

DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET  
Statement of Treasurer, December 31, 1949

Receipts		
	December	3 months
Albion .....		\$ 30.00
Alfred, First .....	303.34	504.83
Associations and Groups.....		122.76
Battle Creek .....	177.50	476.47
Berlin .....	191.09	191.09
Boulder .....	69.77	69.77
Brookfield, First .....		15.00
Brookfield, Second .....	32.75	51.00
Chicago .....	132.00	192.00
Daytona Beach .....	22.25	60.25
Denver .....	24.33	74.61
Des Moines .....	10.00	10.00
De Ruyter .....		69.73
Dodge Center .....		55.82
Edinburg .....	7.83	23.43
Farina .....	15.00	55.00
Fouke .....		10.43
Friendship .....	12.85	22.85
Gentry .....		7.23
Healdsburg-Ukiah .....	10.00	10.00
Hebron, First .....	9.30	30.90
Hopkinton, First .....	117.60	117.60
Independence .....	60.00	109.00
Individuals .....	304.00	404.00
Little Genesee .....	23.17	95.42
Los Angeles .....	43.96	43.96
Lost Creek .....	95.03	95.03
Marlboro .....	72.00	144.00
Middle Island .....	6.50	23.49
Milton .....	422.96	1,041.22
Milton Junction .....	80.94	248.90
New Auburn .....	58.98	58.98
New York, First .....		79.51
Nortonville .....		32.25
Pawcatuck .....	750.00	750.00
Piscataway .....	54.75	78.25

Plainfield .....	381.70	669.20
Richburg .....		63.00
Riverside .....	285.13	285.13
Rochester .....	15.00	30.00
Rockville .....	4.76	10.46
Salem .....	104.15	188.51
Salemville .....		36.72
Shiloh .....	359.00	930.47
Walworth .....		10.00
Washington, People's .....	50.00	50.00
Waterford .....	33.20	75.96
White Cloud .....	7.00	60.46
Totals .....	\$4,347.84	\$7,814.69

Disbursements		
	Budget	Specials
Missionary Society .....	\$1,098.07	\$ 180.71
Tract Society .....	793.88	1.00
Board of		
Christian Education.....	608.37	2.00
Women's Society .....	20.36	40.00
Historical Society .....	94.48	
Ministerial Retirement .....	309.18	221.25
S. D. B. Building .....	111.77	
General Conference .....	466.65	
World Fellowship and Service .....	28.81	
Debt reduction:		
Miss. Society .....	\$115.32	
Tract Society .....	134.80	
Board of		
Christian Ed. .....	35.87	
S. D. B. Building .....	23.19	
Relief Appeals .....	309.18	54.13
American Bible Society .....		7.00
Totals .....	\$3,840.75	\$ 506.09
Overdraft .....	1.00	

Comparative Figures

	Total Budget	Normal
Total Budget .....	\$37,250.00	
Receipts in October for Budget .....	\$1,489.99 4%	\$3,104.16 8 1/3%
Receipts in November for Budget .....	1,508.67 4%	3,104.16 8 1/3%
Receipts in December for Budget .....	3,841.75 10.3%	3,104.16 8 1/3%
Totals .....	\$6,840.41 18.3%	\$9,312.48 25%

Special gifts, designated:	
October .....	\$348.19
November .....	120.00
December .....	506.09
Total .....	\$974.28

Milton, Wis.

D. N. Inglis,  
Acting Treasurer.

(Continued from page 85)

of Communion service, Mrs. Lewis F. Randolph; auditor, Arling A. Kenyon; care of house and small repairs, Charles R. Kenyon; ushers, Robert James, Phillip Prescott; finance committee, Charles R. Kenyon.

We have been holding weekly prayer meetings at different homes and have had good attendance. — Shirley Kenyon, Corresponding Secretary.

