earth, which is to be a "House of prayer for all nations." It is to be a magnificent structure where all people will come to worship God in the Future Age.

As Kings and Priests we shall officiate in the services of this Temple, for we read (Ez. 44)—

"The sons of Zadok, that kept the charge of My Sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me; "They shall come near to Me to minister unto Me, and they shall keep My charge."

Once again let us accept Dr. Thomas interpretation. He says:

"These 24 elders (mentioned in Rev. 4:4) are the 24 orders of the sons of Zadok who shall enter into the Sanctuary of Yahweh to minister unto Him. The Lamb is there in the midst of them. They are before the throne, and in

the Temple ready for the service continually, and shall meet in sweet communion with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, the prophets and the apostles, and Christ himself."

There is nothing in this world that can compare with this glorious state so let us continually keep these promises of God before us and meditate upon them continually, that it may be our happy lot to receive that promise of Christ –

"He that overcometh I will make a pillar in the Temple of my God, and he shall go no more out."

The day is very near when we shall leave these everyday surroundings which we know now. We will leave behind our homes, our jobs, the neighbors which live around us, and those of our families who do not know and understand the Truth, and are not responsible to God, all of these things which we now see and know will be left behind.

We will be called to the judgment seat; our probationary period will have ended; things here which have seemed so important to us will be nothing.

And with the end of our probation period will also end the Gentile reign on the earth. The oppressive and wicked reign of the kingdoms of men will come to a close, and God's Kingdom will be established in the earth. Then Ps. 102:13 will be fulfilled:

"Thou shalt arise and have mercy on Zion, for the time to favor her, yea, the set time has come."

The "Set time"—we are told there is a set time when God will again favor Zion, for—

"When the Lord shall build up Zion, He shall appear in His glory."

Christ shall come in all his glory, and shall build up Zion again. This is the event for which we are preparing ourselves now, for today is the day of salvation. Now—today— we are given the time to "work it out with fear and trembling."

**How far are we along this road of developing the mind that is pleasing to God? Do we have the mind of Christ?**

These are very vital questions, for we must be prepared to inherit eternal life when the time comes. We shall not have another chance; the door will be closed. If we are not found worthy of eternal life, then there can be only one other sentence pronounced upon us, and that is shame, punishment, and death. We will not be permitted to return to the comfortable life as we know it if we are not accepted, for the rejected are warned—

"Depart from me, ye cursed, into the lake of fire prepared for the Devil and his angels."

The ones who are rejected will be thrust out to wander in those nations that are being subdued and they will, literally and figuratively, be a "lake of fire prepared for the Devil and his angels," because of the wars, terror, and destruction that will prevail there. Since the time is so near, let us—

"Lay aside EVERY weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

Let us put away those things that might hinder us, and with God's help conquer the mind of the flesh and become spiritually-minded men and women—for therein alone lies peace and hope. It is so easy to let the flesh have its way, and do those things that are contrary to the will of God.

What is it that causes us to act this way? Why is it that we so often fail to do that which is pleasing to God, and do what is pleasing to ourselves? The Bible tells us the answer—

**"THE HEART IS DECEITFUL ABOVE ALL THINGS, AND DESPERATELY WICKED: WHO CAN KNOW IT?"**

These are plain words: the true facts are brought into focus by one simple statement. All of the great swelling words of our great scholars and many ministers are cast aside, and the light of Truth clearly reveals the character of natural man: his heart is wicked and deceitful, and who can really know it?

God's Word tells us how to combat this natural evil condition of man, for God is wiser than man—far wiser; there is no comparison. He knows man, for He made him. He also gives man a remedy for his sin-stricken condition—

**"FEAR GOD AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, FOR THIS IS THE WHOLE DUTY OF MAN."**

**This is too simple an answer for the majority of men, so they seek other remedies, and will not accept the true source of help for man.**

They do not like to accept the facts that all men are evil—are wicked. Yet in our daily news accounts these facts are proven by what men do to their fellowman. We are shocked and horrified when we read reports of parents who torture their helpless children. This shows to what depth the mind of the flesh can descend when it is not disciplined by God's Word.

We feel that we could never become so cruel and heartless, but anything contrary to God's commands, no matter how small it may seem to us, is performed by the mind of the flesh, and is abhorrent to God. We must manifest the mind of Christ in both word and deed.

Just to SPEAK the Truth is not enough, we must manifest the fruits of the spirit in our daily walk. If we do not, we are deceiving ourselves when we say we are brethren of Christ, for the Scriptures plainly tell us—

"If any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

"As many as are led by the Spirit of God, THEY are His sons."

We can only claim to be the sons of God and the brethren of Christ if we manifest the mind of Christ—gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness. How hard do we try to develop these characteristics? Do we have these desirable qualities that God demands in His children? Do we spend the time we should in preparing our minds and hearts so they will be filled with the fruits of the Spirit?

We must each take our part, and do our best to serve God to the fullest extent of our ability. Let us remember that one of the fruits of the Spirit is Faith, but it is a dead faith if not accompanied by works. We are commanded to—

"Strengthen the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees."

"Feed the flock of God which is among you."

