

# 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:**

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*“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

**BALTIMORE**, Maryland—Memorial 10:30am—Bro. Russell Frisbie, 3617 Forest Hill Road, Baltimore 21207. Phone (301) 944-3170.

WE are sorry to have to report that bro. George W. Falkinburg and sis. Mary E. Falkinburg are no longer in fellowship with us.

We are also sorry to report that sis. Patricia D. Clatterbuck is no longer with us, having given up the Truth.  
Your brother in Christ, —Russell C. Frisbie

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**HAMILTON**, Ont.—Sherwood Rm., Wentworth Arms Hotel, Main & Hughson Sts— Memorial 11 am—Bro. R.F. Philip, 799 Cranston Court, Burlington, Ontario. Phone (416) 639-1750.

GREETINGS and Love to all of like precious Faith who call upon Him in Mercy and Truth.

It is with sadness we report the falling asleep in Christ of sister Jenny Fotheringham. Sister Jenny died in her 75th year. She devoted her life to the service of the Lord, and exhibited her faith and trust in God in that she was not afraid to remark that she was ready when the time came if she fell asleep before the coming of the Lord. So being dead, the history of her life speaks to us as an example of faith, trust, patience and hope.

We will miss the association and fellowship of our sister, but carry on and also fight the good fight of faith, knowing that if found faithful we shall experience the joy of meeting in the Kingdom all who have died in the Lord.

May our Lord quickly come. With our united love in the Truth, —bro. R.F. Philip

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**HOUSTON**, Tex, .77012—Christadelphian Hall, 8008 Junius St.—Sun. Sch. 10 am; Breaking of Bread 11 am; Elpis Israel Class Wed. 7 pm; Revelation Study Sun 7 pm (except 3rd Sun. Public Lecture).—Bro. John Packer, 210 E. Third St., Deer Park, Tex. 77536, phone (713) 479-4292.

WITH great joy we announce that ALTON STUCHLIK, after giving a good confession of the Faith on Oct. 27, passed through the waters of baptism on the 28th. We pray that his new walk in life may be found acceptable in the day of the Lord.

Also, we are happy to announce that sis. Sharon Scott has returned to Houston after living in Oklahoma City; and bro. & sis. Charles Banta Jr. have returned to Houston after living in Lampasas. Bro. & sis. Lonnie Carroll have moved to Lampasas. Bro. & sis. Roy Johnson have moved to Richardson, Texas.

We regret that bro. M.E. Wilhoit has returned to a former group.

We have had the following visitors in recent months: bre. & sis. Pat Cassidy, Jack Stanaland, Russell Frisbie, Lonnie Carroll, Nick Mammone, Frank Pyne, Braden Edwards, Fred Higham Jr., George Booker, and Roy Johnson; brethren Ronnie Wolfe, Andrew Marshall, G. Growcott, and Wesley Booker; and sisters Ruby Wolfe, Kay Wolfe, Ouida Landers, Margaret Sommerville and Hattie Wolfe.

We appreciate the labour of love of all brethren who assisted us in speaking appointments. —bro. John Packer

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**LAMPASAS**, Texas—Christadelphian Hall, Ave. I East—S.S. 10am; Memorial 11 am; Sunday Class 7 pm; Wed. Class 7 pm—Bro. Ross Wolff, 1802 Rumley Rd., Lampasas 76550. Phone (512) 556-5249.

GREETINGS of love to the brethren and sisters in Christ Jesus.

It is with deep sorrow we report the death of our beloved sister Jessie Hatcher. Yet we sorrow not as those who have no hope, believing her sleep of death will be for only a short time, for she will hear the words—

*"The Master has come, and calleth for thee."*

Her faithful and regular attendance at meeting from a distance of 35 miles is an example to us all. On Feb. 26 she was laid to rest. Bro. Fred Higham spoke words of Truth before a large assembly.

We rejoice to have bro. & sis. Jimmie Sommerville and bro. & sis. David Carrol from Houston as members of this ecclesia.

We regret that bro. & sis. Charles Banta Jr. have returned to Houston.

Bro. Andrew Marshall is out of the hospital and attending the meetings. His great love, zeal and enthusiasm for the Truth is a spiritual lift for us.

We are again having a public lecture once every month, but it seems those about us are not interested in the Truth.

The Lord willing, we plan to have a meeting in Lampasas on June 8,9 & 10. We extend an invitation to the brethren and sisters to be with us on this occasion to build one another up in our most holy Faith. The meetings are scheduled for Friday at 8 pm; Saturday at 11 am, 2 pm & 8 pm. And on Sunday at our regular time: Sunday School at 10 am, and Memorial at 11 am. Those who plan to come may contact bro. Ross Wolfe, 1802 Rumley Rd., Lampasas, Tex. 76550. Phone 512-556-5249.

May we each build characters that will stand at the last day. As we build day by day, let us not spare in the use of Faith, Hope, and Love. —bro. Ross Wolfe

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

LOVE and greetings to the Household of Faith scattered abroad.

The old year is quickly drawing to its close—a year that has witnessed the fulfilling of many of the prophetic signs that the "Times of the Gentiles" have almost run their course. Let us remember, as we witness a spirit of new-found optimism in the world that envisages a time of peace ahead, that Christ said—

*"As a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth."*

The great warning to us is to "WATCH AND BE SOBER," that that day should not overtake us as a thief.

We recently had the pleasure of the company of our bro. & sis. Ray Hodges from Western Australia, who were with us for nearly 3 weeks in October. Such visits to our small and isolated ecclesia are a source of joy and encouragement to all.

As we enter the new year, may we press forward to the mark of our high calling in Christ Jesus with renewed energy and zeal, praying that it may bring the long-looked-for return of our Lord—and above all, that we may be found of him in peace, without spot and blameless.

**RECEIVED LATER:—**

Our many brethren and sisters scattered abroad are continually in our thoughts and prayers in these last difficult days, as we witness the pattern of events presaging the return of our Lord taking form and shape in the world around us. The current negotiations in Vietnam are, to the world, a hopeful augury of peace and prosperity in the years ahead, but to us they are perhaps but the lifting of one of the restraints that God has placed on the development of the Middle East crisis, for—

*"There is NO PEACE, saith the Lord, unto the wicked,"* and . . .

*"The whole world lieth in wickedness."*

Whatever the nature of day-to-day events, we know that the world is moving steadily and irrevocably to that "Day of the Lord" portrayed by Zechariah. May we ponder deeply on these things while it is called today.

We are happy to report that, after a full examination, we welcomed into fellowship on Jan. 28, bro. BRIAN RILEY, who had previously been a member of another group.

With love in the Truth to all, from Whangarei,

—bro. M. J. Griffin

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**CORRECTION IN OCTOBER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

An alert sister has called attention to an error. In Oct. List 2, and in Oct. Answers No. 37 (Nov. issue), "Ahaziah" is wrong. It should be "Jehoram" as husband of Athaliah. Please correct your copies so they will not be misleading to any later readers.

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## Our Relation to the Ecclesia

*"These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how men ought to behave themselves in the House of God, which is the Church (Ecclesia) of the living God, the pillar and ground of the Truth"—1 Tim. 3:14-15*

IT will be noted that in setting out the above words of Paul, we have inserted the word "ecclesia" after the word "church." We will let brother John Thomas explain the reason—

*"Ecclesia, then, is a word compounded of EK, "out of", and KLESIS, "a call or invitation." Hence an EKKLESIS is "an invitation to come out"; and the assembly of people convened in consequence of their acceptance of the invitation is an ecclesia. This is the etymology of the word, which is also in agreement with its scriptural constitution" (Eur. 1:120).*

In his letters, the apostle Paul has much to say about the Ecclesia. Here are three examples. First—

*"That you may know how men ought to behave in the House of God, which is the Ecclesia of the living God, the pillar and ground of the Truth."*

Therefore, the Ecclesia is not a man-made organization, where each member can do as he pleases. Paul likens it to the human body where all parts must work in unison. As soon as the parts of the body cease to co-operate, the result is that disease sets in. If there is nothing done to stop the disease, it will become chronic, and the final result is death.

Such, also, is the Ecclesia. The only way in which it can remain in good health is by the willing co-operation of all its members. If it becomes departmental, it is headed for serious trouble. It is not only essential that all members must unite in the operation of the Ecclesia, but it is absolutely necessary for the members to give FIRST PLACE to the Ecclesia and its wellbeing.

Another striking illustration of the Ecclesia is given by Paul—

*"For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building"—1 Cor. 3:9.*

What a lofty and honourable calling! "Labourers together with God." Do we fully realize what that means? If we are working with God, it is certainly essential that we carry out His instructions. It is just impossible for us to set up our own standards. One of the stern lessons that the Law teaches us is that we must follow the course set before us, for the penalty of disobedience is severe. The case of Nadab and Abihu stands out in bold relief, and should burn in our minds so deeply that we would never forget the lesson their disobedience teaches us.

But Paul goes further, and says we are God's Building. In what way can we be God's Building? We believe that Paul answers our question in these words—

*"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the Household of God.*

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

*"In whom all the Building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy Temple in the Lord."—Eph. 2:19-21.*

There is another point that we must not overlook regarding God's Building. Paul reminds us of it by saying—

*"Let every man TAKE HEED how he buildeth thereupon."*

*"A minister of the Sanctuary, and of the true Tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man"—Heb. 8:1-2.*

In other words, let us be extremely careful during our building operations that we follow the divine specifications, and not make any alterations in the plans as our work proceeds.

The third example of Paul's reference to the Ecclesia is one of beauty in which he uses a highly elevated form of expression—

*"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an High Priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;*

When Moses by the instruction of the Spirit pitched the man-made Tabernacle, it was set up in the wilderness of Sinai. But when the Lord pitched the true Tabernacle in the first century, the setting was vastly different. However it was also in a wilderness of unenlightened men and women, described by Paul in Eph. 2:12—

*"That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world."*

The Ecclesia is made up of men and women who have come out of that hopeless state by their belief and obedience of the Gospel, and have determined to walk in newness of life, and henceforth they should not serve sin. Having been baptized into Christ, he has become their Master, and they are expected to serve him. Here is the way Jesus puts it—

*"He that hath my commandments, and KEEPETH them, HE it is that loveth me."*

There is much misunderstanding on the part of some who try to keep the Lord's commandments strictly on the basis of their technical interpretation of the letter of the law, the manner in which the priests, scribes and Pharisees operated. But Jesus put them to the test when—to trap him—they brought a woman to him, taken in adultery, for which the law prescribed death. The way Jesus handled this case should make every one of us sit up and take particular notice. His answer was—

*"He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her."*

The teaching of Jesus on the matter of sin, mercy and forgiveness is so clear it just seems impossible for any of us to fail to comprehend it. Therefore, we conclude this month's message with the parable of the Pharisee and the publican. Luke says Jesus spoke this parable unto certain who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others—

*"Two men went up into the Temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank Thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.*

*"And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.*

*"I tell you (says Jesus), this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted"—Luke 18:9-14*

In all our operations of an ecclesia, there are many things on which we must pass judgment. But before we take any action, let us begin with ourselves: for if we judged ourselves as eagerly as we judge others, what wonderful, loving, spiritual communities our ecclesias would be! —Editor

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## Fraternal Gatherings

If the Lord Will

**LAMPASAS, TEXAS: FRIDAY to SUNDAY, JUNE 8 to 10**

Bro. Ross Wolfe, 1802 Rumley Rd., Lampasas, Tex. 76550; (512) 556-5249

**HYE, TEXAS: SUNDAY to SUNDAY, JULY 29 to AUGUST 5**

Bro. C. Banta, 815 Boston, Deer Park, Tex. 77536; phone (713) 479-2568

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## January Answers

1. Elements melt—2 Pet.
2. Things true—Phlp.
3. Revive work—Hab.
4. Balaam—Num.
5. Thorn in flesh—2 Cor.
6. Receive not—2 John
7. Gourd, worm—Jonah
8. Queen Sheba—1 Kings
9. Judge in meat—Col.
10. Bethlehem—Micah
11. Without camp—Heb.
12. Dare go law—1 Cor.
13. All serve Lord—Zeph.

