

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

THE CHRISTADELPHIAN VISITOR TAPE LIBRARY
210 EAST THIRD ST., DEER PARK, TEXAS 77536

To all readers of the Berean:

The Christadelphian Visitor Tape Library was organized to take over the duties that our beloved brother Charles Banta Sr. handled for so many years in the field of serving the Brotherhood with tape recordings of exhortations, lectures, etc. from our Fraternal Gatherings and other sources.

At the start it was very small, with no ideas of rules set out in any way, but as time goes on and requests grow, we are forced to make some changes in our service. For example, our old style of making tapes was slow and cumbersome, and we could not keep up with the demand, so we have had to go to a high-speed duplicator that handles only cassettes (not 8 track).

Our aim, God willing, is to send a package of 3 tapes in a returnable container. Packed inside will be an addressed label (self-adhesive) for returning tapes after a reasonable time. We plan to send 2 packages (6 tapes) at the beginning of service; when 1 package is returned we will immediately send you another. The tapes are numbered and a record is kept on what you have been sent, so hopefully no duplications will be sent.

If any tape proves defective for any reason, please put note in tape stating "Defective," and we will retire it from use and replace it with a new tape.

The lid of the shipping box will be sealed shut with the address label, so just slit the label to open the lid. Then reseal with the enclosed return label when ready to ship back. Remind the postal clerk that they are religious tapes and take "Library Rate," which is cheaper (in USA). From Canada, it is "Small Packets." From overseas, please enquire locally.

The tapes sent are on a loan basis without charge. If you decide that you want to have a personal copy of any tape, just send us a card as to what you wish, and a new tape will be made and sent to you on a cost basis.

We are open at all times for questions, and for suggestions and criticisms on how to improve our service, so feel free to write at any time.
—(bro) John F. Packer

Ecclesial News

CANTON, Ohio—YMCA, 205 Second St. NW; phone 866-3485-S.S. 10 am; Memorial 11 am; Bible Class Thurs., 7:30 pm in homes. Bro. Paul Inman, 10185 Riceland Drive, Magnolia, Ohio 44643.

THE love and greetings from the brethren and sisters of the Canton ecclesia, in the Name of our Master, to all brethren and sisters in the Household.

As we see the end of Gentile times fast drawing to a close, we indeed need encouragement and help as we daily go on our way to meet the Master. One of the greatest joys we can have in these last days is to see our sons and daughters in the flesh come to God and take on the saving Name of His dear Son Jesus Christ. It is indeed with joy and gladness we announce that on Mar. 22, SHARON SUE INMAN, daughter of bro. & sis. Paul Inman, and JOHN PHILLIPS and WILLIAM PHILLIPS, sons of bro. & sis. William Phillips Sr., gave a good confession of the things of the Gospel. They were baptized on Sunday, March 23, 1975.

Our prayers go with our new brethren and sister, and may God be with them as they go on their way to the Kingdom of God. May they be among those that find favour in God's sight on that day of judgment.

We welcome the brethren and sisters to visit our ecclesia, as it helps us all to know God has others in various parts of the earth who will and still serve Him.

May God be with all of like precious Faith. Our prayers are that God will give to each of us that needed strength and guidance to be watching and waiting for the Master when he comes.

With love in the Truth from the brethren and sisters of the Canton ecclesia, —bro. Paul Inman

LAMPASAS, Texas—Christadelphian Hall, 1604 E. Ave. I—Bible Class 10 am; Memorial 11 am; Nazareth Revisited Class 7 pm (Lecture each 4th Sun.); Daily Readings Class Wed. 7 pm. Bro. Ross Wolfe, 1802 Rumley Rd., Lampasas 76550. Phone (512) 556-5249.

WE are happy to report that we had a most enjoyable annual Gathering on June 13-14-15. We had a good attendance. We were greatly strengthened and encouraged by the words of our brethren who spoke to us. They were—

Bro. Nick Mammone (San Angelo): "The Root of All Evil."

Bro. Don Newcomer (Houston): "A Separate People."

Bro. Alfred Edwards (Harper): "Knowledge and Wisdom."
Bro. Fred Higham (Detroit): "The Miracle of the Indestructible Jewish People."
"The Lord Is Not Slack Concerning His Promise."

How good it is to have this glorious Truth brought to our hearing. May it give us strength to endure to the end.
With much love in the Truth from all in Lampasas, —bro. Ross Wolfe

WANAQUE, N.J.—Memorial 10:45—Home of bro. David Sommerville, 224 Conklintown Rd., Wanaque, N.J. 07465; Phone (201) 835-4751. Occasionally at home of sister Ella Smith, Blooming Grove, Pa.

LOVING Greetings to the Household of Faith.

With great joy we announce the baptism into the saving Name of Christ of our daughter SHARON ORVILLA SOMMERVILLE, on June 7. It is our hope and prayer that she will remain steadfast to the end.

On June 6, bro. David Clubb gave a talk to the "Bible As Literature" class at Sharon's school, on "Promises and Prophecies." On Sunday, June 8 he exhorted, and in the afternoon lectured to us and a few strangers on "Daniel's Prophecies: Fulfilled and Fulfilling."

We regret that sis. Ella Smith fell and suffered a back injury. We pray that she may improve shortly.

Visitors have been: bro. & sis. Wm. Phillips Sr., and bre. Harry and John Phillips (Canton); bro. & sis. David Clubb and sis. Connie Clubb (London); bro. & sis. Edgar Sargent and sis. Mabel Sargent (Worcester). Also bro. & sis. Russell Frisbie, who met with us in their summer home in Hawley, Pa.

Bre. H. Phillips, D. Clubb, E. Sargent & R. Frisbie gave us helpful words of exhortation.

—bro. David Sommerville

WINNIPEG, Manitoba—3449 Assiniboine Grove, R3K 0H5—Bro. Joseph Jackson

LOVING Greetings. To help and strengthen us in these perilous days, the following visitors have accommodated us: bro. & sis. Arthur Jones, sis. Shirley Jones, bro. & sis. Frank Truelove, bro. & sis. Edward Truelove (Richard); bro. Alton Stuchlik (Houston); bro. & sis. Braden Edwards and bro. Harry Phillips (Canton); sis. Mabel Sargent (Sarasota); and bro. & sis. Edgar Sargent (Worcester). In isolation, visitors mean more to us than words can adequately express, and we again thank everyone for their kindness and consideration.

S. S. scholars who also visited with us were: Debbie and Darren Truelove, Lowell and Glenda Philip, Chip Edwards, David, Brenda, Daniel, Paul and Timothy Sargent. It had been quite some time since we last saw some of these pupils, and we noticed such a change. Time stands still for no one: children become young adults, and young adults become men and women. Our prayer is that these young adults will soon become our spiritual relations, our helpers—and we theirs—that unitedly we may plod the path, arm in arm, towards that great goal at the end.

Since last writing through the medium of the magazine, we have had the opportunity of visiting bro. & sis. David Blacker and bro. Norman Blacker in Edmonton, Alta. And also as a family we attended the Richard Gathering held in July—a most uplifting event. We again thank the brethren and sisters for their labour of love.

EDITORIAL

Hold Fast

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord"—1 Cor. 15:58

IN our daily readings, we have again been in the company of the beloved apostle Paul. Let us refresh our minds on some of his teachings. If we have been attentive to what we have read, if we have gone over it in our minds, if we have meditated thankfully on this glorious, ever-new divine book of life, then we have been stimulated, encouraged, and strengthened, and more than ever determined to hold fast to what we have learned, for Paul said, as we read on the first day of this month (1 Cor. 15:2)—

"By which also ye are SAVED—if ye keep in memory."

To keep in memory—to keep the right things, the marvellous, joyful, divine blessings and promises bright and fresh and strong before the eye of faith, is the great secret of peace and godliness.

"Be ye steadfast and unmovable" is one of Paul's strong appeals. Why does he speak thus? It is for a very good reason. Our natural tendency is just the *opposite*. Therefore, being steadfast—holding fast to the unchanging Truth as soundly expounded by our pioneer brethren—requires an effort. And it requires an effort to hold to simple, unworldly standards of the Truth, as they were understood and lived by the early generations of Christadelphians. Things are generally tolerated and approved now that would never have been dreamed of in those days. Being steadfast in any particular phase of life becomes monotonous to many, and they begin to look for a change. There must be something new, something different, something modern and novel and "up-to-date." We see this in all manner of life. Creators of fashion cater to it in every department of human activity.

But God does not change, and His children are expected to partake of that characteristic. Once we have come to a knowledge of the Truth as it is in Jesus, it is the mark of true wisdom to be settled and grounded and established in the Faith.

There is a growing and saddening tendency among many today to ever seek for something new. In a letter received from a brother in another group some time ago, he wrote—

"The Truth is progressive—why do you cling to what was written over 100 years ago? Why not bring yourself up to date? Present writers are far superior."

But the Truth is not progressive—it is a fixed and unchanging thing. It goes back, not 100 years, but 6000 years. What is the brief passing of 100 years to divine Truth? In the days of his ministry, Jesus often quoted from Moses from words that he had written more than 1500 years before those days.

The tragic lesson of the past is too important to be overlooked. It was because of Israel's failure to be steadfast—to hold fast the position and teaching given them from the beginning, to fear the Lord and observe to do all the words of the Law—that God at last caused them to be scattered in suffering throughout the world, even unto this day.

It was for the same reason that Christianity became apostate, & was finally "spued out" from divine favour. First, only a slight alteration, a slight declension, almost imperceptible: but the changes increased and multiplied as they looked for new things from the world around them, and finally darkness covered the people, as Paul had prophesied—

"For the time will come when they (that is, the 'believers' generally) will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.

"And they shall turn away their ears from the Truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Tim. 4:3-4).

But how are we to avoid such a disaster? And how are we to generate that quality of steadfastness that is so precious and so rare?

First, we must set all our affections on the things of the Truth. We must intelligently decide that they are the *real* things of life, the worthwhile things, the only living and satisfying things. Children's things satisfy children, but we must decide to grow and mature spiritually. For this we must resolutely form certain habits designed to keep us on the right, upward path. Foremost of all, we must consistently read the Bible, and the best way is as planned for us in the Bible Companion. This *must* be faithfully done, and meditated upon, for the Scriptures—and they alone—are "able to make us wise unto salvation." Therein we meet on every page of God's Word divine thoughts, divine ideas, divine principles, that are essential to keep our minds properly occupied so that they will grow spiritually, and overcome the natural, foolish thoughts of the mind of the flesh.

We all have time to read: so let us give the Bible first place in all our reading. Divine thoughts are so different from human thoughts that we have to make an effort to read some portions. But the continual application of the mind to the things of God transforms us by the renewing of our minds. *All* the Bible is the Word of God: it all has a purpose: it is all necessary, or it would not be there. It is the way God has provided for developing the only kind of heart & mind that He can give eternal life to. Neglect it, and we neglect God.

That is not all. There are other things required in addition to Bible reading. Attending ecclesial meetings is essential to our welfare, for Paul reminds us "not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together"—sadly noting that the fatal custom of some was to do so.

Of all our meetings, the one on Sunday morning takes first place. There we come together for a definite, commanded purpose: to remember Christ. But in doing this, we are not restricted to partaking the Bread and Wine. Remembering Christ comprehends much more than that. Paul expresses it in a heart-searching manner—

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

"But speaking the Truth in love, *may grow up into him in ALL things*, which is the Head, even Christ: from whom the whole Body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the Body unto edifying of itself in love."

This edifying, or building up of itself *in love*, is a feature of ecclesial life that will always be pursued by men and women who permit the enlightening influence of the Gospel to have first place in their lives *and hearts*. It must never be lost sight of, nor give place to any personal ambitions generated by self-esteem. It matters not the extent of our knowledge and understanding of God's Word unless such wisdom is dominated by love. So declared Paul—

"Though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing" (1 Cor. 13:1-2).