This is an important work for each brother and sister. It is not only our duty, but our joyful privilege to strengthen and comfort the little flock, by being faithful in attendance of meetings. We can be cheerful, we can show our love by our kindness, we can do everything possible to keep peace and harmony in the Body.

To do this we must be of one mind, for the love of God and Christ is the only factor that will keep harmony and peace, for they must be founded on TRUTH. But in any case, we must always manifest love, and gentleness.

We know there are times when we all fall short of this mark, but let us keep in mind that this is what we are striving for, to have love for all of the brethren, not just a few. And to do this we must refrain from criticism, for we can always find some reason to criticize, but this is the mind of the flesh. Paul says—

"Whatsoever things are true, honest, pure, just, of good report, if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things."

If we will let our minds dwell upon these words, there will be no unjust and harsh criticism or picking at flaws of others, for when we were baptized we became members of the Body of Christ, and from that time our growth began in the Truth.

And there can never be a pause in this growing process, for when we cease to grow, we start downhill. If we step aside and begin to do our own pleasure, and follow our own wilful way we begin to wither. Our growth must be steady and meaningful; it must be "going on to perfection."

This steady growth is not accomplished by any easy or shortcut methods. It takes daily meditation on the Word of God, it takes prayer, it takes study with the brothers and sisters. We need the support and encouragement of each other.

God has placed a grave responsibility upon the brothers who speak and give answers. Let us rise faithfully as Christ's brethren to this responsibility, for we will be called upon to give account of ourselves on this point one day.

We do many things to please ourselves. Do we strive as hard to do things to please God? Christ set an example for us when he was on earth; he said his mission was—

"The Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek. He hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to comfort all that mourn."

He went about teaching others, healing the sick, doing his Father's will, and at last laid down his life for his brethren. He did not think of himself, but rather—

"My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me."

"I do always those things that please the Father."

This was the mind of Christ: **let it be our mind also.**

There are many in the Brotherhood today who have problems and burdens. Let us help in whatever way we may, for this way we develop true love for all members of the body, for when love grows we grow. Then when our trials come—for they must come, for God chastens those whom He loves, as sons—we will be able to withstand our trials. We are told that it is—

"Through much tribulation that we enter the Kingdom."

No one will get in the Kingdom without having trials, but:

"God is faithful and will not suffer us to be tempted above that we are able to bear."

Let us strengthen ourselves—calling upon God while He may be found, for one day our trials will be over. We are no longer—

"Without God in the world and aliens from the covenants of promise."

We are a privileged few who know the true purpose of God, and have God—a truly merciful and powerful Creator. And we have Christ as a mediator, who is a righteous judge, and knows the weakness of the flesh.

But let us not be so absorbed in temporal things, so weak in faith as to say, "My Lord delayeth his coming," for he comes like a thief in the night. Let us be ready to meet him when he comes. —B.E.

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## **Current World Events Fulfilling Prophecy**

### **RED'S SUDDEN MIDEAST COUP**

Kremlin's Mideast Gamble: Russia is engaged in its boldest geopolitical gamble since Khrushchev tried to smuggle missiles into Cuba.

With US embroiled in another war at the other end of the world, Moscow moving rapidly toward a bold new commitment of its own men and materiel in the highly volatile Mideast.

Israel has made it clear they intend to engage Russian-flown MIGs and knock out any anti-missile system along or near the Canal. Where that kind of confrontation might lead is anyone's guess.

With US preoccupied in SE Asia & Britain withdrawing from the Persian Gulf, the Russians slipped almost naturally into the Mideast vacuum. More than anything else, the Arab-Israel conflict paved way.

Only 15 yrs. ago, Russia had few friends in the area. Today, Soviet troops and technicians have become the mainstay of several Arab regimes. This is particularly true in Egypt, but Syria, Iraq, Yemen & S. Yemen also lean heavily on Russian aid.

Russia has traditionally had an interest in reaching the Mediterranean, obtaining warm-water outlets & extending their influence over Turkish & Arab lands.

The most obvious strategic prize of interest to the Russians would be control over the Suez Canal, a waterway increasingly important to their growing Indian Ocean & Mediterranean fleets, & their efforts to turn NATO's southern flank. Any Soviet move toward the Canal could be interpreted as a step toward the waterway's eventual reopening under Soviet domination.

**Russia's sudden emergence as an active participant in the Arab-Israel conflict poses a hard challenge to US. This is a coup of great magnitude. Moscow has now firmly established its position in the Mediterranean & Red Sea, and has drastically altered the strategic equation in the Mideast. Any further sign of hesitation by US might embolden them to push their luck to the brink of the Canal.**

The Egyptians have every reason to feel cocky. If Israel now decides to resume its raids into the Nile Delta, it will have to tangle with the elaborate new Soviet air defences that are rapidly abuilding.

For Israel strategists, the real question is: Has Russia's new air defence system deprived Israel of its ability to launch a pre-emptive strike if Egypt's Army should mass for a major offensive across canal?

Answer is: Such a strike would be prohibitive today & may become well-nigh impossible within a yr.

