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THE COMING OF THE LORD, (con't) SCRIPTURAL ILLUSTRATIONS, PRE-FIGURING THE END OF THE AGE.

Sermon By

CHAS. F. PARHAM,

Immanuel Church, 923 W. 41st Drive
Los Angeles, Cal., January 21st, 1926.

(This sermon is a continuation of the sermon in the January number of this paper.)

This discourse will be more of instruction than following the course of a regular sermon, taking up various scriptures that to me illustrate the Soon coming of the Lord. Daniel saw an image with a head of gold, breasts, bowels, legs and feet of iron and clay and then the toes. He said to the King, "Your Empire is represented by the head of gold", which came to an end in the bloody struggle at the feast of Belshazzar. Then came the kingdom of the Medes and Persians, represented by the two breasts of Daniel's image, overthrown in a bloody struggle when Alexander, (represented by Daniel as the He Goat of the west) conquered the then known world, represented by the bowels of the image. Another world struggle and the Romans conquered the then known world, extending their domain from India to the Scottish walls, including half of Europe and Northern Africa, represented by the legs of Daniel's image. In the dissolution of the Roman Empire, there came into being the feet of iron and clay, strong mighty empires represented by the iron and weak little principalities and republics represented by the clay in Daniel's image. At the opening of the German war the territory once covered by the Roman Empire had been divided into twenty three kingdoms and republics. The war with Germany bringing about another world's struggle was the beginning of the end of the feet. We are now living in a short period when men will cry "peace, peace and there is no peace." When they shall say "peace and safety, but sudden destruction shall come upon them."

Great struggles of nations followed by a period of Universal Anarchy will destroy all the present governments within the boundary of the old Roman Empire and also the nations of North and South America for they are the product of the Roman Empire. Russia, perhaps, alone, of all the present nations will stand. She will enlarge her borders by crushing three ribs or nations that adjoin her and virtually taking all of Europe and Asia that did not belong to the Old Roman Empire will remain as the kingdom of the North to be led to the battle of Armageddon by a mighty dictator who will shortly arise in Russia. The rest of the world or nations will go to pieces, by warring among themselves, and internal dissensions, strikes and factional fights creating a state of anarchy, thus ending the feet of Daniel's image. Out of the chaos and confusion there will arise on the territory of the old Roman Empire including North and South America, ten states, the ten toes of Daniel's image, the ten horns of the scarlet colored beast of Revelations. These will be a working men's governments. A United States of the world, a League of Nations, out of which will arise the Anti Christ, the man of sin, who will rule all the rest of the world not dominated by Russia, from Jerusalem. It will be a world's socialistic Empire. Daniel joyfully declares that a stone (Christ) cut without hands out of the mountain will roll on the toes of the image and set up His kingdom of everlasting righteousness, thus opens the millenium.

Daniel also had a vision of four beasts, what they mean has been sorely misrepresented by prophetic teachers. But to me they represent the following nations. At the fall of the Roman Empire, the first great nation to arise in power was England, or the Lion Kingdom, which had eagles wings, which represents the United States, plucked from the back of the eagle and made to stand upon the earth and a man's heart was given unto it. The first nation to establish justice judgment and equity among all its people. Referred to by another prophet as a nation greatly to be feared above all the

nations that dwelt upon the face of the earth. Following England's world supremacy came the second beast, or the bear, representing Russia.

Out of six pryncedoms, Peter the Great, consolidated the Russian Empire. The second statement is, that the bear raised herself on one side thus all of Siberia came under the power of Russia. The last act of Russia before the battle of Armageddon will be to crush three ribs in her mouth which, as we started above, will virtually give her dominion over all of Europe and Asia not included in the territory of the old Roman Empire. The third beast was the leopard. For thirty years we have been preaching that Italy, the leopard, would be the next great world power. Aided by three other countries, for the leopard has four heads and four sets of wings, representing a coalition of four nations. The phenomenal rise of Mussolini, his marvelous genius of organization marks him as the most dangerous man threatening the peace of the world today. The fourth beast, terrible and strong, his great iron teeth diverse from any other which arises and devours much flesh is radicalism. It is diverse from any other known world power in that it does not confine itself within geographical boundaries. Seeks no national existence, but is an internationalism, honeycombing every nation on the face of the earth, threatening the down fall of every nation, and the overthrow of this civilization. This last power is represented by John the Revelator as the Scarlet colored beast, the red or radical power. This mighty beast terrible and strong will precipitate the time of trouble, hurl us into the midnight hour, and open the day of wrath and God's judgments upon the earth, when the Bible declares that "with fire and sword will I plead with all flesh and they will be neither gathered nor buried but will be as dung upon the face of the earth." (the reader will refer to the January number for a more complete description of this period.)

John the Revelator saw the opening of six seals, whatever other significance prophetic teachers may find in the opening of these seals, I believe they cover the time from when the Lord went away until He comes again. The opening of the first seal with the white horse and his rider to me corresponds to the Apostolic age, with white representing purity and

the horse representing power, and the rider with crown and bow and arrow in conquering power, a mighty warrior. The power of the Apostolic ministry was not in their great business ability or mental Acumen so highly prized by modern ministers, but in the wondrous message, the continuation of the truth and power of the ministry of Christ. For 500 years the sick were healed, devils were cast out, the dead were raised, and the people spoke in other tongues, while all missionaries entering foreign countries spoke in the language of the natives as a result of the continuation of the Pentecostal power. But terrible persecution and martyrdoms accompanied them all along the way. I maintain my brethren that we will never have a restoration of complete Apostolic faith and power until we are willing to suffer the same persecution and martyrdoms of the early church. The whole tendency of Full Gospel movements today is to so ease up on the eternal truth of God so as to become popular. I maintain that the restoration of Apostolic faith and power will bring back all the Evangelistic power of the early church, but with it, we must be willing to have the same persecutions. After 500 years of conquering power there came in the red horse, a period of blood, they should kill one another, thus entered the dark ages, and the slaughter of millions over religion, continued for one thousand years, until the discovery and settlement of America, when there came in the black horse whose rider had a pair of balances and the age of reason was ushered in and with the signing of the American constitution there opened an era in which every one was permitted to judge, weigh in the balance and decide for themselves what they would believe. This continued until 1888, 1892 when the pale horse and his rider came in, in spite of all arguments to the contrary, the world then reached its highest point of attainment. The acme of our civilization. And from that date there has been a mad, wild, insane rush. Backward and downward financially, socially, politically and religiously, which will shortly end in chaos and anarchy. The pale horse and his rider has produced a bloody period of war. Don Pedro was overthrown in Brazil, a Revolution in Chile, war between Greece and Turkey, England and the Boohrs, Spain and her colonies, China and Japan, Russia and Japan, the Balkan States, and then the

most atrocious savage war of the ages, the late war with Germany. Starvations and famines have swept the world. Pestilences like the La Grippe and the Flue, the White Plague, Consumption, etc., leaving in its wake the most helpless wreckage upon the shores of time.

A statement in the daily papers last week, made by a noted physician who said that twenty million died as the result of the flu epidemic while over eleven million were killed in the war.

The beasts of the earth spoken of during the period of the pale horse and his rider are the nations represented by beasts, with worlds wars and conflicts, the fourth seal rushes us headlong into the sixth seal into the time of anarchy, the overthrow of nations, the downfall of this civilization with a conclave of the planets, precipitating the stars of heaven, rolling the mountains in the valley and sloughing the Islands in the sea. The fifth seal does not cover any special period of time, but represents the closing days of the fourth seal and the opening days of the sixth seal, when radicalism will sweep the world, and many thousands of christians who are not worthy to be caught up to meet the Lord in the air will be slaughtered for their religion. Their souls are represented as under the altar crying out to God for vengeance upon those upon the face of the earth, white robes are given to them, they are told to rest for a short period until their brethern should be killed in like manner as they were, would be fulfilled. This refers to the great host who will be worn out and martyred during the reign of Anti Christ in the closing days of this age. During the closing seal of this age when the sun shall be darkened and the moon turned to blood and the stars of heaven fall and the mountains be removed out of their place and the opening of the great day of wrath just preceeding the return of the Lord, many people have said to me, "this will never come to pass," but the worlds astronomers declare that the stars of heaven have finished their course, that their influence one upon another will shortly precipitate many of them from their orbits. And astronomers freely predict the end of the world, but we know according to the scripture that it will only be a change of conditions bringing about the millenial conditions when there will be no burning heat or bitter cold. The scientists of the world declare

that we have entered a seismic period when earthquakes will increase until the whole surface of the earth will be shaken, thus my friends we can be fully assured that we will shortly see the opening of the sixth seal and the end of this age.