At any time, under ordinary circumstances, we are apt to overlook this great truth. The flesh is forgetful and self-centred. It requires effort to keep the real, spiritual things before the mind, but we *must* constantly train ourselves in this if we hope for life. Consider the tremendous effort and application men put into preparing themselves for the petty, perishing things of this life. Are they "wiser in their generation" than we? Surely not! Therefore must we be on the alert continually as we grow in the knowledge and understanding of the Gospel. Watchfulness and self-examination should be the keynote in the life of every believer. Let us give ourselves no rest, therefore, while we follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

To do that, we must develop within ourselves the *mind of Christ*. The mind of the flesh is already there, and needs no cultivation. Faithful attendance at our meetings will contribute greatly toward developing that mind. However, let us bear in mind that when attending our meetings, we are not "going to church," as nominal Christians do. Rather we are going with joy and enthusiasm to help and be helped; to be a vital, living, strengthening part of the Body; to learn more of the will and Word of God—to "*grow in knowledge and in grace.*"

We are the Ecclesia of the Living God, and occupy a very exalted position. We claim to be something very special in the earth unto God: we must faithfully live up to that high calling. Our ecclesial meetings are designed to develop within us a character well-pleasing to our heavenly Father. Such a character can only be formed by consistently complying, in all our activities, with the divine standards as revealed in the Word of God. It is no easy matter to develop such a character in this age when the ambitions of the flesh are encouraged in every walk of worldly life.

It requires great effort. It requires great personal dedication. It requires courage and determination—courage to face the world and not run blindly with it, and to do what we know from the Word to be right regardless of the world's changing views and morals. And determination to carry out, even to the end, whatever we set our hands to do in the service of the Lord.

—EDITOR

Resurrection to Condemnation

"The times of ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: because He hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained"

—Acts 17:30-31

BY BROTHER JOHN THOMAS

HAS the Deity made all men in vain? Nay, verily, His purpose is to evolve a righteous and immortal world out of the world of mortal sinners, and to lay the foundation of this great work in their scriptural intelligence and the obedience of faith. This being His purpose, knowledge, belief and obedience are made the basis of accountability and responsibility. By the former is meant liability to give an account, and to receive reward or punishment for the same. And by the latter, the state of being answerable for something entrusted to one's care. Now Jesus Christ says in John 3:19—

"This is the *krisis*, or ground of judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil."

The light shining into the darkness, and divinely attested, makes sinners accountable and saints responsible. But into that region of the shadow of death where the light has not shone with divine attestation, the inhabitants of that region, who do not attain to the comprehension of the light, are not accountable to the resurrection and judgment it reveals.

"The whole world lieth in the wicked one"—*en to ponero*—in sin.
—and, therefore, in the shadow of death; for the wages of sin is death.

When Paul appeared in Athens upon Mars Hill, he shone as a bright light into the darkness of death's shadow. The polished and learned Athenians he addressed were the sons of a superstition inherited from a remote ancestry. They had been made subject to it by circumstances they could not control, or as Paul expresses it—

"Made subject to vanity not willingly."

Of the God of Israel manifested in flesh, His purposes, promises and commands, they knew no more than their ancestors knew for ages. And had not Paul—or someone else divinely commissioned visited them, they would never have discovered the truth concerning these things. "Who by searching can find out the Deity?" No one. Yet He "was found of them who sought Him not," for to a nation not called by His name He said by Paul, "Behold Me, behold Me!"

Thus they were under "*times of ignorance*" when Paul appeared in their midst. They were not liable to be called upon to give an account for not doing what they were helplessly ignorant of (Acts 14:16):

"In times past the Deity suffered all nations to walk in their own ways."

This was "winking at times of ignorance" (Acts 17:30). Their own ways were the ways of death, in which they were hopeless and atheistic (Eph. 2:12). To them there were neither rewards nor punishments beyond the grave. By their wisdom—of which they boasted—they knew not God—

"Professing to be wise, they became fools"

—and, being left to themselves as devoid of understanding, they died and perished like the beasts (Psa. 49:12,20). Such is the fate of all who die *without* an understanding of the truth revealed for the faith of their generation.

He that understands the truth, *but declines the obedience it commands*, WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS REJECTION, for: "He that believeth not shall be condemned" "in a day of judgment" "when the Deity shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to the Gospel Paul preached" (Rom. 2:16; Mark 16:16).

But *sinners*—understanding and believing the truth, and rendering the obedience it commands—in that enlightened and faithful obedience become *saints*. As such, they have received the truth as a sacred deposit, for the use or abuse of which they are held responsible in the great day of account (Jude 6).

Saints who use the truth aright (styled by James "doers of the Word and not hearers only") are the "just" or "righteous." But saints who abuse it—being hearers only of the Word and not doers, lovers of the world and the things that are in it, striving at once to serve God and Mammon—are the "ungodly" and the "unjust" who, like Esau, sell their birthright for a morsel of the world's meat; to whom in the judgment will be found "no place for repentance, sought ever so carefully with tears" (Heb. 12:16-17).

These 3 classes are indicated by Peter in the words (1 Peter 4:18)—

"If the *righteous* scarcely be saved, where shall the *ungodly* and the *sinner* appear?"
—the enlightened sinner, who rejects the truth; the ungodly, who disgraces it; and the righteous, who do it. Add to these a 4th class—constituted of *unenlightened* sinners among whom and into whom the light has not shined and cannot shine, from whatever cause, & the whole race of Adam is marshalled, or arranged, in due or scriptural order before the mind.

Now, would it be reasonable to subject unenlightened sinners, illuminated sinners, and ungodly Sardinian saints, to one and the same condition? The righteous Judge is not "a hard man, reaping where He hath not sown." Where the Word hath not been sown, He will look for no result. But, on the contrary, where He *has* made proclamation by "faithful men, able to teach others," whose teaching He has borne witness to "by signs and wonders, and with divers miracles and distributions of the Holy Spirit," which is "preaching the Gospel with Holy Spirit sent down from heaven" (Heb. 2:4; 1 Pet. 1:12), He expects to reap and gather in. This is just and reasonable, as well as scriptural.

And as "no man can come to me," saith the Spirit, "except the Father Who hath sent me draw him," He will not raise them up in the last day upon whom the drawing influence of the Word has not been brought to bear (John 6:44). They are "as the beasts that perish."

But *illuminated* sinners and Sardian saints are obnoxious to a perdition arrived at in different ways. These are they "who obey not the Gospel of the Deity" (1 Pet. 4:17), or disgrace it, and WHO COME FORTH TO *anastasis* OF JUDICIAL CONDEMNATION. These two classes are punished on the principle that (2 Pet. 2:21)—

"It is better not to have known the way of righteousness than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them."

In the apostolic age, this holy commandment was delivered with power descending from heaven. But now there is no such sanction confirming a faithful teacher's exposition of the Word.

Nevertheless, if a sinner come to the understanding of the truth, the result being the same, HE IS HELD ACCOUNTABLE. An enlightened sinner cannot evade the consequences of his illumination. I have known some of this class flatter themselves that they would not be called forth to judgment, but would perish as the beasts if they did not come under law to Christ. SUCH REASONING, HOWEVER, IS SIMPLY "THE DECEITFULNESS OF SIN."

When Jesus preached the Gospel of the Kingdom to this class in Israel, among them were the self-righteous Scribes, Pharisees, lawyers and priests. He told them that, in the judgment, he will say to all workers of iniquity, "Depart from me!" And then he added—

"There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when YE shall see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the Kingdom of the Deity, and YOU yourselves thrust out. And they shall come from the east and the west, and from the north and the south, and shall sit down in the Kingdom of the Deity. And behold there are last who shall be first, and there are first who shall be last" (Luke 13:28).

This evidently teaches their *anastasis kriseos*, or coming forth from *sheol*, for judicial condemnation and punishment, contemporarily with the establishment of the Kingdom in the Holy Land.

But whatever the details of *their* punishment may be, the evils befalling the ungodly Sardian saints will be more intense. Both classes will "of the flesh reap corruption," but the post-resurrectional antecedents of the one leading to this common fate will be "sorer" than those of the other. So Paul teaches in Heb. 10:26, saying—

"If we sin wilfully after that we have the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment (*krisis*) and fiery indignation which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' Law died without mercy under 2 or 3 witnesses: of how much *sorer punishment* suppose ye shall he be thought worthy of who hath trodden under foot the Son of the Deity, and hath counted the blood of the covenant wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing; and hath done despite unto the spirit of grace?"

This "sorer punishment" awaits all saints who, like the majority in Sardis, lived in name while they were dead in fact—

"Twice dead, and plucked up by the roots" (Jude 12).

But some will inquire—

"But what about Catholics and Protestants of all 'Names and Denominations' of piety in 'Christendom' so-called? To what class do these belong? Under what times do these of our day and generation live?"

These, with the followers of Mohammed for a torment, are all the nations of modern times, upon which has been entailed—

"A strong delusion that they should believe THE LIE" (2 Thess. 2:11)

—invented for them by a remote ancestry that apostatized from the truth. The Deity sent this "strong delusion" upon their unfaithful ancestors as a punishment for not receiving the truth in the love of it. And, foreseeing that their posterity would "have pleasure in unrighteousness," He permitted the "strong delusion" to inebriate the peoples of Daniel's 4th Beast dominion and to reign over them, until He should send Jesus Christ to dispel it with the spirit of his mouth and the brightness (or manifestation) of his presence (vs. 8-12).

These nations, like all the heathen at the birth of Christ, are all under times of helpless ignorance, being so 'strongly deluded' that their minds are impervious to the testimony of Scripture and reason—which are the only instrumentality extant for the enlightenment and salvation of sinners.

If one show them the truth, the Deity does not now endorse the teaching by a manifestation of power. Hence, everything is resolved into opinion. And as one man's opinion is said to be as good as another's, the idea of certainty is ignored. The case of our modern world is helpless, hopeless, and incurable by anything short of the presence of Christ. The times of this event are predetermined and revealed. Till then, 'times of ignorance' obtain, and the nations are—
"Suffered to walk in their own ways."

These denominational 'ways' are apocalyptically labelled—

"*Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of HARLOTS and ABOMINATIONS of the Earth.*"

These are the ecclesiastical ways of death, making, in the aggregate—

"The unmeasured court which is without the Temple, given to the Gentiles" (Rev. 11:2)

In none of the 'Names' of the Gentiles is there any life, nor anything to make men accountable. Clergy and people are all *unenlightened sinners*, by whatever 'Name' they be called. They are "condemned already," and—however popular and honoured by the world—being without understanding of the truth they are like the beasts that perish (Psa. 49:20).

But have they not got the Scriptures? Are not these sufficient to make them accountable? It is true they have them: and so had Ptolemy Philadelphus, king of Egypt (who, it is said, commissioned the Septuagint). But they understand them no better than he. They "err, *not knowing* the Scriptures," as the old Sadducees did.

How can they understand them, judicially blinded as they are by the "strong delusion"? Would it be reasonable to put a book of any kind into the hand of a confirmed sot, "trembling with delirium in his cups, and to expect him to read and expound it? The Scriptures testify that ALL the inhabitants of the apocalyptic earth—

"Have been *made drunk* with the wine of the fornication."

—of what the people *themselves* style "the Mother of all Churches"—as drunken as they (Rev. 17:2, 6; 18:3). Their blind and misleading clergy are more studious of Shakespeare and of the dark-minded poets of Greece and Rome, than of the Oracles of the Deity, so that their sayings and doings are more suggestive of the heathen sentiments of Plato and Horace than of the "prophets and apostles of the Lamb."

And if the national and dissenting clergies, who have so much time for the study of the Word, fall so miserably short of comprehending it, what can be expected of their strongly deluded followers, all of whose labour is for the bread that perisheth? The Bible is a sealed book to them all.

Then, of what use is it in the matter of salvation? In the hands of "faithful men, able to teach others" it is primarily and principally the Father's instrumentality whereby, in "the times of the Gentiles," He draws from among them as many of them as He has given to His Son for eternal life. And secondarily, it is a moralizer of society. And so it is written (John 6:45; 17:2)—

"They shall be all taught of the Deity. Every man, therefore, that hath heard and hath learned of the Father cometh (saith Jesus) unto me."
—ANASTASIS, 1866

* * *

THE wicked shall be turned into *Sheol*: all the Gentiles that "forget God. The "wicked" are those who—

"Know not God, and obey not the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Of these there are THREE CLASSES: *first*, sinners that never heard of the One true God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Gospel, and others who are physically incapable of faith and obedience; *second*, those who have come to an understanding of the Gospel but have rejected it; and *third*, those who have obeyed it, but do not hold fast the beginning of their confidence steadfast to the end, nor walk according to its precepts, but after the flesh.

The *first* class dies and perishes as the beasts.

