



A View of The Conflict

"And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 12:17.

"By aggressive warfare, in the midst of opposition, peril, loss, and human suffering, the work of soul-saving is to be carried forward. At a certain battle, when one of the regiments of the attacking force was being beaten back by the hordes of the enemy, the ensign in front stood his ground as the troops retreated. The captain shouted to him to bring back the colors, but the reply of the ensign was, '**Bring the men up to the colors!**'"—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, pp. 45, 46.

"In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict. One army was led by banners bearing the world's insignia; the other was led by the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel. Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust, as company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe, and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping people of God. An angel flying in the midst of heaven put the standard of Immanuel into many hands, **while a mighty general cried out with a loud voice: 'Come into line. Let those who are loyal to the commandments of God and the testimony of Christ now take their position.'** . . .

"The battle raged. Victory alternated from side to side. Now the soldiers of the cross gave way, 'as when a standard-bearer fainteth.' Isa. 10:18. But their apparent retreat was but to gain a more advantageous position. Shouts of joy were heard. A song of praise to God went up, and angel voices united in the song, as Christ's soldiers planted His banner on the walls of fortresses till then held by the enemy. **The Captain of our salvation was ordering the battle,** and sending support to his soldiers. His power was mightily displayed, **encouraging them to press the battle to the gates.** He taught them terrible things in righteousness as He led them on step by step, conquering and to conquer."—"Testimonies," Vol. 8, p. 41.

OBEY—Acts 5:32

PRAY—Luke 11:13

TARRY—Luke 24:49

RECEIVE—Acts 2:4

“RECEIVE YE THE HOLY GHOST”

“To us today, as verily as to the first disciples, the promise of the Spirit belongs.”—“Testimonies,” Volume 3, page 20.

The True Spirit

THE true servant of Christ will ever seek to exalt the truth. He will not be found exalting himself, but will hide behind the cross of Christ, and will present Him as the sole object of attraction and love. There was no apostle whose writings are more prominent than those of the apostle Paul. Out of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament more than one-half are from his pen. His labors were more abundant, his stripes were more numerous, and in prisons he was more frequent than any other apostle. The secret of his prominence and success lay in the fact of his realizing his unworthiness and the desire he had to exemplify Christ's life as a pattern to those who should afterward believe on Him. He felt that he was the chief of sinners because he had been a blasphemer and a persecutor. Yet in his heart the spirit of thankfulness reigned that the Lord had counted him worthy to suffer for His name.

It might be a question whether Paul ever entertained the idea that his writings and his influence would be so extensive. His labors and writings were of a personal character; he had a personal interest for those for whom he labored. His labor was specially directed for churches as well as individuals. The following words revealed his true feelings: “Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus; whereunto I also labor, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.” He ever felt that he was under obligation to his hearers. A “debtor both to the Greeks and to the barbarians; both to the wise and to the unwise,” he labored for God, looking for a reward, to the end of the race. The question of personal interest never entered into his heart while laboring for others. The spirit manifested by him was entirely opposite to any feeling that his labor was not appreciated. It was such a privilege to him to suffer with Christ that his heart constantly rejoiced in God. Having this

opportunity, he was contented. This spirit will characterize every true laborer for God.

A few men God selects and makes prominent while they live. It is not always that they are the most useful men. The Judgment alone will reveal the humble souls who sustain the more prominent positions because of their prayers and faith. The Waldenses in a quiet, unpretentious manner sowed the seed of the Reformation. They traveled throughout Europe, disguised as peddlers; but their real object was to exert an influence that would bear fruit in the kingdom of God. A strange, solemn power attended the words of Scripture which they spoke; it reached hearts which were longing for the truth. Their humility, their sincerity, their earnestness and deep fervor were subjects of remark. So captivated would their hearers become with the truths they uttered that they forgot to inquire whence they came or whither they went. Those with whom they conversed questioned after they had left whether it had not been an angel who appeared to them. The true Christian spirit clothes with humility.

The Judgment will remove from God's work all selfishness and self-interest. The motives of the heart will then be weighed in the balance of God's sanctuary. God weighs moral worth, and it is estimated by the amount of unselfish interest the person possesses. Self is abased, but God is exalted. It is then that God can accept the labors of His servants. He is now waiting to pour out His Spirit and clothe His people with power. The time is not far distant when we shall see more of His power accompanying His truth. May that time hasten.

“There is a prospect before us of a continual struggle, at the risk of imprisonment, loss of property, and even of life itself, to defend the law of God, which is made void by the law of men. In this situation wordly policy will urge an outward compliance with the laws of the land, for the sake of peace and harmony. And there are some who will even urge such a course from the scripture, ‘Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers... The powers that be are ordained of God.’” —“Testimonies,” Vol. 5, p. 712.

REFORMATION

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock." Rev. 3:20.

"The time has come for a through reformation to take place."—"Testimonies," Vol. 8, p. 251.

REFORMATION, what a mighty word, and what a fulness of light and power it does contain. As in the great reformation of Christ about 1900 years ago, the earth was lightened with the glory of God, so history bears record that God has in all the ages endowed His true children with special light and a new reviving power. Concerning the finishing work to be accomplished under the last great reformation just prior to the second coming of Christ, the following inspiring testimony was given:

"In visions of the night representations passed before me of a great reformatory movement among God's people. Many were praising God. The sick were healed, and other miracles were wrought. A spirit of intercession was seen, even as was manifested before the great day of Pentecost. Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the word of God. Hearts were convicted by the power of the Holy Spirit, and a spirit of genuine conversion was manifested. On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth. The world seemed to be lightened with the heavenly influence. Great blessings were received by the true and humble people of God. I heard voices of thanksgiving and praise, and there seemed to be a reformation such as we witnessed in 1844."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 126.

True Reformation Not Without A Revival

"A revival and a reformation must take place, under the ministration of the Holy Spirit. Revival and reformation are two different things. Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from spiritual death. Reformation signifies a reorganization, a change in ideas and theories, habits and practices. Reformation will not bring forth the good fruit of righteousness unless it is connected with the revival of the Spirit. Revival and reformation are to do their appointed work, and in doing this work they must blend."—"Review and Herald," Feb. 25, 1902.