The message to the seven churches in Asia fitted their then spiritual condition, six of them had back slidden and the seven had left her first love which she was ordered to return to or suffer the loss of the candle stick out of her church. While these messages fitted the churches of those days they are also arranged to fit the seven periods of church history from the time the Lord went away until He comes again. The Ephesian church represented the Apostolic period and so on down through the ages, until we reached the church of Thyatira which properly fits the modern fashionable wordly adulterous churches, who have committed adultery with the world, the flesh and the devil. Of whom Christ says if they do not repent He will take them and commit them with all that do commit adultery into the great tribulation. Thus foretelling the utter downfall of Babylon.—Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots, is the Roman Catholic church, her daughters are the Protestant churches and all the little organized systems, greed bound institutions of our day. John the Revelator gives us a prophetic picture of the time when the whole system of organized churchanity will go down in an hour. During the time of anarchy which will shortly cover the earth, not only the governments, lodges and unions go to pieces, but all church systems will be utterly destroyed and everything in heaven and earth will be shaken and only that which can not be shaken will remain, and the only thing the Bible teaches cannot be shaken will be that wise man who built his house on the rock. Brethern, in this day it does not matter what church or organization you belong to or whether you belong to any, the thing that should concern you is whether or not the character and life of Christ is wrought out in you and that your names are written in the Lambs book of Life. Following this Thyatira period of wordly churchanity the church periods are of short duration as all prophetic periods shorten towards the close of the age. The world moves much faster than in former years, all prophetic teachers agree that we are now living in the

period of the Laodicean church or the last church period of this age. When Christ recognized the condition a tremendous amount of works but mighty little faith, and because they were neither cold or hot He would spue them out of his mouth. (Another prophecy representing the downfall of all church systems.) Nothing could more clearly portray the condition of the churches today who boast that they are rich and have need of nothing, of immense church holdings, of wonderful colleges and universities, of great hospitals, (here the sick are slaughtered and killed instead of healed in the name of Jesus.) Of the immense holdings of the membership, of the tremendous salary paid their hireling salary, grabbing professional evolutionary modernistic preachers. But Christ says instead, that they are poor, and needy and blind and naked. What of? Why the essential things that pertain to real salvation, and Bible christians. So He councils the church of today to buy of Him gold, tried in the fire, this represents old time religion, it has carried many a soul through life in victory and power and proved real gold in all their firey trials. And white raiment that thou mayest be clothed, that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear. This represents the spiritual nakedness of modern churchanity. Their profession without possession. The world can see so little of reality in the lives of modern professed christians that the shame of their nakedness apparent to all observing sinners is doing more to keep the world from God than all the rest of the things that entice sinners put together. This beautiful white linen we are asked to clothe ourselves in to me represents the grace of sanctification and then we are exhorted to annoint our eyes with eyesalve, which represents the beautiful infilling of the Holy Ghost, bringing light, knowledge and illumination of God's messages from the very heart of God Himself. Not only is Jesus standing at the worlds door knocking, Coming very soon, but He is represented in the lesson as standing knocking at the heart door of every child of God, seeking entrance. Oh you poor half starved hungry or dead backslidden professors, if you would just open your hearts door, Christ would come in, in all His fullness and you would enjoy a feast of fat things the year around and an evergreen experience and the joys of a full salvation, that would not

only save you from all sin, but heal you from all diseases and lift you from wretchedness poverty, distress and want. We are truly living in the last church period of this age. Before the glorious advent of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jesus said upon one occasion that He called them into the vineyard in the first hour, the third hour, the sixth, ninth and eleventh hour and to each He gave a penny. On quoting this sometime ago a member of the union said to me, "That is most unfair, that a person should labor 12 hours and receive only a penny while another receives a penny for only one hour of labor." I laughed and told him that it had no reference to a scale of wages, that this represented the time from when the Lord went away until He came again. That the first hour represents the call of the Apostolic church to whom Jesus committed the teaching of the Gospel, and that the penny represented that we, in the eleventh hour can have the penny too, which represents the fulness of the gospel. That we can have all the gifts and graces and the power that they had in the first hour, that the first shall be last and the last shall be first, and that they without us cannot be perfect and we without them cannot be perfect. Following the glorious message committed to the early church by the Lord Jesus Christ, there came a falling away, then the third hour struck and the great Armenian revival sought to bring back the church to the power of primitive christianity, then came the period of Catholic dominance and spiritual darkness, and the sixth hour struck, then Martin Luther stepped from a Catholic monestary, was marvelously converted of God, and sought again the restoration of apostolic faith and power. Marvelous healings and the actual resurrection from death of Malanchon his traveling companion followed the preaching of Luther. After a period of great spiritual life and another decadence, the ninth hour struck, and John Wesley, the mighty apostle of holiness whose preaching spread the flames of full salvation, healing and holiness. John Wesleys journals are replete with marvelous cases of healings. His teaching of holiness following a definite work of grace sanctification still remains a blessing to multiplied hosts of christians. After a worlds wave of spiritual life and power their came another decadence, and the rise of

our modern worldly churches, when suddenly the eleventh hour struck, and the Moody revivals, the Salvation Army the Holiness movements opened with a great awakening of spiritual life and power. Following these came the healing movements, then the Pentecostal movements, thus restoring the church as John Wesley freely predicted to all the gifts and graces of the early church, of whom Alexander Campbell said that he expected the Christian church to rise in all the gifts and graces of the early church. The German war opened the midnight hour, the eleventh hour is ending, the door of mercy is closing (all prophetic periods overlap each other) while we are ending the eleventh hour the midnight hour is already begun. Very shortly without warning the eleventh hour will absolutely close, the real saints of God ascend into the clouds to meet the Lord, the Jews will flee to Palestine. The seventieth week of Daniel opens, representing the last seven years of this age during which time no one will be saved. If we do anything for God without money or time we ought to be up and about our Master's business, for shortly when the nations fall our property rights and money values will cease to be ours to use. Don't spend too much when building churches or tabernacles on needless ornamentation and architectural beauty. Build only such large and commodious buildings as are necessary to keep the light and truth of God flashing out to the multitudes. For there remains to us but a very short period to spread the highway and hedge truths, and then this age will close. We ought to continuously ring in our hearts", work for the night is coming, when man's work is done."

Upon another occasion I heard Jesus saying, "Who knows whether I will come in the first watch, second watch, third watch or the fourth watch, or the evening, the midnight, the cock-crowing or the morning? This again represents the time from when the Lord went away until He comes again. From time that the sun set on Calvary on a sea of blood until the sun of righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings. In the dawn of the great Sabbath thousand years. When the light of the sun went down on Calvary, the Apostles kept the light of that sun like a twilight, burning in this old world for 500 years. The Jews had the night divided into four watches, from six to nine, nine to twelve, twelve to three and three

to six, so that with the opening of the second watch at the ninth hour there came in the midnight or the dark ages, and a period of blackness, which was followed by the third watch or the cock-crowing period. This represents the glorious days of the reformers. Huss and Jerome, Luther, Calvin, Knox, Fox and Wesley. These were the great cocks that crowed in the blackness of the night. They were game, not afraid of anything. They set all the roosters in Rome crowing with their burning message of life and liberty. Thus we see that Christ did not come in the first watch or the second watch or the third watch and it is now the fourth watch of the night and dawning toward the day. Oh, but some one of you might say, "Brother Parham, you have just said we are entering the midnight hour," and so I did, we yet have that proverbial darkest hour before the day. The world is to feel the terror of judgment, retribution and reaping what they have sown, and then through the blackness and the darkness, the son of righteousness will bring in all the effulgent glory of the millennial day. The day star has arisen in the east and the silver rays of light betoken the rise of the son of righteousness, with healing in His wings and all the world stands as scriptures have said, with their hands on their hips on tiptoe, looking for the things that are coming upon the earth, and all stricken statesmen are appaled at the storm that threatens the ships of State and terror fills the hearts of many who gaze into the future. We who believe in this glorious teaching of premillennialism standing with bated breath, shining faces fuller proof of the Soon coming of the Lord.