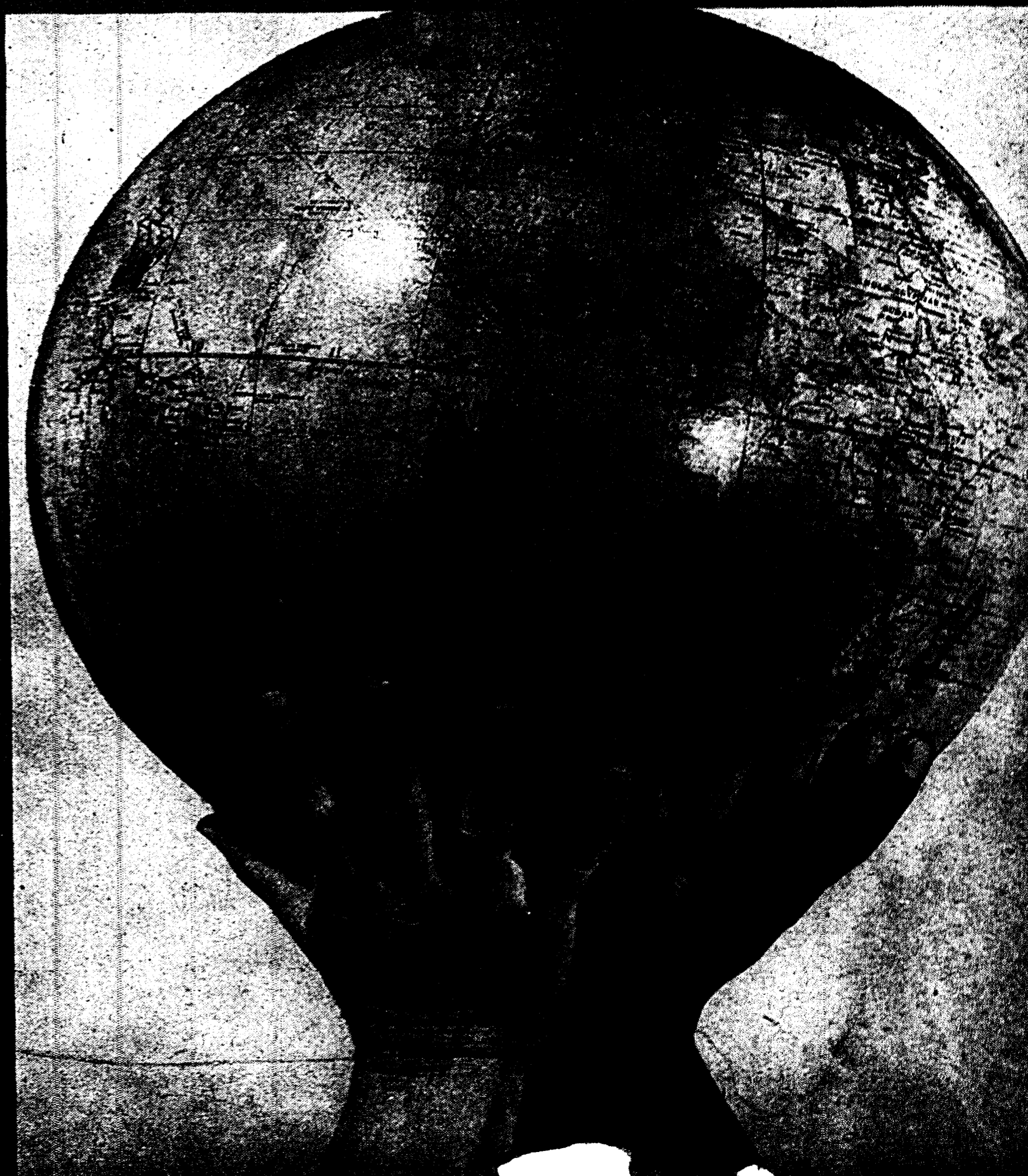
(Continued from page 86)

after a brief illness at his home near Mantua, N. J., on New Year's Eve at the age of 64.

Surviving Mr. Mayhew are his wife, Bernice Ayars Mayhew; an adopted son and daughter, Harold and Edna Ziegler; a sister, Mrs. Carrie Newkirk; and two brothers, Edward and Walter.

Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. Lester G. Osborn, on January 4, with interment in the Fernwood Cemetery near Shiloh.  
L. G. O.

# The Sabbath Recorder



# The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration

HURLEY S. WARREN, D.D., Editor  
L. H. NORTH, Manager of the Publishing House  
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WILLIAM L. BURDICK, D.D., Emeritus  
(MRS.) FRANCES DAVIS ..... Woman's Work  
ALBERT N. ROGERS ..... Christian Education  
HARLEY SUTTON, Emeritus  
(MRS.) MIZPAH S. GREENE ..... Children's Page

## Our Policy

The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles. For information about Seventh Day Baptist polity and beliefs write the American Sabbath Tract Society, Plainfield, New Jersey.

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## Front Cover Picture

"Co-operating for World Uplift."  
—RNS Photo.

# The Only Way

By DR. OSWALD J. SMITH

A banker and a business man sat oppo-  
site each other in the manager's office.  
The business man, leaning forward, was  
talking most earnestly, when suddenly the  
other interrupted him.

"Ridiculous! Absurd! Foolishness!" And  
the proud banker curled his lip in scorn.  
"But why?" inquired the one to whom  
he had spoken.

"Why? Do you, a thinking man, ask  
why? Such nonsense!" And he laughed  
in derision.

"Yes, sir," responded the other. "I ask  
you why?"

The face of the banker took on a scowl,  
and there was anger in his voice as he  
answered.

"Why? Do you mean to tell me that the  
death of Jesus Christ in my place on the  
Cross is going to satisfy God? Away with  
such theories! If I am to be saved, I must  
accomplish it by my own efforts." And  
he stamped his foot with passion.

"Ah! I see," replied the other. "Now  
I know what is the trouble. You think  
you have a right to manufacture a way  
of your own, and so you reject and spurn  
the God-provided plan."

"What do you mean by that?" ques-  
tioned the banker, with a mystified expres-  
sion on his face.

"Now, listen! Suppose a man should  
come to you and say, 'Mr. Banker, I am  
in great need, and I want you to loan me  
some money.' Tell me, who would have  
the right to make the terms and conditions  
upon which the money was to be loaned,  
you as banker and owner, or the man in  
need?"

"Why, I would, of course. He would  
have to meet my conditions before he  
could get the money," replied the banker.