We praise God, that according to His own promise, the work is to be finished on earth through a great reformatory movement, connected with a powerful spiritual revival. This work will bring about a return to "primitive godliness" a return to "the old paths" and will

"exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth." "Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life" and "Reformation signifies a reorganization."

Revival And Reformation Our Only Hope

"God's people will not endure the test unless there is a revival and a reformation."—"Testimonies," Vol. 7, p. 285.

"Unless there is a decided reformation among the people of God, He will turn His face from them."—"Testimonies," Vol. 8, p. 146.

"Oh for a religious awakening! The angels of God are going from church to church, doing their duty; and Christ is knocking at the door of your heart for entrance. But the means that God has devised to awaken the church to a sense of their spiritual destitution have not been regarded. The voice of the True Witness has been heard in reproof, but has not been obeyed. Men have chosen to follow their own way, instead of God's way, because self was not crucified in them."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 719-720.

No words can adequately express the importance of these solemn warnings. It is a sad fact that many will not receive the message that heaven in mercy sends them. Why? Because of their wrongs, their selfishness, their pride and love of the world. Said the servant of the Lord:

"Our Redeemer sends His messengers to bear a testimony to His people. He says, 'Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.' But many refuse to receive Him. The Holy Spirit waits to soften and subdue hearts, but they are not willing to open the door and let the Saviour in, for fear that He will require something of them. And so Jesus of Nazareth passes by. He longs to bestow on them the rich blessings of His grace, but they refuse to accept them. What a terrible thing it is to exclude Christ from His own temple! What a loss to the church."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 262.

The Cause For A Reformation

Apostasy in the church is the cause for a reformation. This is a truth which has been confirmed ever since the first falling away in

the history of the church. If we can establish upon the basis of the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy that apostasy is prevailing among God's professed people, we will also find the prophesied reformation. We do not want to go by what others have to say, but rather earnestly inquire: What saith the Lord? The Faithful Witness declared:

"And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things said the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." Rev. 3:14-17.

This testimony of the True and Faithful Witness is fully substantiated by the Spirit of prophecy.

"Many of our people are lukewarm. They occupy the position of Meroz, neither for nor against, neither cold nor hot. They hear the words of Christ, but do them not. If they remain in this state, He will reject them with abhorrence."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 76, 77.

Laodicea Represents the Seventh-day Adventist Church

"The Laodicean message applies to the people of God who profess to believe present truth. The greater part are lukewarm professors, having a name but no zeal."—"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 87.

"The message of the church of the Laodiceans is a startling denunciation, and is applicable to the people of God at the present time."—"Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 252.

That this message applies to the Seventh-day Adventist Church there can be no doubt if we are willing to accept the plainest statements from the Spirit of prophecy. Many, however, will not accept this straight truth, as will be seen in the following testimony:

"The message of the True Witness finds the people of God in a sad deception, yet honest in that deception. They know not that their condition is deplorable in the sight of God."—"Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 253.

A deception in which one is honest is the most terrible of all deceptions. Satan has led the professed people of God to believe that they are "rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing," while in reality they are "wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" God has often made sad experiences with His people. "I have nourished

and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me." Isa. 1:2. Often when God blessed His people in a special manner, and caused them to prosper, they forgot to glorify His holy name. If He would then in His great love bring punishment and difficulties upon them, they would unite with the world in order to escape tribulation.

"Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin. That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt! Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame, and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion." Isa. 30:1-3.

Concerning the condition in the Seventh-day Adventist church the Spirit of prophecy declared:

"I have been shown that the spirit of the world is fast leavening the church. You are following the same path as did ancient Israel. There is the same falling away from your holy calling as God's peculiar people. You are having fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. Your concord with unbelievers has provoked the Lord's displeasure. You know not the things that belong to your peace, and they are fast being hid from your eyes. Your neglect to follow the light will place you in a more unfavorable position than the Jews upon whom Christ pronounced a woe."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, pp. 75, 76.

Responsibility of the Leaders

Who is mainly responsible for the prevailing apostasy?

"For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed." Isa. 9:16.

"The watchmen are responsible for the condition of the people."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 235.

"Has not blindness fallen upon the watchmen standing on the walls of Zion? Are not many of God's servants unconcerned and well satisfied, as if the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night, rested upon the sanctuary?"—"Testimonies," Vol. 8, p. 248.

Every honest soul laments the deplorable condition in the Laodicean church, and realizes that their only hope is found in a thorough reformation.

Whenever the leaders refused to accept the call to lead out in the work of a thorough reformation, God was forced to pass them by and select humble men who were willing to be controlled by the Holy Spirit. So it was in the days of Elijah, in the time of Christ, and dur-

ing the great reformation of Martin Luther etc. Said the servant of the Lord:

"The great danger with our people has been that of depending upon men, and making flesh their arm. Those who have not been in the habit of searching the Bible for themselves, or weighing evidence, have confidence in the leading men, and accept the decision they make; and thus many will reject the very messages God sends to His people, if these leading brethren do not accept them."—"Testimonies to Ministers," pp. 106, 107.

Yes, the Lord works often where we least expect it. Our only safety is, "To the law and to the testimony." Isa. 8:20. Men of talent and pleasing address are today going through the camp of modern Israel to bind souls to an organization. They confuse the truth with the church, yet all those who are honest in heart will see the light and take their stand with the remnant.

"The ministers and leading men were passing around in these different companies, fastening the cords more firmly; but still I heard the voice of earnest prayer. Then I saw those who had been praying reach out their hands for help toward the united company who were free, rejoicing in God. The answer from them, as they earnestly looked to heaven, and pointed upward, was, 'Come out from among them, and be separate.' I saw individuals struggling for freedom, and at last they broke the cords that bound them."—"Early Writings," p. 242.

Reformation Brings Separation

Apostasy and reformation brought always two classes of people out in the open.

"Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, we will not walk therein." Jer. 6:16.

"I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen, and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this is what will cause a shaking among God's people."—"Early Writings," p. 270.

Those who rise up against the straight testimony of the True Witness will be rejected by the Lord, while those who accept this message will be gathered again, and the Lord will recognize them as His true people.

"Thus saith the Lord, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? Or which of

my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away." Isa. 50:1.

"Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God." Isa. 50:1.

"The Lord is with you, while ye be with him, and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you." 2 Chron. 15:2.

God is a God of righteousness. He loves His church, for it is the only object upon earth upon which He bestows His supreme regard. But if the church refuses to walk in the counsel of the Lord, if through her own course of transgression she forsake Him, "there is written against her in the books of heaven a betrayal of the most sacred trusts, and treachery to the kingdom of Christ." However, in every apostasy among God's professed people, He has ever preserved a remnant to serve Him. And praise God! that "at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace."

The Little Company or Remnant

"I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in the opposite direction, and I saw a little company traveling a narrow pathway. All seemed to be firmly united bound together by the truth, in bundles or companies. Said the angel, 'The third angel is binding, or sealing, them in bundles for the heavenly garner.' This little company looked care-worn, as if they had passed through severe trials and conflicts."—"Early Writings," pp. 88, 89.

"Thank God, all will not be rocked to sleep in the cradle of carnal security. There will be faithful ones who will discern the signs of the times. While a large number professing present truth will deny their faith by their works, there will be some who will endure unto the end."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 10.

How encouraging it is to know that there is "a little company" "a faithful few" yes, that "there will be some who will endure unto the end." Are you, dear reader, not anxious to be numbered with this "little remnant"? Do you not desire to have a part in this mighty reformatory movement through which God will finish His work on earth in righteousness? May God grant it! Amen.

A. W. Doerschler.

"Take counsel, execute judgement; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; hide the outcasts; bewray not him that wandereth." Isa. 16:3.

Our Homes and Our Health

The Only Way Heaven Approves

THE genuine medical work, as given unto us through the servant of the Lord, was Naturopathic in principle. The Lord has warned us against the using of drugs, the very system which the denomination of Seventh-day Adventists have adopted in their blind apostasy. Let us quote a few statements from the pen of Sister E. G. White, dealing with this subject.

"Let no line be drawn between the genuine medical missionary work and the gospel ministry. Let these two blend in giving the invitation, 'Come, for all things are now ready.'; Let them be joined in an inseparable union, even as the arm is joined to the body."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 291.

"There are many ways of practicing the healing art; but there is only one way that Heaven approves. God's remedies are the simple agencies of nature, that will not tax or debilitate the system through their powerful properties. Pure air and water, cleanliness, a proper diet, purity of life, and a firm trust in God, are remedies for the want of which thousands are dying."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 443.

Drugs and Medicines

"You should avoid the use of drugs, and carefully observe the laws of health. If you regard your life, you should eat plain food, prepared in the simplest manner, and take more physical exercise. Each member of the family needs the benefits of health reform. But drugging should be forever abandoned; for while it does not cure any malady, it enfeebles the system, making it more susceptible to disease."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 311.

"Medicine deranges nature's fine machinery and breaks down the constitution. It kills but never cures."—"How to Live," p. 57.

"People need to be taught that drugs do not cure disease. It is true that they sometimes afford present relief, and the patient appears to recover as the result of their use; this is because nature has sufficient vital force to expel the poison and to correct the condition that cause the disease. Health is recovered in spite of the drug. But in most cases the drug only changes the form and location of the disease. Often the effect of poison seems to be overcome for a time, but the results remain in the system, and work great harm at some later period."—"The Ministry of Healing," p. 126.

The Gateway to Healthful Living

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John 2.

The desire of our heavenly Father is that above all things we may prosper and be in health. We may say that God is almighty and therefore can fulfill His wish by keeping us in prosperity and health. Even so, He wants us to do something, for He also says, "keep My commandments," meaning the ten commandments, and also the law of nature. As the spiritual man dwells within the physical, great care must be exercised to retain this beautiful architectural structure in perfect condition. Paul of old told the people of Athens that the "Lord of heaven dwelleth not in temples made with hands;" but he does dwell in temples of His own creation.

Though the human temple has been marred by sin and sickness, by sullen fires within and storms without, by ignorance and superstition, defaced as it is, it still stands, a more wonderful design of beauty to the Creator, who, in the beginning fashioned it after His own image. Therefore worship not the body, but hold it as a sacred trust. Eat, live the natural way; and treat the sick the only way that heaven approves, namely, apply simple agencies of nature, or natural forces. Pure air, water, sunshine, proper diet, hygiene, purity of life and a firm trust in God.

—P. Newell.

A CHRISTIAN

A Christian is a child of God, a brother of the Lord Jesus Christ, a temple of the Holy Ghost, and heir of the kingdom, a companion of the angels, lord of the world, and a partaker of the divine nature. A Christian's glory is Christ in heaven, and the glory of Christ is a Christian on earth. He is a precious child of God, clothed in the righteousness of Christ, walking before God in holy fear and strict obedience, shining as a light in the world, and as a rose amongst thorns; he is a wonderful subject of divine grace, over which the holy angels rejoice, and whom they accompany in all his ways, he is a wonder to the world, a terror to devils, an ornament to the church, the desire of heaven; his heart is full of fire, his eyes full of tears, his breast filled with sighs, and his hand full of good works.—Luther

* * *

"They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:18.

THE BIBLE BEFORE CHURCH OR CREED

"Imposture shrinks from sight, and dreads the curious eye;
But sacred truths the rest invite; they bid us search and try.

He who accepts truth stands with God. He who fights against truth fights against God, for God is the "God of Truth." Isa. 65:16.

And what is truth? Christ says, "Thy word is truth." John 17:17. The Psalmist states, "Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Thy law is the truth." Ps. 119:142. The word and law of God, then, are truth.