Russia's first 22 missile sites are already in place near Alexandria, Cairo, Aswan dam, & Cairo West, the current hub of the Soviet military buildup that includes a big airport and the headquarters of the Soviet air defence division. 23 more sites are under construction, & 17 others projected, for a total of 62.

When this network is completed (Sept. 1), Russia plans to have 480 new missiles in place, manned by 15,000 Russian military personnel.

**Moscow, in short, is beginning to run the show. A Russian general will make all the decisions, & Russian personnel will do most of the firing. On the ground and in the air, Russians operate & defend their own installations.**

The Soviets have made their intentions clear: they will not let the Egyptians go down to defeat again, even if they have to run the country themselves to prevent it.

Why has Moscow moved as far & as fast as it has? They had no choice. After 15 yrs. of heavy investment, they could not afford to see Nasser's regime go down the drain.

**To put it bluntly, Egypt has now become as important to Moscow as Czechoslovakia was in '68.**

But how much longer can confrontation be avoided? Israel can slow down the new Soviet commitment, but it cannot turn that commitment back.

If Israel resumes the attack on Egypt's heartland, the Russians will be drawn promptly into the fighting. But to leave the Nile Delta alone can only mean, from Israel's viewpoint, that Egyptian preparations for a major new offensive will move ahead with impunity.

**Suddenly, the long-promised Arab counterattack has shifted from the realm of fantasy to the realm of distinct possibility. (Nwk 6:1)**

### **"MODERN" FOLLY PAYING OFF**

We must look to how we are raising our children. They are, for the most part, children of affluent, permissive, parents who learned their Dr. Spock & threw discipline out the window—when they should have done the opposite.

They are the children dropped off by their parents at Sunday school to hear the "modern" gospel from a "progressive" preacher more interested in fighting pollution than fighting evil—one of those pleasant clergymen that has cast morality & theology aside as "not relevant."

Today by the 1000s—without a cultural heritage, without a set of spiritual values, & with a moral code summed up as "Do your own thing," Junior—his pot & Portney secreted in his knapsack—arrives at college & finds there a smiling & benign faculty even less demanding than his parents. (Tm 5:11)

### **REDS LEAD IN POLLUT'N Control**

Water pollution is by far Russia's biggest environmental problem, costing \$6.6 billion yrly. Along with concern over lakes & rivers, Russians begin to sniff trouble in air.

**Because of official concern, Russia is a healthy distance ahead of most industrialized countries in environmental control. (Nwk 5:11)**

### **CANADA: Self-righteous Bigotry**

Nova Scotia has largest concentration of native black people in Canada. There is an imaginary line between white neighborhoods, & blacks do not cross line.

Most blacks live in primitive housing. N. Preston has a community of 1800 descendants of runaway slaves—"9 children & 2 adults squeezed into a tar-paper shack. No table—just a chair, 3 cots & a stove. A hot & rusted stovepipe led to roof thru a cardboard ceiling. No sanitary facilities, no food." N. Preston is a national disgrace.

In Halifax, 90% of black children get under 10 yrs. schooling; outside city, dropout rate even higher. Less than 20 native Negroes attend Nova Scotia's universities.

Unions limit blacks' opportunities. Experienced black carpenters and plumbers work as laborers because unions do not admit them.

On social level, prejudice is subtle. They are made to feel uncomfortable. Shop clerks make them wait till whites are served. Whites frequently stand in buses rather than sit next to blacks. Negroes go to their own churches in the isolated black communities. One Negro reports, "The hr. I spend on Sunday in a white church is loneliest hr. of the wk."

This is how J. Dillard compares Halifax area with Greenwood, SC, where he grew up: "In Greenwood, under the doctrine of 'separate but equal,' we had a whole social structure—doctors, lawyers, shopkeepers, accountants, schoolteachers, workers. We had street lights, running water, other facilities, & both good & poor housing. Here the blacks have nothing."

Of 5000 students in Windsor U., only 5 are local Negroes. In Toronto & Montreal, Negroes are better educated & higher skilled than most native Negroes. Most have reasonably good educations, but they cannot get jobs they have been trained to do. "As long as I stay in Canada, my future is still a servant."

Social pressures in Toronto influence children to drop out of school as soon as the law allows. Negroes often must struggle to get housing. Only 1 landlord in 10 will rent to Negroes.

Canada has not fulfilled its promise as a haven offering equality to blacks. When Canadians speak of racial affairs in a tone of self righteousness, it is because so few are well-informed on Canada's historical treatments of Blacks. (USN 5:11)

## **BRITAIN'S ECONOMY IMPROVES**

For first time in yrs. Britain's balance of payments is substantially in the black. Over ½ of 200 biggest companies in Europe are now British. Exports have soared, permitting gvt. to start repaying foreign debts.

"From one of the weakest economies in Europe 6 yrs. ago," Wilson boasted recently, "we have become and are acknowledged throughout the world to have become—one of the strongest." (Nwk 5:11)

## **CAMBODIA: US Credibility on Line**

Fall of Cambodia to Communists, or establishment of a puppet regime there, would send severe repercussions across SE Asia. US forces in S. Vietnam would be jeopardized. Genuine worries would arise about S. Viet ability to avoid ultimate domination by N. Viets.