The *second* also dies, but COMES FORTH FROM THE GRAVE AGAIN TO ENCOUNTER THE BURNING INDIGNATION OF CHRIST, the Judge of the living and the dead, *at his appearing and Kingdom.*

The *third* also comes forth to be judged, and to undergo in condemnation a "sorer punishment" in the fiery indignation which shall devour the adversaries.

PROOF: Psa. 9:17; 11:6; 2 Thess. 1:8-9; Psa. 49:12,20; Isa. 26:14; Eccl. 3:17-20; Acts 14:16; Luke 13:28; 2 Tim. 4:1; Heb. 2:2,8; 10:27-29; Rom. 8:13; Gal. 6:7-8. —REVEALED MYSTERY, 1869

* * *

MEN are not only made, or constituted, sinners by the disobedience of Adam, but they become sinners even as he by *actual transgression*. Having attained the maturity of their nature, they become accountable and responsible creatures.

At this crisis, they may be placed by divine arranging in a relation to His Word. It becomes to them a Tree of Life, inviting them to—

"Take, and eat, and live forever."

If, however, they prefer to eat of the world's forbidden fruit, they come under the sentence of death in their own behalf. They are thus doubly condemned. They are "condemned already" to the dust as natural born sinners; and, secondarily, CONDEMNED TO A RESURRECTION TO JUDGMENT *for rejecting the Gospel of the Kingdom of God*, by which they become obnoxious to the 2nd Death. —ELPIS ISRAEL, 1866

BRO. Roberts in Sep., 1893, gave 3 basic reasons for his firm conviction that "Those who wilfully, and with open eyes, refuse submission to God will be gathered to the judgment seat of Christ to receive the due reward of their deeds." These reasons he gives as—

1. *Because the Scriptures declare that they will.*
2. *Because divine reason as formulated in the Scriptures requires they should.*
3. *Because Dr. Thomas held the conviction that such was the teaching of the Scriptures of Truth.*

In explaining his third reason he says—

"The third reason has great power with those who thoroughly knew the man and his work and his writings. Though he was not infallible, and though on doubtful questions of interpretation in detail there might here and there be room for divergence of judgment, it is otherwise as regards the solid foundations and leading outlines of divine truth. His power of seeing the whole of a subject and logically construing its scattered elements was so great that it is impossible not to feel the weight of his judgment. (pg. 346)

"Such a denial [of resurrection and judgment of enlightened rejecters] is in the direction of change from the original foundation. In the course of 40 years' continuous study of the Scriptures, we have found ALL Dr. Thomas' general principles to be the teaching of the Word, and often in cases where at first—we thought otherwise. This would make us hesitate long and fearfully before accepting a conclusion adverse to his teaching, even if we were not quite clear as to its ground. In THIS case we ARE quite clear that he teaches according to the Word when he says—

'Those who have come to an understanding of the Gospel but have rejected it . . . come forth from the grave again to encounter the burning indignation of Christ, the Judge of the living and of the dead, at his appearing and his Kingdom.'

"THE RULE THAT BRINGS FORTH ANY TO CONDEMNATION MUST NECESSARILY BRING FORTH ALL WHO DESERVE IT, GOD ALONE BEING THE JUDGE OF WHERE THIS DESERT EXISTS." (pg. 226)

This last point of bro. Roberts is a very powerful one for those who are deeply conscious of the immutable justice and holiness of the ways of God.

Bro. Thomas' fixed convictions on first principles will carry tremendous weight with any who have the humility and wisdom to realize the great depth of his spiritual understanding and value of his (we believe, providential) labours—especially if they have experienced over a long period (with bro. Roberts) that the more they studied the Word, the closer they found they got to bro. Thomas' views. We remember the time when most calling themselves brethren did so view bro. Thomas. They were much sounder days for the Christadelphian movement.

WHAT IS IT?

From the depths of earth's bosom and thru the fierce flame and out of deep waters
Uninjured I came: often changed, yet unaltered, and ever the same.
To make myself welcome I wore a king's crown; then wherever I journeyed
In country or town, men rejoiced to receive me, from noble to clown.
And thus I passed onward by palace and cot, for this man and that man
Improving his lot: e'en now you might find me—more probably not.
But this I assure you, my fame will abide how the servant once sought me
By Galilee's tide: how his need and his Master's I fully supplied.

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The Promises to the Fathers

BY BROTHER ROBERT ROBERTS

*"The battle-bow shall be cut off and he shall speak peace unto the nations, and his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River even to the ends of the earth"—Zech. 9:10*

PART THREE

3rd: That Christ, the Seed of Abraham, is to conquer the world.

This is the 3rd feature of the Promise made to Abraham. It is expressed in the words—

"Thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies" (Gen. 23:17).

To apprehend the significance of this statement, it is necessary to remember that in Oriental countries, in ancient times, the gate of a city was the seat of authority. It was the place where consultations were held, decrees issued and registered, and where the rulers showed themselves to receive the obeisance of the people. For an enemy to possess this place, then, was to give evidence of having conquered and deposed the original holders of powers.

Now it must be evident that the promise that Christ should possess the gate of his enemies has not been fulfilled. In no sense can an orthodox interpreter make it out that Christ has displaced his enemies from the seat of honour, glory, and power. Ungodly men rule the world. Christ's own country—the land promised to Abraham—is enslaved by the Moslem power *, which administers authority and perpetrates its religious abominations in the very city which was called by God's Name, and which Jesus is to make the throne of Jehovah in the future age. Instead of Christ possessing the gate of his enemies, the enemy may be said to tread down Christ in the gate. The horns of the Gentiles have lifted themselves up over the land of Judah to scatter it (Zech. 1:21), and all pertaining to Abraham and his Seed is now in waste and desolation. * Written in the last century.

But when the Kingdom of God comes, this will be changed—

God shall speak to the nations in anger, and have them in derision; Christ shall break them in pieces like a potter's vessel (Psa. 2:9; Rev. 2:27)

He shall come forth as a Man of War—as the Lion of the tribe of Judah—to fight the confederated power of his enemies (Rev. 19:19; Zech. 14:3; Ezek. 38:21-23)

He shall punish the kings of the earth upon the earth (Isa. 24:21)

He shall put down the mighty from their seats, and send the rich empty away (Luke 1:52-53)

He shall then possess the gate of his enemies. All kings shall bow down before him, and all nations shall serve him (Psa. 72:11)

All people, nations and languages shall serve and obey him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his Kingdom that which shall not be destroyed (Dan. 7:14)

Then will the proclamation be sounded in loud paeans of joy throughout the whole earth—

"THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD ARE BECOME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD AND OF HIS CHRIST; AND HE SHALL REIGN FOR EVER AND EVER" (Rev. 11:15)

4th: That all nations shall be blessed in Abraham and his Seed.

This is the Gospel in a sentence: so Paul gives us to understand in Gal. 3:8. The attentive reader will be able to discern in it the substance of what Jesus and the apostles preached. They preached—

"The things concerning the Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 8:12; 28:29-31).

The announcement made to Abraham is neither more nor less than these "things" compressed into a sentence, for it announces in a general form what the others disclose in particulars. It tells of universal blessing in connection with Abraham and Christ, while these "things" make plain the *process* by which the blessing is carried into effect—first in relation to individuals, and then in relation to nations.

It must be evident that it is not yet realized. The nations are not in a state of blessing. Not only groaning under misrule, they are in a state of poverty, ignorance, and misery, which is the *opposite* of blessedness. The world lieth in wickedness. Abraham and his Seed are unknown, except as objects of derision. Even in "happy England," unbelief and vice are the order of the day.

There is an external *appearance* of godliness: much church and chapel building, Sunday School teaching, sermon hearing, prayer saying, collection making, bazaar holding, etc. But what is there *inside* but rottenness and dead men's bones? The people who do these things are either selfish, superstitious, or ignorant. There is little fear of God or regard for His Word. There is much fear of man and love of the world. People are befooled and degraded: their brains are bemuddled with paganism in regard to Christianity, and their hearts eaten out by exigencies of social caste and filthy lucre.

All nations are *not* yet "blessed in Abraham and his Seed"—*but they will be*, for we read—

"Behold a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment . . . and the eyes of them that see shall not be dim, and the ears of them that hear shall hearken. The heart also of the rash shall understand knowledge, and the tongue of the stammerer shall be ready to speak plainly" (Isa. 32:1-4)

"In that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book; the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness. The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel; for the terrible one is brought to nought and the scorner is consumed, and all that watch for iniquity are cut off" (Isa. 29:18-20).

"Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not; behold your God will come with vengeance: He will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing" (Isa. 35:4-6).

"From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, My Name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered to My Name, and a pure offering. For My Name shall be great among the heathen, saith the Lord of Hosts" (Mal. 1:11).

"The battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace unto the heathen, and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth" (Zech. 9:10).

"Many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of Hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the Lord" (Zech. 8:22)

"The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Hab. 2:14)

"They shall fear Thee as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations. He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass, as showers that water the earth. In his days shall the righteous flourish, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth. . .

"He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy. He shall redeem their souls from deceit and violence, and precious shall their blood be in his sight . . .

"His name shall endure forever. His name shall be continued as long as the sun, and *men shall be BLESSED IN HIM: all nations shall call him blessed*" (Psa. 72:5-17).

These testimonies illustrate the blessing guaranteed for "all families of the earth" in the promises made to Abraham. They show *what the blessedness consists of* in its full development. It is no imaginary blessedness, but the bestowal of just those substantial boons which the whole world is yearning after, but knows not how to compass.

These, however, will not be realized until the Kingdom of God comes. They cannot be attained before that time, for it requires a righteous and resistless despot to eject all other rulers from place and power before they become practicable. It requires power, wisdom, righteousness, and humanity to centre in a universal king, before the nations can be made righteous, prosperous, and happy. In a word, it requires CHRIST, the Seed of Abraham, to take the world's affairs in his own hands, before there can ever be—

"Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and good will among men."

This blessing of Abraham is realized *individually* at the present time, in proportion as people lay hold of the promises by faith, & become heirs of future exaltation through present submission to Christ; but the *state of things* covenanted to Abraham in the promises will never be realized until Abraham himself inherits the land, and his Seed "possesses the gate of his enemies."

In view of the evident conclusion that the promises to Abraham give an unconditional guarantee of "good things to come," it may be asked why the Law of Moses and the bitter national experience of the Jews have been allowed to intervene between them and their fulfilment. Paul anticipates and answers this question (Gal. 3:19)—

"Wherefore, then, serveth the Law? It was *added because of transgression* TILL the Seed should come to whom the Promise was made."

If we wish to know the purpose it served, we find it 5 verses down—

"The Law was our *schoolmaster* unto Christ" (v. 24).

On account of the almost undisturbed reign of ignorance and sin in the times when the promises were delivered, it was necessary to institute a "schoolmaster" administration of the divine mind which should inculcate those first lessons concerning God, without which nothing good could be accomplished, since their existence in the human mind is the very basis of that community between God and man which honours *Him* and saves *them*. It was necessary to engrain those first principles on the mind of the chosen nation, by way of paving the way for development of the things promised the fathers.

This was done by the establishment of the Law of Moses in the midst of Israel—a system which, in itself, was a mere *allegory* of divine truth, as was meet in the training of children (Heb. 10:1), but which—by its exactions, severities, and scrupulosities—engraved in deep and lasting characters the estimate of the Deity's relation to mankind, which even now prevails in a mild degree wherever Mosaic tradition has reached.

The *power, supremacy, and holiness* of the Deity were made palpable by it, even to those who were disobedient. And, in the course of centuries, that conception of God was formed which existed in the days of Jesus, as the foundation on which to push forward the operations by which the Seed of Abraham (faithful believers) should be provided by the promulgation of the Word of faith.

Without the Law of Moses, there is no doubt that the knowledge of God would have perished from the earth, and mankind would have been totally enslaved to the foolishness and unenlightened speculation, and abandoned to the wickedness, which prevailed before the Flood. The little light of the Promises would soon have been extinguished, and the world would have been sunk in the darkness of incurable barbarism—ripe for as complete a destruction as that which overtook it in the days of Noah.

This great catastrophe was prevented by the establishment of a system which, while (superficially considered) it offered an obstruction to the glorious consummation promised to Abraham, was potently influential in developing the moral situation among mankind which was necessary to the bestowment of the promised blessing.