22. Fall Jericho—Josh.
23. Amraphel—Gen.
24. Mene, Mene—Dan.
25. Law of leper—Lev.
26. O foolish—Gal.
27. Patience—James
28. Shake nations—Hag.
29. All work good—Rom.
30. No fear in love—1 John
31. Delilah—Jdg.
32. Bare sins—1 Pet.
33. Absalom—2 Sam.
34. Demas forsake—2 Tim.

42. Song Moses—Deut.
43. Blood Jezreel—Hos.
44. Cana marriage—John
45. Man sorrows—Isa.
46. Multitudes!—Joel
47. Mother Harlots—Rev.
48. Virtuous woman—Prov.
49. Valley bones—Ezek.
50. Jesus in Egypt—Matt.
51. Vanity—Eccl.
52. Josiah—2 Kings
53. Rich man—Luke
54. Boaz—Ruth

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 14. Diotrophes—3 John        | 35. Messenger of Covenant—Mal. | 55. Zipporah—Exo.   |
| 15. Lord do nothing—Amos     | 36. 3-score-10—Psalms          | 56. Haman—Esther    |
| 16. Comfort—1 Thess.         | 37. Left in Crete—Titus        | 57. Sanballat—Neh.  |
| 17. Belief of Truth—2 Thess. | 38. Brass mtns.—Zech.          | 58. Kill James—Acts |
| 18. Rose Sharon—Song         | 39. Paul aged—Philemon         | 59. Bildad—Job      |
| 19. Food, raiment—1 Tim.     | 40. Unity Spirit—Eph.          | 60. Baruch—Jer.     |
| 20. Saith Cyrus—Ezra         | 41. Saviours Zion—Obad.        | 61. Goliath—1 Sam.  |
| 21. Hate garment—Jude        |                                |                     |
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## The Work of the Third Angel

BY BROTHER JOHN THOMAS

*"And a Third Angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If anyone worship the Beast and his Image, and receive a Sign upon his forehead, and upon his hand; he also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of the Deity which hath been prepared without mixture in the cup of His indignation. And he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the Holy Angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.*

*"And the smoke of their torment ascendeth until the aeons of the aeons: and they have no respite day and night, who worship the Beast and his Image, and whosoever receiveth the Sign of his name"—Rev. 14:9-11.*

"AND a 3rd Angel followed them": that is, the 2 Angels treated of in vs. 6-8. His following them indicates that Babylon, the Great City, has fallen BEFORE the 3rd Angel Power proceeds to finish the plagues of the last stage of the "Hour of Judgment."

In other words, the terrible overthrow predicted in Rev. 18 will be complete. Rome will be where Sodom and Gomorrah are, and for a like reason—because of the filthy conversation and unlawful deeds of the spirituals of wickedness in the heavenlies, who are reserved unto a Day of Judgment to be punished (2 Peter 2:6-9).

There will then be no "Name of Blasphemy" or Papal Dynasty enthroned upon the 7 Heads, or mountains. Popes, cardinals, bishops, priests and deacons; St. Peter's, basilicas, churches and monastic "dens of foul spirits and all unclean and hateful birds"; with all the "dainty and goodly things lusted after" by the beastly soul of the Drunken Harlot of the earth—all these abominations will have departed, and, "as a great millstone cast into the sea," will have subsided into the volcanic abyss, to "be found no more at all."

This glorious and complete destruction of the temporal and spiritual Papal Power will have been consummated by the 2nd Angel which proclaims the fall of Babylon. But something more is necessary than the destruction of the Papacy to the complete enlightening of the earth with the glory of the Angel who descends out of the heaven having great power (Rev. 18:1).

There still remains the "kings of the earth who have committed fornication and lived deliriously with her," and the "merchants of the earth" who trade in the dainty and goodly things peculiar to the bazaars dedicated by them to guardian saints, and which they call "churches."

These kings and priests survive the Sodom overthrow of the "Eternal City." They still occupy their position "afar off" in the 10 Streets of the Great City; for AFTER Rome has been "utterly burned with fire" by the power of the Lord God Who judgeth her, they are said to stand afar off for fear of her torment, and to bewail and lament for her—

*"Alas, alas," (they exclaim), "that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one Hour is thy judgment come!"*

(Rev. 18:4-19).

But the lamentations of her ecclesiastics are the most mournful and grievous, because the fall of the Papacy by the power of the Lamb ruins their imposture and thievery throughout the world—

*"The merchants (or great men) of the earth, by whose sorceries all the nations are deceived, shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more" (Rev. 18:11, 23).*

This class of traffickers in the bodies and souls of men (and the sympathizers with the Papacy and the "Eternal City" are not the only class of traffickers in such wares) in the text under consideration, are the men—

*". . . who worship the Beast and his Image, and receive a Sign in their forehead, or upon their hand"*

(Rev. 14:9) . .

—termed in v. 11 the "Sign of his name."

The calamity which befalls their "holy city" evidently fails to transfer their love and worship to the Lamb Power, or Stone of her destruction. They "weep and mourn over her," because her fall ruins their vested interests. Their mourning is not so much their love of the city and its body ecclesiastic, as of themselves.

"Brother," said one priest to another, "what a profitable thing this fable of Jesus Christ has been to us!" This is the spirit of the craft—they weep and mourn, not because they discover that the Catholic superstition is a bald and wicked humbug, but because they can no longer utilize it to their own aggrandisement in wealth and power—

*"For no man buyeth THEIR merchandise any more."*

That is the secret of their grief!

A common danger cements the union of the kings and princes of the late Babylon's dominion. The Drunken Harlot priesthood, the 8th Head of the scarlet-coloured Beast, and the 10 Horns—

*"Have one mind, and give their power and strength unto the Beast."*

—in aid of the common cause. The 8th Head is the Dictator of the confederacy, styled in Rev. 20:2—

*"The Dragon, that Old Serpent, which is the Devil and Satan."*

The Harlot Priesthood is the False Prophet of the situation, that works miracles before the Beast, and deceives them that had received the Sign of the Beast, and them that worshiped his Image before it was destroyed by the 2nd Angel judgments (Rev. 19:20).

When "Christian" nations go to war, the clergy are always there to prophesy success, and to assure the combatants that the "God of battles," who gives the victory, is on their side. True to their calling and character, they will be the chaplains of the military establishments of the Beast in the field, and praying to their "God of battles," and prophesying victory from their "sacred desks" and "altars" over the Israelitish Antichrist!

As usual, they deceive the governments and all who trust them. By their prophesyings they deceive the worshippers of the Beast, and harden their hearts for the capture and destruction to be inflicted on them by the 3rd Angel-power.

The Beast and kings of the goat-nations determine to make war against the King of the Jews, and to meet his forces in the field. It is not likely that they will attribute the recent overthrow of the "Eternal City" to power exerted by his will. They will no doubt consider it accidental, and but another phenomenon to be added to the overthrow of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

The terrible catastrophe only inflames their wrath, and causes them to "make war upon the Lamb." The Napoleons, the Victor Emanuels, the Francis Josephs, and the Alexanders, of the day, gather together their armies like swarms of bees, intending to scatter his troops with the whirlwind of their host (Hab. 3:14)—  
*"They came out as a whirlwind to scatter me: their rejoicing is as to devour the poor secretly"* (Hab. 3:14).

They will think to take him by surprise. But the Eternal Father is on his side; there will therefore be to him no cause of fear. Let the reader study Psa. 118, which treats of "the Stone which the builders refused," and he will find the nature of the situation under the 3rd Angel manifestation—

*"All nations compassed me about like bees."*

But, as he enquires in v. 6—

*"What can man do unto me?"*

These armies will rush like the rushing of mighty waters, but "the Lamb shall overcome them" (Rev. 17:14).

*"They shall be quenched as the fire of thorns; for by the NAME OF YAHWEH will I destroy them"*

(Psa. 118:12).

By this Name they are (Isa. 17:13)—

*"Rebuked, and chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like thistledown before the whirlwind."*

By this Name—the "King of kings and Lord of lords"—the Ten Horns are overcome. They are conquered by the Lamb with 7 Horns and 7 Eyes, because he is the King almighty, and "they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." Such disaster as this, saith the prophet (Isa. 17:14)—

*"Is the portion of them that spoil us, and the lot of them that rob us."*

Thus, in "the Great Day of God Almighty," by the invincible troops of the King of Israel, is the Beast and the False Prophet polity " taken and cast alive into a Lake of Fire."

This 3rd Angel judgment (which, like the 2nd, belongs to the plagues of the 7th Vial) slays Daniel's 4th Beast, destroys its body politic, and gives him to the burning flame (Dan. 7:11). By this process the Latin Catholic superstition is eradicated from the kingdoms of Western Europe, which by conquest "become the kingdoms of Yahweh and of His Christ" (Rev. 11:15).

The 3rd Angel judgments, however, are not expended with this result. Their smoke continues to ascend "eis aionas aionon"—to cycles of cycles"—or courses of time which constitutes what is commonly styled "the Millennium," because it is a period of 1000 years duration.

The smoke of 3rd Angel "torment" continues to ascend to the establishment of "the economy of the fulness of times" (Eph. 1:10), by which time there will be no more Latin and Greek Catholics, Protestants and Moslems to be subdued. This will be a glorious and blessed consummation of the "War of the Great Day of God Almighty," in which Israel will have done valiantly (Num. 24:18), chasing their enemies who fall before them by the sword—5 chasing 100; and 100 of them putting 10,000 to flight (Lev. 26:8).