Moreover, it is our duty to love truth, and it is a wicked and dangerous thing to reject it. "Because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie; That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." 2 Thess. 2:10-12. It is of some consequence, then, whether we believe and love the truth or not.

Truth comes first; then organization. It is the preaching of the word that makes believers (Rom. 10:13-17); and believers associated together constitute the church. The Bible, therefore, comes before the church. The true church stands as "the pillar and ground of the truth." 1 Tim. 3:15.

God has always had a people in the earth; but He has not always revealed new truths to the leaders of old organizations. The joyful news of Christ's first advent was not revealed to the dignitaries of the Jewish church, but to humble shepherds abiding in the field. His star appeared, not to high priests or rulers, but to the wise men of the East, who, though not Jews, had studied the prophecies, and believed the word of God. The church guides had become haughty and proud, knew little of the Scriptures, and were not prepared, therefore, to receive and proclaim the heaven-sent truth so appropriate and essential for the time. Though God is high and lofty, He dwells with those of humble and contrite spirits and reveals His secret to those who fear Him. Isa. 57:15; Ps. 25:14. New wine He puts into new bottles.

PLACING THE CHURCH BEFORE THE TRUTH

As of old, there are those who think more of what they style "their church" than they do of God's truth. They not only refuse to walk in the advancing light themselves, but seek to prevent others from doing so. They ask their friends, "In what church were you and your parents brought up?" and "Is not the religion of your father and mother good enough for you?"

Had the disciples of Christ, when called to leave all and follow Him, listened to such reasoning, they would never have become the apostles and founders of the glorious Christian Church. Had Luther listened to such arguments, there never would have been the revival of true religion there was in the sixteenth century. Had Wesley given heed to such logic there would never have been a Wesleyan Church, or the great spiritual awakening in England and America of a century

and a half ago. Such reasoning, therefore, is unworthy of any Christian or lover of truth. It would block all progress. It places the church before the truth, and tradition before the word of God.

WHERE TRUTH LEADS

Accepting the truth led Abraham away from both country and kinsmen. For preaching the most glorious truth Christ was expelled from His home church and town. Luke 4:16-30. Accepting the truth in Christ's time meant separation from the church. "Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on Him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." John 12:42, 43. It led Paul, Luther, and Wesley out of the churches of their forefathers. Why? Because the churches of their time had become bigoted, proud, stereotyped, dead and formal. They would not receive God's truth for the time; they would not advance; they would not reform.

With sorrow and reluctance Christ left the Jewish church. But when it refused to hear and obey, He said, "Your house is left unto you desolate." "The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof." Matt. 23:38; 21:43. It still exists in form, but is a dead, lifeless church.

So also with Paul, Luther, and Wesley. They all with reluctance left the churches of their fathers. But the leaders of the churches, rejecting the truth God had committed to these men, drove them out.

Says Richard Watson, in his "Life of Wesley":

"Had the clergy been disposed to co-operate in this evident revival and spread of true religion, and had the heads of the church been willing to sanction itinerant labourers among the serious part of the people for mutual edification, the great body of Methodists might have been retained in the communion of the Church of England. On this matter, which was often brought before the leading and influential clergy, they made their own election. They refused to co-operate". (p. 134).

THE OLD STORY OVER AGAIN

This is the story of the church over and over again. The leaders of old organizations have almost invariably opposed the advancement of new truth, and treated its advocates and adherents as heretics, schismatics and outlaws.

"History's pages but record
One death grapple in the darkness
Twixt old systems and the Word."

Christ was charged with blasphemy, of working miracles by the prince of devils, of deceiving the people, and being a menace to both church and state. Matt. 9:3; 12:24; John 7:12; 11:47-50. His accusers said:—

"We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ a King. . . He stirreth up the peo-

ple, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place." Luke 23: 1-5.

Paul was accused of being a "pestilent fellow," of teaching "heresy," and turning the world "upside down." Acts 24:5; 14; 17:6. Luther of putting forth "most horrid blasphemy against God," of being "a most excessive drunkard," and holding "intimate familiarity with devils." ("Sure Way," p. 53.) And Wesley, in 1745, gives his own experience thus:—

"About seven years since, we began preaching inward, present salvation, as obtained by faith alone. This doctrine we were forbidden to preach in the churches. We then preached in private houses, as occasion offered, and, when houses could not contain the people, in the open air. For this many of the clergy preached against us, as both heretics and schismatics. Persons who were convinced of sin begged us to advise them more particularly how to flee from the wrath to come. We replied, if they would all come at one time we would endeavour to do it. For this we were represented both from the pulpit and the press, as introducing popery, raising sedition, practising both against church and state; and all manner of evil was publicly said both of us and those who were accustomed to meet with us. Several of the bishops began to speak against us, either in conversation or in public.

On this encouragement, several of the clergy stirred up the people to treat us as outlaws or mad dogs."—Life of Wesley, pp. 190, 191.

And so it is to-day. God sends a message warning the people to flee from the judgments soon to fall; to turn their feet into the path of obedience, prepare for the judgment, Christ's second coming, and the end of the world. And what is the result?—The same as of old. The leaders of old organizations rise up against it, call it a "delusion," style those who preach it "a heretical sect," their teaching as "extremely presumptuous," and their work an "impertinent interference" with the people.

(Taken from the tract entitled, "THE BIBLE BEFORE CHURCH OR CREED," which was published by the SIGNS PUBLISHING CO. LTD., Warburton, Victoria, Australia, at the beginning of the work.)

If this was true in the early days when this was published, it is truer to-day. We believe we should place the Bible truths before the church or organization, which is changeable. The Bible says, "They follow the lamb," which means Present Truth, and not a church which has backslidden. Separation from an apostatized church should be considered as a necessity and a deliverance from Spiritual Captivity to a freedom in the knowledge of Present Truth.

He That Overcometh Even As Christ Overcame

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne." Rev. 3:21.