The Promises form the groundwork of what is termed "the Christian dispensation." It was necessary that God should create a *title* to the blessings of His love for men to lay hold of; because as sinners they were without hope and could not establish a title for themselves. It was necessary that He should make the first advance; and He did so by bestowing an unconditional promise upon Abraham, whom He selected for his faithfulness. These promises, by the belief of them, gave Abraham a right to the things promised, and vested in him and his Seed the sole title. Hence the necessity for becoming Abraham's Seed by connection with Christ before a Gentile can have any hope of a future life and inheritance.

Something in addition to the Promise was, however, necessary to secure to Abraham the blessings covenanted. This is styled the "confirmation" of the Promises. The precise meaning of this will be apparent on a review of the facts of the case as affecting Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It was promised to them that they should possess the land of Palestine forever. For this promise to be carried out, it is necessary that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob be raised from the dead, and made to live forever. Hence it may be taken that the Promises carry this feature with them: that, in fact, they bear on the face of them an undertaking on the part of God that—at the time appointed for the realization of the Promise—He would bring them from the dust of death and give them eternal life. How else can they inherit the land *forever*?

That this was God's intention toward them was made evident by Christ's argument with the Sadducees on the resurrection: he says:

"But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, '*I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.*' God is not the God of the dead but of the living" (Matt. 22:31-32).

Christ argued that the circumstance of God calling Himself the God of the Fathers who had gone to the dust was proof of His intention *to raise them*: and the argument overpowered the Sadducees, who were "put to silence." Thus the inference that the Promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob involved the promise of resurrection and immortality is established beyond question by Christ.

This being so, we have to realize the fact that under the circumstances existing at the time of the Promise, it is impossible the things promised could be bestowed. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were constitutionally under sentence of death. They were 'in Adam'—sinners by descent and individual act—and therefore precluded from that resurrection to immortality implied in the Promise.

Yet the inheritance was *guaranteed* by 'two immutable things'—the promise and the oath: and as "it was impossible that God should lie," its bestowment was a matter of necessity. How was the impossibility of making sinners immortal to be reconciled with the necessity that God's Promises should be fulfilled? We find the answer in the work accomplished by Christ at his first advent—

"He CONFIRMED the Promises made unto the Fathers" (Rom. 15:8).

How? By making their fulfilment possible. And how did he do this?

By "shedding his blood (which he styled '*the blood of the New—or Abrahamic—Covenant*') for the sins of many" (Matt. 26:28)

He "took away sin by the sacrifice of himself," thereby unsealing the gates of death, and "bringing life and immortality to light"—opening the way for the fulfilment of all that had been promised beforehand to the Fathers. Thus the impossibility vanished, and the necessity was placed in the triumphant basis of Christ's accomplished work. This was the great event shadowed in the sacrifices of the Law, which were not *in themselves* of any value except as a means of connection between God and His nation, typifying a higher and more enduring connection to be established over the body of the slain "Lamb of God taking away the sin of the world."

It will be seen that the things declared in the Prophets and preached in the aggregate by the apostles as—

"The things concerning the Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ."
—are but the elaboration of—

"The Promises made of God to the Fathers."

--in which they have their legal origin and efficacy. It is important to recognize this fact so that the position of the saints as "children of Abraham" and "the Seed of Abraham" may be clearly apprehended, and that we may see the harmony and completeness of God's plan, as commenced in the days of Abraham, typified in the Law, gradually unfolded through the Prophets, and consummated in the proclamation of Jesus and the apostles.

In view of all these things, well may we exclaim with Paul—

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out. For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been His counsellor? Or who hath first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things; to Whom be glory forever. Amen."

The Household of God

"Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth! Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him, for the Marriage of the Lamb is come, and his Wife hath made herself ready"—Rev. 19:6-7.

AS WE all are aware, we are now living in the last days. Very, very soon, the Lord Jesus will be visibly manifested in the earth with the purpose of establishing God's Kingdom, and blessing his *faithful* servants of all ages with immortality.

When Christ makes his appearance to his believers, will we be among that small number who will be accepted? Or will we be among the greater majority who will not be fit for the future glories? In the light of these questions, let us stop right now and give it deep thought. If we hope for eternal salvation—and surely we all do! —there are certain very vital qualifications which we, the Ecclesia of God, the True Household, must have. They are—

1. Having a living faith.
2. Being built up a spiritual house.
3. Having the spirit (mind) of Christ.
4. Having love.
5. Maintaining righteous fellowship.
6. Crucifying the flesh.
7. Having works and purity.

—all these resulting in the position of being the **BRIDE OF CHRIST**.

Are these things an apt description of us who are Berean Christadelphians? And if not, why not, if we say we are God's children?

* * *

On the first qualification, FAITH, Paul states—

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1).

We note, first of all, faith is the substance (*hypostasis*: assurance, confidence, foundation) of things hoped for. From this, the meaning is obvious. It refers to Promises, the First Principle doctrines as set forth in God's Word, and as outlined in our Statement of Faith. These are the foundation things which must be known and believed among us as the Truth, things indicating the purpose of God in Christ and his faithful followers. Outside of belief in these, we have not the Gospel. There is only One Faith' that can be acceptable to God.

But The Faith—or Truth—not only consists of doctrines or first principles of beliefs: it goes beyond. It includes many other important aspects which hinge on our *mental attitude* to the things promised, and our *actions* on the basis of it. The Faith of Jesus is a Living Faith: a vital, breathing, acting Faith. The truths set forth are not just a formal dry set of points on paper, but are intended to create an intense hope, conviction, and desire within us. By these things we are stirred up to develop a Living Faith, as Paul says—

"Faith cometh by HEARING, and hearing by the WORD OF GOD."

The *depth and power* of our faith depends upon the amount of our hearing and understanding of the Scriptures. As we sow, so we reap. The more the Household and each member applies himself prayerfully and in the right spirit to the study of the Word, the stronger they grow. And as faith grows, then the power and strength of the Spirit-Word transforms.

As each member grows, the Household is purified and influenced by the power of godliness. Its faith is living, in contrast to a dead faith, a faith in theory only. In Scripture we are told that this living faith does many things. It *works by love*, the basic foundation, the loving of all things associated with God. It also *purifies the heart*, cleansing it of its natural evil and corruption, changing us from natural to spiritual. It *overcomes the world*—the worldly things of the flesh: lust of the eye, lust of the flesh, and pride of life. The whole world lies in wickedness and unbelief, but a living faith enables us to keep God's commandments in this evil, immoral environment.

We are further taught that faith without works is dead, and that the true Household must be alive to her responsibilities. Our works make our faith living. If we have no works, we have no living and progressing faith—we have a weak faith that wavers, hesitates and doubts in trial and adversity. If this is so, the next step is a dead faith which gives in and is carried away by every temptation.

But to be acceptable, we as God's Household must have a faith that is strong and sure. It has to be one that works by love, purifies us, overcomes the world. These things should be the substance of the things we hope for—our sole interest and desire.

* * *

The second point: the members of the Ecclesia or Household of God, having a living faith, are (1 Pet. 2:5)—

"Lively stones, built up a SPIRITUAL HOUSE, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

The word "lively" carries the thought of being full of life, living with the active purpose of the building up of a spiritual house or spiritual dwelling. Naturally, we think of a stone as something inanimate, not alive. But the Household of God is made up of *living* stones, sons and daughters of the *Living* God. Like precious gems, they are made living by the effulgence of the reflected light of the glory of God that shines upon them.

The apostles, referring to the Psalms, describe Jesus as the Living Stone whom the builders rejected. He is the chief cornerstone from which the whole spiritual building is framed and patterned. He is our pattern for becoming—not an inanimate temple—but a spiritual temple of living parts. Through Christ we are no longer "dead in trespasses and sins" but "alive to God." Paul says (Eph. 2:19-22)—

"Ye are . . . of the Household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord."

What a deep responsibility rests upon each one of us, as Paul further emphasizes in 1 Cor. 3:16—

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile (spoil, ruin, corrupt) the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

Does not this verse illustrate that everything we do must be built on the foundation of holiness? Does it not illustrate that we should weigh each thought and action against "What is written?" We dare not take the Truth for granted. If we are to be related to it at all, it must be the greatest force in our lives. God is displeased if we neglect the task of building, or build negligently. Our life must be spent actively building, actively, alertly learning and obeying God's Word. There is no other way. The House is to be *daily* attended—daily supplied and adorned by the growth and perfection of beauty in each individual member.

It is a high calling to which we are called. God Himself warns us it is so: an holy priesthood, a sanctified people, privileged to offer up acceptable sacrifices to God through Christ. We dare not try to serve God in our own way. God has left specific instructions for us to follow in building the temple, as He said to Moses. We must follow them exactly, and approach Him only through our High Priest, the Lord Jesus. The priests of Israel who neglected or made light of their office escaped not from divine wrath. How then shall we?

* * *

In order to offer acceptable sacrifices, growing up a holy temple, the Household of God, we must—thirdly—have the SPIRIT—or MIND OF CHRIST (Rom. 8 : 9, 14)—

"If any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of his . . . As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

What was the spirit, or mind, of Christ? All through his life, he—

"Made himself of no reputation, and took on him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. And being found in the fashion of a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:7-8).

In our efforts to develop the mind of Christ, we must not overlook his complete devotion to God's service. We often talk of "putting the Truth first," which of course is right, and many of us perhaps do. But Jesus did not merely put the Truth first, he made it everything. His whole life was filled day in and day out with one single purpose—

"My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me" (John 4: 34)

God's will was always his utmost joy and desire. Regardless of the physical inconveniences and sufferings, he wholeheartedly did his Father's will, and was *thus* the well-beloved Son. Is this our mind? Is the Truth our *one* consuming interest and delight? Are we concerned with the welfare of each other? Or are we still minding the things of the flesh, still concerned about what we shall eat, and wear, and what pleasure we can have? What do we mostly talk and think about—natural or spiritual things?

The Scriptures constantly exhort us that salvation depends largely on the use of our minds—developing a knowledge and love of God's Truth, and keeping all these spiritual commands and realities in memory. We control our actions, thoughts and words by our minds. Thus we must be ever striving in prayer to learn and follow after the *mind of Christ*, for—

"To be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Rom. 8:6).

* * *

The fourth divine quality the true Household must have is LOVE—

"This is my COMMANDMENT (says Jesus) that ye love one another, as I have loved you" (John 15:12-4).

This command is a charge or injunction that must be obeyed. We normally express and feel love in relation to our families, and usually will bend over backwards in our love for them. Spiritual love for the divine family of faith is this—and much more. In its highest manifestation, God is love. His family, in obeying Him and manifesting the family likeness, has to be a family of love. Any professed member who does not love all is out of place.

It may be objected that we cannot force love. This shows a complete misunderstanding of the meaning of spiritual love, which is a grateful and compassionate reflection of the goodness and love of God. Love is a basic spiritual principle required by the law of Christ. It should be our utmost joy to obey that law. If we do not, joyfully, we are none of his: we have not passed from death to life—

"Above all these things, PUT ON LOVE" (Col. 3:14).

The word "above" means "upon, over." That is, love must be the foremost of all things, as Paul told the Corinthians. To "put on" means to invest or clothe ourselves. The thought is conveyed that we must be completely submerged—completely enveloped—in love. Why? Because when we have love we are drawing closer to God, Who is love. Love's power can restrain and control all other emotions and thoughts. Love in its completeness includes all the fruits of the Spirit. Peter further says—

"Above all things, have fervent love among yourselves, for love shall cover the multitude of sins" (1 Pet. 4:8).

The word that is translated "fervent" means without ceasing, stretched or strained out, extended to all. It is an increasing, radiating love that keeps pouring forth and does not stop. This divine love covers (hides, conceals) a multitude of sins. Some mistake this to mean that "love" takes care of everything and makes sin unimportant. The fact is overlooked that there are some things we cannot love, as sin, error, the world. This verse speaks of our attitude toward personal offense. Christ's love "covered" all our multitude of sins—but not if we "continue in sin." We are here instructed to have a love that endures all things and still loves, encouraging one another in love to provoke unto good works, rather than manifesting strife and bitterness and resentment. Therefore—

"Let us not love in word (*logos*: intent, talk), but in deed (effort, labour) and in truth" (1 John 3:18).

* * *

On the aspect "in truth," the true Household knows that spiritual love requires walking in truth and maintaining, fifthly, RIGHTEOUS FELLOWSHIP. John says—

"Whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected. Hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked" (1 John 2:5-6).