The purpose of the 2nd and 3rd Angel-judgments is 4-fold—

*First, to avenge the blood of the saints and witnesses of Jesus shed by the spiritual and temporal rulers of the Greco-Latin nations;*

*Secondly, to render vengeance to the rebellious who refuse to obey the Gospel announced in the First Angel-proclamation;*

*Thirdly, to develop the mercy decreed for Yahweh's Land and the Twelve Tribes of Israel; and*

*Fourthly, that all adversaries being subdued, the surviving population of the earth may rejoice as the reconciled people of the Holy One of Israel, in whom, and in his father Abraham, all the families of the earth are blessed.*

This 4-fold purpose is indicated in Deut. 32 in the words—

*"To me belongeth vengeance and recompense. Yahweh shall judge His people, and repent Himself for His servants, when He seeth that their power is gone.*

*"See now that I, even I am He (the Promised Seed), and that there are none of elohim with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal; neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.*

*"For I lift up my hand to the heavens (Rev. 10:5-6) and say, I am the Living One of the Olahm (or Millennium).*

*"If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment, I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and I will reward them that hate me.*

*"I will make mine arrows (the 10 Tribes) drunk with blood, and my sword (Judah) shall devour flesh with the blood of the slain, and of the captives, from the beginning of revenges upon the enemy."*

Therefore (v. 43)—

*"O YE NATIONS, HIS PEOPLE, cause ye to rejoice; for He will avenge the blood of His servants, and will render vengeance to His adversaries, and will be merciful to His Land and to His People."*

When these judgments of the 2nd and 3rd Angels are all exhausted, and the smoke of them consequently ceases to ascend, mankind will then come to know that—

*"There is none like the AIL OF YESHURUN (the Strength of Israel) riding the heavens in thy help, and with His majesty the clouds.*

*"The Elohim of the East (elohai kedem: Rev. 16:12) a Refuge, and underneath the Powers of Olahm (the Lamb with the 144,000).*

*"He shall thrust out the enemy from before thee, and shall say, Destroy! Then Israel shall dwell in safety alone.*

*"The fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine: also his heavens shall drop down dew"*

(Deut. 33:26-28).

Then it may be truly said (v. 29)—

*"Happy art thou, O Israel! Who is like unto thee, O people saved by Yahweh, the Shield of thy help, and who is the Sword of thine exaltation! Also thine enemies shall be proved liars to thee, and thou shalt tread upon their high places."*

The "smoke" (Rev. 14:11) which ascends, is the symbol of the glory and power of Deity in burning operation against the worshipers of the Beast. In Rev. 15:8 it is styled—

*"Smoke from the glory of Deity, and from His power."*

In this place, the "temple" is said to be "filled with" this smoke. The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple (Rev. 21:22). The smoke is, therefore, His wrath; and while it flames (Rev. 15:8)—

*"No one is able to enter into the Nave."*

—for the Nave is the Most Holy Heavenly State, in which the nations hang the trumpet in the hall, and practise war no more.

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## **Second Voyage to Australia**

**BY BROTHER ROBERT ROBERTS**

*"Blessed are they that DO HIS COMMANDMENTS, that they may have right to the Tree of Life, and enter in through the gates into the City"—Rev. 22:14*

**PART TWENTY-SIX**

**TUES., JULY 12, 1898: FROM PALMERSTON TO WANGANUI**

NEXT morning we left for Wanganui—about 3 hours' distance. We changed carriages at Aramoho—within 3 miles of Wanganui. On the platform we were met by bro. Taylor, who conveyed us to Wanganui. It seems strange at first sight that an important town like Wanganui should be left off the main line, and be accessible only by a branch. It is due to the situation of the town at the mouth of a river on the sea, and to the conformation of the land which would have required a costly bridge to put Wanganui on the main line.

At Wanganui, we were met by sis. Dexter, bro. Mackay, sis. Comrie, and, I think, one or two others. An "expressman" took our things, and sis. Dexter drove us in her "trap" to the house, about a mile out on the other side of the river. This they have acquired since my last visit. Here a cow, and a horse, and 5 acres impose the kind of activity that, in such fresh air, brings health—of which the whole family are reaping the benefit. We were soon at home in such genial surroundings.

In the evening a number of brethren and sisters came together to tea. After tea, bro. Dexter took the chair, and guided things into profitable shape by the aid of a program which he had prepared. Several profitable addresses were delivered, intermixed with the singing of hymns.

**WED., JULY 13: THE WORK OF THE SALVATION ARMY, ETC.**

Next night (July 13), a similar meeting was held at bro. Taylor's, with this difference, that several enquiring strangers were present, and the occasion was turned into a kind of a Bible Class, at which bro. Tanfield propounded several questions for their benefit. The questions principally related to the position of such movements as the Salvation Army, the George Midler Orphanage, the life of Mr. Gladstone, etc.—whether or not they might have some relation to the work of God in the earth.

I replied that God had various classes of servants in the work of preparing the earth, as a final habitation of glory. This was proved by the case of Cyrus, who was styled Yahweh's "anointed," though, as Yahweh said by Isaiah (45:1-4)—

*"Thou hast not known Me."*

So also was Nebuchadnezzar styled 'My servant' (Jer. 27:6). And so the Assyrian—

*"I will send him against an hypocritical nation . . . howbeit he meaneth not so" (Isa. 10:6-7).*

The earth was being prepared by various agencies, as an inheritance for Christ and the saints. When Christ was on the earth, it was a forest-covered abode of barbarism, for Greek and Roman civilizations were only barbarisms, when judged by the light of the divine law. Since that time the earth had been cleared, and "subdued" in a physical sense. Also in the sense of intellectual and moral sensibility, great changes had been effected in the populations.

At the present moment we were verging on a new age which, though it would be inaugurated by judgment, probably required, for the proper operation of that judgment, the predisposing influences associated with the

movement to which reference had been made. The Salvation Army was doing gutter-clearing work; other agencies were ameliorating the natural harshness of the carnal mind. But we need not be careful to assign the place or assess the value of such agencies. We could not do it accurately, and we might make dangerous mistakes—

*“The Lord seeth not as man seeth.”*

Our aim should be to ascertain the Lord's will, as bearing upon OURSELVES, and leave all outside questions to His settlement.

The danger was that in trying to see a divine work in that which is merely human but regulated divinely, we might weaken the obligation of that which is undoubtedly divine—namely, the Gospel and institutions of Christ, as apostolically revealed. The great question was—

*“What must we do to be saved?”*

The question was not likely to be helped by the study of movements among men—however striking. We must never forget that, as regards eternal life, nothing is acceptable to God but God's Own requirements. Jesus had informed us that "in that day" many would vainly come to him claiming favourable consideration on the ground that they had preached in his name, and done many wonderful works.

#### **FRI.-SUN., JULY 15-17: TWO LECTURES IN THE THEATRE**

On Friday there was a lecture in the theatre, at which there was a fair audience; and again on Sunday evening at the same place. Lengthy notices appeared in the papers, supplied by bro. Mackay.

#### **MON., JULY 18: TO HAWERA: THE JENKINS: A LECTURE**

We took leave of the brethren with regret on Monday, July 18, and went forward to Hawera, where it had been arranged one lecture should be given. Bro. & sis. Jenkins have been for some years located in this place—a township of considerable size and importance (population perhaps 4,000 or 5,000).

They have been known as inscrutable people, whose inscrutability, it was thought, was probably due to mental derangement, instead (as the fact is) of mental arrangement. They were desirous that their true position should be exhibited to their neighbours, in connection with an invitation to such neighbours to share such a blessed position, for—

*"Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the Tree of Life, and enter in through the gates into the City."*

The subject chosen was: "The Clergy All Wrong About the Gospel, Both as to Its Nature and Indispensability to Salvation." The place was the theatre. The audience was large. The chair was occupied by bro. Jenkins. I had a close hearing for an hour-and-a-half, after which a preacher rose and repudiated the allegations that had been made. He did nothing more than assert, and you cannot answer assertions except by counter-assertions—in which there is no profit.

The only attempt at argument was the citation of 1 Cor. 15:1-3, in proof of the death of Christ being the Gospel.

I pointed out, in reply, that the death of Christ was only part of the Gospel, that it must first be known who Christ was, before his death could be understood, and that no man could know what it was to be the Christ or Anointed, who did not know the things concerning the Kingdom of God in which the Christship had its essence.

The interruption caused a little stir. I said that it was impossible that the question could be properly argued in a few minutes at the close of a lecture, but that if the gentleman was desirous of a proper argument, I should not be unwilling, on another occasion, to meet him in a properly organized debate.

It seems, from what bro. Jenkins afterwards reported, that a very favourable impression was produced. He reports a call for literature, and says he could profitably use what spare literature brethren may have beside them. "Mr. Jenkins, furniture-maker, Hawera, Taranaki, N.Z.," will find him.

#### **TUES.-THURS., JULY 19-21: TO STRATFORD: SIS. BAERNACKI**

Next day we went forward to Stratford, under the shadow of Mt. Egmont, 20 miles distant, accompanied by bro. Nash, who had come from Stratford; and also by sis. Jenkins and her children, who intended spending the time there during our presence.

Stratford is the place where the ecclesia, for several years, consisted of 3 sisters only, meeting regularly in the house of sis. Blair. They have now been reinforced by 3 brethren, and one or two additional sisters—namely, bro. Nash and his wife; bro. Gold, from Hastings; a bro. Steward and his wife; and lastly, by a sis. Baernacki (pronounced Baernatzki—Polish 'c' having the sound of 'tz').

The case of the last has special features of interest. She is the (Scotch) wife of a Polish refugee, who fled to England, from political trouble, 40 years ago. Her husband obtained a high position in the Indian Civil Service, and, after a lengthened service in India, was pensioned off, and came to live in N.Z.

Mrs. Baernacki was always of an enquiring turn of mind in religious matters. Her position in India brought the clergy about a good deal, and in her position as hostess, she used to put questions to them, which they could not ignore. She now says that, without exception, they were unable to deal with her questions, and confessed their own ignorance, and pooh-poohed the matter as of no importance. They all told her not to trouble herself. She told them it was extraordinary that they should tell her to take no trouble about matters that were of the very first importance, unless they were all hypocrites in professing to be the servants of God.

She got no satisfaction till she came to New Zealand, where she was brought into contact with the brethren at Wellington, through her son. She now finds great satisfaction in the perfect understanding of the Scriptures that the Truth has brought her.

If she could have the company of her husband and sons in the matter, her joy would be full. Perhaps God will grant this great favour. I had some conversations with them. Their difficulties are those created by false systems of religion. Mr. Baernacki said the clergy told him he must have faith. But how was he to get faith?

### **GET THE FACTS, THEN FAITH WILL COME**

I told him to get FACTS, and faith would soon come, for faith was the confidence produced by facts. The case for revelation rested in facts that could not be disposed of. A man might be ignorant of the facts, and therefore unaffected by them. But the facts were there, and—when known—produced their effect by the inevitable law of conviction.

While at Stratford, we were accommodated at a private boarding house, in the absence of convenience among the brethren. This arrangement worked very well. It tends to health, and efficiency of work, to be at perfect ease privately, and under no necessity to talk at meals. The brethren sometimes do not understand (and cannot without experience understand) that the incessant consumption of nervous energy, in speaking and writing, renders it necessary that the domestic intervals should be in perfect repose, so far as talk is concerned. It is the very highest kindness they can bestow, to leave us alone at such times. They cannot think so perhaps, but it is true. Of course, it is nothing but the weakness of this mortal nature, but facts are facts.