Let me paint for you a picture of the Coming of our Lord. The scene is about evening time, the Master is very weary with His labors. His disciples solicitous toward His welfare, with words of earnest entreaty are leading Him away up the side of the mountain to find some place where they may rest in seclusion. But suddenly the great Shepherd casts His eyes over the valleys below, and here and there from villages and hamlets He notes the merging crowd of people, He knows they seek Him, He knows they desire the loaves and fishes, but the great heart of the Master goes out, and stopping He cries to His disciples, "They are as sheep having no shepherd," tears fill His eyes and kindly sympathy ever spreads

His features in spite of all their entreaties He refuses to go further. Those crowds of people are now converging on the plains below, He waits until the great wave of suffering sin sick humanity roll up the side of the mountain and break sobbing at His feet, He heals the sick, comforts the sorrowing, and feeds the multitude, and not until then does He seek His own rest. The disciples take shipping, rowing all night, accomplishing little or nothing, but in the morning, in the fourth watch of the night, as it begins to dawn toward the day, Jesus comes to them walking upon the waves of the sea. Peter, the only one who had arisen early or seemed to be on watch, saw His coming and sought to arouse the other preachers regarding the Coming of the Lord, but sleeping and indifferent they said, "Oh Peter, that is just a spirit you are seeking to scare us," how similar to modern days when we who are waiting and watching have seen such incontrovertible proof of His coming and have tried to arouse the ministers of today regarding the imminent return of our Lord, and they, from their soft, easy professional pulpits hurl back at us the same statements, they say that all this is but our vain imaginings, that our Lord will not come for a million years, and that we are only seeking to frighten the world with our propoganda, etc., but Peter had a vision of the Coming of the Lord, it was irresistible his heart leaped for joy and in spite of the rolling waves representing the unsettled conditions of today, he said, "Lord, bid me come to thee," the Lord gave consent, but before he ventured out to meet the Lord he threw aside His outer garments, representing to me the fact that we must shed the world and the things of the world, and purify our lives or the best of us will not be ready to meet Him at His soon coming. Peter sank when he looked around about him as many of us do when we stop to look at others, but He was close enough to grasp the Lord, and together they came back to the boat. When they come aboard every angry wave was settled and they were immediately at their desired haven.

Now then let me give you the interpretation of my picture. Jesus feeding the five thousand represents the gospel He preached given to the world, the disciples entering the boat represents the church which has been rowing through all these two thousand years and now when the

nations ships are being rocked by awful storms, the church fails to see the coming of the Lord. After two thousand years the church has accomplished little or nothing, the heathen are nearly all heathen still. Two thirds of the so called christian nations do not go to church, and two thirds of those who go to church including the preachers are not converted, and the so called christian nations have just closed the most atrocious, savage barbaric war the world has ever known, yet we who are awake have arisen early and caught the gleam of the morning star, can see in all these things the Soon coming of the Lord. Shortly in the opening of the time of trouble we are going out to meet the Lord, then a little later we are coming back with Him to the battle of Armageddon and when He shall step into the affairs of this old world, destroying the militaristic forces at the battle of Armageddon, the waves of woe and misery and sin and war will cease, we will be immediately in our desired haven, the Devil will be bound a thousand years, and nations shall beat their swords into shears and their spears into pruning hooks and learn war no more. The curse shall be lifted and man dwelling under his own vine and fig tree safely, with none to make him afraid, earth shall keep her jubilee, Christ shall reign with His immortalized saints for a thousand years. Hail the day so long expected, Hail the years of full release, when the nations shall truly drink of the wine of liberty, and quaff from the cup of freedom.

SCIENCE MAKES FAITH IN GOD

Pasadena, Dec. 9.—Contrary to the erroneous popular belief that scientific studies tend to destroy belief in God, research in astronomy has unquestionably strengthened the faith of scientists that a Creator is directing the universe, Dr. Ferdinand Ellerman of the staff of the Mt. Wilson Observatory here, declared in an address today before the New Century Club.

NOTICE

Will all parties who correspond regularly with Brother Parham please sign their full name and address to letters.

Thank you kindly,

Dora E. Preston, Secretary.

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Be this our ambition and goal.

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EDITORIAL

This paper is the official organ of 100,000 Apostolic Faith believers who are firmly established in the following truths: Conviction for sins, followed by repentance to God and man; this results in a real conversion—thus conceived of God and made alive. To remain justified we seek, through entire consecration, sanctifying grace and thus enter a life of true holiness. In this grace of sanctification we teach deliverance from all disease, inbred and acquired, as well as the law of sin in our members, which enables us to live above disease as well as sin.

This paper is mailed to all free, especially the poor. All those who can give are expected at once and from time to time to give all they can to keep it going, spreading the original truths of the Pentecostal Apostolic Movements or latter rain work to all the world. This will mean that some will have to give into the hundreds to do this.

NEWS FROM CAMPAIGN AT IMMANUEL CHURCH, LOS ANGELES

Sometime ago I asked God to open up a place in Los Angeles where I could meet with my friends and hold a week's campaign of Bible study and teachings on the deeper things of God. My prayer was so wonderfully answered by the opening up of the beautiful little Immanuel Chapel on 41st Drive. The chapel is in charge of Sr. Jessie Stark, who although

having been in the Full Gospel work but three years has a fine work started in this community. We were invited to stay the second week and had a blessed time in the Thursday tarry meetings and evening Bible studies. Many of my old friends attended the meetings whom I have known for 25 and 30 years and the testimonies of the different ones who have so long enjoyed the wonderful salvation and keeping power of the Lord were of great benefit to all who attended. Communion services were held Sunday afternoon and we closed the campaign that night. May the Lord richly bless Immanuel Chapel and keep the good work going. After closing the evening service we all drove to the Midnight Mission to take charge of the services there from 10 p. m. until 12:30 a. m. The building was packed with poor unfortunates who were so eager to hear that there is a reality in salvation and healing. Many hands were raised for prayer for both soul and body, and that they might speedily find positions in the great city of Los Angeles where seemingly every man's hand is against them.

We start our next campaign in Burbank, Calif., at 6th and Olive streets.

We were called last Thursday morning to take charge of the funeral services of Phillip Adler young son of our Brother Adler of Burbank. We had a wonderful service and the Lord so graciously anointed the singers and gave me just the message for the occasion. Many of the high school boys were present, and a great crowd of friends and relatives attended. All hearts were melted together in unity and love, for the young man was a christian and had stated before his death that he was not afraid to die and would be so glad to go. It seemed the will of the Lord that many should be in attendance at the funeral who were interested in the campaign in Burbank and insisted that we come there immediately. A petition was circulated among the residents of Olive street who were all in favor of having our tent pitched there and seemed so anxious for the meeting to start. The city of Burbank is to furnish us seats for 1000 people free of charge to use as long as we like. So we are praying that God will work mightily in that community and that a revivalistic spirit will sweep thru that place and the surrounding towns. We have several offers here in Los Angeles but I do not feel at present that it is

the will of the Lord for me to stay longer. Numbers of places are calling for us. So pray that we will go just where the Lord needs us most.

Editor.

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This article, received through the Associated Press, came out on the front page of one of the leading newspapers of Los Angeles and corresponds greatly with what I have been preaching for years regarding the casting out of Devils, or Demonology and had many similar cases delivered. (Editor.)

About half of the so called afflictions of today are Demon possessions.

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 26, 1926.

DEVIL DRIVEN FROM WOMAN

Exorcism, the mediaeval rite for casting the devil from the body which was forbidden by Pope Innocent I except in extraordinary circumstances, has been successfully used in two cases here, it was announced today by Manager Bernard H. Traudt, vicar-general of the Milwaukee archdiocese and spokesman for Archbishop Sebastian G. Messmer.

The two persons who have been restored to normalcy are a young mechanic and a New York woman, both of whose names are withheld by Monsignor Traudt.

The ancient rite was performed by special permission granted by Archbishop Messmer to Father Theophilus, a Capuchin monk of Appleton, Wis., an itinerant missionary monk of the brown-cowled order.

The woman, cured after a 10 hours struggle with the devil in her body, still lies on a cot in St. Joseph's Hospital here, sane, but weak. Neither doctor nor nurse is permitted to approach her, and she is visited only by the monks from the monastery near by.