"Exactly. And that, sir, is your posi-  
tion. You are the poor, helpless sinner,  
lost and undone, and God is the great  
Banker. You are coming to Him for mercy  
and pardon. Will you tell me who has the

(Continued on page 103)

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference  
SALEM, W. VA., AUGUST 22-27, 1950

# Who Wants a Long Holiday at the Expense of Millions?

"Looking forward to that post-holiday  
tomorrow? Seems like a good idea right  
now, doesn't it? Well, if you want it  
every year, brother, get on the 'band  
wagon' of the World Calendar Associa-  
tion.

"The association, of course, has motives  
slightly higher than just giving revelers an  
extra day to get over their revels. It's bad  
enough to have holidays sliding all around  
the week, from year to year. But the  
WCA is troubled also because the quarters  
of the year are not equal and because the  
vagaries of our present time system cause  
industry and government, it says, to waste  
'millions of dollars' annually."

Thus reads the first two paragraphs of  
an article which appeared in the Newark  
Sunday News (N. J.), January 1, 1950.  
"Long Holiday Can Be Permanent," is  
the title of the article.

"Who wants a long holiday at the ex-  
pense of millions?" we ask. That is exactly  
what it would mean. The "millions" ex-  
pense is in terms of the conviction of  
people, not in terms of millions of dollars.

All of this discussion is brought about  
by the renewed effort of the World Calen-  
dar Association for a calendar which the  
association chooses to call "The World  
Calendar" or "The Perpetual Calendar."  
Having temporarily lost its case last Sep-  
tember by having dropped from the agenda  
of the "1949 United Nations Assembly  
the World Calendar proposal for blank-  
day calendar revision," the World Calen-  
dar Association resumes its fight for cal-  
endar reform. The association seems to  
have little regard for the convictions of  
observers of the seventh day of the week  
as the Sabbath as well as for the convic-  
tions of those who yet observe the first  
day of the week as sacred time. We have  
it on good authority that the backers of  
the World Calendar Association are im-

bued with a sense of mission to the point  
of putting the World Calendar across re-  
gardless of how the "shifting" and "wan-  
dering" days will affect the religious ob-  
servance of millions of people throughout  
the world. At least it is reported that  
they thus far have declined to listen to  
reason in this respect.

Secretary Heber H. Votaw of Religious  
Liberty Association, 6840 Eastern Avenue,  
Washington 12, D. C., in writing about  
the World Calendar, says:

"The ugly and dangerous feature of the  
World Calendar plan is that it leaves the  
last day of each year, and the day following  
the last of June in each leap year, unnamed  
and undated days. These days would not  
be included in the count of the days of  
the week; therefore, they would completely  
disrupt the historic week and set the sacred  
days of the week to wandering through  
the new synthetic week of the so-called  
World Calendar. The age-old Sabbath  
would disappear."

The agitation for calendar reform in  
keeping with the World Calendar plan is  
another evidence of the present-day trend  
toward secularism, pure and simple. Al-  
though certain sections of the Christian  
Church have gone on record as favoring  
calendar change, yet when it has been  
brought to the attention of some of their  
leaders, those leaders indicated a concern  
and a readiness to stand in opposition to  
the World Calendar with fellow Christians  
whose convictions would become violated  
in the event such calendar should go into  
effect. This is a unique opportunity for  
the Christian Church to present a solid  
front against the onslaught of secularism.

As far as waste in industry and govern-  
ment is concerned, the proponents of the  
blank-day calendar have not proved that  
"millions of dollars" annually would be  
saved by each month having either 30 or  
31 days, each month consisting of 26 week-

days plus Sundays, and each quarter consisting of "exactly 91 days."

The opponents of the blank-day calendar have proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that when the cycle of the week should become interrupted, the observance of stated sacred time would eventually become impossible. For, in all of the calendar adjustments heretofore, the weekly cycle has never been changed. Thus, up through the centuries of human history there has been no mistaking of which was the seventh day of the week and which were the other days of the week. If the World or blank-day Calendar should go into effect on January 1, 1956, as the World Calendar Association now proposes, the irregularity from the stated sacred time standpoint would begin with the day following June 30 (of the proposed calendar) which would be known as Leap Year

## The Design of the Day

Designs cannot be considered apart from people. Without people there can be no designs.

Aims of people afford a most interesting study, and a helpful one. We have to be careful lest as we observe the apparent aims of people we become inclined to pass judgment upon them. But when an individual sets out to climb the ladder of success in society, politics, business, or profession regardless of where the spiritual "chips" fall, the aim is all too evident. Some well-meaning Christians will say, "He knows better. His parents taught him differently. If he chooses to forsake his Church, what can we do about it?"

Granted! Yet, the fact that he is accepting a plan for himself that eventually will lead him away from his Saviour, is strong reason for true Christians to pray and to act as the Spirit of Christ directs. However, we must be sure of the Spirit's direction; otherwise there is danger of doing more harm than good. Some people might deliberately get out of touch with the Church but keep in touch with God. Yet, how can they keep in touch

World Holiday. This situation would occur every four years. One occurrence would throw stated sacred time out of "kilter." And to encounter the 365th day as the Yearend World Holiday every year would necessitate the use of a separate religious calendar. Observers of stated sacred time would find it extremely and increasingly difficult to be loyal to their convictions. Such a dilemma might eventually lead to persecution of the faithful. Certainly in our enlightened twentieth century this ought not so to be.