The Stratford brethren acted on this principle in providing us apartments in the house of a stranger. They conferred a great benefit, for which we were duly grateful. We know it cannot always be as we would wish, and when it so happens we resign ourselves. But as Paul says, "If thou mayest be free, use it rather"; so we do.

### **2 LECTURES & A TEA MEETING: "ONLY BELIEVE"—BUT WHAT?**

There were 2 lectures and a tea meeting during our stay at Stratford. The lectures were well attended. Bro. Gold presided, and bro. Nash read the Scriptures. There was a little interruption the second night, by a Plymouth Brother, who contended, at the close, that it was enough to simply believe in the Lord Jesus, as Paul told the Philippian jailor.

I asked him if Paul did not mean, Believe the Truth concerning the Lord Jesus?

He answered that Paul said nothing about believing the Truth concerning the Lord Jesus—it was, believe in him.

But how, said I, could a man believe in the Lord Jesus, who did not know who the Lord Jesus was?

He thought that was quibbling.

Nay, my friend, said I, be reasonable. Would you not say that a man must believe in the Lord's crucifixion? Yet Paul said nothing about that just then. Must he not believe in the Lord's resurrection, about which Paul said nothing just then, though he said elsewhere that a man must with his heart believe that God raised Christ from the dead, in order to be saved (Rom. 10:9).

Our friend did not like the squeeze of reason, so he walked out of the meeting, muttering that it was all a pack of lies, and that he should afterwards show it.

## **FRI., JULY 22: TO NEW PLYMOUTH: THE BURDENS OF TRAVEL**

We left Stratford for New Plymouth on Friday, July 22. At New Plymouth we were to catch the steamer for Auckland, sailing at 9:35 p.m. The proper train to catch the steamer was several hours after the train we selected. There was advantage in the proper train, inasmuch as it would give us more time at Stratford, and run us right down to the steamboat side at the break-water, whereas other trains stopped short at New Plymouth proper, landing us 3 miles away from the waterside.

But "per contra," we should arrive in the dark in a bustling crowd, and it would not be easy to look after our things. We preferred to have time and deliberation and quietness, as most people do when they get to the declining side of life. So we took the 3 o'clock train, in which we found there were disadvantages.

It was not only that we had to hire a special conveyance for the 3 miles down to the break-water, but when we got there, we found the cab could only get as far as the shore end of the pier, and we had to carry, and have carried, our things along the whole length of the break-water in the dark, in the teeth of high winds and rain, amidst wagons and intersected railway tracks, before we could get to the steamer. It was a stiff half-hour's work. I first saw sis. Roberts on board, and then returned with a steward to the heap of things, which in 2 journeys we carried on board.

Once there, it was bliss, with no friends to talk and kindle up to. (Poor human weakness. It will be different on the happy morn. The multitude of the redeemed will not want to get away from one another then).

At 9:35 p.m. the rest of the passengers came bundling aboard, and the steamer instantly sailed out into the darkness and tempest.

## **SAT., JULY 23: BY SHIP TO AUCKLAND: WITH THE TANFIELDS**

We had a rough night, but it was soon gone, and at 10 o'clock next morning we were sailing in the sunshine into the quiet sheet of water, that forms the land-locked harbor of Onehunga (pronounced Oney-hung-ha), the port for Auckland on the west side. Mooring at the wharf, we were soon among friends. Bro. Tanfield was there, and sisters Walker and Leitch, and I think one or two others. The train for Auckland (about 8 miles distant) came alongside, and whisked us away to the beautiful city, which vies with Sydney and Hobart, as having the most beautiful harbor in the colonies.

We were to be bro. Tanfield's guests, who lives on the Devonport side of the harbor, so we had to get into a steam ferryboat for a sail of about 2½ miles, which was done in 15 or 20 minutes. Landed on the other side, we were soon under bro. Tanfield's godly roof, where we made the pleasant acquaintance of his wife, who is also in the Faith, and the intelligent and hearty abettor of all her husband's ways in the Truth. We were also pleased to become acquainted with their large and interesting family, of whom there is hope that they also will embrace the hope of Israel.

## **SUN., JULY 24: MEETINGS AT AUCKLAND**

Next day (Sunday), we crossed in the morning to the breaking of bread, and remained over for the day, under sis. Walker's lively roof. In the evening there was a lecture on "The Resurrection of Christ." There was a large audience, in spite of the driving rain.

The meeting was near a large new chapel that has been built by the Conditional Immortalists—a somewhat numerous body of people, who have discarded the grosser features of sectarian darkness, but who refuse submission to the claims of the Truth in the fulness of its harmonious doctrines, and practical obligations. They considered the Truth "narrow"—which Jesus said it was. They prefer liberty and numbers. This is convenient for the time, but "What will ye do in the end thereof?" They are tainted with partial inspiration. This will rot them away to nothing at last.

The Truth has had many difficulties to encounter in Auckland, but there is every appearance of better times in store. Bro & sis. Tanfield are great acquisitions, and there are buddings of fruit in other directions.

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## **In the Image of God Made He Him**

*"Men are made after the similitude of God"—James 3:9*

*"Man is the image and glory of God"—1 Cor. 11:7*

## **PART TWO**

## THE LITERAL FOUNDATION OF SCRIPTURE

THERE is undoubtedly much **more** to the general subject of the 'image of God' than just bodily form. The whole Bible is built on this plan—

"First that which is natural, afterwards that which is spiritual."

The solid literal foundation in each case is firmly laid, and then the beauties of type, lesson or symbol are developed from it. But Christendom sweeps away the literal basis entirely and gives **everything** a "spiritual" interpretation.

There is much in the Bible about Israel, Jerusalem, temple, city, etc., that is figurative and spiritual. Christendom uses this to break down the literal foundation upon which these spiritual truths are built. To them, there is nothing literal in all the promises about Israel, Jerusalem, the land, etc. All, however obviously factual and literal, must be "spiritualized."

The word "body" is another excellent example of this treatment. Unquestionably there is much secondary or figurative use of this word, but it is all based on the solid literal foundation. When we read that he "shall change our vile body (**soma**) that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body (**soma**)" we know that it is strictly literal—the basic foundation of our hope of eternal life through glorification of the literal body.

And when we read "For the edifying of the body (**soma**) of Christ," and "We are members of his body (**soma**)," while we fully understand this does not mean a literal physical body, still we do not feel compelled to set the one against the other and conclude that the literal meaning must be false.

*The real, simple, literal framework of the Bible is our anchor. Certain statements are demonstrably literal. We need all of the literal scriptural foundation to combat the immaterial soul theories of Christendom, which merely brushes aside all literal statements that do not fit its views.*

## ACCEPTING JUST WHAT GOD HAS SAID

WHAT then is the literal foundation that we are given concerning man being made in the image of God? It is not a matter of what we **think** it should mean, or of developing an idea that **we feel** to be "conceivable." ANY conception of God is "inconceivable."

It is just as difficult, yea, more difficult, to conceive of Him without a body than with one—just as difficult and more so to conceive of Him with any other form than one like our own.

It is just as impossible for us to adequately conceive of space as endless as it is to think of it with an end (for what is beyond?). Our minds are not constructed to grasp these things, and to speculate is folly.

We must—as carefully as we can—try to determine **just what God has told us**, and hold firmly to that. That is our salvation. Exactly what He has told us—thereby we may, in His mercy, save ourselves from the pitfalls that have befallen all who have permitted their minds to speculate and wander from the narrow beam of directly revealed truth.

When we have established the **literal foundation**, and fixed it immovably in our minds, **then** we can profitably examine the secondary meanings and lessons that are developed from it in Scripture.

As regards the soul, hell, death, satan, Israel, Jerusalem, temple, land, city, heaven, earth, etc., the **Old Testament** lays the solid foundation of literal reality. Upon this established reality the New Testament builds. Christendom throws the Old away—the book of definitions—and is therefore free to make what it likes of the New.

## TSELEM

THE word "image" in question in Gen. 1:26-7 is **tselem** in the original Hebrew. This word occurs 34 times. Of these 34 occurrences—

In 4 places it is used in connection with the making of man in God's image—Gen. 1:26, 27; 9:6.

**In 27 places it is obvious and inescapable from the direct context that the meaning is actual, literal form, shape and appearance.**

In the 3 remaining places the meaning is not fixed by the context. (One of these 3 concerns Seth being in the "image" of Adam—we believe the simple, natural meaning is obvious but not absolutely conclusive.)

The following are all the occurrences of this word **tselem**—

**The four references to the 'image of God'—**

Gen. 1:26—"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

Gen. 1:27 (twice)—"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him."

Gen. 9:6—"For in the image of God made he man."

**The 27 times where the meaning is clear and unmistakable —**

Num. 33:52—"Destroy all their molten images."

1 Sam. 6:5—"Ye shall make images of your emerods and images of your mice."

1 Sam. 6:11—"The images of their emerods."

2 Kings 11:18—"And his images broke they in pieces."

2 Chron. 23:17—"And brake his images in pieces."

Ezek. 7:20—"They made the images of their abominations and their detestable things."

Ezek. 16:17—"Madest to thyself images of men."

Ezek. 23:14—"Images of the Chaldeans portrayed with vermillion."

Amos 5:26—"Moloch and Chiun your images."

Daniel, chaps. 2 & 3—Sixteen occurrences 'the great image,' 'the image's head,' 'smote the image upon his feet,' 'an image of gold,' 'the golden image.'

Dan. 3:19—"And the form (tselem) of his visage was changed" the visible appearance.

**The 3 remaining times where the meaning is not definitely fixed by the context —**

Gen. 5:3—"Adam begat a son in his own likeness, after his image."

Psa. 39:6—"Man walketh in a vain show (tselem)." Some translate this, "Although every man walketh in the image (of God), yet . . ."

Psa. 73:20—"O Lord, when Thou wakest, Thou shalt despise their image."

This last is illustrated by many passages, such as these:

**Isa. 41:23** (God speaking to the idols) — "Show the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods . . . Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought. An abomination is he that chooseth you."

**Jer. 2:28** — "Where are the gods that thou hast made thee? Let them arise, if they can save thee."

**Ezek. 6:4-7** — "Your images shall be broken . . . and ye shall know that I am the Lord."

\* \* \*

So we see that in 27 cases 'tselem' **conclusively** means a **literal, visible, outward form**. and in the remaining three cases where the meaning cannot be proven from the context, this same meaning is the simplest and most reasonable one to infer.

**In every place where the meaning of this word tselem is fixed by the context, it inescapably refers to literal form.**

SO WHEN GOD USES THIS WORD AND SAYS THAT MAN IS MADE IN HIS IMAGE, WE BELIEVE THERE CANNOT BE ANY DOUBT AS TO WHAT HE MEANS US TO UNDERSTAND BY IT.

To suggest that this word as used here means something entirely **different** from its **real meaning** and the way it is used everywhere else is surely unreasonable and wrong, and would open a way whereby all the literal framework of the Bible could be nullified.

*For any who will treat the Scriptures fairly and without previous bias, really seeking the meaning intended, Gen. 1:26 can convey but one simple, clear meaning.*

*Free from theological speculation about immortal souls and the body not being the real man, this is the conclusion all sound brethren have come to in the past as they have read this revelation from God.*

## WHOLE SUBSEQUENT PICTURE CONFIRMS THIS

THE whole subsequent picture as given in the Scriptures clearly confirms and agrees with this fitting and beautiful and inspiring and ennobling literal foundation of our kinship with the Father—"In the image of God created He man."