Any possibility of peace in Laos would be removed. Peril to Thailand of Communist insurgency would be sharpened.

Many SE Asians would be convinced US isn't prepared to act in any practical way against subversion in their region. (USN 5:11)

## **RUSSIA'S VAST ARMED MIGHT**

Russia's strategic missile force has grown dramatically. In '65 its 220 ICBMs were outnumbered more than 4 to 1 by US. While US intercontinental missiles have grown just slightly to 1054, Russia's total is now 1350 & still increasing 250 a yr.

Soviet missile that most alarms US defense planners is SS-9 (220 operational, 60 launch sites under construction). The SS-9 is so powerful it can carry a 25-megaton warhead or 3 separate 5-megaton warheads each capable of knocking out a hardened US underground silo. 450 SS-9s with triple warheads could knock out 90% of US's ICBM force.

If US speeds up the conversion of its land-based IOBM & Polaris force to MIRV's it can virtually triple its offensive capacity, but such action is certain to evoke a Soviet countermove thus adding more momentum to the arms spiral.

Soviets possess by far world's largest undersea force—350 subs, 80 of which are nuclear-powered. Soviet fleet of missile-bearing nuclear subs could outnumber US fleet of 41 Polaris subs by '73-74.

Soviet navy's ships are newer & often faster than US's. Only 1% of Russian naval ships are 20 yrs. old; 60% of US's are 20 yrs. or more.

Great emphasis in Russia on modernization of army. Russia has world's largest array of tanks, far better mobile-bridge-building equipment than US, 200 strategic bombers that can make round trips to US. They have 700 medium bombers. US has none.

Around Moscow Soviets have deployed world's first ABM system. Should one side develop an effective ABM system first, it would upset balance of nuclear terror. In research & development, Soviets now spend \$16 billion vs. US's \$13 billion. Soviets are working on an anti-satellite that can examine US spies-in-the-sky & knock them down.

Soviet military surge worries US & NATO defense planners because of the new flexibility it gives Kremlin. In Mideast Russians now have some 12,000 advisers, & they have supplied Arabs with at least \$3 billion in arms aid since '67 war.

A Soviet flotilla regularly patrols Indian Ocean, till recently a British & US preserve, & Soviet naval activity in Pacific doubled in past few yrs. (Tm 5:4)

## **USSR DEEPER IN MIDEAST WAR**

During past mo., Russians who now help man Egypt's defense have set up new SA-3 antiaircraft missiles & have also begun to fly MIG-21s to defend those sites from Israeli intruders. They have begun to patrol a picket line west of the canal & over Egyptian cities.

Israelis branded new Russian role as "alarming." Said Jerusalem: "The Soviet decision to dispatch what are to all intents & purposes regular units of Soviet air force against Israel is without precedent & parallel." Declared Nasser: "Russia is not helping us launch aggression. It's helping us liberate our occupied lands."

**Russia's new role in Mideast is a significant increase in Soviet involvement. Aided by Soviet advisers, Egyptians have assembled 800 artillery pieces along canal & have laid down an accurate & systematic barrage that has sent as many as 1000 shells an hr. crashing into one Israeli fortification.**

Israel warned they would take on Russians if their own security was imperiled. "Other nations can surrender & still live, but we do not have that alternative." Dayan warned that if aerial coexistence failed, "the situation could lead to attacking Russians & Russians attacking our aircraft. This means war with the Russians." (Tm 5:11)

\* \* \*

If Arab debacle in '67 war taught Russia anything, it was that relative strength of Israel & Arabs was not dependent on military hardware alone, but on trained & motivated manpower. So, along with massive infusion of military gear (that Moscow pumped into Arab armed forces over past 3 yrs., it has also sent along 1000s of military men—advisers, technicians & high-level planners.

**In Egypt, Russian officers have taken over major responsibility for most military decisions. Last wk. it was revealed that Soviet pilots were actually flying "operational missions" over Egypt.**

If Russia assumes a direct combat role in Mideast, then balance of power will be gravely altered, & at time when US is more deeply embroiled in Indochina.

15 of proposed 40 "SAM" sites have been built; target date for completion of entire system is Sept. 1. As result, Egyptian forces have significantly stepped up air & ground attacks on Israel. Last wk. a large force crossed canal & engaged Israel troops in biggest single ground battle since '67 war.

Dayan sounded an ominous note, "If we have to fight the Russians I'm sure our pilots will do what is expected of them."

US in profound quandary on Mideast. No matter what US did, it's difficult to envisage Russia backing away from its new role of fighting alongside its Arab allies. No one would venture to predict what would happen if an Israel jet challenged a Soviet-piloted aircraft over Egypt in the days ahead. (Nwk 5:11)

### **RACE VIOLENCE IN CARIBBEAN**

Trinidad & Tobago, despite their deceptive tranquility, have been stirring uneasily for at least 2 yrs. in face of rising black militancy. Unemployment rates are very high

Last wk. resentment erupted into widespread violence. There is little doubt that a tide of militancy is building up in other Caribbean countries as well. (Tm 5:4)

\* \* \*

English-speaking islands of Caribbean seem like last place on earth where angry mobs would run amok in name of black power. Not only are the island's residents largely black, but most of their govts. are already black-controlled as well.