THESSE are the closing words of Jesus, the True and Faithful Witness, to the seven churches. To be an overcomer was the hope and aim of every faithful servant of God since his creation and also since his redemption. It was the thought cherished by every patriarch of old, it was the theme of conversation at the time of Christ's first appearing; the desire to be an overcomer led millions to the stake in the dark ages, and it is the one hope that will prepare us for His second coming. Many thousand years ago Abel, the second son of Adam, overcame in that he sealed his faith with his blood.

In Genesis 22:1-14 we have recorded the story of Abraham as he traveled those many miles up the mountain side to offer his son Isaac. Can you not picture that weary, sorrow stricken face of Abraham? can you not imagine the anxiety of Isaac as they trudged along the wooded mountain as he is inquiring: "where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" All the pain, suffering, and effort of the trip would have been of no avail if Abraham had not lifted up the knife to offer his only son of promise. Through this act of faith he proved that he was an overcomer,

and the Angel of the Lord said: "for now I know that thou fearest God."

We read the story of Jacob, how he wrestled with the angel of the Lord all night seeking to be freed from his sin. Jacob "had power over the Angel, and prevailed." The words: "I will not let Thee go except Thou bless me," were not spoken in boastful, presumptuous confidence, but in humiliation, repentance, and self-surrender. Then he overcame, then he received a new name, and then the sun of righteousness shone upon him.

We have another example in the life of Joseph. How much easier it would have been for him to yield to the will of Potiphar's wife then to spend two years in prison, but when tempted by her, he replied with these words: "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" He was finally rewarded for his faithfulness of overcoming sin, by being made the chief ruler in Egypt. Truly he was an overcomer. We have many more examples which could be mentioned, but of all these it can be said: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb,

and by the word of their testimony: and they loved not their lives unto death." Rev. 12 11.

How Did Jesus Overcome

We have positive proof that Jesus overcame. It is written of Him that He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin". How is it that Jesus overcame every sin? Was there something more super-human about Christ while He was on this earth which enabled Him to walk undefiled in a world of sin and corruption? Or is it only that He relied wholly upon His Father's strength to overcome? Only herein can the answer be found to this question. He spent hours in communion with His Father. Think of the night of agony in Gethsemane and how "His sweat was as it were great drops of blood." Think how He pleaded with His Father that "if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me." Nevertheless He was willing to bear it, if need be. Read of the many nights He spent in prayer on the mountain side or in the desert all alone. Jesus' first thought was to overcome, and His first great temptation was after He fasted forty days and forty nights, and at the culmination of that time He was strong enough to meet the devil face to face and be victorious.

There are many people to-day who if they were to fast two days would be willing to sacrifice all for a morsel of bread like Esau did.

Jesus was patient, longsuffering, merciful and kind. He never complained nor did He ever shirk any responsibility or hardship. He bore it all for you and I, He suffered pain and anguish for us. He died the death that was ours that we might live the life that was His. He overcame as all the patriarchs of old overcame; namely by perseverance. He came to overcome, He came to save, He came to give us power to overcome.

Who Will Overcome

"Have I any pleasure at all in that the wicked should die? saith the Lord God: and not that he should return from his ways and live." Ezek. 18:23.

"Those who overcome as Christ overcame will need to constantly guard themselves against the temptations of Satan... Many desire the final reward and victory which are to be given to overcomers, but are not willing to endure toil, privation, and denial of self as did their Redeemer. It is only through obedience and continual effort that we shall overcome as Christ overcame." —"Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 491.

God does not want any man to be lost but that all should repent. Every one could overcome if they would humble themselves and come to Jesus who shed His blood for them. John says: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh

away the sin of the world." He died to take away the sin of the world and that includes you and I. He wants to bear our sins and wash them away if we only come to Him and give Him the opportunity. There is no greater joy in heaven than when a sinner comes to Jesus and accepts His blood as an atoning sacrifice. When we cast ourselves at Jesus feet and say Lord cleanse me, He replies: "I will be thou made clean." When we come to Him with a burden He says, "My grace is sufficient for thee." He takes the burden upon Himself. With Jesus it is easy to be an overcomer. If we let His mind be in us we do not think our thoughts but His, and when we think His thoughts, not ours, we cannot commit our acts but His. When we do His acts we are following in His footsteps and are on our way to be an overcomer. It is a daily work, it must be done by crucifying self, constant prayer is necessary, and we must gain the victory over every sin and temptation.

Many people find it difficult in that they want to do it all and give no credit to Jesus. This is a great mistake, because there is nothing that you and I can do to save ourselves, otherwise we would not need a Saviour. That is His work, not ours. Multitudes are still struggling in darkness of sin not knowing that Jesus can set them free. Many are not awake to the fact that Jesus is knocking at the door of their heart and wants to come in and help them in their weakness and frailness. Many have not followed Jesus into the Most Holy place that He can be a High Priest for them and protect them in the hour of temptation. Or maybe some are like Baalam who once was called a prophet of God, but was not strong enough to resist the power of temptation, because he "loved the wages of unrighteousness." If such is your case, dear brother, or sister, please awake and come to the realization that this is a serious time and that you must face Jesus in the judgment. Would you not rather come to Him now while He is inviting you? or do you want to wait until He will say, "Depart from Me ye workers of iniquity." Let Him tear away the veil of sin that is separating you from God. Cast away the fleshly weapons of warfare, and use the sword of the spirit as Jesus did, and you will overcome as He did. Remember it is not enough to hope and desire to be an overcomer, but you must unite your will with His. If you have never tried it, do so today and He will help you to overcome even as He overcame.

"Behold I come quickly; hold fast which thou hast that no man take thy crown." "Rev. 3:11."

E. J. Stabel

THE FLOCK OF GOD

"Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and His arm shall rule Him: behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." Isa. 40:10. 11.

1. It is a purchased flock.

"What a price has been paid for us! Behold the cross, and the Victim uplifted upon it. Look at those hands, pierced with the cruel nails. Look at His feet, fastened with spikes to the tree. Christ bore our sins in His own body. That suffering, that agony, is the price of your redemption."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 479.