This is necessitated by the revealed fact that—for those who are faithful—**this mortal body is to be changed to glorious eternal spirit substance** "even like unto Christ's glorious body" which is so described after his resurrection. (Christendom has lost this anchor of reality—bodies are quite incidental to their creed.)

Jesus Christ—a **glorious spiritual body**—now sits at the right hand of God, his Father.

*To that divine family we hope to be eternally joined, each with his body changed to glorious, incorruptible spirit substance, sons of our Father in heaven.*

This conception of God as the Father and glorious Archetype of all His children is woven throughout the Bible. It lies at the root of, and gives meaning to, all the "manifestations of God" right down to that greatest and fullest manifestation—"a Son."

### TEMUNAH

IN Num. 12:8 God says—

"With him (Moses) will I speak mouth to mouth . . . and **the similitude of the Lord (Heb: Yahweh) shall he behold.**"

This word "similitude" is **temunah** and is **exactly the same word** as used in Deut. 4:12, "Ye heard the voice . . . but SAW no **similitude.**" (This latter verse has been used in the arguments for the views we are combating.)

This word occurs ten times in all, as follows:—

Num. 12:8—"The similitude of the Lord (Yahweh) shall he behold."

Exod. 20:4—"Thou shalt not make any graven image or any **likeness** of anything."

Deut. 4:15—"Ye saw no manner of **similitude.**"

Deut. 4:16—"The **similitude** of any figure, the likeness of male or female."

Deut. 4:23—"Graven image, or the **likeness** of any thing" (Same in verse 25).

Deut. 5:3—"Graven image, or the **likeness** of any thing."

Job 4:16—"An **image** was before mine eyes."

Psa. 17:15—"I will behold Thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with Thy **likeness**" (RV: 'with beholding Thy **form.**')

It will be observed that in every occurrence but the first and the last, the context **leaves no possible doubt that actual, outward, visible form or shape is meant.** Eight times out of ten the context positively fixes the meaning. On what possible ground can it be claimed that in the other two places (Num. 12:8 and Psa. 17:15) where the similitude of God is referred to, we have any license to give it a different meaning? To arbitrarily say that **temunah** does **not** mean visible form in these 2 places in question, when it undeniably does **everywhere else**, is utterly unreasonable.

How can God teach us any thing, if we are going to treat words like this? Here again He is using a word to teach us something about Himself, and in every other place in Scripture where He uses that word He so arranges the context as to make the meaning inescapable—**literal form.** He says of Moses, "The similitude of Yahweh shall he BEHOLD," and a fulfilment of this promise is described in detail in language that can leave no doubt as to its literal meaning—Exo. 33:20-23.

### ALL REVELATIONS OF GOD POINT JUST ONE WAY

ALL that is revealed on this subject tends in one direction. All the 'similitudes of Yahweh' that have been manifested have been of **just one form.** Surely God is leading our minds to but one conception. Bearing in mind the clear meaning of Gen. 1:26, this **consistent presentation all through Scripture** is irresistible in its import.

As bro. Thomas points out (Eur. I, p.95-6), "The appearance of the likeness of the glory of Yahweh" (Ezek. 1:28) which was "the likeness as the appearance of a MAN" (v.26) is another link in this chain of the manifestation of the similitude of Yahweh.

And what else can we reasonably make of Exo. 33:20-23—

"And He (Yahweh, v.17) said. **Thou canst not see My Face**, for there shall not man see Me and live . . . **thou shalt see My back parts**: but My face shall not be seen."

Surely no words could be plainer or more specific than this, if we will accept them in their simple meaning. Again we have Exo. 24:10-11—

"And they **saw the God of Israel** and there was under **His feet** as it were a paved work of sapphire stone."

All this fits perfectly on the foundation of Gen. 1:26-7 that God patterned His children after His own form; which form—in the faithful—will be perpetuated in the incorruptible spirit nature like to the glorious body of Jesus Christ.

We do not desire to analyze or speculate upon these statements. We do not know **how or to what degree** either Moses or the elders or Israel or Ezekiel saw God. We do not believe it is a profitable subject for analysis or speculation.

We simply desire to extract from these passages the **one basic revelation in them**—the simple confirmation they give us concerning the revealed form of God. God has chosen, in His wisdom in laying the foundation of our knowledge, to reveal this. If He had not, it would be utter presumption to discuss it or theorize upon it. But He **has** been graciously pleased to make certain revelations, and this point we are considering is part of the **knowledge concerning Himself and ourselves** that He desires us to receive and live by—

*"Your BODY is the temple of the Holy Spirit:"*

*Ye are shaped for a noble and exalted destiny—as glorious SONS of God!*

This revealed truth helps to guard us against the nebulous vaporizings of trinitarianism and immortal-soulism. It is just the opposite from what the wisdom of the world has decided that God should and must be. For the pitifully limited natural human mind to formulate conceptions of what is or is not "fitting" as regards the Nature and Person of God is the sheerest folly. Wisdom will simply accept what God has revealed.

### **1 COR. 11:7 and JAMES 3:9**

1 Cor. 11:7—"Man is the image and glory of God."

James 3:9—"Men, which are made after the similitude of God."

These both clearly refer to Gen. 1:26-7, and speak of a natural condition applying to all men indiscriminately. It is clear from the first reference that it is something the **man** alone has in the primary sense and **NOT THE WOMAN**.

To say that it means "spiritual discernment" is obviously unsound because Paul and James speak of it as something **still applying to all men in their day**. And by this line of argument, I Cor. 11-7 would indicate that sisters had no spiritual discernment.

To say that it means "dominion" is very strained, for both Genesis and James describe mankind as "**created**," "**made**," in the image of God, clearly referring to some **inherent factor** of the actual thing made, part of the **actual making** or forming, and not something externally bestowed upon him, as dominion. This "dominion" interpretation also, of course, ignores the meaning of image in Gen. 1:26 as we have shown it to be.

**(Continued next month, if the Lord will)**

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## **Praise the Lord, O My Soul!**

*"While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being!"—Psalm 146:2*

### **PSALMS 146 TO 150**

THE Psalms is one of the most beautiful and majestic books of all Scripture. These words cover every aspect of the Truth—from the highest conception of Yahweh as Creator and Sustainer of all—to prophecy—to things of Christ—to the great plan of man's redemption; and to illustrate that perfect faith, confidence and oneness that man can attain with God.

The Hebrew name of the book of Psalms is Tehillim, meaning Praise. This is the basic theme of the whole book. We are exhorted over and over again to praise God. Psa. 147:1—

*"Praise ye the Lord: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely."*

Psa. 95:2-3—*"Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.*

*"For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods."*

Psalms 50:23 gives us the personal application—

*"Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I show the Salvation of God."*

To praise God is to glorify Him. Praise should come from the innermost part of our being, and not just from the lips. God's whole plan and purpose in Creation is that ultimately His Name might be glorified. The final completion will come when—

*"The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord."*

We all often speak and pray about God's glory filling the earth. This is what we all SAY we look and long for. If this IS our innermost desire, then our walk and conduct in the Truth will show it. We will glorify God in every way, in all circumstances. We will read and study and learn more of His glorious truths. Our every action, our whole lives, will be dedicated to glorifying God. Anyone who is not doing all they can from the heart, will not be "shown the Salvation of God" in the form of eternal life.

It is not enough to just KNOW God's will. Today, with so many books available on the Truth, it could easily be conceived that knowledge is the principal thing. But it is not. The will of God not only must be known, but DONE. It must be engraved on the mind, and issue from the heart in deep longing for God and His ways. Thru this means, we will find our highest joy in obedience. David said—

*"I delight to do Thy will, O my God, yea, Thy Law is within my heart."*

This is the only way and true basis of obedience. It is the only way we can keep the commands of God. If our heart and mind are blended in conformity with God's will, our delight will be in doing His service. The words of inspiration pondered in the heart, will be as a stream flowing from the fountain of life. As David says (Ps.36:9):

*"With Thee is the fountain of life: in Thy light we shall see light."*

There are many beautiful thoughts and exhortations that can be extracted from the Psalms if we allow ourselves to see and use them. The words were written and recorded that we might profit from them and become obedient to God's ways, purified and beautified in our lives and characters. Obedience is the best sacrifice we can offer in our hope for mercy.

*"Behold the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy."*

By fearing or reverencing Him, David says, God will look down upon us and extend His mercy. This is the only course we can follow if we wish His mercy to rest upon us. The natural mind will not tell us this, and if we heed it, we will wander out of the way of understanding. By heeding things spiritual and developing the spiritual mind, we will not wander. This book of praise, if we lovingly obey its words, will be a light before our eyes. It can truly be said that everyone will find in the Psalms words that will suit every occasion in their walk to the Kingdom.

The last 5 Psalms are truly Psalms of Praise to God. Each begins:

*"PRAISE YE THE LORD"*

—and ends the same way. The Psalmist is deeply moved to praise God in thankfulness for all things. He is determined, while he lives, to constantly praise the Creator and extol His Name—

*"Praise ye the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!"*

*"While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being" (Psa. 146:1-2).*

As the Psalmist says, our lifetime is the time we are given to praise and serve God. We often sing this in Hymn 142—"Life is the time to serve the Lord." For in death there is no opportunity (v.4)—

*"His breath goeth forth; he returneth to his earth: in that very day his thoughts perish."*

Do we remember this as we arise to face each new day? We should give thanks for the new opportunity to serve God and praise Him. We should begin the day with prayer, seeking forgiveness for all our past sins, with earnest determination to use the day before us in obedience and service to God. This is the purpose of each new day, why it is provided. As we use it rightly, it will help us both now and in the day of judgment.

V.3—"Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help" (margin—salvation).

It is a shortcoming today that people are more and more placing confidence in their own personal aspirations. But we, as children of God, must not do so, for we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. No human scheme by us, no matter how marvellous it may seem, will ever help us to attain salvation.

We must place our trust and faith in God alone. God only knows all our needs, and He is the only One who can provide, if we ask in faith. Our faith must be in the One God of Jacob, our hope for deliverance in Him. The more we draw to Him in prayer and reading of His Word, the more help we receive in the renewal of inner strength, joy and peace.

V.5—"Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God,  
"Which made heaven and earth, the sea and all that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever."

The Psalmist gives the reason why we must not trust in man: he soon dieth. And he contrasts that with why we should trust in God: God created the heavens, the earth, the sea and everything in it. If He has such great power to create and sustain all the universe, surely we can trust His promise that His Word will not fail, His Truth will endure forever.

Let us think upon this. Perhaps we should consider more the unsearchable wisdom and power of Him that hath—

".. stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth."