Everything that is of love must always be within the framework of divine Truth—of faithful obedience to the commandments, walking in light. Anything called "love" that does not conform to the divine standard is a deception and counterfeit—

"If we say we have fellowship with Christ, and walk in darkness, we lie . . . If we walk in the light *as he is in the light*, we have fellowship one with another . . . and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ" (1 John 1:3-7).

John uses very plain words. Either we are truly and fully in fellowship with God and Christ, beloved and obedient children, or we are lying. There is no middle course. We must be *completely* in the Truth, walking in light at all times, or we are not His—

"And THIS is love—that we *walk after his commandments*. This is the commandment, that as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it. For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus is come in the flesh" (2 John 6-7).

Bro. Roberts (Seasons XXV), writing of fellowship, says—

"He (John) means that they should hold fast to the doctrine of Christ as originally delivered, because many were drawing the disciples away therefrom. The obedience of this commandment is the evidence of New Testament love, and it is also necessary for our acceptable standing before the presence of the Lord of glory at his coming.

"As to those who 'bring not this doctrine,' John's commandment is: 'Receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed.' This command we can no more evade than any other commandment delivered unto us. The obedience of it may cost us something. It is crucifying to the flesh to refuse friends—some of them excellent people as human nature goes—who in one way or other have been seduced from their allegiance to the doctrine of Christ; but there is no alternative.'

"He that biddeth him God-speed is partaker of his evil deeds. This applies to all without distinction, and erects a barrier to fellowship with even some who hold the Truth; for though they may hold the doctrine of Christ themselves, yet if they keep up a God-speed connection with those who do not, by John's rule they make themselves partakers with them, and therefore cut themselves off from those who stand for the doctrine of Christ."

Does not this make scriptural sense? Righteousness does not fellowship, partake, have communion, participate, or socialize with unrighteousness. There is no concord of Christ and Belial, no communion of light and darkness. She knows that she walks in light by keeping the commandments of Christ, who says to us—

"If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15).

"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 15:14).

"Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things I say?" (Luke 6:46).

And John sums it up—

"But IF we walk in the light *as he is in the light*, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7).

Divine fellowship is based on perfection. Perfection, while humanly impossible, must be striven for, agonized toward, doing all we can to avoid sin in any way. When we do this—tremblingly and yet joyfully—the sacrifice of Christ cleanses us and covers us with merciful perfection, and we have fellowship with God.

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The Household does not stop at keeping out doctrinal error, but (sixthly) CRUCIFIES THE FLESH with its affections and lusts. She does not tolerate the works of the flesh as enumerated in Gal. 5. We know what most of them mean, and we eschew them. But what about the others—some of which are often excused as 'minor' weaknesses of character, and some even made into virtues—

UNCLEANNES: *impurity, foulness, such as swearing, drunkenness, smoking.* WITCHCRAFT: *sorcery, believing in horoscopes and superstitions.* HATRED: *hostility, criticism, antagonism.* VARIANCE: *quarrels, rivalry.* EMULATIONS: *jealousy.* WRATH: *anger, fierceness, bad temper, irritableness.* STRIFE: *canvassing, provoking.* SEDITIONS: *divisions, dissention, sowing discord.* HERESIES: *disunion.* ENVYINGS: *ill will, spite, malice.* REVELINGS: *letting loose, merrymaking, folly.*

An ugly, fleshly brood: the natural heart of man. These things are unacceptable in the Household of God. They will prevent us from getting into the Kingdom. The exhortation is—

"This I say then: walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Gal. 5:16)

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How can the true Household accomplish this, to their own salvation, and the glory of God? Through (seventh) GOOD WORKS and PURIFYING HERSELF —

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

"Therefore let us keep the feast, not with the old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." (1 Cor. 5:7-8).

This can be done only by *individual self-examination*, each member striving to walk in purity of doctrine and practice. To "purge" is to cleanse thoroughly and completely—

"If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified and meet for the Master's use, and prepared unto every good work" (2 Tim. 2:22).

The Household's holy work for God is not a work of ignorance and indifference which says (in misapplication of the parable)—

"Let the tares and wheat grow together." "Let us not judge."

"Let us have peace above purity . . . Let us have peace above love."

"I have nothing to do with what another says or does: everyone must give account of himself."

No, the Household of Faith makes no compromises. She must keep a balanced scriptural outlook, realizing that obedience to *all* commands is required, not one above, or to the exclusion of, the others. Her work, then, is two-fold—

1. The upbuilding of its individual constituents in the Faith—the "edifying of itself in love," and
2. The maintaining and exhibiting of the light of the Truth to those that are without.

In this two-fold capacity, the Ecclesia is the "Pillar and Ground of the Truth" (1 Tim. 3:15). Let us each then, as individual members, take a moment and ask ourselves: "What part am *I* taking in the work?" The health of the Body requires the total activity of all the members. Even though the part some play may be small, it must be their best and most. Let us not leave the work of the Lord to others. Regular, enthusiastic attendance at all possible meetings is the very *least* we can do to help keep the Body healthy, and encourage and strengthen others.

Are we following what Paul teaches on how we ought to "behave ourselves in the House of God"? He says (1 Tim. 4:12-16)—

"Be thou an example to the believers: in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

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

"Meditate upon these things, give thyself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appear to all.

"Take heed to thyself and unto the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee."

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In this, her work and purity, the Household of Faith is the BRIDE OF CHRIST preparing her wedding garment in which she must be arrayed to be acceptable. She now waits the day when he shall say—

"Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice" (Psalm 50:5).

The supreme question will be: *How has this covenant been fulfilled?* Have we performed our part as the chaste virgin getting ready for the marriage. Consider what care and preparation and enthusiasm and joy there is in getting ready for a natural marriage. If our deeds have conformed to the revealed will of Christ, our part of the covenant will have been performed. There is never any doubt about Christ performing *his* part, for he is faithful. He will write upon us his New Name—his nature imparted to us by the power of the Spirit. The betrothal ends in the glorious and eternal Marriage of the Lamb. It is for this joyful consummation that Christ's labours toward his true Household of Faith are directed —

"Christ loved the Ecclesia and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, that he might present it to himself a glorious Ecclesia, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy & without blemish" (Eph. 5:25-7).

And the rejoicing of Rev. 19:6-7—

"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying,

"Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth! Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him, for the Marriage of the Lamb is come, and his Wife hath MADE HERSELF READY."

The time is short, beloved brethren and sisters. May it be ours to be received by the Lord as his True Household in this latter-day generation—those few who have loved, obeyed, and maintained the Truth in the earth. Let us not be discouraged by the darkness and troubles of the times: it is a marvellous sign telling us that the day is at hand—the day when the Household of Faith of all generations will become the perfect man, the multitudinous Christ. The Bridegroom is about to appear! *Have we "made ourselves ready"?* —D.C.

Current Events Fulfilling Prophecy

CIA WOES & CAPERS. Castro is still alive, but it's not because CIA didn't try. Thru Chicago Mafia Boss Giancana, it recruited assassin—to get \$150,000 if he succeeded. Mafia Chiefs, who were under investigation by Justice Dept, expected a more important reward than mere money. (Tm 6:30)

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Growing sense in US govt. that Congress investigations of CIA, combined with repeated charges & disclosures, have seriously damaged its effectiveness. Old allies wary about cooperating: fear leak of secrets or compromise of sources. US intelligence operations against Russia have been harmed. For Russia, trend is priceless: now easier for Kremlin to take countermeasures. NY Times revealed that specially-equipped US subs had been monitoring Soviet missile activities for 15 years, sometimes in Russian waters. As result, Russia planted underwater mines, erected shielding & jamming devices. CIA furious. (Tm 8:4)

AN efficient, trusted & faithfully supported intelligence system is vital to US welfare in today's jungle world. From within & without the CIA, blind folly is conspiring to destroy it. What hope when respected newspapers put profits before national welfare?

DICTATOR AMIN of Uganda, who seized power 4 yrs. ago, is out to humiliate Britain & Queen Elizabeth by demanding they meet his terms to save a British citizen, whom he has sentenced to death for calling Amin 'village tyrant.' Threat brought almost unprecedented plea from Queen, delivered by British officers to Amin in Uganda in particularly humiliating circumstances. Uganda radio later announced arrest of more Britons. Amin desperately needs to pressure Britain into restoring \$35-million yr. London cut off when Amin expelled all Asians. Since then Uganda's been sliding fast into bankruptcy. He's trying to build himself in African eyes. Common man sees him as fearless. But he has turned once-thriving Uganda into chaotic, fear-ridden backwater. Many 1000s of opponents murdered or forced to flee: his victims are put at 100,000.

Russia recently sold him dozens of tanks & squadron of MIG fighters. 100s of Russian officers are training his troops, & Russian doctors & technicians have replaced evicted Asians. (USN 7:7)

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Prime Minister Wilson has promised Amin a 'fresh start' in Anglo-Ugandan relations if the death-sentenced Briton is reprieved. (Nwk 7:7)

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Amin speaks for millions of Africans who harbor deep resentment against former colonial masters. Ugandans strongly approved expulsion of Asians. He says, "We're preparing to invade Rhodesia & S. Africa. We already have one division in training overseas in socialist countries. (Nwk 8:4)

AMIN is trying (successfully) to dramatize the new order in Africa, & the abasement of once-mighty British power, which must humiliatingly fawn on him for favours. He is more sinister than a mere buffoon: he is whipping up Black war-fever against the White South. We see again the ubiquitous hand of Russia, exploiting the weakness of the West.

NEW RUSSIAN BASE IN SOMALIA has assembly facilities for missiles able to sink largest oil tankers; 15,000-ft. airstrip, big enough for Russia's largest planes; long-range radio station; barracks for 1500. Provides Russian navy with everything it needs to support large force in area. And across straits, Russians helping Yemen run port of Aden. At N. tip of Persian Gulf, Russia helping Iraq build port. (USN 6:23)

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Somali base could sharply increase Russian leverage in Indian Ocean. Will be most comprehensive Russian naval support facility anywhere outside Russia. Could give Moscow potential to disrupt oil routes from Persian Gulf. Somalis feel deserted by West, which turned down request for weapons. Say must rely on Russia because hemmed in by enemies—Ethiopia, Kenya & French territories. (USN 7:21)

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Russian base is triple threat: guards Red Sea entrance; overlooks oil routes; could be used to launch long-range bomber strikes thru Mideast. (Nwk 7:21)

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Russian missile installations at Berbera are just tip of iceberg. Russia has transformed Somali Army into 1 of strongest in Africa: far greater firepower than Ethiopia; largest tank force S. of Sahara; squadron of bombers; at least 50 MIG jet fighter planes. (Tm 7:21)

HOW did US ever let Russia get control of BOTH sides of Red Sea outlet? Just 25years ago they were BRITISH Aden & BRITISH Somali land. But Britain's masses grew tired of living on turnips to support the pomp & glory of Empire for the benefit of the rich. Russia, scraping away the broken sherds of Britain's dead Empire, is busy laying here the foundation of her biggest overseas naval base. Even apart from prophecy, it's obvious why her first lightning strike will be for Egypt & the Canal.

RUSSIAN GRAIN DEAL. World's mysterious multi-billion-\$ grain dealers were back where they least like to be—wincing in public glare. Bunge Corp. indicted for fleecing foreign customers out of \$1½-billion thru complex short-weight scheme. "Big 5" control 90% of \$11-billion US grain exports each yr. Traditionally they deal in secrets as well as in wheat. (Nwk 8:4)

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Russia has snapped up 10-million tons of US grain, & will be back for more. Deal sparked fierce political debate. Wheat prices jumped 20%. (Nwk 8:11)

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US has super-harvest: Russia having crop disaster. Maybe it's time for US to use its overwhelming superiority in food production to drive harder bargains with Russia in other areas of detente. US supplies ¾ of world's grain exports. In '72 Russia entered market quietly & walked off with 19 million tons at bargain prices, subsidized 40c a bushel by US taxpayers. This played hob with US's regular customers, like Japs who paid sharply higher prices as result. US is only major food exporter that lets private firms control sales. Canada & Australia channel all sales thru Wheat Boards. (USN 8:18)

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Should US bail out Russia? Why subsidize a Communist system that does not work, at expense of US consumer? Russian shortage is staggering—at least 35—possibly 50—million tons. If US cut off grain, Russia would be up against acute food shortages that could set off political upheavals. Failure in agriculture contributed to Khrushchev's fall. In '72 Russia got US grain at bargain, subsidized prices, & \$750-million low interest credit to pay for it. (USN 8:25)

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With customary secrecy, Russia refuses to supply accurate information on future grain needs. Last wk., Japs signed 3-yr. pact for 14 million tons yearly, saying, "We're not like Russians. We buy regularly." (Tm8:25)

WHERE Russia is strong, she bullies; where she is weak, she connives. She needs food, so she comes hat in hand. The '72 deal was a disaster for US taxpayers & consumers, but a windfall for the grain dealers who, by secrecy, kept the profits from the farmers.