"Forasmuch as ye know that we were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

CHRISt has brought a supreme sacrifice in the shedding of His precious blood on the cross of Calvary for the redemption of men. An article will be considered valuable, according to what it has cost the owner; and that must be a valuable flock which cost the blood of the shepherd. Since Christ has paid such a great price for His flock, He will tenderly watch over His sheep. He knows that the enemy is ever trying to pluck them out of His hand, but the Lord has promised concerning His faithful sheep: "they shall never" perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand." John 10:28.

2. It is an obedient flock.

"All true obedience comes from the heart. It was heart-work with Christ. And if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses. The will, refined and sanctified, will find its highest delight in doing His service. When we know God as it is our privilege to know Him, our life will be a life of continual obedience. Through an appreciation of the character of Christ, through communion with God, sin will become hateful to us."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 668.

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." John 10:27.

Of Christ it is said that he "became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Phil. 2:8. And again we read concerning Him: "Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared; Though He were a Son, yet learned He

obedience by the things which He suffered; And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him," Heb. 5:7-9. It is very important for us to know that Christ "learned obedience by the things which He suffered." His life of obedience is a perfect example for us. In order that we may learn obedience, we shall likewise have to suffer, as God has ordained "that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." Acts 14:22. Sufferings, tribulations and afflictions are the means which God employs for our purification. May we strive earnestly that "our life will be a life of continual obedience."

3. It is a little flock.

"Fear not little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Luke 12:32.

The flock of God in every age has been a little one. The truth of God is found with the few, and not with the many. This is especially true in our day, for we are told by divine inspiration, that in the time of the end "the love of many shall wax cold." Matt. 24:12. There will be only a "little remnant" a "little company" who will serve God faithfully. Concerning this "little remnant" we read in the Spirit of prophecy:

"The little remnant who love God and keep His commandments, and are faithful to the end, will enjoy this glory, and ever be in the presence of Jesus, and sing with the holy angels."—"Early Writings," p. 66.

And the word of God has portrayed the remnant in the following beautiful language:

"I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord. The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth; for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid." Zeph. 3:12, 13.

4. It is an exposed flock.

"The remnant church will be brought into great trial and distress. Those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, will feel the ire of the dragon and his hosts. Satan numbers the world as his subjects, he has gained control of the apostate churches; but here is a little company that are resisting his supremacy. If he could blot them from the earth, his

triumph would be complete."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 231.

"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock." Acts 20:29. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." 1 Peter 5:8.

Satan knows that his time is short. All his power to deceive and to destroy is concentrated upon God's remnant people. They "will feel the ire of the dragon and his hosts." The spirit of persecution will be kindled against them. But "this small remnant, unable to defend themselves in the deadly conflict with the powers of earth that are marshaled by the dragon host, make God their defense." (Test. Vol. 5, p. 213.) They "shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death." Luke 21:16. That this will be the experience of God's remnant people has been foretold in the following testimony:

"As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position, and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren."—"The Great Controversy," p. 608.

5. It is a gathered flock.

"I saw that God has honest children among the nominal Adventists and the fallen churches, and before the plagues shall be poured out, ministers and people will be called out from these churches, and will gladly receive the truth. Satan knows this; and before the loud cry of the third angel is given, he raises an excitement in these religious bodies, that those who have rejected the truth may think that God is with them. He hopes to deceive the honest and lead them to think that God is still working for the churches. But the light will shine, and all who are honest will leave the fallen churches, and take their stand with the remnant."—"Early Writings," p. 261.

"For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I even I, will both search My sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out My sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day." Eze. 34:11, 12.

All the agencies of heaven are at work to gather those who are honest in heart into the true fold. There will be one flock, and one shepherd. God's true people will be a united people. Concerning this gathering work the servant of the Lord has declared:

"Every jewel will be brought out and gathered, for the hand of the Lord is set to recover the remnant of

His people, and He will accomplish His work gloriously." "Early Writings," p. 70.

Reader, do you belong to the flock of God? Are you resting the whole weight of your salvation on the merits of the Shepherd? Are you a follower of the meek and lowly Jesus? Only those who follow the Saviour here on earth, will have the privilege to follow the Lamb on the earth made new.

W. O. Welp

missing - cut out

YOU CANNOT BE NEUTRAL

“How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him.”

Not one in that vast assembly dare reveal loyalty to and blindness had overspread Israel. Not all at once, but gradually, as from time to time they had and reproof that the Lord sent them. Each departure t, had deepened their guilt, and driven them farther they persisted in refusing to take their stand for God. alty in a time of crisis in His work.”—“Prophets and

r, of which His people are guilty, it is doing nothing and neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of he very worst type of hostility against God.”—“Testi-

on; there is no middle class, who neither love God . . . He who does not give himself wholly to God, is stening to another voice, whose suggestions are of an half service places the human agent on the side of asts of darkness.”—“Mount of Blessing,” p. 139.

to use for those persons who are nowhere to be found strength, courage, and influence of all are required hose who stand like faithful soldiers to battle against rring against principalities and powers, against the st spiritual wickedness in high places, will each re- faster, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant, enter monies,” Vol. 3, p. 327.

utral position. We are all decidedly for the right, or t, ‘He that is not with Me, is against Me; and he that ad.’”—“Testimonies,” Vol. 3, p. 328.

Lord's side? Always true;
ght and wrong side, Where stand

the Lord's side; Ask you why?
safe side By and By.”

US?” That man was Pilate, the vacillating Roman asked governor. He finally decided against Jesus, the ce the Man in whom he declared he found no fault; and his wrongful decision made certain, and and hastened on, the sinless One's crucifixion. So e sor- and not it is today with all who do not receive the Jesus, Christ as their personal Saviour. By rejecting ightly caused Him men crucify Him afresh. to His Friend, had you thought of that? What, then, :oss. will you do with Jesus?

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL EFFORT

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" James 2:14-20.