Astronomers tell us from their observations—

*"The moon revolves around our earth; the earth, with its associate planets, revolves around the sun.*

*"All the infinite host of heaven is grouped into clusters and systems that revolve, orbit within orbit, and world around world, until a firmament of millions of suns is balanced by another as great, and all go sweeping together around some mightier centre.*

*"And so suns, whose light has been millions of years in reaching us, are all rushing as though driven by hurricanes of infinite power around some mysterious centre."*

The vast heavens above us go beyond our mortal comprehension. Yet we read in Psalm 147:4-5—

*"He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by their names.*

*"Great is our Lord, and of great power: His understanding is infinite."*

This introduces the beautiful thought of the Psalmist (Ps. 8:3-4) —

*"When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained;*

*"What is man that Thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him?"*

In consideration of such immense greatness and power, it is only fitting that we praise Him. He has called us to be a part of His great purpose of filling the earth with His glory.

The number of stars is used in Scripture to typify a countless number, like the sand of the sea. The stronger the telescope man invents, the more stars he can see—and still there is no end. The sun itself is a star. Being close to the earth, it acts as its source of light and heat.

Spiritually, stars represent individuals given immortality—

*"As one star differeth from another in glory, so is the resurrection of the dead."*

And Daniel was told (12:3)—

*"Many that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake . . . They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."*

At the Creation, the angels are spoken of as "morning stars" singing together as, at the bidding of God, they brought light and life to a dead earth. Morning stars are those whose rising heralds the dawn. Jesus is THE bright and morning Star, the Sun, the ruler of the heavens.

Ps. 147:8—"Who covereth the heaven with clouds.. "

Clouds, in their natural state, are a dense concentration of water droplets suspended in air. They oftentimes hold thousands of tons of moisture necessary for watering the earth. If clouds are lacking in any area, then there is no rain, and all things wither. We see that this is so from many dry climates where the earth is a desert. There must be clouds and rain for life. Elihu asked Job (37:16)—

*"Dost thou know the balancing of the clouds? The wondrous works of Him Who is perfect in knowledge?"*

We should ask ourselves this same question, and draw from it spiritual thoughts. Clouds are used in a spiritual sense as the medium of God's manifestation and operations. At the transfiguration of Jesus (the manifestation of the glory of his kingdom) a bright cloud overshadowed.

When he was taken into heaven a cloud received him.

It is promised he will come "in the clouds of heaven." These clouds are the clouds of saints—the cloud of immortal ones, drawn up by the Sun of Righteousness, changed into Spirit nature, ready to pour out the judgments of God.

When we let our minds dwell upon God's Creation and its spiritual significance as revealed, we find much promise and beauty in God's presence manifested in the clouds. Continuing Ps. 147:8—

*" . . . who prepareth rain for the earth."*

As God blesses the earth with rain, so He blesses us with His Word:

*"For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven . . . watereth the earth and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My Word be" (Is. 55:10).*

And Deut. 32:1-2—

*"Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth the words of My mouth.*

*"My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass. "*

The rain from heaven is the Word of God, the Water of Life. Just as the rain makes the grass to grow, so God's Word brings forth fruit. It is recorded that God showers the rain on the just and the unjust. All have it, but only a few really know its benefit. It is a necessity to life, for without it all things would wither and die. So it is with us, in relation to God's words. They are as a shower and we have the opportunity of drinking heavily from them. Psa. 147:9-10—

*"He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.*

*"He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: He taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man."*

The whole animal creation is seen and cared for by God. Not a sparrow falls to the ground without Him knowing it. It is God that gives all creatures strength. Therefore God is not pleased that men should be proud and boastful of their physical power. He delights not in the horse's proud and haughty way (in that he is powerful), or in the pride of man because of human strength. God is pleased when man acknowledges that all he is and has, is from God, and thus holds his Creator and Provider in fear and reverence. Psa. 147:16—

*"He giveth snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes."*

Again, these verses emphasize God's power and control of the elements. Having considered rain, clouds and stars, let us now consider briefly the snow. Snow affords much evidence of God's love of beauty and order. Each flake is perfectly made, and there are never two exactly alike. God teaches Job by asking—

*"Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?"*

There is comfort and peace in thinking on these things. Our God is great and glorious. Goodness, beauty and joy are the eternal pattern of all His works. All things that mar that beauty and joy are but passing shadows that will be swept away when their brief purpose is accomplished.

Snow represents purity and the pure whiteness of those who would be in harmony with God. Each snowflake is a separate and individual and beautifully intricate design: yet altogether they are one glorious, pure, white unity. So are the Redeemed: each one a beautiful individual character of marvellous design, but all are part of a vast, shining, Sun-lit, holy unity in God.

Psalm 148:1-6 speaks further of God's creation: the heavens, the stars, the clouds, etc. Then in v. 7 is the command—

*"Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all deeps:"*

As we read in Psa. 146:6—

*".. the sea and all that therein is."*

After looking at God's wonders in the heavens above, our attention is turned to the earth, to the deep places, and to the sea and all that is therein. So in Psa. 95:4-5—

*"In His hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is His also. The sea is His and He made it, and His hands formed the dry land."*

Why should the "deep places" of the earth be mentioned more than the flat or wide open places? There seems to be a reason. If there is any time when we are able to feel our own absolute insignificance, it is when we have to do with the deep places of the earth. Standing on a cliff, or on mountain edges, looking over the mighty crags into the depths below, where ships and great rocks are like small specks, we powerfully feel how great is He and how entirely and implicitly we are in His Hand.

So also with the strength of the hills. Psalm 148:9 calls on the mountains and all hills for praise. The great mountains overwhelm us with God's stupendous power. His greatness is unsearchable. It is staggering to our poor capacities. We can but recognize it, and yield the feeble attribute of praise and thankfulness.

To many, thoughts as these are called weak and "soft." True this may be, but it is the way we must be. Softness is the opposite to hardness, and hardness is the quality we are divinely warned against. It is natural to be self-assertive and hard-hearted, but it is wrong in God's sight. May we further develop within ourselves a softer and gentler and more loving attitude. Psa. 148:8—

*"Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling His Word."*

Fire and hail represent the righteous judgments of God against the unrighteous and disobedient. It is good we remember both the goodness and severity of God. God is love, but He is also a consuming fire to the wicked. We cannot presume upon His mercy and go our way. We must strive always to be obedient and to seek forgiveness of our shortcomings after we have tried our hardest to obey. For after we have done all, we are still unprofitable servants and must seek the Father's mercy and love.

*"Stormy wind, FULFILLING HIS WORD."*

The same word is used in Scripture for both "wind" and "spirit." All is of God. The wind both literal and spiritual plays an important part in fulfilling God's will and accomplishing His purpose. As the wind is in the natural heavens, so is the Spirit in the spiritual heavens. The wind is a mighty, unseen power of God, ranging from the gentle, refreshing breeze to the terrible, destructive hurricane and tornado.

The basic power behind natural wind is the sun: so the power behind the Spirit is God. God is the Centre, Source and Basis of all. Ps. 149:1-3—

*"Praise ye the Lord! Sing unto the Lord a new song, and His praise in the congregation of saints.*

*"Let Israel rejoice in Him that made him; let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.*

*"Let them praise His Name in the dance: let them sing praises unto Him with the timbrel and harp."*

David here invites the Children of Israel to rejoice as he reigns over God's Kingdom in Jerusalem. But it has a higher application to the Messiah of whom it is written—

*"My praise shall be to thee in the great congregation."*

The world has not yet seen this great sight when Christ gives the signal for an outburst of praise such as never heard on earth.

Psa. 149:4—*"For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people: He will beautify the meek with salvation."*

God is pleased with the meek, those poor in spirit, who in their lifetime gave glory to Him. In the acknowledgement of God's greatness, we are humbled, made meek. There is no room for pride of the flesh. Meekness is patience, calm, gentle, humble; not aggressive or self-assertive. It is cheerfully putting up with wrong and present disadvantages for the sake of eternal good. Meekness is self-control. It is crucifying the lusts of the flesh and learning the spirit of Christ (who was meek and lowly of heart).

Psa. 149:5-9—*"Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds!*

*"Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand.*

*"To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people;  
"To bind their kings with chains, their nobles with fetters of iron;  
"To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all His saints. Praise ye the Lord!"*

The honour of saints is to execute judgments on the nations. They will go against the Russian Gog and the Roman Harlot, putting down all wickedness and setting up God's Kingdom in Jerusalem with Christ as their King. With such promises, with such a glorious hope, such a high calling, let us "Praise the Lord!"

Psalm 150 is summed up in verse 6—  
*"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord."*

Wisdom calls our attention to the lessons found in the Tehillim. We are shown the unescapable conclusion that hope, joy and praise are appropriate among the company of saints—God's Elect. Therefore let us, as described in Psalm 147:7—

*"Sing praises WITH UNDERSTANDING."*

This is the whole spirit of the Psalms. The Psalms speak certainly upon every phase of the divine purpose and human welfare. They turn every aspect into praise and glorification of God. To worship in holiness and to praise with understanding is the highest destiny and joy we can attain to. We have the supreme example, at the heart of many psalms, in the one we are to remember this morning, Christ Jesus—

*"In the volume of the book it is written of me,  
I DELIGHT TO DO THY WILL, O GOD!"*

May we faithfully remember these words, and may we ever delight ourselves in doing God's will. —D.C.

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## **Current Events Fulfilling Prophecy**

*"Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, blasphemies"—Matt. 15:19*

**HOW THE MORMONS GROW.** With 16,000 young missionaries at work around world, Mormon Church one of most aggressively evangelistic in world. All young men & women expected to put in 2 yrs. as missionaries at own expense. Church has grown from 1 million to 3 million in 12 years.

Mormons spent \$18 million on welfare in 71; \$8 million was raised by monthly fast days in which price of missed meals is given to poor. Welfare recipients must work in Mormon welfare industries if able-bodied.

Blacks of African ancestry cannot enter "priesthood," the full-fledged membership to which all other adult Mormon males are entitled. US Blacks have been assured they'll some day be given right to be Mormon priests. Prophet Harold Lee, the "Revelator" (head of Church) could theoretically receive word from God any time. (Tm 10:23)

*NOTE: There are great and humbling lessons to be learned from the diligence of the children of this world. How does OUR zeal and labour for the REAL, glorious, divine Truth compare with the dedication these people give to promoting their teachings? Do we expect any reward if we do less? God reasonably demands ALL our heart, mind, and strength in His service—making everything else utterly unimportant and secondary. Anything less is belittling the greatness of His love and promised blessing to the faithful.*

**KING OF NORTH MOVING INTO POSITION.** Since its ouster from Egypt, Russia placing its bets elsewhere in Mideast. They've just mounted a spectacular 5-day, 2000-ton airlift of military supplies to Syria, & are giving greater attention to Iraq.

For first time, Russia recently lined up 4-square behind Palestine guerrillas. In past few weeks, guerrilla leaders have been in Moscow, & Russia has let it be known they're giving them arms.

Russia's complex Mideast policy part of even larger geopolitical strategy. Moscow's original move into Egypt was to secure a strategic foothold in Mediterranean & outflank NATO on Europe's south front. The plan has been eminently successful. Russia has compelled world to recognize realities of her global power status.

Now she's moving into new policy phase. Having established themselves in Mediterranean, they're putting pressure on Turkey & expanding their role in oil-rich Persian Gulf.