And yet, when island of Trinidad erupted in exactly such violence last wk., only timing of explosion was a surprise. The outburst was most recent & dramatic symptom of spreading black militancy that now extends from S. American mainland country of Guyana up crescent of W. Indies, thru Bahamas & even to N. Atlantic colony of Bermuda.

Even though a govt. may have achieved formal independence, the militants usually regard its leaders as "black officials with white power." Foreign investors, they note, usually control most of their countries' natural resources.

"We no longer want to exist on the nickels the tourists toss us," said an Antiguan student. "We want recognition & a share in the island." While govts. vacillate, frustrated militants become increasingly tempted to take their case into the streets.

"Other black-power militants will be watching the Trinidad rebels," said a worried US diplomat. "If they achieve any serious goals, I don't see how others in countries with unrest can fail to draw the appropriate lesson." (Nwk 5:4)

\* \* \*

In next decade social & political unrest may well make Latin America an even more volatile arena. Last wk. a wave of turbulence swept across part of Latin American of great strategic importance to US—the Caribbean.

Many in Dominica, Colombia & Trinidad exist in wretched poverty in close proximity to those in luxury. To secure a measure of economic justice, therefore, many are willing to accept radical solutions.

In Trinidad, leaders of unrest were "black-power" advocates. Dominant economic power is still concentrated in hands of whites, who number only 2%. Blackpower supporters took to streets, smashing windows, putting torch to buildings & exchanging gunfire with police.

In support of rioters, about ¼ of army rebelled, seizing control of the military base and arsenal. Trinidad police—armed with weapons flown in by US—managed to restore order. (Nwk 5:4)

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Israeli-made weapons are reaching Black rebels in Sudan, fighting Arab regime. (Nwk 5:4)

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### **USSR: Emphasis on WAR POWER**

Brezhnev now on his way to gaining control of Russia's enormous power. Officially, power remains in hands of the "collective leadership," yet Brezhnev completely dominated the Lenin observance.

He is only Soviet leader who has spoken authoritatively of late on the 2 consuming issues of Kremlin policy: state of military preparedness & Soviet's economy. He has evidently succeeded in establishing a dominant position in the leadership.

Brezhnev has gone out of his way to cement relations with the military. Gains have been built at expense not only of butter, but also of soap, toilet paper, furniture, dishes, flatware & household appliances. Glaring imbalances—sleekly engineered missiles & submersible tanks, on one hand, and rickety elevators & bathroom plumbing 50 yrs. out of style, on the other.

Stores woefully short of amenities of modern life—and often the necessities as well. Meat will be underproduced by 40% in '70, eggs by 44%.

During Czech crisis, Brezhnev displayed a fiery rage against Prague's kidnapped leaders that surprised those who thought of him as a meticulous, self-controlled man.

Russia's workers have long since learned their labors support a system in which standard of living is not the uppermost priority. The military will continue to demand a disproportionate share of country's wealth. Tomorrow, as any soldier sees it, a nation can live only as well as it's armed today. (Tm 5:4)

### **MIDEAST: DRIFTING TO WAR**

Arabs & Israel, riveted to a collision course toward another all-out war, are determined not to yield—no matter what cost. Said Arab commando: "We're just beginning." Said Israel military man: "We'll show Arabs that Israel can give more than it gets."

**Drift toward another big war in Mideast is irreversible. Nobody you talk with—on either side—is in mood for calming things down.**

Level of violence mounting. Last few mos., raids by Israeli planes along Suez up 70%.

Neither side hitting other hard enough to make him want to stop; each striking hard enough to fire up other's resolve & determination. Arabs underestimate Israel will to battle for survival; Israel underestimates Arabs' will to keep fighting.

Arabs convinced they have perfect right to try to retake what Israel seized in '67. This is why commandos get such wide support in Arab world. Hatred of occupied Arabs for Israel keeps growing.

Immediate aim is to keep Israel off balance till Arab regular armies strong enough to deliver crushing blow. Both claim time's on their side. Both play international game of "chicken," each confident other will flinch first. (USN 5:4)

### **CAMBODIA: HUGE US GAMBLE**

Last wk. Nixon ordered 1000s of US troops onto Cambodian soil to knock out Communist sanctuaries. Disturbing element was that it was a shortcut to peace, so crucial that if it failed, US alternatives were either "defeat" or continued, wider war.

Much of the Senate's & the nation's worry was rooted in a feeling that something had suddenly gone wrong with Nixon's slow, careful program of withdrawal. What happened in the interval to change Nixon's tone from cool confidence to outright alarm?

Answer goes back to unexpected overthrow of Sihanouk, Cambodia's ruler for nearly 30 yrs. The new regime, headed by Gen. Lon Nol, was determined to end Sihanouk's policy of playing along with the Communists.

N. Viets & Viet Cong troops had gained an upper hand in most of Cambodia east of Mekong River. They hoped to link their 5 major sanctuaries into a continuous fortified buffer, leaving S. Vietnam's entire western flank exposed. Communist troops had attacked 2 key Cambodian towns.