INDIVIDUALLY we must be earnest, zealous workers for the Master. The Lord desires that we shall communicate to others that which the eternal and unseen communicates to us of spiritual realities. He desires that we shall study the truth for ourselves, that it may become rooted in our hearts, and a part of our very existence; and that, in turn, we shall represent its principles to others. Mind, and heart, and soul, and strength must be enlisted in the service of God.

God has placed no barrier in the way of any Christian to prevent his working to bring others to Christ. But self has obstructed the path of obedience to God. Men to whom God has committed His talents have power, and when that power is allied to true goodness as it is in Jesus, it becomes a divine power. But men have appropriated their talents for selfish purposes; and when God has called for His own, their ears have been dull of hearing. . . .

The lay members of the church should have far more encouragement to bear responsibilities. They are to be educated to do service for Jesus. Teach them in what lines they can serve God best. Set them to work in many ways. Let there be fewer sermons, and far more taxing personal labor. All the discourses preached will not help the members of the church to understand their duty unless you teach them how to work. The satisfaction of seeing companies raised up in different places through personal effort, will strengthen and establish them. The self-sacrificing efforts put forth by all who believe in Christ as a present help in their work, will give them strength and power. All who truly follow Christ will be used to communicate light to their fellow men. Church members need closely to examine their

own hearts, to see whether they are in the love of God, whether they are serving God or self. . .

Where Are the Workers?

There are many who desire to see souls coming to a knowledge of the truth; but who among us are engaged in real, earnest work for the Lord? Who, with earnest humble faith, are bringing souls to Him by visiting, by conversing, and by explaining the Scriptures? The sacrifice that we ourselves are willing to make for the good of others is what will convince them of our sincerity. Says one: "I felt so great an interest and love for the souls of the people who know not the truth, that I gave up my home, my church, my family, and friends, and gave my whole life to labor for their salvation. They know that I love them." This is doing as Christ did. Our lives will be a testimony that will speak louder than words. As Christ's followers, we are called to self-denial and self-sacrifice. He has said, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me." . . .

There are lessons for the children of God to learn. They are required to come up to their high and holy position as members of the royal family, children of the heavenly King. They are of heavenly extraction, and they must reveal this in all their works. Have you the light of truth? Then impart the same in purity, in a peaceable disposition, in quietness and heavenly mindedness. We plead with you to put on your beautiful garments, even the robe of Christ's righteousness, woven in the loom of heaven. Submit yourselves wholly to God. Then you will be vessels unto honor, whom He can use to His own name's glory—E. G. White, in "Review and Herald." Jan. 19, 1897.

Remember The Lord's Leading

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." Ps. 103:2.

In calling to remembrance the Lord's leadings in this Reform Movement it is well to remember what David said: "Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture." Ps. 100:3. God also did speak to ancient Israel whom He had chosen as His peculiar people: "The Lord did not set His love upon you, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people.." Deut. 7:7. The

apostle James, speaking of the calling of the people to the Lord says: "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he had promised to them that love Him?" James 2:5. Paul said: "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in His presence." 1 Cor. 1:26-29.

Great Results From Smallest Means

"Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at His word; Your brethren that hateth you, that cast you out for My name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but He shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed." Isa. 66:5.

The tendency of the human heart has always been to make flesh their arm, to trust in wealth, intellect, power, or anything but Christ. There are many who despise "the day of small things." Zech. 4:10. In "History of the Reformation," Book 2, chap. 1, par. 1, we read: "God, who prepared His work through ages, accomplishes it by the weakest instruments, when His time has come. To effect great results by the smallest means, such is the law of God. This law, which prevails everywhere in nature, is also found in history."

—A. W. D.

Wordliness in the Church

"Instead of leading the world to render obedience to God's law, the church is uniting more and more closely with the world in transgression. Daily the church is becoming converted to the world."

The following question: "Is it wrong for Adventist women and girls to wear bobbed hair and have permanents?" was answered in the "Youths Instructor" dated April 14, 1942, as follows:

"The basis of a discussion should not be merely a right or wrong attitude. The principles of health, neatness, modesty, and sobriety should be carefully considered in our choice of dress and grooming. In other words, one must have a safe, broad, sensible foundation upon which to make a decision between that which is right and that which is wrong.

The Seventh-day Adventist denomination does not set up hard and fast rules on these matters. Its standards are based upon Christian principles which can be

safely followed regardless of nationality or environment. These principles are applied to hair. There is no Scriptural or denominational requirement regarding the exact length of hair. Hair styles must be decided upon as each woman asks herself questions such as, Is it becoming? Is it neat? Is it modest? Is it healthful? Will I set a good example?

Many years ago when short hair was first introduced, it was so ultramodern that when a woman cut her hair her character was brought into question. Our young people would not have been following the principles of sobriety and modesty if they had been in the lead in promoting a fad. But now bobbed hair is common. No longer does the public raise any question concerning the character of a woman with short hair. And so this objection to it has been removed, and a girl or woman is free to choose a hair style based on the principles we have mentioned according to her own personal convictions, so long as it is conservative, becoming, and in good Christian taste.

Permanent waves should be decided upon only after one considers the expense, the possible injury to the hair, and whether or not one's appearance will be improved. In so far as the wave or curl is concerned it surely cannot be considered 'wrong', for then those who have natural waves and curls would be out of line."

Any Seventh-day Adventist who has been affiliated with the church since that fad was first introduced will readily recall, that the wearing of bobbed hair was not in harmony with our principles. If it was wrong then it is wrong now. It is wrong. This position can be established from the word of God.

In 1 Corinthians 11:15 we read:

"But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering."

The Bible states that if a woman wears long hair, it is a glory to her; consequently if it is cut the glory departs. But the church is substituting a "Is it becoming?" "Is it neat?" etc. for a "thus saith the Lord." What should be clear and well defined becomes confusing.

Pertaining to permanents the writer states:

"In so far as the wave or curl is concerned, it surely cannot be considered 'wrong' for then those who have natural waves and curls would be out of line."