Sadat's hasty expulsion may work to Moscow's advantage. They still have naval facilities in Egyptian ports, & now run less risk in being dragged by Egypt into confrontation with US. Egypt has become a relatively minor factor to them. (Nwk 10:23)

*NOTE: It is interesting that an apparent setback to Russia may actually be to her advantage. Certainly its effect is to bring her much more into line with where she belongs. Syria is the ancient "King of the North," where Russia must be to fulfil that role in the latter days. And Iraq is the ancient Assyria, the fierce enemy and destroyer of God's People of whom Russia is the latter-day counterpart. "This man—the Bethlehem-born Mighty One— shall be the peace when the Assyrian shall come into our land" (Mic. 5:2-5).*

**WORLD'S BIGGEST BUSINESS DEAL**—now being discussed by US & Russia: plan to bring 3 to 4 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day from Russia to US. Up to \$10 billion involved. Pipe 56" in diameter would be laid across 4000 miles of most inhospitable country in world to Russian harbours, where it would be liquified at 259 degrees below zero. Then 35 huge refrigerated tankers would bring it to US. Cost of tankers alone would be over \$4 billion. (USN 11:6)

*NOTE: Can US be so utterly stupid as to put itself at the mercy of a power that is dedicated to destroying it and ruling the world alone? But big money is to be made, and US must have the gas to support its decadent life-style of lust and luxury. If Russia can get control of Mideast oil, and also get US dependent on her for gas, what can stop her?*

**US STREET CRIME.** A million Americans physically attacked this year. Thru '60s, violent crime rose from 1600 per million inhabitants per year, to 4,000; murder rose 70 pet.; rape 113 pet.; robbery 212 pet. Crime up 30 pet. since Nixon took office. Big change is in degree of viciousness.

Police tend not even to record crime they have little or no chance of solving. Even more misleading is fact that many—perhaps most—crimes never reported to police. Odds against catching a burglar 50 to 1. (Tm 10:23)

*NOTE: We do not rejoice in the ever-growing prevalence of evil and violence, but we do exceedingly rejoice in this evidence that these present days are the terrible, long-foretold "Last Days" of evil human rule on earth.*

**AMERICA'S ORIGINAL OWNERS.** Average income of US Indian families is ½ US average. Majority of Indians exist on substandard incomes & in squalid conditions. Some are reduced to near-starvation diets. (USN 11:20)

*NOTE: These people were here first. They had their own culture & way of life. But "progress" & the white man's plundering has swept them into a miserable corner of neglect & broken agreements. Clearly, under human rule, might makes right.*

**ARAB OIL POWER.** The major oil companies, after 9 months of talks, have agreed to terms on which 5 Persian Gulf states will become part owners of the oil operations. The Arab producers get 20 pet. ownership immediately, rising to 51 pet. by 1980. Settlement underlines recent historic shift of power from companies to Arabs. (Nwk 10:16)

*NOTE: How marvellous, & interesting, & unexpected—the way the details of the final picture are developing! Arab oil and Jewish "holy places" are more & more irresistibly focusing the attention & schemings of the world powers on the Mideast. By controlling Arab oil, Russia could quickly strangle US & the West. The promise of Jerusalem & its "treasures" will bring the Pope a-running by Russia's side.*

**DICTATORSHIP IN S. KOREA.** Last wk. Pres. Park proclaimed martial law; dissolved National Assembly; banned all political activity; closed universities; imposed tight press censorship.

Move came as embarrassing surprise to Washington, which in past 2 yrs. has watched Cambodia, S. Vietnam, Thailand & Philippines—once known as "Free Asia"—shed last vestiges of democracy. US gives Park \$240 million yr.

It's an odd turn of events in a land where 20 yrs. ago 34,000 Americans died in "defence of Free World" (Tm 10:30)

*NOTE: All our lifetime we have seen people being asked to die for "freedom" and "democracy"—ever since WW I, which was hailed as the "war to end all wars and make the world safe for democracy." But clearly "democracy" under any human rule is a sham—weak, corrupt, and inefficient. The only political reality and possibility is the selfish national strivings of the Sin-Powers of the earth, and one generation's "enemy" is the next generation's "ally."*

**RUSSIA TOUGHER ON JEWS.** Russia still charging emigrants as much as \$64,000 to leave Russia. Harassment of Jews on upswing. Climate of public opinion being created in which physical attacks will be acceptable.

Spectre has been raised again of deporting Jews to Birobidzhan, the desolate territory in Siberia along Chinese border that 38 years ago was officially set aside as "Jewish Autonomous Region." Grim days lie ahead for beleaguered Jews of Russia. (Nwk 10:30)

*NOTE: The latter-day Assyrian is filling up his cup of wickedness and malice against God's people. Nations who have oppressed Israel have each in their turn been desolated and destroyed. Russia's turn will come.*

**RESCUE MISSIONS.** Shivering men, shoulders hunched against the chill, standing in line at a rescue-mission door. Picture hardly seems to belong to an affluent society. But it is a contemporary reality, as 450 rescue missions in N. America can testify. The rescue mission is very much alive. They served 14 million meals last year. Mission's love goes to a segment of humanity we like to ignore. Startling drop in average age of derelicts—from upper 50s a decade ago to lower 30s today. Rising number of drifting young with no place to sleep. Far from being out-dated, rescue mission of 70s will be jammed to doorsills. (Tm 11:20)

*NOTE: A sobering picture, & a provocation to deep thought. The eternal realities of life are not lust & greed & pleasure & entertainment, but kindness & service & true love. Often the children of the world are wiser & kinder in these things than the supposed "children of light," smug & self-centred in their "righteousness." It is so easy to separate "religion" from goodness.*

**HISTORY'S COSTLIEST CAMPAIGN.** Record total of \$400 million poured out for 1972 US elections. (USN 11:13)

*NOTE: How can there possibly be justice & true "democracy" under such conditions? And this is the best alternative that can be offered to the iron shackles of Communism! Man is in a sad way, trying to rule himself.*

**WORLDWIDE TURMOIL HITS CHURCHES.** An era of religious turmoil & rebellion. Interest of young in institutional churches declining. Attendance falling. Less than 15 pet of Anglicans in Britain attend any given Sunday.

Last yr. France's "Protestant Federation" called capitalism & its ideology "unacceptable", and urged Christians to take "bold reforms or revolutionary opposition." In W. Germany, young pastors—10 in one State alone—are joining Communist Party.

Within the past yr., majority of Spanish Catholic hierarchy has denounced Spain's political & social injustice, & called for end to traditional ties of Church & State. In a Church poll, 48 pet. of priests favoured Socialism.

Several yrs. ago Castro said "US shouldn't worry about Russians in S. America; they should worry about the Catholic revolutionaries." Today his prophecy is coming true in vast area beset by illiteracy, political corruption, & wide gap between poor & rich. In many places, priests, ministers & bishops are speaking out against capitalism. Many churchmen endorse socialism. Some say violent revolution is inevitable.

In Buenos Aires, a Methodist said: 'At our seminary here, Che Guevara is more of a hero than Christ.' Not long ago, 400 priests & bishops from Latin American nations met in Chile to form "Christians for Socialism." They endorsed alliance with Marxists to achieve socialism, & called for "revolutionary action by the proletariat & a strategy to take over power."

Africa has over 100 million Christians, & they're increasing over 5 pet. yr.—double the population growth. Continuation of this trend would mean that by end of century Christians will outnumber Moslems in Africa, & "Third World" Christians of Asia, Africa & S. America would outnumber those in US & Europe.

Church leaders foresee turmoil in Christianity, with rebels trying to push Church into an expanded world role, colliding in the process with authority both spiritual & temporal. (USN 12:11)

*NOTE: This trend of the church masses away from democracy and capitalism toward communism and revolution is very significant, and— prophetically speaking—very encouraging. The Churches must go back to Rome (as they rapidly ARE going), and Rome and Russia must join in a worldwide campaign to establish a manmade millennium.*

**NEW INTERNATIONAL TERROR.** Exploding parcels suddenly turned up in Arab mailboxes last week, only month after similar wave of deadly letter-bombs had been sent from Amsterdam to Israelis around world. So went the continuing underground war between Arabs & Israel.

The war is played most dangerously in Europe, where agents of all sides can move about with relative freedom. Israelis stationed overseas have come to feel like front-line combatants. Embassies & consulates have been converted into fortresses.

Blind terror demeans both sides & gains neither any advantage in their long & painful war, but once it has begun, terror becomes increasingly difficult to contain. (Tm 11:6)

*NOTE: "Evil shall go forth from nation to nation" (Jer. 25:32). How evil is natural man, who in his hatred will destroy indiscriminately! And all nations are guilty of this. Remember Hiroshima—man, woman and child alike: 100,000 destroyed; 100,000 more condemned to every horrible degree of maiming, disfigurement and painful, lingering, hopeless living death.*

**GARBAGE.** National throwaway continues unchecked: 71 billion cans, 38 billion bottles, 7 million autos, 35 million tons of paper—in all over 5 billion tons of garbage—piled up last yr. alone. Pile is growing twice as fast as gross national product. (Nwk 12:25)

*NOTE: What an age!— when all things, both physical and moral, are building up to a dead-end of utter corruption. How man has abused and polluted the beautiful earth!*

**DICTATORSHIP IN ZAMBIA.** When Zambia gained independence from Britain 8 yrs. ago, it was said to have 2 specific advantages over its neighbours: rich copper mines & idealistic leader Kaunda. Both now look tarnished.

Kaunda has just taken the drastic step of abolishing all opposition parties. In recent months, he has treated his political opponents with increasing severity. Over 100 opposition leaders, including his own former Vice President and boyhood friend, have been jailed without trial. Kaunda has changed from mild-mannered man who led Zambia to freedom. (Tm 11:6)

*NOTE: One more once-promising new nation discards "democracy" for repression and power-hungry dictatorship. Men in high position succumb almost inevitably to the lust of power. Natural man is not fit to rule either himself or others.*

**U.S. SLIPPING IN ASIA.** The Thais, edging away from "togetherness" with U.S., are actively seeking closer contacts with China. Continued U.S. use of Thai bases may depend on China's attitude. U.S. is deeply distrusted in India, has little influence in Pakistan, suffers continual & officially inspired anti-USism in Bangladesh.

Russia's close ties with India worry U.S. For yrs., Russia has been India's main ally, major arms supplier & biggest market. New agreement just signed will make even closer economic ties. U.S. does not want to see India's 520 million completely under domination of Russia.

In Bangladesh, a drift toward political chaos is evident at same time Russia is consolidating its position there. Australia no longer can be regarded as an automatic U.S. ally. (USN 11:27)

*NOTE: The world scene is changing quickly and, while there are zigzags, the general broad trend is all in the right direction as prophetically foretold. A weakened, decadent Tarshish, defending Israel, must be confronted by a united Roman-Russian world.*

**RUSSIA OFFERS "ONE-WAY DOOR."** Russia already has Western agreement that E. Europe will be run by Communists. They have already made it clear, by what they did to Czechs in '68, that they will decide what does & what does not constitute a Communist govt.