The woman in this case made public today is 40 years old and her arm had withered as the result of an infection of the finger. Coincident with the withering of the arm, the alleged possession by the devil began. After she had been brought to the hospital at the monk's request, four weeks of preparation, fasting and prayer, preceded the actual exorcism. The woman was conveyed to the hospital chapel, where the rite took place. The woman began to scream and rage, but she was overpowered and placed in front of the altar and mass said before the actual exorcism began. Four persons were required to hold the woman. A terrible

stanch emanated from her and her voice, normally shrill, became low, guttural, masculine. Questions asked her by the monk in Latin which she says she does not understand, were answered in English. The questions were: Who are you? I command you to tell me who you are. Beelzebub. How do you come to possess this woman? Malediction. When will you leave her? Two. Then the monk pronounced the ancient curse upon the devil contained in the ancient rite and commanded him to go back to hell. Pleadings burst from the woman's mouth in the guttural voice: "Don't send me back to hell, send me to some person or place upon earth but do not send me back to hell". Father Theophilus was firm, throughout the long forenoon and to the appointed hour of 2 o'clock he continued heaping anathema upon the devil and his commands that it depart. When the devil still refused to depart the monk chided it. "You are a maledicted liar Beelzebub, you promised to leave this woman at 2 o'clock and you have not done so." Shut up" was the retort. Father Josephat then added his exhortations, and the voice demanded that he "shut up" too. At 5:30 p. m. Father Theophilus said a small puff of what appeared to be black smoke was seen to arise from the woman's body she became limp but sank to her knees in prayer. Editor.

LUTHER BURBANK NOTED NATURALIST SAYS HE IS AN "INFIDEL"

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Great stir in the religious world caused by Luther Burbank, noted naturalist, who declares the word "infidel" harmless if properly used and stated that he was an infidel. Denounced dogmas. Editor.

San Francisco, Jan. 31, 1926—Associated Press night wire.

Luther Burbank, the noted horticulturist of Santa Rosa spoke as the pulpit guest at the First Congregational Church today and declared "the idea that a good God would send people to a burning hell is utterly damnable to me". The white haired horticulturist who recently announced that he was an "infidel", read his message from a prepared manuscript. "I love everybody! I love everything," I love humanity, it has been a constant delight during all my seventy seven years of life, and I love all the works of nature. "All plants, animals and man

are already in eternity traveling across the face of time, whence we know not, whither, who is able to tell"? Let us have one world at a time." "Let us read the Bible without the ill-fitting colored spectacles of theology, just as we read other books, using our own judgment and reason." "What does the Bible mean when it distinctly says, 'by their works ye shall know them?'" Works count for more than words with those who think clearly. "I nominated myself as an "infidel" as a challenge to thought for those who are asleep. The word is harmless if properly used." "Its stigma has been heaped upon by unthinking people who associate it with the bogie devil and his malicious works. The devil has never concerned me as I have always used my own conscience, not the dictum of any cult. If my words have awakened thought in narrow bigots and petrified hypocrites it will have done its appointed work."

"I love especially to look into the deep worshipful liquid eyes of Bonita, my dog, whose devotion is as profound and lasting as life itself. But better yet, I love to look into the fearless honest, trusting eyes of a child who so long has been by theologians conceived and born in sin and predestined at birth. Do you believe all our teachers without question? I cannot. We must prove all things and hold fast to that which is good."

The universal voice of science tells us that if we misuse this wonderful body, mind or the all-pervading spirit of good that the consequences fall upon ourselves here and now. Why not accept these plain facts and guide our lives accordingly," We must not be deceived by blind leaders of the blind calmly expecting to be "saved" by any one except by the kingdom within ourselves."

The truly honest and brave ones know that if saved it must be by their own efforts. The truth hurts for a while, as when an old useless tooth is removed but health and happiness may be restored by the painful removal of the disturbing member." The idea that a Good God would send people to a burning hell is utterly damnable to me. The ravings of insanity; supertition gone to seed. I don't want to have anything to do with such a God. I am a lover of man and Christ as a man and his work, and all things that help humanity, but nevertheless, just as he was an infidel then, I am an infidel

today. I prefer and claim the right to worship the infinite everlasting almighty God of this vast universe as revealed to us gradually step by step by the demonstrable truths of our savior science.

The road to honor is paved with thorns; but on the path to truth at every step you set your foot down on your own heart.

For the little soul that cries aloud for continued personal existence for itself and its beloved there is no help." For the soul which knows itself no more as a unit but as a part of the universal unity of which the beloved also is a part which feels within itself the throb of the universal life—for that soul there is no death."

The above article, has been used to show the general thought of the thinking people of today. They think of Jesus as a good man, but they know Him not as the Christ the son of God. Jesus is asking today, but whom say ye that I am? And as Peter answered it, so may we. Thou art the Christ the Son of the Living God. Jesus said, flesh and blood (head knowledge) has not revealed it unto you, but my Father which is in Heaven (by divine revelation of the Holy Ghost.)

Wherefore I give you to understand that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accured: And that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. 1 Cor. 12:3.

Let us earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jesus said these things have been hid from the wise and prudent and revealed unto babies. Let us who have tasted of the life of the divine Christ go forth bearing His reproach.

Orion, Mich.

Dear Ones in Christ:—

I feel I have not done enough for Jesus, He has done so much for me and I want others to know what He has done. Two years ago this April, my little girl Raydith then six years old, was very ill, and nearly died. She was so bad she turned cold and knew no one. She had closed her eyes, to the world, my heart was nearly broken. I sent for Sister Petty to come and pray for her. I still had faith and told her father, Jesus was the only one who could save her life. As Sister Petty was in prayer, God

spoke and said, the grave can not give me any praise, and in about an hour Raydith sat up in bed and turned to her father and said, "I am healed!" And she was healed and the next day was walking around the house. Last fall another wonderful healing, my baby, 13 months old was nearly dead, God showed me to go to Sister Petty again for prayer and God healed him. Now he is 8 months old and the picture of health. It is the Lord's work and I give Him the praise.

Myrtle Clasman.

Evangelist J. William Bostrum, of Springfield, Mo., held a successful revival meeting at Baxter Springs, Kan. God wonderfully blessed his messages to the people as he shunned not to declare the word of God with simplicity and power. About twenty were converted and five received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. It was a time of refreshing to many hungry hearts, as believers were encouraged and strengthened in the faith. Paul says, one plants another waters, but God gives the increase. To God we give the praise, and to Brother Bostrum we express our sincere appreciation of his faithful work for God here. Although he came to Baxter Springs almost a stranger, he now has many friends here and in the surrounding country, a good many of them attending the meeting that he is now holding at Galena, Kan.

Alvin, Texas.

Greetings in Jesus Name:

Will write you a few lines in regard to our meeting at Hanover, Texas. About fifteen were converted, and eleven were baptized with the Holy Spirit. We began meeting last Wednesday night at Gause, Texas, in the Nazarene church but the building won't seat the people. We ask all to pray that God will bless the meeting here.

Evangelist, T. H. Coulter.

REQUEST FOR PRAYER

I wish to ask an interest in the prayers of all the people for the healing of our little daughter, Carolyn Ann, who is afflicted with what the physicians pronounce T. B. of the spine. The Lord touched her body in answer to prayer and stopped her pain, which was so severe that she pulled her hair and screamed. For the last five weeks she hasn't seemed to

suffer very much, neither has she taken any medicine. The doctors say that she will have to lie in bed for two or three years, but we are trusting God for a real definite work of healing in her body. Dear reader, will you join us, in prayer, that if it be His will, God will raise her up, for His glory.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Purkhiser,
901 N. Hall St., Webb City, Mo.

Wawaka, Texas, Dec. 29, 1925.

Dear Brother Parham:

Greetings in Jesus name.

We enjoy the paper so much and it is real food for our souls. The Lord is blessing us and this has been the greatest year of our lives in working for our Master.

We hope and pray that the Lord is blessing and giving you souls for your hire.

We see many falling by the wayside, but Jesus said, "He that endureth unto the end the same shall be saved." Our hearts became sad when we see so many turning away the gospel of our Lord. Then we rejoice when we see the word of God fulfilled, and the signs coming to pass. We know it can't be long until our Lord shall come. We are looking forward to the year of 1926 to be a great year of gathering in of lost souls and the church of the living God rising to her privileges in the Lord. We are determined by the grace of our Lord to fight the battle harder, lifting high the blood stained banner of King Imanuel, and to not lay our armour down until we lay them at His feet and crown Him King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Praise His dear name forever. Pray for us while we pray for you. God bless you.

Your sisters in the battle,

Beulah and Joe Thompson.

Spearman, Texas, Jan. 12, 1926

Dear Brother Parham:

I shall send you some poems and pray that God will use them to His glory. I passed my fifteenth birthday a few days ago. I surely do praise God for what he is doing for me.