RED TRIUMPH AT HELSINKI. For 21 yrs., Russia has laboured for a Europe Security Conference to ratify her control of E. Europe. Charter of Helsinki is formal W. Europe & US recognition of Russian dominance of E. Europe. What West gets is debatable. US & Allies rejected idea for 15 years. (USN 7:28)

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Personal triumph for Brezhnev. To get what he wanted, he made concessions to West that most see of dubious value, consisting of ambiguous promises to permit freer flow of people & ideas. (USN 8:4).

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US's Apollo managed rendezvous, sought, found, homed in on Soyuz, kept both on course, & US radio equipment used in both. Yet US conspired to give impression the 2 nations are equally advanced. Then, by symbolic handshake, we made it appear Russia is our friendly partner for good of mankind.

To have leaders of 35 countries drinking champagne to Helsinki Summit's achievements before eyes of world TV is triumph for Brezhnev & defeat for West. West solemnly concedes that boundaries established by Red Army in E. Europe are inviolable & never to be challenged. Summit conviviality will serve Russia's prime purpose: to reinforce Europe's wishful fancies that Russia is so peace-loving that West can relax. How can we reconcile legitimizing Russia's stolen Empire with our Western ideals? Should not US foreign policy display at least some colour of morality? How can anyone justify solemnly agreeing to never challenge Soviet rule in E. Europe just when a Moscow-directed Communist Party is blatantly trying to add Portugal to that system? And why are we conniving to build up Russia in world opinion just when they're cracking down with renewed vigour on dissenters? (Nwk 8:4)

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Helsinki was largest meeting of national leaders ever held in Europe (Tm 8:11)

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Helsinki Declaration puts stamp of legitimacy on Russian annexation of 182,000 sq. mis. seized from Poland, Rumania & Finland in WWII, & Estonia, Latvia & Lithuania swallowed earlier. Russia's claim to these lands rests on 1 thing only—conquest. US & Europe have resigned selves to realities of power. Moscow rules over last of world's great empires. In time that has seen liquidation of all others—British, French, Dutch, Italian, Portuguese—Russia is tightening imperial hold on E. Europe. Four times in past 22 years the Red Army has crushed revolts in these countries. (USN 8:11)

THE city is different, but the smell of appeasement & betrayal is the same. It's Munich Revisited—37 years later. WW II began less than a year after the infamous capitulation at Munich to Hitler. Is history repeating itself?

AGONY OF ANGOLA. With independence fast approaching, Angola careering toward bloodbath: 4000 already slain in rival group conflict—more than total killed during entire 13-yr. war with Portugal. Virtually all of remaining 400,000 Whites want out. 3 rival factions have nothing in common. (Tm 8:18)

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Angolan capital of Luanda is battered city: 6 days of heavy fighting: streets littered with corpses. Food stores empty. Armed gangs ransacked homes. Power & water failure brought industry & commerce to halt. Willingness of Russia to pour in huge amounts of arms to their faction was ominous sign. (Nwk 7:28)

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Largest & richest of Portugal's African territories, Angola independence due in November. Last wk., rival groups (Moscow-backed & China-backed) left capital a shambles. (Tm 7:28)

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Suddenly last wk., flimsy coalition trying to govern collapsed in burst of violence. 50,000 troops battling across length & breadth of land. Casualties in 10s of 1000s. Carnage has sparked mass exit as 400,000 Whites scramble to get out. Since Whites control virtually all Angolan businesses & most commercial agriculture & civil service jobs, the exodus—combined with heavy guerrilla fighting—has brought once-booming economy to standstill (Nwk 8:25)

ANGOLA'S misfortune is that it is potentially rich, & therefore men will oppress & kill each other for its riches. And wherever there is trouble to be made, there will be found the stealthy Red hand of Russia, sowing discord & death in the name of peace.

TURKEY STRIKES BACK. Last wk. Congress rejected lifting Turk arms embargo. Within hours Turkey halted all US military operations there—action with grave consequences for NATO & US Med power. Even if reversed, severe damage has been done to US-Turk ties. Pro-West Turks fear will add momentum to strong leftist, anti-US trend among students, intellectuals & unions. "Damage is done," said Turk diplomat, "Could be point of no return." (Nk 8:4)

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Ford says Congress vote will "do irreparable damage to US vital security." Turkey has declared her defence treaty with US 'no longer valid.' (Tm 8:4)

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Turkey has shut down highly sophisticated network of US listening posts trained on Russia, & has taken control of 25 US installations, blinding the world's most advanced surveillance system: does everything from eavesdropping on Russian nuclear explosions to copying routine radio traffic between planes & bases. In '73 War, detected nuclear warheads on Soviet ships going to Egypt & Syria: after US war alert, traced them turning back to Russia. (Tm 8:11)

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From installations, US could detect Russian missile launching by time it was 100 ft. off ground. Gadgetry so sophisticated they could eavesdrop on Russian tank commanders. Information gained was invaluable. (Nwk 8:11)

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Operation saved US billions because gave Pentagon better idea of what it faces, & what Russia's doing. US & Turkey allies since start of cold war. US military men understand Turkey's bitterness: all these yrs. we've been arming Turkey: they have only US arms. Now, because of Congress' action, Turkey can't modernize its forces, even replace losses. No suitable alternative for US: Listening posts in other countries, as Pakistan, already lost. (USN 8:11)

THIS is blind, stubborn, self-destructive folly with a vengeance. Again, we have long wondered how strongly pro—US ally Turkey could spin off into the Russian orbit, where bro. Thomas over 100 yrs. ago saw from Scripture it must. But God is clearly providing a way, & exposing the emptiness of man's "wisdom" in the process. It must be near the end when US is mindlessly whipping its staunchest allies into Russia's welcoming arms.

ISRAEL WITHDRAWAL from Mitla & Gidi passes would be major strategic concession. Would have to abandon multi-million-\$ warning system. Network of sophisticated sensing devices scans up to 100 miles into Egypt. Heat sensors detect blast of jet takeoff deep inside Egypt; infrared photos see night movements; acoustic sensors hear tanks & jets roaring into action; seismic gear detects marching troops or moving vehicles; magnetic sensors pick up approach of metal objects. If pulls back, Israel must build all this anew. (Nwk 7:28)

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Last wk., *Boston Globe* reported Israel has over 10 nuclear bombs. No one before has said so authoritatively, tho it's widely assumed. (Tm 8:11)

ISRAEL is being squeezed back. Arabs give nothing but promises. US is buying a false peace. Israel must be "without walls, having neither bars nor gates"—as far as defence against Russia's hordes is concerned.

US DOWN; CHINA UP. Last wk., Philippine Pres. Marcos spent 4 days in China, & Philippines became 100th nation to recognize Peking, at same time dropping recognition of Taiwan. Marcos, an ardent anti-Communist, has for years ruthlessly suppressed Reds. Event was inevitable coming-to-terms with one of Asia's dominant powers, following US exit. Marcos gave speech full of effusive praise for China as "leader of 3rd World & moral inspiration

for all mankind." Malaysia recognized China last year. Thailand will establish relations soon. Indonesia will find move toward China hard to resist. (Tm 6:23)

US's Asian house-of cards—built with so much blood & cost—is falling flatter & flatter. At the moment China would like US to stay on as a counterweight to Russian expansion, but that is not China's long range plan—just a stopgap till they build their own industrial and nuclear power.

PORTUGAL AT THE PRECIPICE. Extreme left-wing seems gaining upper hand. Radical new blueprint by junta to give power to revolutionary councils & bypass elected Assembly where moderates have big majority. Communists seem winning power struggle. Country slowly going broke. (Tm 7:21)

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Portugal's hardline Communists (who approved Czech invasion) are financed by Russia, & leaders were trained there. Now their shouldering Portugal inexorably into Soviet orbit. Military junta & their Communist backers have been able to take over nation because Communists completely control labour movement. This was solidified secretly under old dictatorship when workers were lowest paid in Europe. At same time Reds recruited army officers fed up with low pay & no-win African war. As weakest, most backward country in NATO, Portugal provides Russia with particularly fertile ground. (USN 7:28)

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In recent interview, Communist head Cunhal boasted, "We don't accept rules of election game. I care nothing for elections. Our way is revolution. Portugal will never be a country of democratic freedoms." (Tm 7:28)

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Promise of democratic reform by army junta who seized power 15 months ago has been all but obliterated. Across nation, democrats squared off against Communists in open confrontation. (Nwk 7:28)

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Portugal unemployment rate by far highest in Europe. Small businesses, crippled by worker takeovers, closing by dozens daily. (Nwk 8:4)

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Revolution becoming increasingly violent. New govt. plan gives unlimited powers to 3 generals, clear victory for Gonalves & Communists. (Tm 8:4)

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Headlong plunge to Communism suddenly stalled last week, first by great outbreak of anti-Communist, violence then open split in junta. (Tm 8:18)

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Wave of violence reflects deep division & growing bitterness at every level of society. Campaign of anti-Communism triggered by Red seizure of Catholic radio station, & by worsening economic crisis caused by rulers' radical policies. Signs of growing resistance to Communists in Armed Forces Movement that rules country. New govt. has little support except from Reds who polled just 12½% in election. Moderates had 64%. Showdown coming fast. (USN 8:18)

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Demonstrations larger & more violent daily. Armed forces deeply divided unable to rule. Widespread talk of civil war. (USN 8:25)

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Calling Portugal "old friend & ally," Kissinger last wk. pointedly warned Russia not to try to influence events contrary to rights of Portuguese people to determine own future. He said, "80% have unmistakably declared desire for democratic system. We will oppose minority that's subverting the revolution." He promised financial aid to a democratic Portugal. Kissinger's powerful endorsement of moderates was crystal-clear indication US believes they're finally ready to oust pro-Communist Premier Gonalves, by pressure or coup.

Trouble also flared in Portugal's shrinking empire. Secession talk fanned across Azores. Portugal sped up airlift to extricate 250,000 more Whites from Angola. Return of so many jobless refugees will exacerbate crushing economic problems. By last wk., over 50 Communist headquarters around nation have been burned or smashed. The 9 suspended moderate officers of ruling Council who spoke out have dropped out of sight, but their anti-Gonalves Declaration has been signed by over 80% of Portuguese army officers. (Nwk 8:25)

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For moment, political momentum plainly belongs to moderates. From outside Portugal, moderates got powerful boost from Kissinger, who warned Russia to stay out. Communists & their man Gonalves very much on defensive. Gonalves clung desperately to power, but officers demanding his ouster have generated so much support his days seem numbered. Of growing significance was wave of popular anti-Communist violence. Catholic Church becoming a crucial element in complicated Portuguese puzzle. Even if moderates win for now, Portugal's future will remain precarious. (Tm 8:25)

AT the moment, the struggle seems to be a toss-up, but tremendous, perhaps irreversible, damage has been done to the economy, & Portugal faces insuperable problems. Rigid dictatorship could solve them—at the expense of freedom. It is doubtful, given the bitterly divided state of Portugal, & Communist control of the unions, whether they can be solved & retain freedom. If Communists can't rule, they may be able to prevent anyone else from doing so effectively. The final result could determine the fate of Europe. We know of course what that fate must be, so any respite is just a brief reprieve.