There has been no corresponding acceptance by Russia that W. Europe will be run by non-Communists. There can't be, since West's political systems allow Communists to come to power if they win enough votes. That is why "acceptance of political realities in Europe," as Russians like to call it, means accepting a one-way door. (USN 12:11)

*NOTE: Clearly things are moving Russia's way, and time is on her side. Communism is becoming more and more respectable, and less and less feared. It is now a major political power in France and Italy, key nations of the Catholic Beast. People choose to forget its dictatorships & repressions, Czechoslovakias and Hungarys. And the terrible desolation and destruction and horrors of Vietnam make them wonder if there's much to choose.*

**PARK TIGHTENS HOLD ON KOREA.** Park last wk. moved to make himself permanent dictator, after dissolving National Assembly. (Tm 11:6)

**"TOTAL WAR."** Terrorism is developing into a form of total war — the kind of war in which there is no distinction between combatants & non-combatants: all are on the firing line. Modern methods of terror affect many people's lives & gnaw at the system of communications that binds countries together. Modern society is wide open to fanatics with bombs or poisons — perhaps one day with germs & atomic devices. (USN 12:11)

*NOTE; This is the direct result of modern man's "wisdom" and "enlightenment" in rejecting the wholesome restraints of divine authority, and instead glorifying the lusts and selfishness and natural animal thinkings of the flesh as the supreme goal of life.*

**LIVING WITH CRIME, USA.** Crime's grip on US today is both a reality & a state of mind. Fear's chilling effects have become a grim part of daily life for millions in & around US cities. Fear of crime is escalating into a fortress mentality. Fear itself is helping to create the conditions that permit crime to fester-deserted streets, atmosphere of suspicion, no confidence in police.

Americans have good reasons to be afraid. No one is safe. Recent street crime victims include many well-known public figures. Today's thief is far more prone than in past to assault & kill. The nightmare continues despite

what is probably the most costly and comprehensive assault ever launched against crime. Unfortunately, results are debatable.

A frightening 11 pct. rise in suburban crime last year. Less than 1/3 of all crimes ever reported. A prosecutor recently asked a jury how many had been involved in a mugging or burglary: 8 of the 12 raised their hands.

Especially disturbing is an upsurge of crime & violence in schools. During one recent 16-day period, at least 14 NY City teachers were robbed or assaulted inside their schools. Colleges are same. Once-tranquil Harvard Square is now scene of 30 thefts & half-dozen assaults monthly. Students & faculty find it dangerous to linger too long in library or office.

Fortress America is paying high price for its security. Barred windows, identification checks in schools & apts., police helicopters hovering with glaring searchlights—these are hardly the makings of an open society.

And growing mental toll is perhaps even more damaging: suspicion of every strange face, withdrawal into "defensible space," shrivelling of social contacts. It's only natural that Americans should turn to bolstered police & stronger locks to fight fear & criminals. But danger is that in end they'll have put themselves in prison. (Nwk. 12:18)

*NOTE. What a sad picture of civilization's dismal failure. Such is the peak of men's proud accomplishments. Such is the sad state of the richest, most prosperous, most powerful, and supposedly most "advanced" nation on earth. But it's EXACTLY as must be in the last days before man's evil rule is abolished forever by the Kingdom of God, governing the earth in righteousness from Jerusalem.*

**"LYING WONDERS" & "CHRIST MASS."** St. Nicholas, who was a 4th century bishop in Asia Minor, came to town last week in Flushing, NY. Relics of the saint—fragments of his skull & a vial of oily substance said to have oozed from his skull—were formally enshrined in St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Flushing. A gift from Roman Catholic Church to Greek Orthodox Church, the relics were sent from cathedral in Bari, Italy.

Legends of his good works, combined with local folklore, eventually produced the St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) of European tradition. (Tm 12:18).

*NOTE. 1. Observe first the abominable and benighted superstition, in modern 1972—not medieval 1072. 2. Note it was a fraternal gift from Greek Orthodox superstition to Roman Catholic superstition: they are drawing closer. 3. Above all, could ANYONE who has any real perception of the Truth of God in its depth and beauty have anything to do with the Catholic Christ Mass superstition?*

**RISING THREAT OF WIDESPREAD HUNGER.** People increasing faster than crops. World food production suddenly shrunk close to point of global crisis. Food production in many poor countries did not improve enough this year even to keep pace with population rise, let alone to improve substandard diets. (USN 12:11)

*NOTE: The renewed spectre of famine looms larger and larger over the world. For a few years, there were hopes and boasts that the "green revolution" of newly-developed "miracle" gains had reversed the trend, but hope has dimmed and the shadow has returned. Yet, properly managed, and without selfishness and greed, the earth could support much more than its present population. What a failure is proud man!*

**INHUMANITY IN AUSTRALIA.** A report by an Australian: Australia's aboriginal citizens historically have been one of world's most oppressed & ill-used minorities. We Australians are condemning a whole race of our fellow citizens to short, brutish & miserable lives. Their plight is as desperate as any in world. Black Australian babies dying by 100s, & most who survive are forced to live in despair—men as drunks, women as prostitutes. They're physically mistreated, deprived of human rights, & cheated by a White majority whose attitude toward them is that of a vermin exterminator to a rat plague.

We don't actually murder Blacks as we once did, but we go out of our way to make them wish they'd never been born. We even tried outright genocide in past stages of our history. In Tasmania we managed to shoot or poison every Black man. We still had mass poisonings in the '30's, & at beginning of WW II, aboriginal population (300,000 200 yrs ago) was down to 40,000.

Most of the grim statistics are known to Australians. The Australian aborigine is most over-surveyed & under-cared-for person in world. Their infant mortality rate is 10 times that of Whites. They suffer more from leprosy than almost any other community known. Respiratory infections and gastro-intestinal diseases are so prevalent that 4/5 of all children have obvious abnormality.

We're producing a race of cripples—children who will never be able to live normal lives. Aborigines are far likelier than Whites to wind up in jail for the same crimes. Courts are viciously biased against Blacks. Twice as many Blacks as Whites are jailed for drunkenness: Whites are more often let off with just a fine.

Why has so little been done? Because we have learned to hide much of our nastiness from view. If you are Black in Australia, you are likely to lead a precarious existence in the Outback, or in city slums paying high rents for crowded quarters.

Typical is a family of 6 who share a 9-room house with 58 other residents. They pay \$34 a week— ½ their income—which should get them a nice flat in a middle-class area, but Blacks are not allowed to live in such areas.

Recently Chicka Dixon, an aborigine leader who has spent over 11 yrs. in jail for his activities, visited China to publicize their plight. "In China, for first time," he says, "I felt like a man. You wouldn't understand what it was like, not being a 'dirty Abo' after 44 years of it in Australia."

These are the people who owned the whole land for millenniums before White man came. (Nwk 12:25)

*NOTE: Australia is no exception. This is the normal treatment of weak, divergent minorities all around the world. Many nations, even the most "Christian" and "civilized," have the same shameful story of their miserable second-rate citizens, from US to N. Ireland to India to Japan. And often they are the land's original owners, victims of "progress" invading them at the muzzle of a gun.*

**SPECTACULAR RISE OF COMMUNISTS** in France. If revitalized Socialists & Communists maintain their pace thru coming elections, they'll be a dominant force in French politics. Stunning degree of support for Left indicates more & more French voters have lost fear of "Red spectre"—& are now willing to accept Communist participation in govt.

If Left Bloc actually comes to power, it could provoke an economic crisis of confidence in France & throughout Common Mkt, & shake Western Alliance at time of crucial negotiations with Communist world. (Nwk 12:25)

*NOTE: The growth of the power and respectableness of Communism in France and Italy is surely one of the clearest signs of the trend of events in Europe. In both W. and E. Europe, the process of mutual accommodation between Communism and Catholicism moves on apace, and this is the necessary foundation of the Rome-Russia alliance that is to lead Europe against Christ.*

**A VIRTUAL POGROM** in progress against the 22,000 Jehovah's Witnesses in the African nation of Malawi. Pres.-for-Life Banda, a staunch elder in the Presbyterian Church, has become increasingly angered by the Witnesses' unwillingness to join his ruling Congress Party, their refusal to take loyalty oaths, & their exclusive claims to religious truth.

Congress Party in Sept. demanded Witnesses be expelled from their jobs & property, & since then the mandate has been carried out with fervour: homes burnt, many killed. Many have fled to a crowded refugee camp in Zambia, where several die daily, mostly children. (Tm 12:18)

*NOTE. Religious persecution is far from dead in this self-styled enlightened age, and those who have suffered oppression themselves seem quick to oppress others when they rise to power. The "Witnesses" here represent independent religious thought, and that is anathema to both Communism and Catholicism. Dictators dare not tolerate any freedom or divergence.*

**STUMBLING BRITAIN.** One of worst inflation rates in Europe. Fall of pound's value to all-time low. 22 million workdays lost by strikes in first 9 mos. of '72. Strikes & inflation have curbed exports & made pound world's sickest currency. (Tm 11:20)

## Bible Questions

"Who is wise, and he shall understand these things?"—Hos. 14:9

### HOMES AND NATIONALITIES

Write number of each name in List 1 beside home or nationality in List 2.

#### LIST ONE

- |           |           |            |             |                  |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Agag   | 11. Sihon | 21. Oman   | 31. Talmai  | 41. Potiphar     |
| 2. Doeg   | 12. Heber | 22. Mesha  | 32. Nahash  | 42. Dionysius    |
| 3. Ittai  | 13. Titus | 23. Elijah | 33. Bildad  | 43. Barzillai    |
| 4. Gaius  | 14. Hiram | 24. Hushai | 34. Sargon  | 44. Sanballat    |
| 5. Uriah  | 15. Phebe | 25. Zophar | 35. Ahijah  | 45. Trophimus    |
| 6. Jesse  | 16. Abram | 26. Darius | 36. Joseph  | 46. Ebedmelech   |
| 7. Cyrus  | 17. Hobab | 27. Geshem | 37. Abishag | 47. Belshazzar   |
| 8. Micah  | 18. Simon | 28. Gideon | 38. Eliphaz | 48. Ahithophel   |
| 9. Nabal  | 19. Elihu | 29. Naaman | 39. Eliezer | 49. Aristarchus  |
| 10. Nahum | 20. Haman | 30. Pilate | 40. Sopater | 50. Chedorlaomer |

**LIST TWO**

Mede	Amorite	Of Derbe	Horonite	Areopagite
Roman	Edomite	Egyptian	Ethiopian	Naamathite
Greek	Persian	Temanite	Abiezrite	Morasthite
Syrian	Archite	Ammonite	Carmelite	Shunammite
Kenite	Of Elam	Gilonite	Amalekite	Babylonian
Hebrew	Arabian	Ephesian	Elkoshite	Macedonian
Buzite	Agagite	Assyrian	Of Geshur	Of Damascus
Gittite	Of Tyre	Jebusite	Shilonite	Of Cenchrea
Hittite	Shuhite	Of Berea	Midianite	Of Arimathea
Moabite	Tishbite	Cyrenean	Gileadite	Bethlehemite

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