Brother Robert Girard is holding a meeting here now. God has mightily anointed him, and His power is felt in the meetings. Two have been saved so far, but many others are under conviction and have asked for our prayers. It surely is a wonderful meeting, and we expect to see many saved, others sanctified,

and I expect to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit before it closes. As I was seeking the Holy Spirit, a few days ago, Sister May Faus spoke to me in another language. It made me feel that indeed God was near. She has since prayed and sang in another language. Brother Robert also prayed several times in another language. It was really his speaking in tongues and Mrs. Pettit's receiving the Holy Spirit that opened my heart to receive the Gospel in its fullness. That was during Brother Ditto's meeting at Wawaka last summer. Pray for us here, the messages are going out in mighty power but still the tempter is keeping, or trying to keep people from coming to Christ.

Will you please send us your paper for the year 1926, we enjoy reading it so much.

Asking your prayers for souls at this place, I am, Yours in Christ.

Nova Schubert.

Lake Elsinore, Calif.

The first week of school our English teacher announced that we were going to have a written theme. It was to be on the "Happiest day of my vacation". That was just what I had been wanting to tell, the time when I came to know my blessed Savior, praise the Lord. It was indeed the happiest day of my life, so I wrote about it thinking it would be a good way to let the teacher know I was really saved. But I think God had it planned different. For when the day came I was called on to read my theme to the class. Satan certainly tried to make me back out. How I had to fight to keep from saying, "I am not prepared." But "Prayer changes things." And I kept praying as I walked to the front of the room.

I read it as best I could and though it was very simple I know the Lord blessed the words.

Perhaps it brought a message to some one that day. Every one was quiet and no one (not even the teacher) had any corrections to make. If I wrote ten hundred themes I could never tell half of my happiness. "It is joy unspeakable and full of glory." Best of all it increases day by day. This is a straight and narrow road, but "Oh how bright". Praise God. There is nothing to a life of sin.

Surely "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ."

I thank God because he picked me up and

showed me the light. My only desire is to be a soul winner for Jesus. May the good Lord bless you all.

Faithfully yours, in the battle for our King.

Ora Simmons.

Wawaka, Texas, Dec. 22, 1925

Dear old Dad: Peace to thee be multiplied. This leaves us enjoying the blessing of the Lord and still in the battle. Have had some real good meetings. God has blessed us in a wonderful way, but as we close this year am making a deeper consecration to God and to work harder for the salvation of souls this coming year.

Am expecting this year to bring us close to redemption. Pray for us that we may be a blessing to lost souls.

Wishing you and Fred a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year with love to you both.

Chester Jackson and wife.

Lovington, New Mexico, Jan. 5, 1926

Dear Brother Parham:

Greetings in Jesus name, and a gracious outpouring of Gods blessings on you for the year 1926. Mack Wyatts meeting at Lovington was a great success. Twenty or twenty five were saved.

I am still doing ranch work and preaching every opportunity. I have found that God has a place for me to preach and pray as I work with folks that need God, and even as I go from place to place I find sick folks that are glad to have you plead their case before God.

One man was saved in Mack's meeting that said he began to realize his need of God five years ago as I rode along with him behind a herd and told him the power of God to save and forgive from sin. O how I thank God for answering prayer.

I've had an invitation to go to Portales, New Mexico, to hold a meeting for the Pentecostal folks, so I wrote them that I preached Sanctification as a second definite work of grace wrought by the blood of Christ, and if they could stand it I was ready to come.

We have a fine lot of saved boys here, 14 and 15 years old that have all the grown ups beat for praying and working for God. We have had the best of health all this winter and God has prospered all the efforts we have set forth both in the salvation of souls and healing

the sick, and in the labor of our own hands. So I have the more to praise God for the beginning of 1926 than at any year before now.

Yours very truly,
H. L. Watkins and family.

Albuquerque, N. M., Jan. 14, 1926

Dear Brother in Christ:

Your letter came today and was such an inspiration to me. It seems that when the enemy is strongest and tries me most, one of your papers or a letter comes along to give me new courage. Sometimes it seems I am fighting a losing battle and I do get discouraged, but my dear Saviour knows just when to send me help.

We are so glad to hear of the wonderful success you are having in your meetings and we pray that God will spare you to continue this work, and that He will provide for the paper as we are sure it is filling a long felt need in peoples hearts. Oh that we had more spirit filled preachers in the world today who were not afraid to stand for Jesus and truth. A good old fashioned, practical, religion is what this sin sick world needs.

I have been impressed of late to send you an account of a vision I had not long ago. I have many friends whom I love dearly who are members of a local church here, one of the largest in town. I had been very much worried about what seemed to me "worldliness" in this church and one Sunday evening when they were putting on an especially "worldly" program I thought, I sat at home thinking over things. I had spent sometime in prayer and meditation when this church came before my vision. It was filled to overflowing, not a vacant seat anywhere. I saw a well dressed man of the world coming down the aisle going to the front of the church. He had a sneer on his face and I thought, "He is the Anti Christ". Then the scene changed—just outside the church door standing all alone was Jesus; with such a sorrowful look on his dear face. The thought came to me. "There is no room inside for Jesus". Dear ones, this vision has impressed me a great deal. Can it be that there is no room inside the modern church today for Jesus? I fear this is all too true. It is as Paul says in Romans, according as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see and ears that they should not hear, unto this day.

When they hear of a wonderful healing they are ready to believe it is one of Satan's deceptive miracles. They are afraid to give God the glory, when He is so patient and loving toward a stubborn and perverse generation.

Please pray for me that I may receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. I love to read of the wonderful power of God in healing so many people everywhere in these last days, and I think continually on the soon Coming of the Lord. In my weak way I try to interest others in this great event, but so many turn a deaf ear to it all. We can only pray for them.

Mrs. D. G. Darrah.

Wyandotte, Okla., Jan. 24, 1926

Dear Ones in Christ:

I want to thank our Lord Jesus for hearing prayer for me in the time of my great need, for truly I was very sick with flu and I suppose pneumonia for my lungs were very sore and fever very high. I felt that truly I had passed into the valley of the shadow, so did others, they sent Brother Parham a telegram to Compton, Calif., and one to Wm. Bacon, (my son) at Houston, Texas, and called Sister Parham on phone, and wrote Brother Walls and then Sister Daley, Sister Martin and Brother and Sister Batchelder were holding on for me here at home. About the time they were all in prayer for me the fever left. My lungs were not sore any more and the healing began from that moment. I have realized that the healing would have been more speedy had I been more patient. The word said, to be patient in affliction, in tribulation, and I have so earnestly desired the grace of patience and really humbling myself under the mighty hand of God. But through lack of vigilance the devil as a roaring lion came in, in a sweeping flood and I missed the opportunity of letting patience have her perfect work. O' that I might be more like the Christ, patiently enduring all things, knowing that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord. I want to thank the Lord for his tender love and mercy to me and to thank all the brothers and sisters who stood by me in my hour in Gethsemane, when I must say and did say Lord thy will not mine be done. Seeing Redemption at hand.

Your sister in Him,

Mrs. F. M. Stoner.

In the 19th chapter of St. Lukes Gospel we read of a blind man who sat by the way side begging, and hearing an unusual commotion, asked what it meant, and was told that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. He at once started a prayer meeting much to the disgust of the dignified leaders, for the word says, "And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace, but he cried so much the more, Thou Son of David have mercy on me". It has been on record 2000 years that Christ said, "Receive thy sight: thy faith hath made thee whole." Yet we must pray above the din of unbelief of some religious leaders today who would hinder in place of help us to contend for the faith once delivered to the Saints. Some will insinuate that we seek healing to dodge the Grim Monster or that we fear death, but that is not the idea at all. We seek the divine healing touch because we have a God given right to our inheritance purchased on calvary. We love life and have a right to, for He is the Way the Truth and the Life. He came that we might have more abundant life, for us to live is Christ. When Christ who is our life shall appear then shall we appear with Him in glory. The first commandment with promise held out length of days as a reward to work for. Ex. 20: 12. In giving up the fight we may leave foot prints on the sands of time but we have made our last foot print, we have fought our last battle, we cannot take another broadside at satans strongholds, cannot go again into the whole world to preach the Gospel to every creature or even "stay by the stuff." Of course we know that Jesus holds the keys of death and hell, but we know too that for failing to discern the Lords Body many are sickly and many sleep. If the Heavens must receive Christ until the restitution of all things which God hath spoken by His Holy prophets since the world began, we can help bring Him back by helping to restore the All Things. Tho the way is not popular it will surely lead Home. Friends will desert us and at times we seem to have more than the "50 miles of elbow room" but there is one who said "I will never leave or forsake you." So with Heavens best on our side who can really be against us? Remembering that all things work together for good for them that love the Lord. Lets "journey on".