The border retreats have unquestionably prolonged war by providing Reds with muscle & killing power far beyond their actual strength.

What if US gamble fails & instead of a surgical action against the sanctuaries, US is drawn into a messy, protracted effort to keep Lon Nol's regime intact? Pres. will appear in retrospect to have prolonged the war rather than shortened it.

Said one high Israeli diplomat: "If US lets Lon Nol go down the drain, Russia will conclude US has gone soft. It will also be very bad news for us." (Tm 5:11)

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US Army in Vietnam is no longer the largely professional, highly motivated army of '66 or '67. More & more, it's army of antiwar draftees. (Nwk 5:11)

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### **CHINA LAUNCHES A SATELLITE**

China successfully lofted a 381-lb. satellite into earth orbit. Chinese advancing toward an important goal; the building of missiles capable of dropping nuclear warheads on US & Europe in '73. (Tm 5:4)

\* \* \*

In a spectacular achievement rich in sobering implications for East-West arms race, China successfully launched its first satellite into space. The satellite passes regularly over US & Russia.

China has developed sufficient rocket thrust to fire an ICBM across the Pacific to the continental US. Prospects of Chinese Communists being armed with upwards of 50 ICBMs within next few yrs. clearly increased likelihood that both US & Russia will press forward with plans for building & perfecting ABMSs as well as MIRVs.

**And if that proved true, it would clearly diminish chances of significant progress at current arms limitations talks between US & Russia. (Nwk 5:4)**

### **RUSSIAN PILOTS ARE IN EGYPT**

War in Mideast is escalating anew—with Russia moving toward direct involvement. Soviet pilots flying "operational missions" from Egypt bases. New development potentially dangerous, & concern to US.

Russia began installing latest SAM-3 anti-aircraft missiles in Egypt last mo. 100 to 150 Soviet pilots believed deployed in Egypt, with 6000 to 8000 Russian military advisers in all services. There probably is a Russian in every bunker, tank & ship in the country. Russian-language radio talk between pilots in air over Egypt gave evidence that Soviet fliers taken over sector of Egypt's interior defense.

New development could mean— more Egyptian pilots freed for combat. At single stroke, about ½ Egyptian force is made operational.

**Russia has been moving slowly & carefully, but step by step, to probe how far it can go in Mideast before US responds.**

First Russia sent weapons to Arabs. This was acceptable because US involved also in Mideast. Then Russia moved its fleet into Mediterranean. After that, Moscow sent SAM-3s with Soviet military personnel to man them & protect them.

Now Soviet pilots are protecting interior of Egypt. Russians are now directly involved militarily in a local conflict far outside Soviet orbit. Russian move was timed to coincide with crisis developments in SE Asia engaging US attention.

New hard-line policy in Russia under Brezhnev. According to estimates, Russia has supplied more than 500 jet fighters to Egypt, Syria & Iraq since '67 war. Added pressure on US to balance Russian threat with more arms for Israel.

Russia might have another motive in latest action—the testing of new military equipment. (USN 5-11)

### **USSR: Great MISSILE BUILDUP**

Russia has moved much more rapidly in strategic offensive weapons deployment than anticipated in intelligence projections of past 5 yrs. Soviet strategic build-up appears to have been No. 1 goal of military planners in Kremlin. Russians have set up very sophisticated air-defense system, which places US bomber force in jeopardy.

**If Russian momentum keeps going, they will have superior force & US will have 2nd rate force.**

US isn't & hasn't been escalating arms race but has tried to de-escalate. Time schedule is being established by Russia. And time is running out. "Because of lead time necessary to build & deploy new weapons I (Sc. Laird) am concerned about US's future." (USN 5:11)

\* \* \*

Russia has quadrupled its nuclear power in past 5 yrs., & moved ahead of US in land based intercontinental missiles. Said Sec. of Defense Laird, "If Soviet offensive build-up continues, risk to US will become too great to sustain without major offsetting actions." (USN 5:4)

### **MERCURY POISONS GRT LAKES**

For 20 yrs. US & Canadian industries have dumped millions of lbs. of toxic mercury into Great Lakes. On heavily fished Lake St. Clair, recent tests showed mercury levels 7 parts per million—14 times maximum level deemed safe in fish for human consumption.

5 electroplating cos. were recently found dumping cyanide into Lake Michigan, source of drinking water for millions of people.

**Sudden interest in mercury is based on a flurry of mercury-poisoning cases—including more than 100 deaths—in Japan, Iraq, Guatemala, Pakistan & New Mexico.**

US industry alone consumes 5,300,000 lbs. of mercury a yr. Much of the mercury lost in these processes is believed to be picked up by micro organisms in lakes & rivers & passed up the food chain to larger fish. By time it reaches pickerel & perch, its potency has been multiplied 4000 times, a clear threat to human health.

Neither US nor Canada has a system for monitoring mercury spillage; neither has set up standards for safe amount of mercury in food.