Again, we ask, "Who wants a long holiday at the expense of millions of people who conscientiously observe stated sacred time?" Is the unproved benefit to industry and government in terms of "'millions of dollars' annually" quite worth the cost when the convictions of millions would be violated?

with God and at the same time live worldly lives?

Many people cannot see the difference between indifference and selfishness in the Church and in the world. The only difference is that these untoward characteristics reflect upon and disgrace the body of Christ while in the world they are more or less accepted as of the mind and manner of the world.

If the design of the day is to get ahead no matter who loses out, or suffers, or what the cost may be, the designers are in for great disappointment. This is a friendly universe, created and sustained by a loving God. God and Satan cannot be at peace in this God-created world. It is of the nature of evil to defeat itself if left to its own designs. Yet how great the damage done and destruction wrought! Evil, if left unmolested, might conceivably take all. That is why God has shed abroad His love through Jesus Christ in the hearts and lives of men.

All who have experienced God's love can neither be indifferent to the claims of

other of God's children nor selfish toward them.

There is only one conclusion: If the design of our day is indifferent and selfish, we cannot have known God's love and

forgiveness. If the design of our day is concern and compassion for those out of Christ, then we do know His love and forgiveness, and become clear channels of His grace and power.

## My First Lesson in Forgiveness

By REV. HAROLD E. SNIDE

( A True Story )

When I was a little boy about four years old, my folks would frequently send me to the post office, a quarter of a mile away, after the mail; and to make sure that I did not lose any of it, they gave me a sort of handbag made of basketwork to carry it in. One day, coming home with the mail, as I neared the house where we lived with my grandparents, I saw my grandfather down by the barn hitching the horse to the carriage. I knew that meant I would get a ride. Every bright, pleasant day Grandfather Lawrence took Grandmother for a short ride in the carriage. She was recovering from a long illness, and these short rides on bright days were "doctor's orders." Of course I always went, too.

This time Grandfather called to me to come to him and let him see what mail there was. I started down the slope toward the barn, and Grandfather left the old horse to come to meet me. Then, quick as a flash, I turned and ran for the house with Grandfather right after me yelling, "Here, Boy, you give me that mail! Here, Boy, don't you dare disobey me!"

I beat him to the door, but he was upon me before I could get inside. I knew I had done something awful; but I had no idea why I had done it, nor what to expect now that it was done. Remember, I was only four years old. My grandfather was a very stern old man, and I had never dared to disobey him before.

He led me into the kitchen and to the corner beyond the stove. He pointed to a row of hooks high on the wall and said,

"Boy, do you see those hooks? When your mother was a little girl and your uncles were little boys, I kept a stick on those hooks to whip them with when they didn't mind. Now shall I have to get another whip and keep it up there just for you?"

I hung my head in speechless despair. And then, incomparably worse than any whipping, came the sentence: I could never go riding again with my grandparents in the carriage. I was stunned — it was too much! I did not reason about it then — I just felt it — but I know now that much of my sorrow was in being separated from their love. In the carriage we had been close to each other, and we had talked, and they had seemed glad that I was there. Now I was so bad that they would choose separation from me rather than to have me with them. And it was to be forever — and I was only four years old. I watched them drive away much as lost sinners will see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of God, and they themselves cast out.

Days passed. Every bright morning I watched Grandfather and Grandmother Lawrence drive away and return. Did I tease to go? Never! I knew that I was guilty, and I accepted Grandfather's verdict as final.

Then, one afternoon, Grandfather took me by the hand and led me over to the corner of the kitchen — the very same corner where he had sentenced me on that awful day when I had disobeyed. He looked down at me rather kindly and said, "Boy, did you ever hear about forgiveness?"

No, I had never heard the word before.

"Well, I want to tell you about forgiveness. You see, Boy, it's this way: When anybody has disobeyed and done wrong, and has to be punished, then if he is really truly sorry that he did it, so that he will not ever do it again, he can be forgiven; and that means that he isn't punished any more; and it is all the same as if he had never done wrong."

The advantages of such a plan were evident enough! But that such a boon might be for me seemed beyond all possibility. Then Grandfather continued: "You remember some days ago you ran away from me when I told you to bring me the mail?"

I nodded that I remembered, and stopped on the down nod.

"Well," he asked, "you're sorry, aren't you, for what you did?"

Of course I was sorry! I hadn't been anything else for days!

"Are you sure you will not ever do such a thing again?"

I was very sure.

"Well, then I can forgive you, and we'll just forget that you did it. It will be just as if you had always minded me."

Still it seemed too good to be true; and as I looked up into my grandfather's face, he must have read my question; for I still didn't dare to speak it.

"Yes," he said, as he blew his nose, "it means you can ride in the carriage with us again, and I'm going out right now and hitch up the horse."

So that was **forgiveness!** Well, I was for it! It was just what I needed — and I've needed it many a time since.