Mrs. J. M. Smith,
821 W. Locust, Eldorado, Kansas.

Dear Friends Everywhere:

I wish to tell you of my experience in the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Up until the last six months, the idea of the Pentecostal Blessing was entirely foreign to me, as I was branded as a Gospel Trumpet Holliness, there was no Baptism of the Holy Spirit, only in Sanctification.

I sought for this blessing two weeks, earnestly, but not until a day before it came upon me, did I really understand it clearly. We had a tarry meeting Jan. 21st, and as the people gathered about me to pray, as I requested, I soon began to speak in other languages as the Second Chapter of Acts records. It is truly a wonderful blessing.

I ask an interest in all your prayers, that I may be a living example before men, that they may glorify my Father which is in Heaven. Praise the Lord.

Bennie Stanberry.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Taylor, Norwich, Kan., announce the birth of Francis Rozenia, born January 5th 1926, weight 7 pounds.

"HE KNOWETH OUR FRAME"

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him. For He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust." Psa. 103; 13, 14.

O wondrous thought, so full of consolation,
When pressed with pain and overwhelming
woe,

That He, the God and author of creation,
Doth every fiber of our being know.

He planned and wrought our fearful mechanism,

United it with spirit and with soul;
And tempered all together, that no schism
Should mar the perfect union of the whole.

He knows our frame: each muscle, joint and bearing,

Was fashioned from a heavenly design,
And for each member He so much was caring
He wrote it in His book with Hand divine.

We stumble, grope and faint, with hearts despairing,

And sadly fail His tender love to trust;
 Yet, for us still, He faithfully is caring,
 'He knows our frame, remembers we are dust.

Oh, lift us, Lord, up to the heights of blessing,
 Into a heavenly atmosphere so clear,
 That pains and trials, howsoe'er distressing,
 Can never cause our hearts to faint with fear.

Quicken our broken bodies by Thy Spirit,
 And clear our tear-blind eyes to plainly see
 That Christ's atoning sacrifice hath merit,
 From sickness, as well as sin to free.

That we may honor Thee in our whole being
 As 'neath the shadow of Thy wings we trust;
 Secure and sure in Thy compassion, seeing
 Thou knowest our frame, rememberest we
 are dust.

—Emma Varney Robinson.

La Habra, Cal.

ALONE

It is human to stand with the crowd, it is divine to stand alone. It is man-like to follow the people, to drift with the tide; it is God-like to follow a principle, to stem the tide.

It is natural to compromise conscience and follow the social and religious fashion for the sake of gain or pleasure; it is divine to sacrifice both on the altar of truth and duty.

"No man stood with me, but all men forsook me," wrote the battle-scarred apostle in describing his first appearance before Nero to answer for his life for believing and teaching contrary to the Roman world.

Truth has been out of fashion since man changed his robe of fadeless light for a garment of faded leaves.

Noah built and voyaged alone. His neighbors laughed at his strangeness and perished in style.

Abraham wandered and worshiped alone. Sodomites smiled at the simple shepherd, followed the fashion, and fed the flames.

Daniel dined and prayed alone. Elijah sacrificed and witnessed alone. Jeremiah prophesied and wept alone. Jesus loved and died alone.

And of the lonely way His disciples should walk He said: "Straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life and few there be that find it."

Of their treatment by the many who walk in the broad way, He said: "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, therefore the world hateth you."

The Church of the wilderness praised Abraham and persecuted Moses. The Church of the Kings praised Moses and persecuted the prophets.

The Church of Caiaphas praised the prophets and persecuted Jesus. The Church of the Popes praised the Savior and persecuted the saints. And multitudes now, both in the Church and the world, applaud the courage and fortitude of the patriarchs and prophets, the apostles and martyrs, but condemn as stubbornness or foolishness like faithfulness today.

Wanted, today, men and women, young and old, who will obey their convictions of truth and duty at the cost of fortune and friends and life itself.—Selected.

Crime is alarmingly on the increase among boys and girls. In America last year 60,000 boys and 15,000 girls, under sixteen, were sent to jails and reform schools. Almost half a million American boys run away from home or break away from their parents' control every year, and 60,000 American girls go into white slavery. The moving picture shows and bad reading are great causes of degradation among thousands of young people.

Disobedience to parents is one of the great sins of the last days—and not only the sin of the child but of the parent. Instead of the children obeying the parents the parents obey the children. The reverence for the parent is almost a thing of the past. There is a spirit of rebellion at discipline and government. It is a fulfillment of the prophecy of the last days. (11 Tim, 3:2.)

Parents are saying, "I cannot control my child." If parents would live according to the Word of God, they would bring the child into subjection, and God would cause the child to be obedient. Except you control your child, you will send its soul to hell; for the will of the parent stands in the place of God to the child. (Prov. 23:13, 14.) God said of Eli, "I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not."

Teach your child the Word of God, as He commands every parent to do. It is a sacred thing to raise a child. You are responsible to do everything you can to save the soul of that child, that will spend eternity in Heaven or hell.

The family altars are becoming a thing of the past. No more the family prayer, the Bible, the Gospel songs; but in their place is heard the rebellious utterances of the child, the bad reading matter and the jazz songs of worldiness; and the child grows up without reverence or knowledge of the law of God.

A judge says: "Thousands of American children are being raised without any Christian teaching whatsoever, without even being told that the ten commandments are the basis of all successful living, the standard of conduct to which they will have to conform out in the world." It is a tremendous factor in the ruin of the rising generation, and obedience of the Word of God is the only hope. Selected.

A PRAYER WITH A PUNCH

Chaplain J. R. Rader, of the Colorado House of Representatives, was censured by that body recently for speaking too plainly in one of his opening prayers. The following are the exact words uttered by Rev. Rader:

"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit; saith the Lord of Hosts. We fear our nation has ruled God out of its reckoning. We are building our barns larger, and storing our goods for many days and saying to our souls, 'eat and be merry' while Lazarus still sits at our gates unfed. Our farmer, on whom we depend for bread and butter, is facing bankruptcy while the middleman waxes fatter and fatter. Our firesides are being deserted, while our immoral picture shows are crowded with our young people. Many of our churches are converted into social clubs, and many of our ministers have crowded Christ out of the pulpit and are giving the people literary essays for the gospel. We have pushed Christ to the back, and have pressed on His brow a crown of greed, and crucified Him on a cross of gold. Many of our courts are corrupted and many of our officers are being bribed. Oh, Lord, help us to get back to the days of old and acknowledge our Lord as our Leader. Amen."

Chaplain Rader was admitted into the St. Louis Conference at Carthage, Mo., in the

spring of 1881. It was there he attended the first annual conference and saw his first bishop. He came from Ohio in 1880 with Rev. C. V. Criss.

'BAREFOOT BOY' FINDS RIVAL

(Exclusive Dispatch)

Sacramento, Dec. 11.—A mysterious California bard, who apparently is not in sympathy with the styles and habits of the present-day flapper, today submitted anonymously to the State Department of Education a parody on Whittier's famous "Barefoot Boy," suggesting that it be printed in the school textbooks "to meet present conditions." The poem follows:

"Blessings on thee, little dame, bare of neck
and knees the same;
With thy rolled down silken hose, and thy thin
transparent clothes;
With thy pretty made-up face, and thy bobbed
hair's jaunty grace;
With thy red lips reddened more with thy lip
stick from the store.
With all my heart I give thee joy,
Thank the Lord I was born a boy."

THE STUFF

The test of a man is the fight he makes,
The grit that he daily shows;
The way he stands on his feet and takes
Fate's numerous bumps and blows.
A coward can smile, when there's naught to
fear—

When nothing his progress bars;
But it takes a man to stand up and cheer,
When some other fellow stars.

It isn't the victory, after all,
But the fight that a brother makes;
The man, who, driven against the wall,
Still stands up erect and takes
The blows of fate with his head held high,
Is the man who'll win in the by and by—
For he isn't afraid to fail.

It's the bumps you get and the jolts you get,
And the shocks your courage stands;
That hours of sorrow and vain regret,
The prize that escapes your hands,
That test of your mettle and prove your worth.
It isn't the blows you deal,
But the blows you take on the good old earth,
That show if your stuff is real.

—Contributed.

TIME IS SHORT

By W. Bacon

We are living today in thrilling times, days of the Anguish of the Birth-throes of a New Creation. History is making fast. There are times in history, when the world spins so smoothly along, that centuries slip by without any great events taking place. There are also times when this old world of ours runs along at a giddy pace, covering the track of centuries in a year of two. This condition prevails now.