Worse, many pollution experts are still quite unclear about the subtleties of water-borne mercury. Everybody thought that since mercury was 13½ times heavier than water, it would sink right to the bottom. Everybody was wrong. (Tm 5:4)

### **WAR SPREADS INTO CAMBODIA**

Now, Viet war has become Indochina war. When Communist troops drove within 20 mis. of Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, they inevitably entangle US in crisis whose ramifications extended far beyond borders of Vietnam.

With US irrevocably committed to pulling out of S. Vietnam, there was strong possibility that Communists might see little point to dealing with Nixon at this stage. (Nwk 5:4)

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US clearly is unable to control turmoil & warfare in Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos. In Vietnam, lesson learned at cost of more than 40,000 dead & more than \$100 billion—plus damaged prestige abroad & deep political scars at home. (USN 5:4)

### **VIET: Time Running Out for US**

As long as US troops were being withdrawn & Communist sanctuaries remained immune, there was no real inducement to Communist side to negotiate seriously. So Nixon took his gamble.

If Nixon's gamble is to succeed, it must succeed quickly. Time running out. US cannot go on indefinitely fighting a war when most of its people no longer believe the war worth fighting. (Nwk 5:11)

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Romney, Sec. of Housing, said worst example of public-housing management in US is right in Washington, D.C. Capital's housing authority is overstaffed, inefficient, & unable to cope with vandalism that has emptied 600 units. (USN 5:11)

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### **“EARTH DAY”: Man's Sad Failure**

“Earth Day,” a giant step—or a springtime skip? In many places, gangs of volunteer clean-up crews took arms directly against sea of garbage. Students pulled boatloads of junk out of stinking rivers & undergraduates tried to see if they could each gather up in one day the 5 lbs. of debris that average American is supposed to generate each day. (They could.)

Sun rose over Chicago very pale and distant on Earth Day, and city's meters recorded a sulphur dioxide content in hazy atmosphere of a .32 parts/million, .21 above danger point for very young & old.

The whole demonstration seemed to lack necessary passion. Most Establishment people don't have any idea of what it would mean to their life-style to clean up earth.

Earth Day fell suspiciously on Lenin's birthday. (Nwk 5:4)

\* \* \*

It had aspects of secular, almost pagan holiday—a sense of propitiating an earth increasingly incapable of forgiving what man has inflicted upon it. Much of “Earth Day” was festive & faddish; yet it touched US imagination with vision of windless, vacant earth orbiting on. (Tm 5:4)

### **VIOLENT HATREDS in Indochina**

Of all ancient peoples inhabiting Indochina peninsula, Khmers of Cambodia have long been considered among most peaceful. It came as shock when men who overthrew Sihanouk launched vengeful pogrom against country's Vietnamese minority—unleashing savage round of atrocities by normally placid Khmers.

Yet such bursts of violence bear testimony to abiding hatreds that simmer beneath surface everywhere in Indochina. Folk memories are burdened with atrocity stories passed on for generations by people who refuse to forget centuries-old grievances. There is also a dark undercurrent of racial hatreds.

Of all actual & potential opposition groups in Cambodia, one that worried govt. most was Viet community, ½ million strong. Not long after coup against Sihanouk, Cambodian police rounded up 30,000 Viets & after rough screening, jailed 7,000, where some were executed to intimidate others.

Regime initiated virulent hate campaign against Viets, resulting in massacre of 100s of civilians. Lon Nol's supporters argued that the executions were, at worst, a fair response to similar acts by Viet Cong.

Cambodia's future was far from bright; for nation had lost all control over its own destiny. Cambodia itself had been caught in a cross fire. Fate of Cambodia would be determined by intentions—& uncertain aim—of the surrounding marksmen. (Nwk 5:4)

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Tunisia's economy has gone from bad to worse. The country is almost bankrupt. There simply are too few resources — and now there is not even a coherent plan. (Nwk 5:4)

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### **SUPERPOWERS CLOSER TO WAR**

The 2 superpowers are heating up war fevers, not cooling them off. In Egypt, Soviet pilots guard vital targets from Israel attacks. In Cambodia, US troops, planes, artillery are trying to wipe out Red bases & troops in new cockpit of war. As power balances begin to shift, danger increases. (USN 5:11)

### **USSR: VAST NAVAL Maneuvers**

Moscow's military machine: The best of everything. Fanning out across 3 oceans & 9 seas, more than 200 Soviet warships staged greatest naval maneuvers in world's history.

US reported 500 separate sightings as far apart as Japan & Iceland. In Mediterranean, 45 ships conducted anti-sub exercises. During past 8 yrs., Soviets have been engaged in massive, costly military buildup.

Russia's gross national product is ⅔ as large as US, yet Russia matches US in defense outlays. Russia's military influence reaches directly into many countries far beyond East bloc, including 2 US trouble-spots, N. Vietnam & Cuba.

From his earliest yrs., a Soviet child is exposed to influence of the military. Soviet schoolchildren are raised on films that glorify the concepts of duty & sacrifice for the homeland.

Compulsory military training for teens expanded during last 4 yrs. in high school. Soviet officers & Reservists teach Russian youngsters to perform basic infantry tactics & master at least one handy military skill. (Tm 5:4)

## US-USSR: Dangerous Waters

Superpowers are being sucked deeper into dangerous waters by weakness of client states. Egypt alone lacks power to hold off Israel, so Russia helps. Moscow's objective: prop up Nasser's wobbly regime, & protect Russia's enormous investment in Arab world.