I found as I grew older that God's sense of right was keener than my grandfather's and that sin separated me from God and prevented all pleasant association between us. And I believe the separation hurt God, too — the way it must have hurt my grandfather when I couldn't ride with him any more. Because, when, in my disobedience I was under hopeless condemnation, He made the first move and told me all about forgiveness — just the

way Grandfather did. God even provided the infinite Sacrifice to make forgiveness possible. "Even as the Son of man came . . . to give his life a ransom for many." Matthew 20: 28. ". . . My blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26: 28.

I accepted God's forgiveness just as I did Grandfather's, and now I am happy again.

"Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile." Psalm 32: 1, 2.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Romans 8: 1.

My friend, if you have not learned the joy of forgiveness, take your Bible and read Psalm 103; Isaiah 55; Micah 7: 18, 19; and see what God's own Word says about it. Let your heart respond to His love. If you lack words to express your feelings, you may find them in Psalm 51.

7225 Flower Avenue,  
Takoma Park 12, Md.

### Law and Life

The Ten Commandments show us how unfit we are for heaven — how far we fall short of God's standard. We are condemned by the law we break, not exonerated by the laws we do not break. We cannot be excused from trial for theft just because we can prove we have not broken any other law.

Does justification exempt us from righteous living? By no means! Life is to be ordered in keeping with the righteousness bestowed on us in Christ. See Ephesians 4: 1; Colossians 2: 6.

The only way to heaven is by accepting the Lord Jesus Christ, God's beloved Son. **BUT** — when we are saved, we will not keep on doing the things which the law tells us make us unfit for heaven. We will try, rather, in the power of the indwelling Christ, to live up to God's standard. — Author unknown.

## In This Our Day

By OSCAR A. DAVIS

We are living in a country of abundance and plenty for all. We work fewer hours for more money than ever before. This is an age of superlatives. This is the age of television, radar, supersonic airplanes, and atomic energy. Science has created wonder drugs one after another, until few diseases hold a feeling of dread for us. Surgery has reached tremendous heights of achievement. The most delicate operations have become commonplace. We feel justified in being proud of our accomplishments. We are a people of material and mental giants. **But** have we done as well in our spiritual life? Let us turn back the pages of time to "the great unknown."

"In the beginning God created" all things, whether in heaven or in earth, for the glory, honor, and power of Jesus Christ(1). This creation of things seen or unseen, whether thrones, dominions, principalities, or powers was a work of perfection. "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good."(2)

When Satan entered the picture, man fell on the first trial, and the situation was reversed. Satan became the ruler and god of this world(3). Man was plunged into spiritual darkness, deceived, and in turn deceived others. From perfection man fell into imperfection, spiritually and physically. Not only man, but even the ground under his feet was cursed; his very way of life was reversed and he lived thereafter in sweat and tears.

Did man learn a lesson from his disobedience? He did not! The first two sons of Adam were lost to God's service. Man's wickedness increased until God destroyed all but eight souls with the flood. After the flood the sons of Noah returned to wickedness; and God, to hinder them, confounded their tongues. Finally, God gave the world over to unrighteousness, and chose one man, Abraham, to be the father of His chosen people.

In those days God talked with His people either directly or through chosen men.

But Israel was never grateful to God for His deliverances or blessings. They constantly murmured against Moses, God, the food, or anything that came to mind. A study of the Books of Kings reveals their continual spiritual decay until God finally gave them up to captivity.

A natural question is, "Why didn't God foresee this decline of man's spiritual nature and make provision for it?" As a matter of fact, God did: in the person of Jesus Christ. God didn't prevent man from sinning, but He did provide a way of escape from the wages of man's own sins, which is death. "Before the world began" God promised that His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, would be our sin bearer(4). He came to His own, and His own received Him not. Though the children of Israel were in number as the sand of the sea, only a remnant was saved(5). Forty years after Christ's death Jerusalem fell, and the world was again plunged into spiritual darkness.

The world was too sinful to accept the only begotten of the Father — the Son of God. Man was again "given up" to his own sinfulness, and was forced to walk in the darkness of his own lusts. Man had again created a prison, a spiritual prison, for his habitation. But God will not be mocked. Satan, as in the life of Job, may have his day, but God's eternal purposes are sure.

Four centuries ago, mankind, like the children of Israel, shook off the shackles of spiritual bondage. The chains of iniquity so cunningly devised to keep man ignorant of the divine Holy Word of God were broken asunder, and men struggled forth into a new life with God.

This time, however, there was no Moses. This time there was no pillar of cloud by day, no pillar of fire by night, no voice from heaven thundering commands and encouraging promises. No prophets came among men to declare the glory of God and demand a sincere worship of Him.

Oh, yes, there were some prophets. But they said, "Follow me. I will teach you about God. I will save you by the strength of my divination." The followers of these prophets are with us today. They still tell us there is no salvation outside of faith in their prophets. They openly condemn to death for eternity all who do not believe in their way of salvation.

My friends, know this: These are the false prophets and false Christs which Jesus warned us against(6). For Jesus, our Saviour, said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."(7) And again, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."(8) With Satan and his lies all about us to confuse us night and day, how can we hope to attain perfection? With man alone it is impossible; but with God's help all things are possible.