The last ten to fifteen years has been the most eventful period known to human history. No man living before this present century could expect to see many great changes during his own short lifetime.

We have reached the closing days of the "Times of the Gentiles" and the fulfillment of scripture relating to the end of this age.

God is doing a short work, and the very conditions we see in the world are forewarnings and indications of the coming of the Lord and redemption. By the things which are taking place around us, God would give us warnings of still greater events that are soon coming. So as children of light we might prepare our hearts and soul for the soon coming rapture. While the outlook for the world is very dark, the uplook of the faithful saints is very bright. For by faith we can see the day Star of hope Arise. "The Christ of God" who will usher in the brighter day, and new World we are so longing for.

We are seeing today the exact fulfillment of what the prophets of God centuries ago foretold would take place. Prophecy is history unfolded, not only Jewish history, "The Fig Tree" but also Gentile history, "All The Trees". Lu. 21.29.30. The history of all nations is nothing more or less than an unfolding of prophecy. God knows the end from the beginning. Prophecy is history predicted. The sure word of prophecy is predicted history fulfilled according to the divine Word of God. Events accurately and actually fulfilled in history. II Peter 1.19. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place. The world in its present state is a dark place; but the Word of God is the light that shineth and like Jesus was and is, "The light that shineth in darkness and the darkness compre-

hended it not." Millions of Bibles and Testaments are in the world; yet the world does not know the truth; and does not comprehend the message. The god of this world "Satan" hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest, the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. II Cor. 4.4.

Thank God for a believing heart and that His word is a "Lamp to our feet and a light to our path". Psa. 119.105.

The Bible is the only book that tells the history of the world, from the beginning to the end. Past, present and future. Therefore taking the sure word of prophecy I would endeavor to make plain some astounding facts about the times we are now living in.

Not Dogmatic

I do not wish to impart the idea that I am setting the date for the coming of the Lord, or the rapture, I am not. There is no date or time set in the word of God referring to the rapture or catching up of the "called out or heavenly people". But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no not the Angels of Heaven, but my Father only. Matt. 24.36. We are commanded to watch. Matt. 24.42. Matt. 25.13. Also to watch and pray. Mark 13.13. Lu. 21.36. We are to have our lights burning. Lu. 12.35 and wait for our Lord's return. Lu. 12.36. We are commanded to be ready. Matt. 24.44. Lu. 12.40.

The undated return of our Lord has inspired the saints all down the years of time, to constantly look for it and with a heart full of expectancy. Watch for his return.

Peter

The Apostles in part knew that the return of Christ was in some future time. Peter speaking to the people on Solomons porch, said, "And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you." Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his Holy prophets since the world began. Acts 3.20.21.

Peter had made a study of the words of the holy prophets. II Peter 3.2. He knew about the destruction of the world by water. II Peter 3.6. He knew that the present world was reserved unto fire. II Peter 3.7. He knew that Jesus would return as a thief in the night. II Peter 3.19. He knew of the new Heavens

and new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. II Peter 3.13. The reign of Christ on this earth. He also had an insight into the word regarding the earth standing 6000 years and resting the 7th as God made the earth in six days and rested the seventh day. II Peter 3.8.

He speaks of the last days and the condition of men. II Peter 3.3.4. He exhorts us to be holy that we may be found of Jesus, in peace, without spot and blameless. II Peter 3.11.14. Peter knew that he would not live to see the Lord's return in the flesh. II Peter 1.13.14. St. John 21.18.19.

Paul

Next to John the Revelator, Paul gives us the best insight in prophecy and the return of Christ, in the new Testament.

In speaking of the rapture and the gathering together of the saints unto Jesus. He tells the Thessalonians, not to be shaken in mind, troubled by spirit, word or letter, as that the coming of Jesus was right at hand and certain events must happen before the rapture could take place. II Thess. 2:1.2.

1st. A falling away from the faith and the word of God must first come. II Thess. 2:3. I will not try to picture past conditions, but take them just as they are today. We are right now in the falling away time. Christianity has lost its hold on the masses of the people. The church must not allow herself to be deceived by material prosperity. The only eternal worth is the strength and hold that the religion of Jesus Christ has on the spiritual nature of the average man.

The church has no leading hold on humanity today. Worldliness continues to grow within her ranks. Modernism, higher criticism and rationalism threaten havoc to what little faith remains. Multitudes still throng some churches. Rich men still make great gifts. Fine churches are still being built. The same elements are still being built. The same elements of destruction which has lowered society are making great inroads in the church.

In the early day of our many churches the forces of infidelity made their attack on the church from ambush. Now the enemy has entrenched himself within the church, high up in her councils. Christ is no longer regarded as the all-sufficient for the sins of mankind, by many so called christian teachers. His deity is denied. His miracles are regarded as fables.

His death and resurrection as tradition. He is counted divine only in the sense that he was a good man. The great foundation truths of the Gospel are set aside. In their place we hear today, social betterment reform movements, reconstruction, evolutionary and darvinian doctrines. Man, the creature, exalted above God. Pleasure lovers and worse than all having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof, from such turn away. II Tim. 3.15.

Thousands we are thankful to say, have not bowed their knees to Baal, but deplore the low state the church has fallen into and with hearts and hands eagerly reach out and cry, for a great spiritual revival to come. I feel the falling away is here, and we need to hold fast to the doctrine, and sound words of the good book, so no man can take our crown.

2nd. Paul speaks of the man of sin that should come. He is the Anti-Christ. II Thess. 2. 3-12. Paul knew he would be here at the coming of the Lord and would be destroyed with the brightness of his coming. This reference in II Thess., has the rapture or gathering of the saints which means the secret taking of the called out ones, in class with the man of sin and the revelation of personal visible return of the Lord. So in separating the two we may say, the gathering unto Christ is the Rapture or Redemption of our bodies and the coming of the Lord in judgment is the visible return with his saints to reign. The time between the two stages is not less than seven years and is occupied in the heavens by the giving of the rewards to the saints and the marriage of the Lamb, and on the earth will be the great tribulation.

Paul describes the rapture in detail. Jesus will come to make up his Jewels. The saints that are asleep in Jesus will rise first. This is the first resurrection and is twofold.

1st. The Resurrection of the "Dead in Christ".

2nd. The Translation of the "Living Saints". The saints that are alive and remain will be caught up together with the resurrected saints in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall they ever be with the Lord. I Thess. 4, 13-18.

In I Cor. 15. 51-57 Paul tells us the mystery, we shall not all sleep or die, but we shall all be changed, and the saints that are alive and remain and are "changed without dying" will be

the ones who can shout.

"O' death, where is thy Sting?"

"O' Grave, where is thy Victory?"

In II Cor. 5. 1-4 Paul expresses his longing and the longing of the saints, to be among those who should not be "unclothed" by death, but who should be "clothed upon" by immortality "without dying."

Paul expresses his hopes in Phil. 3, 11-14. He esteemed it a great thing to rise from the dead at the first resurrection, and be caught up with those who should be changed. But he would esteem it a "prize" if he could be caught up "without dying" that is, live until Jesus came back for his children.

But Paul knew he would not live in the flesh and be here for the rapture. So he gives us his last testimony, and of what a good one it was! II Tim. 4. 6,7,8. I am now ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. With all his heart and soul Paul did strive to be one who would be counted worthy to be caught up, but seeing it was beyond his grasp, he contents himself with the thought that there was a crown laid up for him and Jesus would give it to him when he did come in that day. He just sweetly turned it all over to the Lord and said, "I am ready" thy will be done. Oh' may we all be ready. The time of "that day" draweth nigh.

(To be continued)

A CALL OF PRAYER

Taken from a Sermon by Rev. Samuel Chadwick, Principal of Cliff College, England, and Editor of "Joyful News."

Watch and pray, ask and receive, seek and find, knock and it shall be opened unto you.

To live in the experience of constant "watching unto prayer" is one of the greatest achievements of the Christian life and such is the actual need of the day in which we live—the need to live in the constant spirit and habit of prayer. Matt. 7:7.

There are many other needs. There is the need of labourers and of funds, of wisdom and reform, but the need of prayer transcends them

all. If only the Church of Christ could be impelled to prayer, there would be an end of barrenness and failure.

It is the lack of prayer that lies at the root of all our troubles, and there is no remedy but in prayer.