How absurd, how inconsistent! Are we not justified in exclaiming with the Spirit of prophecy that "daily the church is becoming converted to the world," that apostasy is written above the door of every church, that the glory has indeed departed? It is something to be alarmed about, dear reader. Laodicea is stooping to such a low level as to not only tolerate but even encourage such degrading fads that lead to wordliness and apostasy.

E. J. Stabel

There is no greater obstacle in the way of success in life than trusting for something to turn up instead of going to work and turning up something.



The Children's Friend

for Parents and Children
who would follow Jesus.

Suffer little Children to come unto me. LUKE 10:16

I Cannot Get Away From God

NOT many years since, a young coachman was living in a gentleman's family near London. He had good wages, a kind master, and a comfortable place; but there was one thing that troubled and annoyed him. It was that his old mother lived in a village close by, and from her he had constant visits.

You may wonder that this was such a trouble to him. But the reason was that, whenever she came, she spoke to him about Christ and the salvation of his soul.

"Mother," he at last said, "I cannot stand this any longer. Unless you drop that subject altogether, I shall give up my place, and go out of your reach, where I shall hear no more of such cant."

"My son," said his mother, "as long as I have a tongue, I shall never cease to speak to you about the Lord, and to the Lord about you."

The young coachman was as good as his word. He wrote to a friend in the highlands of Scotland, and asked him to find him a place in that part of the world. He knew that his mother could not write, and could not follow him; and though he was sorry to lose a good place, he said to himself, "Anything for a quiet life." His friend got him a place in a gentleman's stables, and he did not hide from his mother that he was glad and thankful to get out of her way.

You may think it was a pity she drove him to a distance. Would it not have been wiser to stay, and thus not to lose the opportunity of putting in a word in season? But she believed, in her simplicity, that she was to keep to the directions given her in the word of God—that she was to be instant not only in season, but

also out of season. And true it is that the foolishness of God is wiser than men.

The coachman was ordered to drive out the carriage and pair the first day of his arrival in Scotland. His master did not get into the carriage with the rest of the party, but said he meant to go on the box instead of the footman. "He wishes to see how I drive," thought the coachman, who was quite prepared to give satisfaction.

Scarcely had he driven from the door, when the master spoke to the coachman for the first time. He said, "Tell me if you are saved."

Had the question come to the coachman direct from heaven, it could scarcely have struck him with greater consternation. He felt simply terrified. "God has followed me up to Scotland!" he said to himself; "I could get away from my mother, but I cannot get away from God!" And at that moment he knew what Adam must have felt when he went to hide himself from the presence of God behind the trees of the garden. He could make no answer to his master, and scarcely could he drive the horse, for he trembled from head to foot.

His master went on to speak of Christ, and again he heard the old, old story, so often told him by his mother. But this time it sounded new—it had become a real thing to him. It did not seem to him then to be the glad tidings of great joy, but a message of terror and condemnation. He felt that it was Christ the Son of God whom he had rejected and despised. He felt for the first time that he was a lost sinner. By the time the drive was over he was so ill from the terrible fear that had come upon him, that he could do nothing more.

For some days he could not leave his bed, but they were blessed days to him. His master came to speak to him, to read the word of God,

The Sabbath Watchman

with

The Children's Friend

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and to pray, and soon the love and grace of the Saviour he had rejected became a reality to him, as the terror of the Lord had been at first.

He saw there was mercy for the scoffer and despiser; he saw that the blood of Christ is the answer before God even for such sin as his had been, and he now felt in his soul the sweetness of those blessed words, "We love Him because He first loved us." He saw that Christ had borne his punishment, and that he, who had tried to harden his heart against God and against his own mother, was now without spot or stain in the sight of that God who had so loved him as to give for him His only Son.

The first letter he wrote to his mother, was to tell her of the joyful tidings: "God has followed me to Scotland, and has saved my soul."

—Selected

THE STORY OF THE CHRIST

Now you know, dear children, though we sometimes try with might,

Our hands forget their loving, our faces lose their light;
But Christ's hands were always helping, and His eyes were always kind,

And He never was too busy to heal the sick and blind.

And His feet seemed never weary, they would travel day or night,

If by going on a journey He could make a sad face bright:

Only words, both kind and gentle, from His lips were ever heard,

And though many people called Him, He heard their every word.

—Selected.

Asleep in Jesus

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so then also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."

Peter Haffner

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of our beloved brother Peter Haffner, of Watonga, Oklahoma, who fell asleep in Jesus on November 29, 1942, at the age of 96 years. He was born in Morgenthau, Russia, on June 20, 1846, and came to the United States in the year 1881.

Over fifty years ago he accepted the Advent message and in the year 1920 he took his stand with God's remnant people. He was always willing to testify for His beloved Saviour, and often expressed the desire that the Lord may keep him faithful to the end.

We believe that he Lord will call our dear brother at the first resurrection morning, and that he and all the faithful will then have the privilege of being forever united with the Lord.

A. W. Doerschler

"In all ages the Saviour's chosen have been educated and disciplined in the school of trial. They walked in narrow paths on earth; they were purified in the furnace of affliction. For Jesus' sake they endured opposition, hatred, calumny. They followed Him through conflicts sore; they endured self-denial and experienced bitter disappointment. By their own painful experience they learned the evil of sin, its power, its guilt, its woe; and they look upon it with abhorrence. A sense of the infinite sacrifice made for its cure, humbles them in their own sight, and fills their hearts with gratitude and praise which those who have never fallen cannot appreciate. They love much, because they have been forgiven much. Having been partakers of Christ's sufferings, they are fitted to be partakers with Him of His glory.

"The heirs of God have come from garrets, from hovels from dungeons, from scaffolds, from mountains, from deserts, from the caves of the earth, from the caverns of the sea. On earth they were 'destitute, afflicted, tormented.' Millions went down to the grave loaded with infamy, because they steadfastly refused to yield to the deceptive claims of Satan. By human tribunals they were adjudged the vilest of criminals."—"The Great Controversy," pp. 649, 650.

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY S. D. A. REFORM MOVEMENT

North America: KALAMAZOO, MICH.
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