We are now living in the age of the judges of Holy Scriptures (which please read). Every man does that which is right in his own eyes (9). Our Constitution guarantees every man the right to worship God at the dictate of his own conscience. God, however, gives us no such liberties. We must worship Him on His terms or we worship Him in vain.

We say we have no Moses, no commands from God, no prophets from God to speak to us, no pillar of smoke, no pillar of fire. Indeed, unlike the children of Israel, God's children are scattered to the four points of the earth. But God is faithful.

Is there not a Moses? "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me."(10) One greater than Moses is among us—the Comforter, our divine Companion; guiding us, protecting us from sin, and inspiring us to righteousness.

Have we no commandments? "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the

glory of his Father with the holy angels."(11) Jesus said, "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments."(12) "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."(13)

The voice of God from Sinai still rings through the ages, and men still hear and tremble. Since then, too, God has walked with us as a Brother and a Friend. We have marked His pathways, and meditated on His words. These words of God by which we are born again into a better way of life shall live and abide with us forever(14). Some dare to refuse His words; others add to them or explain them away; but they stand eternally like the Rock on which they are written(15).

Have we no pillar of cloud by day nor pillar of fire by night? "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."(16) "For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light."(17) "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."(18) "If ye love me, keep my commandments. . . . If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me."(19)

Jesus is our true Light; He is the Word; He is our Life. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." "Thy word is truth."(20) Jesus is that Truth.

My friends, in your heart is the Comforter, the divine witness in this short life. In your hand is the divine, inspired Word of God, the Bible, a tabernacle, as it were, for Jesus Christ in this our day! "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."(21) If you believe in Jesus Christ; if you would have eternal life; read, study, and meditate

daily upon the Bible — the eternal Word of God.

#### Scripture References

(1)Rev. 4: 11; Col. 1: 16, 17; John 1: 1-3. (2)Gen. 1: 31. (3)Eph. 6: 12; Luke 4: 6; 2 Cor. 4: 4. (4)2 Tim. 1: 9, 10; Titus 1: 2; Eph. 1: 4. (5)Rom. 9: 27; 11: 5, 7. (6)Matt. 7: 15; 24: 11, 24; 2 Peter 2: 1; 1 John 4: 1. (7)John 14: 6. (8)Acts 4: 12. (9)Judg. 21: 25; 17: 6. (10)John

15: 26. (11)Mark 8: 38. (12)Matt. 19: 17. (13)Rev. 22: 14. (14)1 Peter 1: 23. (15)Exod. 24: 12; 31: 18; Matt. 24: 35; see also 1 Cor. 10: 4; Deut. 32: 4; Matt. 7: 24, 25. (16)Psa. 119: 105. (17)Prov. 6: 23. (18)Psa. 1: 1, 2. (19)John 14: 15, 23, 24. (20)John 1: 1, 9; 14: 6; 2 Tim. 2: 15; John 17: 17. (21)John 5: 39.

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## Christ, the Church, the Second Coming

By CLARENCE BEEBE

The Word of God is too deep a subject for any one person or any group of persons to claim the knowledge of all its truth, be he minister of the gospel, radio preacher, or any consecrated Christian; or be it any religious body.

With love in our hearts, we as children of God should without bitterness or rancor respect the views of others, expecting the same right for our own views; praying always to be under the guidance of the Spirit in the revealing of the Word.

So, in the following pages I want to state my full belief in three facts written in the Word of God: Christ the Saviour and Redeemer from sin, the Church of Christ, and the Second Coming of Christ to this earth.

Also humbly and with joy, and with praise and thanksgiving to the loving, merciful Heavenly Father I want to give to my Christian brethren and others by means of these pages what God gave to me. It has been a vital experience to me. How deeply I have felt, and am feeling, and shall always feel my unworthiness. I believe I have been greatly honored.

Though bearing the name of Christian and a member of Seventh Day Baptist Churches since boyhood, yet now I know I was lacking in the essentials that a true Christian should possess. I also know that through the years I was a sinner and needed the salvation which comes through the Lord Jesus Christ. How easy it is to grow into that state in which we may not even be conscious of sin. I am deeply

grateful to our Heavenly Father that He kept me from the awful sin of unbelief. I realize the faith I had was a dormant faith, not a working faith.

"God works in ways mysterious His wonders to perform." I feel this to be so true, for I have now the blessed knowledge of the love and fellowship of God, as I have never known it before, and I believe I know a little something of how He works in the life. This truth from Isaiah 55: 8: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord," is revealing.

The belief is strong in my heart that God has a purpose for every child of His. From the moment we accept the Christ we belong to God. A great price has been paid for us — the precious blood of the Lamb of God. We have been brought to God by the bloodstained way, Calvary's Cross.

He wants our co-operation from the one talent person to the one of many talents. Sometimes co-operation is never fully given, sometimes it is long delayed. It has been long delayed in my life, but now praise be to the Father for His love and mercy and the transforming power of Christ in my life, I am seeking to do what He wants me to do. I want His will, not mine, to be done in the remaining years of my life.