The spirit of worldliness will never be broken by strong and fiery words of censure. The powerlessness of the Church cannot be cured by reproach. Spiritual destitution and moral laxity are the order of the day, but they will never be better, till prayer is restored to its true place in the organization of the Church and the habit of individual believers.

There is no substitute for prayer, but to prayer all things are possible. This is the truism of the Christian faith. Nobody denies it. All history confirms it. If only the people of God could be quickened into a passion for prayer, life would quicken, miracles would return, souls would be saved and coffers would overflow.

Why do we not set ourselves to prayer? The remedy is sure and simple, the need is urgent and acknowledged. Why is it so slow in getting to work? Mark 11:24.

1.—"Seek and ye shall find." The remedy is not so simple as it seems. The command to ask seems simple enough and the promise is to them that ask "If ye have not, it is because ye ask not." "Ask and receive." What could be simpler than that? And yet, the Scriptures speak of it as toil and labour. Prayer taxes all the resources of mind and heart. James 4:3.

Jesus Christ wrought many mighty works without any sign of effort. There was in His marvelous works the ease of omnipotence, but of His prayers it is said, "He offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears." There was no strain in healing diseases, raising the dead, and stilling the tempest; but in prayer there was agony and the sweat of blood.

All who have shared His intercession, have found it a travel of anguish. Great Saints have always been mighty in prayer and their triumphs have always been the outcome of pain. They wrestled in agony with breaking hearts and weeping eyes, until they were assured they had prevailed. Matt. 21:22.

Their experiences were seemingly strange but wonderful. They spent cold winter nights in prayer, they lay on the ground weeping, and

pleading, and came out of the conflict physically spent, but spiritually victorious. They wrestled with principalities and powers, contended with the world rulers of Satan's kingdom, and grappled with spiritual foes in the heavenly sphere.

Now-a-days in the open life of the Church, and in the fellowship of believers there is seemingly little power in prayer. There is a marked absence of travail. There is much phrasing, but little pleading. Prayer has become a soliloquy instead of a passion.

The powerlessness of the Church needs no other explanation, and the counsellors of the Church need seek no other cause. To be prayerless is to be both passionless and powerless.

2.—“Watch and Pray.” The New Testament links Watching with Prayer. Twice our Lord commanded His Disciples to “Watch and Pray.” They are to watch at every season, making supplication. The instruction is not to pray and watch, but to “Watch and Pray.” Matt. 26:41.

St. Paul exhorts the Colossians to “continue steadfastly in prayer, watching therein with thanksgiving,” and in the warfare against evil powers he instructs the Ephesians to be alert “with all prayer and supplication, praying at all seasons in the Spirit and watching thereunto in all perseverance and supplication.” Ephesians 6:18.

It is the watcher that prays and prevails. The command to watch is likened with the command to pray, and prayer is regulated by the exercise of watching. Peter slept while Jesus prayed, because he failed to watch.

Prayer is the only medium by which we can prevail in the Spirit world. The word of God reveals its mysteries; prayer lays hold of God and prevails.

Prayer seeks divine wisdom and awaits divine instruction. Prayer fails for lack of watching, Prayer turns thoughts into petitions, facts into arguments, and reasons into supplication, faith into sight, and prayer into praise.

3.—“The Blessing of Prayer.” Such prayer-life is absolutely simple, but it is by no means easy. The Devil sees to that. He sentinels the gateway of prayer. Andrew Bonar has left it on record that he never entered into a season of pure prayer without a fierce battle at the threshold. Hebrews 11:6.

Satan dreads nothing but prayer. He knows he cannot frighten saints with hideous features, or overcome them by coarse enticements. He stands at the portal of prayer as an “Angel of Light.” He does not attack, he diverts.

The Church that lacks prayer is usually full of good works. Activities are multiplied that devotion and meditation may be ousted, and organizations are increased that prayer may have no chance.

Souls may be lost in good works, as surely as in evil ways. The one concern of the Devil is to keep the saints from prayer. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.

Who can tell the blessings of “Watching unto Prayer?” But how often earthly concerns, material interests, commercial enterprises, domestic affairs, and everything else hold the right of way to the Divine Presence! Therefore we are weak when we might be strong.

What serenity and confidence would come to worried and distracted men if they “Watched unto Prayer!” Nothing saves time like time spent with God. An hour's spiritual thinking, earnest communication, patient waiting, would save both time and money, as well as keep hearts young and tempers sweet.

4.—“As he was Praying.” Prayer illumines and transforms. God teaches men that pray. He opens their eyes, and they see things in His light; He touches their hearts, and they feel as He feels. Luke 11:1 to 10.

“Watching unto Prayer” gives wisdom. The more we know how to truly wait upon God, the more shall we truly know the joy and sweetness of abiding rest. “They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.” These are the factors of prevailing with God. Prayer languishes when watching fails. The fire dies for lack of fuel. It is not information that is wanted but vision. Jer. 29:13.

If Prayer is the supreme need of the Church, why do not people begin to pray.

The frivolous cannot pray. It is an exercise that demands intellectual honesty, moral sincerity and spiritual resoluteness.

The proud cannot pray. It is an exercise that requires lowliness of mind, simplicity of heart, and a teachable spirit. Isaiah 59:1 2 3.

The worlding cannot pray. Prayer submits all things to the standards of Heaven, seeks the judgment of God, and lives in the unseen.

Prayer that stops short of obedience is blasphemy.

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DO YOU TITHE?

An Eyeopener For Many Christians

The above heading may seem to be a rather pertinent question, but every one should be able to answer it in the affirmative, for if we do not tithe we are in a way robbing God, for it is simply a debt we owe Him and surely God SHOULD be first in everything.

The writer took up this blessed tithing system over a quarter of a century ago and I can gladly testify that I am so in love with the plan that I would not think of advising anyone to do otherwise.

I had quite a surprise in this connection quite recently. A friend who had been reading up on the subject (by the way a splendid thing to do) got under conviction not only to pay his tithe, but also to pay up his back tithing, which he figured out amounted to \$2556.00.

He had quite a talk with me about the matter and decided to commence and pay up just as he could spare the money, and to show his good faith he paid in several dollars in just a few days. Could you see his smiling face you would soon decide that he was not sorry for the step he had taken. He reported to me later that he had been blessed in making several sales in a very short time, and that it seemed that God was helping him, then to show his sincerity and earnestness, he paid in \$15.00 more. A splendid example.

Also note the difference in the case of the two sisters mentioned in one of our tithing tracts, how the one was blessed in both soul and body, while the other became dwarfed in soul and miserable in spirit, one tithed, the other did not. Get our full set of tracts on the subject giving scripture on same.

There is one thing **ABSOLUTELY SURE**, and that is, that we cannot outgive God—it makes no difference, whether it be money, time or talents, He will more than amply repay us.

Friend: Have you been robbing God all these years? See Mal. 3:8. If so, right about face and try this plan of paying God His due,

and just see how it works. I feel sure that every honest soul who tries this plan, will never want to go back into the robbing business again.

It is, a very common thing for persons who do not tithe, to say with quite a degree of animation, "Oh! I pay more than a tenth," or, "Everything I have belongs to God;" but then the truly honest way is to keep books with the Lord, so to speak, or at least to take out one-tenth of all increase as soon as it comes in, is the safer plan.

I fear that many church members are failing at this point and, oh! what a sad thing to meet Jesus and be compelled to acknowledge to Him, that you failed to do your duty along this line. Just suppose the church as a whole today followed this system, there would immediately be plenty of money for all necessary church expenses and a surplus for the mission field, too. No need then for suppers or bazaars.

Send for our set of tracts on tithing and do a little missionary work by getting others interested also.

Yours for souls, W. M. B.
Free Tract Society (Inc.)

746 Crocker St., Los Angeles, Cal., U. S. A.

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JEWS IN PALESTINE OWN 250,000 ACRES

Jerusalem.—The total area of land purchased in Palestine by Jews now exceeds 250,000 acres, according to a report issued by the Jewish National Fund.

With the land soon to be acquired by the fund the total land owned by Jews will amount to 5 per cent of the cultivable land in Palestine.

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A letter of Feb. 8 at hand from P. M. Campbell telling of the good meeting they are conducting at Wynona, Okla. The meeting continues all this week and longer as the interest increases. Souls are being saved, keep praying for us here.

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While you are praying for others pray for the meeting beginning Feb. 14 at the 12th St. Mission of Baxter Springs. Every place is hearing the call. Behold the bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him. Let us be prepared to meet Him. Yours in His Vineyard.

Mabel E. Daley.