DEMOCRACY DIES IN INDIA. Last wk. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was found guilty of campaign irregularities in '71 elections, & was barred from Parliament. Charges seem trivial, hinged on technicalities. (Tm 6:23)

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Mrs. Gandhi has suspended civil liberties: a dangerous gamble that caught her political opposition off guard, & shocked most of world. Taking extraordinary powers, she made nationwide roundup of her political opponents, & imposed a rigid censorship on the press. (Tm 7:7)

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Mrs. Gandhi has dealt a possibly mortal blow to democracy in India. She has jailed 100s of her critics, including every prominent political opposition leader, & given herself dictatorial powers. For years India has boasted that—unlike China—it has coped with its problems without resorting to dictatorship. By her crackdown, Mrs. Gandhi has admitted that democracy—as she administered it—was failure. Severity & breadth of crackdown staggered India. India's problems have been compounded by Mrs. Gandhi's mismanagement, & her acceptance of corruption that pervades her govt. Little chance she can be toppled. Even some of her critics fear consequences of her departure, for without her strong leadership, nation could crumble. The splintered, feuding opposition parties have never shown capacity for leadership, & have no politicians who appear able to run country. (Nwk 7:7)

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Mrs. Gandhi, long a critic of US society & policy, almost singlehanded—and overnight—has turned world's biggest democracy into police state. India already in desperate trouble over food shortages, depleted treasury, stagnating economy. In recent months, Mrs. Gandhi has been faced with mounting criticism in her own party for dictatorial ways & govt. corruption. (USN 7:7)

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Mrs. Gandhi is taking India down road to dictatorship at pace unlikely soon to be reversed. Experts expect her to emerge stronger than ever. Almost all prominent opposition leaders in jail: without them, parties have neither direction or leverage. Swiftness with which they were seized all over country testifies to efficiency of Mrs. Gandhi's security forces. 80% of India's nearly 600 million are farmers more concerned with next meal than national policies: couldn't care less about civil rights or press freedom.

Mrs. Gandhi is enamoured with both Russia & socialism. She's inflexible as to what's best for India, tho few of her plans have worked so far. (USN 7:14)

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Mrs. Gandhi has imposed blackout of news of demonstrations, arrests, and criticism of govt.; closed 5 major dailies in New Delhi; expelled some foreign correspondents. Police empowered to jail anyone up to yr., & confiscate their property, without explanation. (Nwk 7:14)

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Critics languish in jail for no crime than challenging Mrs. Gandhi's will. We can expect other national heads to follow suit. As conflicts between personal liberty & authority become more difficult to reconcile, choices increasingly being made at freedom's expense. Steady rise of authoritarianism. (Nwk 7:28)

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Certainly Indian democracy was imperfect, touching only thin veneer of educated class, while leaving 400 million peasants in misery. Visitors to both countries have marvelled at indescribable difference between lot of rural masses in China & India. China's revolution depended on drive, vision & incorruptibility of leaders. No one familiar with sloth, corruption, nepotism in Mrs. Gandhi's Congress Party can envision it leading the social & economic revolution India must have to break out of its cycle of poverty. It is hard to imagine India ever returning to 'great adventure' her father Nehru tried so hard to launch. Sorrow is that in exchange for freedoms & dreams, Indian masses can expect so little. Nothing derogatory to Mrs. Gandhi or govt. can be printed. (Nwk 8:4)

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Mrs. Gandhi has jailed up to 60,000. Last wk., with opposition in jail, she rammed thru Parliament a bill changing retroactively the law she is accused of violating. Next day she pushed thru a constitutional amendment giving her power to rule by decree indefinitely, & removing her case from courts' jurisdiction. Parliament also outlawed any appeals from jailed politicians. (Nwk 8:18)

MRS. GANDHI is doubtless sincere. And she is doubtless right in her obvious conviction that India is not capable of democracy. Democracy's fatal flaw (as bro. Thomas clearly saw) is that it requires wisdom &

self-restraint, 2 qualities that fleshly mankind lacks. One can almost sympathize with the frustration that has driven her to increasingly vicious excesses against liberty & justice. Even her critics seem to confess that they have no one to replace her. People around world seem to be turning to dictatorship (under the false name of 'Communism') in bitter despair over evils, excesses & bankruptcy of 'freedom.'

ITALY VOTES RED. In regional elections, Communists made stunning gains: took industrial powerhouses of Milan & Turin, as well as Naples & Venice. Compared with '72, they rose 5.1% to 33.4% of total. Leading Christian Democrats dropped 3.1% to 35.3%. Reds got over 10 million votes-within 600,000 of CDs. Outcome alarms NATO, already concerned with Portugal's left drift, & uncertainty about Greece & Turkey. Thru heavy control of unions, Reds have power to bring all Italy to halt, as they've shown by innumerable strikes. (Tm 6:30)

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Sharp turn to Left: prospects that Communists will achieve goal of place in national govt. Vote made Reds largest party in virtually all Italy's biggest cities, including Rome. Strong Red surge seen as latest & possibly most dangerous symptom of changing alignments & political instability in troubled NATO. A Communist-dominated Italy govt. could seriously endanger NATO's already enfeebled south flank. Inflation 20% yr., unemployment at 20-yr. high. Govts. dominated by Christian Democrats for past 30 yrs. have shown selves increasingly incapable of maintaining even semblance of basic services. Much of Red vote reflected massive disenchantment with yrs. of CD incompetence. For yrs., Communists have controlled 3 of Italy's 20 regions, & have proved able & honest administrators. 60% of young voted Communist. (Nwk 6:30)

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Communists gain wherever non-Communists fail to cope with staggering social & economic problems. Communist vote was massive protest against widespread graft, corruption, crime, violence, & cynical disregard for basic needed reforms. (USN 6:30)

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Few Turin citizens appear concerned at Red victory: new officials could hardly be more inept than bumbling moderates they replace. By contrast, Communists have built surprisingly good record as conscientious officials. In line with Communist practice, new Turin mayor will give salary to Party, & receive wages of skilled factory worker. Bologna—Communist-run for 30 yrs. —has almost become a model city. (Tm7:28)

A tremendous development! Portugal, Greece, Turkey are bad enough disasters, but here the enemy is eating deeper & deeper into NATO's vitals. No one really wanted—or wants—the galling gray shackles of regimented Communism, but bumbling, corrupt democracy and rapacious, conscienceless super-capitalism is leaving common man no alternative.

WOMEN PRIESTS. General Synod of Anglican Church of Canada has voted overwhelmingly to allow female priests. (Tm 6:30)

BANGLADESH COUP: HERO MUJIB SLAIN. In '70, Mujib won stunning victory in first Pakistan national election: stood to be Prime Minister of all Pakistan. But W. Pakistanis, who had long held absolute sway, weren't about to yield power: Dictator Agha Khan jailed Mujib under death sentence, & in brutal military pogrom massacred 3 million Bengalis. India entered war, crushed Pakistan, & Mujib was released to become leader of newly independent E. Pakistan, now 'Bangladesh.' He faced staggering problems in poorest & most densely populated country on earth. There were no civil servants, little industry. Ports clogged, railroads destroyed, educated people murdered in the war. And what hadn't been destroyed by war was soon destroyed by devastating drought in '73, then floods in '74 that covered ¾ of country.

Last Jan., impatient with slow progress & growing anarchy, Mujib took larger powers, banned political parties, censored press. Last wk., accusing him of ineffectual leadership, army seized govt. in bloody coup—Mujib & at least 200 slain. New Pres. is Khandakar Ahmed. Pakistan was first country to recognize new govt., but reaction in India was dismay. (Tm 8:25)

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New Pres. Ahmed helped Mujib found party, but his conservative pro-West views soon put him at odds with leftist Mujib. Last wk., alarmed by Bangladesh's growing problems & fearful of Russia's increasing influence on Mujib, he decided to strike. Mujib had accomplished next to nothing. He produced no economic plan, & despite \$3-billion foreign aid, country remained a basket case. Land's leading poet recently confessed, "This superman has led us from poverty to ruin." And to dictatorship as well, for when his rhetoric failed, Mujib resorted to simple tyranny, jailing his more vociferous opponents, & taking virtually unlimited powers. Coup seemed certain to alter the political relationships on the Indian subcontinent. (Nwk 8:25)

THIS is a sad chapter in man's struggles. Mujib was such a brave & gallant figure, who after a long & tremendous struggle led his country to freedom, & who started out as his country's head with such joyful

promise. But he could not cope with the dead weight of such accumulated disasters, & with the worse problem of human evil. Like Mrs. Gandhi, he turned in frustration to repression & dictatorship. Like her, he leaned toward Russia. Perhaps that is why he was removed. Is this an omen for India?

BLACK POWER IN MOZAMBIQUE. This week, Samora Machel, who masterminded guerrilla struggle against Portugal, will take power, ending 500-yr. rule, putting rigidly Marxist Black regime on border of White supremacist S. Africa, & cutting off Rhodesia from sea. Mozambique has host of problems, after centuries of Portuguese neglect. Vast majority live at subsistence level; lot likely to get worse before gets better. Fully ½ of Whites have left: many more leaving. Regime's doctrine not only spells doom for capitalism, but rules out democracy in all its forms. (Nwk 6:30)

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Mozambique will be Marxist, 1-party state. Most land will be nationalized. Whites have 90 days to accept Mozambique citizenship or get out. (Tm 7:7)

500 PROUD years of Empire invested Portugal's rule with false aura of permanence. How fast the great imposing edifice fell into a pile of rotten sticks! Mozambique's junkyards are already crowded with the tottered & broken statues of 500 years of Portuguese nobility & invincible heroes. We live in times of tremendous upheaval—the sea & waves roaring." Does US get the message?

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE in Mexico approved Declaration urging elimination of Zionism, 89-2. Only US & Israel voted against. (Tm7:14)

NEITHER Britain nor any of dominions had courage to vote for life of Israel. There were some cowardly abstentions. God will not forget.

NIGERIA COUP has ousted Gowon, 5th Black African head toppled by army in past 16 months. Tho oil has made Nigeria Black Africa's richest nation, inflation has raged to 80% since January when Gowon gave in to civil servants' demands for 133% increases. Gowon couldn't control widespread graft that prevented equitable distribution of \$8-billion yearly oil wealth. Most of 80 million Nigerians must still survive on average of \$120 yr. New head is Muritali Mohammed, army's most brutally efficient commander in Biafra war. Gowon is Christian, from relatively small tribe: Mohammed's a Moslem Hausa. (Tm 4:11)

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In foreign affairs, Mohammed is expected to follow same moderate, pro-West course as Gowon. At home, may offer Nigerians tougher, more disciplined living style. Most Nigerians seem pleased with new order. (Nwk 8:11)

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US stake huge: \$1-billion in direct investments, & what seemed virtually guaranteed access to Nigerian oil in case of new boycott. Nigeria is nosing out Canada as US's chief supplier. Mohammed is Moslem, possibly susceptible to Arab pressure in new oil crunch. Expect new regime to push \$50-billion plan to build modern state with new industries, roads, farms, ports by '80. (USN 8:18)

AS US's principal foreign oil supplier, Nigeria politics now have a more than passing interest, for these days oil is power. Nigeria has almost the population of Japan, 2% times its area, far more natural resources, & some very capable people. But conditions are bad: literacy only 25%, life expectancy 40 years—another bitter legacy of Empire.

TURMOIL IN BLACK AFRICA. As never before, fear, disarray & bitter antagonism cuts across all Black Africa. Nigeria's Gowon was overthrown even as he attended meeting of Organization of African Unity. Blistering row developed between Egypt & Libya over resolutions calling for expulsion of Israel from UN. The 2 most respected Black leaders—Nyerere of Tanzania and Kaunda of Zambia—failed even to attend. Nyerere attacked OAU for hypocrisy in meeting in Uganda, terming Uganda's leader Amin as "oppressive and dictatorial." Yet OAU clung to tradition by electing the unpredictable, barbaric Amin as chairman & spokesman for Africa for coming year. Endless panorama of wars, revolutions, coups, massacres, widespread repression have cost Africans much of the goodwill & support they once enjoyed. There's little unity, no prosperity. In most African countries, an African elite inherited economic power from colonials; officials have amassed wealth at expense of people. Shape of many states was dictated by colonial treaty or conquest, arbitrarily cutting across tribal & ethnic areas, so almost nowhere is there consciousness of national unity. Almost everywhere, economies in bad shape and getting worse, largely because of political ferment & uncertainty. Agricultural production insufficient to feed exploding populations—hardly a country in Africa doesn't import food. Widespread drought has added to misery. Birth-rate so high population expected to double to 800 million in 25 yrs. One point most agree on is "liberation" of Black majority in White South. Some nations call for Black-White war. Amin claims he's forming all-Africa army to liberate South. Even moderate Nyerere

says guerrillas will be needed. Africans respect military power: seems to many of them that US is falling out of race for position in Africa at time when Russia & China are moving in. (USN 8:18)

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Newly Black-ruled Mozambique has already allowed major Rhodesian rebel group to set up training camp in Mozambique. They're recruiting 4000 men for army to be equipped with Russian rifles, machine guns, missiles. (Nwk 7:21)

RICH Africa, freed from the crushing, plundering, humiliating White heel, had great potential for peaceful prosperity—a golden age of justice & freedom. But that is reckoning without human evil & greed. Only Christ can bring it either peace or prosperity.