For years I have thought I should write of these things but procrastinated. But I believe I was not then in the right attitude of mind and heart to do it. Now there is

no more desire to put it off for I feel strongly the wish to testify of the goodness of God, and the power of Christ.

I am seeking earnestly the guidance of the Holy Spirit, praying and believing. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11: 6. "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Philippians 2: 13.

For many years I have been in ill-health, and passing through difficult times. I believe God uses these things which come to us in life to train us if we will only see and hear. The word "chasten" is thought of by many Bible scholars and readers as used in the Word in the sense of child training.

"Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." Read Hebrews 12: 6-12.

How many times in recent years I have praised God for His child training. How wonderful was His love, mercy, patience, as He sought to train his child through the years, and I not learning the lesson. "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." Hebrews 12: 11.

What a change cometh when the life is yielded to God through life in Christ. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." 2 Corinthians 5: 21.

Some years ago when weak from illness, low in spirit, and lacking in courage and faith, God gave me a wonderful experience. The Heavenly Father alone knows what that experience means to me and how I treasure it. I am now convinced that God was building a spiritual conception, and bringing through trials, and by means of this experience, His light. He knows how I regret it took so long. Though everyone will not have an experience like mine, yet God works in His way in every receptive life. This experience came in what some would call dreams, but to me they were very much more than dreams. They came on three different

nights, these nights following close by each other. Each night I awoke my wife and described it to her. Though many years have elapsed yet every detail is fixed in my memory and truthfully given in the following account.

#### No. 1

I stood a short distance from the front entrance of a little country Church. This little Church faced the west. Its exterior was very plain, unadorned. Everything around seemed so peaceful and quiet. To the right of the Church and extending back a short distance was a little grove of trees, and to the right of the grove was what we in New England would call a very large field.

As I stood there I looked up to the roof of the Church and there I saw several men. They were gazing at the eastern sky. I was curious, wondering why they were looking so intently into the heavens. So I asked them, "Why are you there gazing up into the sky?"

One of them replied, "Our ladder has been taken to heaven and we are awaiting its return." Just then another one exclaimed, "Why, there is our ladder," and he pointed his finger toward the eastern sky.

In the eastern sky was a most beautiful golden glow, and out of this glow was coming a figure, growing larger as the distance lessened. I knew beyond a doubt that it was the Christ, the Son of the living God. Underneath at His feet was a ladder He came down and stood on the meadow some distance away.

As I stood looking, I noticed at my left people running to the Saviour. I was perplexed and troubled that so few were hastening to greet Him.

Then I started toward Jesus. I had gone only a few steps when I stopped, for conviction came to mind and heart that I was a sinner. I was in agony of soul, and there went up the cry to the One who forgives, "God be merciful to me a sinner." Immediately the burden was lifted, and with peace and joy I hastened toward the Redeemer. I came so close to Him that I could have touched Him with outstretched hand, but of course I was not allowed to

do this. Everything vanished and I was in possession of my normal working faculties.

As I write these lines these thoughts come to me. "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15: 10. How wonderful it will be when the Lord comes, whether He come at death, or when He comes for His Church, when those who are His shall see Him face to face — "When this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality," see 1 Corinthians 15: 54; when the children of God shall be changed "in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump." 1 Corinthians 15: 52.

#### No. 2

Hills surround many of the little villages in the northeastern section of our country. I was standing on one of these hills, and below me in the valley lying to the east nestled a quiet little village. At the foot of the hill and parallel to it was a road extending north and south.

As I stood there I was greatly puzzled for there seemed to be such a queer, peculiar condition of the atmosphere. The light was like twilight, neither day nor night. A peculiar light haze of a golden color lay upon the hills and valley. Suddenly all around about me were little particles of fire falling from heaven. There seemed to be no surprise, no fear in my heart, and no experience of hurt.

I started walking down the hill and upon reaching the road I walked toward the south. I soon came where the road branched to the east. I traveled some distance along the road which had now become a street of the village, soon coming to a little bypath branching from the street to the north. I noticed that upon this bypath there were two men approaching. They were bearing a stretcher. As they came closer I saw upon the stretcher the form of a young girl. I knew she was dead. I said to them, "Take her to Jesus." Following close behind these two men were two other men also bearing a stretcher. Upon this stretcher lay an old man.

I was shocked as I looked upon his dead

face. Upon that face was written indelibly what his life had been — marred so terribly by sin and dissipation. I somehow knew he had died in his sins and there was no hope for him. I did not tell them to take him to Jesus. Turning away from them I looked up the street toward the east.

There in the eastern sky was the same beautiful golden glow that I had seen before. Materializing out of that glow were many, many figures. As they drew nearer I beheld the Son of God and the holy angels of God. In front of them was a great crowd of people. They were seeking to escape from the presence of Christ and His mighty angels. The hosts of heaven drew nearer and then were gone.

#### No. 3

We were seated in a small country Church. The interior of this Church was very plain, rectangular in shape, lacking in many of the things deemed necessary today in Church worship. In the front was a plain wooden platform with the simple pulpit in the forefront. Back of the pulpit against the end wall, and extending from side to side, was a seat seemingly for the choir. This seat would today be considered very crude. It was like a seat in an athletic stadium or baseball park. This seat was occupied by a few people.