S. Vietnam is too weak to stand by itself against its Communist enemy. So US--at risk of wider war--supports fresh thrusts into Cambodia. US objective: buy more time for Saigon to build up its strength; also prevent new anti-Communist Cambodian Govt. from going under.

**Soviet pilots may end tip fighting Israel Air Force. Would US stand aside if war in Mideast threatened to get out of hand? Not likely. When in such an area as Mideast, Russia involves itself militarily, it is inevitable that US will take notice & react.**

Russia might also "take notice & react" to US escalation of war in SE Asia. Russia keeps Hanoi supplied with arms. Hanoi has powerful backing from Russia & China.

Nixon can count on real trouble as he tries to get out of Vietnam. Hanoi intends to "humiliate" US. How? By making war so costly US will simply give up & go away. (USN 5:11)

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Berean account: even at end of June, as July issue goes to press.

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## 1970 Berean Christadelphian TEXAS FRATERNAL GATHERING

HYE, TEXAS

(If the Lord Will)

JULY 27-AUG. 2

### MONDAY,

JULY 27

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

**SPEAKER, Bro.:**

F. Higham Sr.

David Clubb

G. Growcott

**SUBJECT:**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

"A RED HEIFER WITHOUT SPOT" (Num. 19)

*Hebrews 11:1-31—Introductory Remarks*

**True Belief Is Vital to Our Salvation**

We Dishonor God When We Neglect His Word

*Natural man is ignorant, destined only to death. The Bible wholly-inspired and infallible—only light in human darkness. God requires devoted, lifelong study of His Word to change man from natural animal mind to spiritual mind. Only TRUTH saves—error, however sincere, brings only death.*

### TUESDAY, JULY 28

9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

Bill Edwards

George Booker

A. Marshall

**DAILY READINGS and DISCUSSION**

"THE LORD'S DAY"

*Hebrews 11:32-40—Introductory Remarks*

**The ONE True Gospel: "Thy Kingdom COME"**

We Must Believe in Christ's Reign on Earth

*Sinful, ignorant mankind subdued, taught wisdom & holiness, and purified by Truth, and the earth cleansed of man's corruption and filled with joy & peace and God's glory. THIS is the great message of hope—the One True Gospel we MUST accept to be saved. To believe a lie is to reject God's Word.*

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

Nick Mammone

Troy Haltom

Don Newcomer

**DAILY READINGS and DISCUSSION**

"MARK, CHAPTER 5"

*Hebrews 12:1-17—Introductory Remarks*

**Man Is Mortal: The Dead Are Asleep in Grave**

Resurrection at Last Day Only Hope of Life

*All Bible's promises are directed toward resurrection from sleep of death at last day when Christ returns. Heaven-at-death a pagan invention never promised by God. Ignorant of mankind die like the beasts & stay forever dead. Responsible (those who know God's law) raised, judged, rewarded at last day.*

### THURSDAY, JULY 30

9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

John Randell

Braden Edwards

Nick Mammone

**DAILY READINGS and DISCUSSION**

"APPLES OF GOLD IN PICTURES OF SILVER"

*Hebrews 12:18-29—Introductory Remarks*

**Baptism in Water: The Only Way Into Christ**

No Other Door of Salvation Provided by God

*Knowledge & belief of the Gospel MUST precede baptism, or it's useless. Complete burial in water is the only scriptural & acceptable form. Sprinkling of babies is a useless, unscriptural, manmade invention. Only those who are scripturally baptized are "in Christ" and have any hope of salvation.*

**FRIDAY, JULY 31**

9:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. George Gibson  
2:30 p.m. Pat Cassidy  
8:00 p.m. John Randell

**DAILY READINGS and DISCUSSION**  
"THE UNSEARCHABLE RICHES OF CHRIST"  
*Hebrews 13—Introductory Remarks*  
**Christ Truly a Man Who Truly Overcame Sin**  
Not a God Pretending to Suffer & Be Tempted

*Christ is the center of God's glorious purpose of the ages—the only door to life—the great example of love & holiness—the great incentive to joy and peace and overcoming of the flesh—the great sacrifice for sin to manifest and justify God's righteousness and open the way of life thru God's mercy.*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 1**

9:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. G. Growcott  
3:00 p.m. Wayne Jr. Wolfe  
8:00 p.m. F. Higham Sr.

**DAILY READINGS AND DISCUSSION**  
"THE JOURNEYS OF PAUL"  
**CHILDREN'S PROGRAM**  
**Signs That Christ's Return to Earth Is Near**  
Worldwide Violence "As in the Days of Noah"

*Israel's rebirth, Russia's world power, "back-to-Rome" movement in churches, war, violence, crime, science, pride, godlessness, immorality, the crises of population & food & ecology—all manifest that these are the last evil days of human misrule & abuse of God's beautiful earth. CHRIST IS COMING!*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 2**

10:30 a.m. Wm. Sharp

"THOU GOD SEEST ME"

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