CYPRUS: little hope of breaking deadlock. Turks have every interest in maintaining division. They've long feared (& experienced) persecution by Greek majority. Tho they're only 17% of Cyprus population, they now hold 40% of island, including all prosperous areas. (Tm 7:28)

BOTH sides are evil, & have blood on their hands. Each has persecuted when they've had advantage. Who has wisdom to determine, & power to enforce, a righteous solution?

CAN LEBANON SURVIVE? 3rd round of fighting in as many months. Worst crisis since '58 civil war, when US Marines landed. Economy badly hurt: flight of capital underway: tourist season a dead loss. (Tm 7:7)

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Months of brutal street combat between Moslems & Christians raise serious questions about Lebanon's survival. (USN 7:14)

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By time 3rd round ended last week, 300 dead, 700 wounded. Death toll this yr. 900. Loss to economy ½-billion. Mideast conflict putting terrible pressure on political compromise that Moslems & Christians have lived by for 30 years. Cause of convulsions is presence of 320,000 Palestinian refugees, who have own armed forces, & sovereignty over their 16 camps in Lebanon—a "state within a state." Complicating matters still further was presence of Israeli agents who seized opportunity to sneak in & deal with a few enemies. (Tm 7:14)

LEBANON is ancient Tyre. Oddly, it is still the "mart of nations"—Mideast's finance & commercial centre—tho that seems ebbing away in the bloody tides of civil war. Israel & Syria face each other with drawn swords over this terribly sick country, each afraid the other will seize advantage. What will happen if Lebanon collapses?

US CITIES IN PERIL. NY City last wk. sank measurably closer to financial collapse that could damage whole country far more than is realized. Conviction growing—even among crisis-hardened New Yorkers—that city's plight more serious than anyone had faced. Crisis also raised concern over some of US's major financial institutions, headquartered in NY, which have swallowed vast amounts of city's bonds & notes, & may need Federal guarantees to avoid enormous losses. NY's problems largely due to ineptitude & irresponsibility of its leaders—abetted by complaisant bankers & aggressive union leaders.

Over 1 million N Yorkers on welfare. City this yr. will spend \$7 billion of its \$12-billion budget on salaries, with \$1-billion more to pensions that give half pay after 20 yrs. Without buyers for bonds, NY faces possibility of bankruptcy. It's not just NY—that's only the tip of the whole urban iceberg.

Govt. is US's leading growth industry. In past 15 yrs., state & city employees have nearly doubled, from 6 million to 11½ million. Current crunch between shrinking city treasuries & soaring employee expectations has been developing for long time. Municipal unions are potent political force. Union objective: "Get boss elected, then have him set your wage & work conditions." Middle class has fled to suburbs, leaving cities as repositories for country's most dismaying problems: poverty, crime, pollution, corruption. (Nwk 8:4)

RICH, inventive, productive US, where all could have an easy abundance if all would labour together faithfully & diligently, & the short-sighted follies of greed, corruption, antagonism, strife were intelligently put to one side. NY is the story of always demanding more for less: taking as much as possible & giving as little as possible. This is the flesh. We do not, & cannot, take sides between the fleshly potsherd of the earth: the unions evil & greedy & corrupt as they are—have no monopoly on evil & greed & corruption.

NUCLEAR MENACE. There's brisk trade in nuclear generating equipment & technology, hedged by only partial safeguards against misuse. This apparatus is a potential for nuclear weapons that could become available to unstable govts., threatened nations, even terror groups. Many countries now have capability of making nuclear bombs, many more rapidly acquiring capability. In a world of dramatically diminished US o'seas involvement, more countries will go nuclear—& more will breed more. In reaction, we would likely become a much more heavily-defended, security-obsessed state. (Nwk. 6:23)

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Nightmare of potential holocaust persists. Dangers probably greater now than ever. US & Russia pushing ahead with development of new weapons that could undermine any progress made at disarmament talks. US deeply disturbed over German deal to supply "full cycle" nuclear complex to Brazil, giving it completely independent nuclear industry. Germany said if it didn't make sale, another country (France) would. (Tm7:7)

IT has happened, & France (according to Germany) is the cause. In the rush for profits, restraint has been cast aside. We can now look for a nuclear free-for-all.

SOLZHENITSYN'S WARNING. Calls detente a trap for US whereby Russia gets US's sophisticated technology. Whatever Communist leaders promised as they wooed allies along way, these allies & democracy itself were crushed any time Communists got power. They claim they've changed—Portugal shows they haven't. Soviet troops still occupy Poland & E. Germany. When local Communists in Hungary & Czechoslovakia tried turning nationalist, Russia invaded, & troops still remain. All while, Russia's building its armed forces. He says—

"West's fantastic greed for profits & gain is almost incomprehensible to human mind. It goes beyond all reason, limitation or conscience. World situation is not just dangerous, not just threatening—it's catastrophic. England, France, US—victors in WWII—for some inexplicable reason signed one capitulation after another. At Yalta, without any need, Russia's seizure of Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldavia & Mongolia was recognized. Almost nothing was done to protect E. Europe, & 7 or 8 countries were surrendered. Stalin demanded that Russian citizens who did not want to return home be handed over to him, so West handed him 1½ million human beings to be exterminated.

"Now we hear voices in US: 'Give up Korea, & we'll have peace. Give up Portugal, Japan, Taiwan, etc. Just let us live peaceably. Let us drive our beautiful cars on our splendid highways, let us play golf, let us mix cocktails.'

"Lenin's teachings are that Communism considers a fool anyone who does not take what's lying in front of him. If you can take it, take it. If you can attack, attack. But if there's a wall, go back.

"Let's stop this senseless process of endless concessions to aggressors. Why hand over increasingly more & more complex technology to Russia that it needs for its weapons & for crushing its own citizens." (USN 7:14)

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Fearful of offending Russia, Ford snubbed Solzhenitsyn. It left many wondering how detente was profiting US if it had to turn its back on humanitarian principles to appease Russian leaders. Kissinger said need for coexistence outweighed all other considerations in this "age of nuclear peril." (Nwk 7:28)

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In series of increasingly fervent public appearances, Solzhenitsyn has attacked not only Soviet regime but US—for its affluence, its indifference to his message, & its policy of detente which, he says, is advancing Soviet goal of world domination. His theme was world danger posed by Russia aiming "to destroy you" while US capitalists profit happily from detente. (Nwk 7:28)

SOLZHENITSYN is brushed aside like a troublesome last-day Jeremiah. He clearly sees the picture of Russian ambition & US stupidity, but his words will go unheeded, like the lonely voice of Churchill in the years before WW II, when detente & unpreparedness led the blind world into the abyss. "The Scriptures must be fulfilled."

AUGUST ANSWERS

1. Huz, Buz—Brothers
2. Saul, Judas—Suicides
3. Jehu, Zimri—Slew master
4. Luz, Bethel—Same place
5. Abib, Nisan—Months
6. Esau, Elijah—Hairy
7. Cush, Peter—Outran
8. Noah, Nabal—Drunken
9. Moses, Felix—Trembled
10. Jubal, David—Musical instruments
11. Jachin, Boaz—Pillars
12. Jacob, David—Shepherds
13. Mary, Daniel—Gabriel visit
14. Saul, Goliath—Tall
15. Shebna, Ezra—Scribes

WHAT DID THEY HAVE IN COMMON?

19. Miriam, Anna—Prophetesses
20. Jacob, Pharez—Twins
21. Job, Hezekiah—Boils
22. Clauda, Melita—Islands
23. Daniel, Joseph—Gold chain
24. Jairus, Crispus—Synagogue rulers
25. Kishon, Abana—Rivers
26. Paul, Jonathan—Benjamites
27. Gideon, Oman—Threshed
28. Isaiah, Malachi—Foretold John
29. John, Ahimaaz—Outran
30. Naboth, Achan—Stoned
31. Necho, Hophra—Pharaohs
32. Stacte, Onycha—Spices

36. Blastus, Erastus—Chamberlains
37. Nicanor, Timon—Deacons
38. Lazarus, Dorcas—Raised
39. Candace, Vashti—Queens
40. Uzziah, Naaman—Lepers
41. Samuel, Samson—Nazarites
42. Pygarg, Chamois—Clean
43. Sapphira, Gehazi—Liars
44. Antipas, Stephen—Martyrs
45. Abigail, Ahinoam—David's wives
46. Tamar, Bathsheba—Widows
47. Hezekiah, Lazarus—Sick
48. Jonathan, Samson—Honey
49. Abimelech, Achish—Philistines
50. Abiathar, Caiaphas—High Priests
51. Thaddeus, Lebbeus—

16. Hoglah, Noah—Sisters	33. Lysanias, Philip—Tetrarchs	Same person
17. Esau, Reuben— Lost birthright	34. Herod, Pharaoh—Birthdays	52. Matthew, Zaccheus—Publicans.
18. Balaam, Peter—Trance	35. Goliath, Shimei— Cursed David	53. Chemosh, Remphan—Gods 54. Ossifrage, Seraphim—Wings

Back issues of the Berean (to about 1950) are available free to any who would like them.

Bible Questions

IDENTIFY THE CHAPTER

These may be a bit more difficult than usual. Do not be discouraged. Stick with them and keep going over them till they are familiar. These are passages we all should be able to locate readily.

1. Dare any of you go to law before the unjust?
2. My Father is greater than I.
3. Baptism doth also now save us.
4. We shall reign on the earth.
5. The meek shall inherit the earth.
6. Narrow is the way . . . few find it.
7. The soul that sinneth it shall die.
8. The Scripture cannot be broken.
9. Dust thou art, unto dust shalt thou return.
10. There is 1 God . . . and 1 Lord Jesus Christ.
11. If any preach any other gospel . . . let him be accursed.
12. David is not ascended into the heavens.
13. We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.
14. He that overcometh . . . to him will I give power over the nations.
15. Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you.
16. By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin.
17. Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God.
18. The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord.
19. Sin dwelleth in me . . . in my flesh dwelleth no good thing.
20. Love your enemies . . . do good to them that hate you.
21. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.
22. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.
23. Without holiness no man shall see the Lord.
24. He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.
25. In death there is no remembrance of Thee.
26. No man cometh unto the Father but by me.
27. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
28. Whosoever will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.
29. As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
30. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
31. God hath chosen you to salvation through . . . belief of the Truth.
32. I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given me.
33. The living know that they shall die, but the dead know not anything.
34. Law out of Zion . . . judge nations . . . they shall not learn war any more.
35. He that hath the Son hath life: he that hath not the Son hath not life.
36. All things in Moses, Prophets, Psalms concerning me must be fulfilled.
37. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar.
38. The Lord shall descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ shall rise.
39. Same Jesus shall come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.
40. If any man sue thee at law and take thy coat, let him have thy cloak also.
41. Dominion to end of earth: all kings fall before him: all nations serve him.
42. Jerusalem throne of Lord . . . all nations gathered to it: not walk after evil heart.
43. There is 1 God, & 1 Mediator between God & men, the man Christ Jesus.

44. He that scattered Israel will gather him, & keep him as a shepherd his flock.
 45. Except a man be born of water & of Spirit, he cannot enter Kingdom of God.
 46. He that rejecteth me.. . the word I have spoken shall judge him in the last day.
 47. When they believed the things of the Kingdom & Name, they were baptized.
 48. Many that sleep in dust shall awake: some to everlasting life, some to shame.
 49. I will make them 1 nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel ... forever.
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Gen. 3	Jer.31	Matt 6	John12	Acts 8	Gal. 1	Jam. 4
Psa.6	Ezek. 18	Matt. 7	John 14	Rom.5	Gal. 3	1 Pet. 3
Psa.72	Ezek.37	Matt. 24	John 14	Rom.7	1 Thess. 4	1 John 2
Eccl. 9	Dan. 12	Mark 16	John 15	1 Cor. 6	2 Thess. 2	1 John 2
Isa. 2	Matt. 5	Luke 24	John 17	1 Cor. 8	1 Tim.2	1 John 5
Isa. 11	Matt. 5	John 3	Acts 1	1 Cor. 15	2 Tim.3	Rev. 2
Jer. 3	Matt. 5	John 10	Acts 2	2 Cor. 5	Heb. 12	Rev. 5

Last month's answer: Who — Lot's wife

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