Presently one of them arose, went to the side of the Church to her right and placed her hand on the end corner. Immediately the whole side of that building from that end began to roll back toward the other end as a huge curtain in front of a platform would be rolled back, and outside of that Church was revealed a vast distance. I cannot describe it otherwise. It was peopled with so great a throng that could not be numbered. Coming from them was such music as I believe no mortal will ever hear on this earth. I seemed to know what it was, and I exclaimed: "The alleluia chorus of heaven!"

What a source of joy and comfort this is that the members of the Church of the living Christ who are faithful will be in that great band of the ransomed glorifying God and the Lamb.

It will perhaps never be clear to me the

full meaning of what God permitted me to see. Some of the things are clear because based on the Word of God. The meaning of the other things is hidden from me. I cannot express in words what I feel. Why God honored me so in my weakness and sinfulness is still a mystery.

I am not aware that Christ is anywhere in the Word spoken of as a ladder. A ladder is a means of ascent. May we not think of it in this sense that we are ascending to God in our daily living through faith in Christ and knowledge of Him? Peter says, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3: 18. The Christian life means growth and the only way we attain that growth is through Christ — to live our lives in Him "who is the way, the truth, and the life." "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2: 20.

What a goal to strive for! Not many of us will be called upon to suffer danger, trial, persecution, death as Paul did, yet God alone knows what lies in the future. We can attain to the full spiritual living that this verse teaches.

As I mentioned before I was troubled that so few were running to meet the Lord. Those who ran so eagerly to meet Him had been redeemed. We are saddened as we realize that there are millions upon millions who cannot meet the Lord Jesus because they are not willing to let go of the load of sin. Praise the Lord, my load is gone. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2: 8.

If you who read these written pages do not know God, who do not believe in God, who have once known God but have forsaken Him, who are trying to serve two masters, God and the world, who are denying the Christ that died for you, who are carrying a load of sin in many forms, will you not let the Christ take away your load of sin and guilt? You may not be conscious of the load but you never can enter fully into life until that load is lifted.

Dear young people, give your life to God while young. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Ecclesiastes 12: 1. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Corinthians 6: 2. The world with its pleasures may be very alluring, but it is also very fleeting and not to be compared to the peace and joy of the life lived in God. I can speak with assurance for I missed for many years what I now possess. Untold riches God alone can give.

When I saw the form of the young girl on the stretcher, the face not marred by sin, there was no hesitation, no fear, no doubt when I said: "Take her to Jesus."

What a difference! What a comparison! Youth yielded to Christ — the radiance of Christ in the face. The hardening power of continued sin, self-will, self-gratification, marred the visage of the old man. Youth saved, old age eternally lost. I hope both youth and age will give thought. Young men and young women entering life, crossing the threshold, think well what that life is to be. Middle age, consider carefully for you have taken up some of the span of life. You in the decline of life, remember that all things are possible with God. As he changed my life so can he change yours.

I have been reading the Scofield Reference Bible in the Book of Exodus explanations and comments in regard to the ark of the ancient Israelites. This is the explanation given. The ark was made of Acacia wood overlaid with gold. It is believed that gold typifies deity in manifestation, the ark typifying Christ in His humanity and deity; also gold covering wood, Christ covering the sins of poor humanity.

Beautiful was the golden glow when Christ appeared in the eastern sky. For a long time this verse of Scripture has been in my mind: "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24: 27.

The children of God have the blessed privilege of having God constantly with them, the abiding presence of His Son, wherever they are, in whatever condition

of life, the guidance of God's Spirit. The called out ones have also the joy and the blessing which comes from meeting together in worship.

God meets with His Church wherever and whenever they are together in Christ's name. It may be in little, simple country Churches, in the great Churches and cathedrals of the city, in the open air, in homes, in camps. God is there when worshiped in spirit and truth. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4: 23, 24.

How wonderful it is that so many come from their youth to old age with the joy and peace of God written on their faces without the terrible marks of sin written there. Also, though the telltale marks of sin be on the face, yet transformed, the countenance is made radiant by the presence of God and the abiding of His Son. So great is the power of God that He can take the soul that is trusting in his own morality for his salvation, can change it completely, and make it over into a new life through faith in the Son of God.

For everyone there is this truth of God

if he will only believe and accept it: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5: 17.

I am quoting from God's Word from the lips of the Son of God Himself these words: "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory." Matthew 25: 31. There are many other words in the Bible from Him, and also from Moses to Revelation — from David, from the prophets, from the writers of the New Testament telling emphatically that Christ is coming again in person to this earth. The radio ministry, Bible scholars, many of the pulpits of the world are proclaiming this truth. It is quite possible that He may come sooner than many believe. "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." Matthew 25: 13. In the next to the last verse in the Word are these words, "He which testifieth these things saith, surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." The Son of God speaks and the beloved Apostle speaks.

Stonington, Conn.

## *Eternal Life*

By REV. EARL CRUZAN

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"We believe that Jesus rose from the dead and lives eternally with the Father, and that He will come in heavenly glory; and that because He lives, eternal life, with spiritual and glorified bodies, will be the reward of the redeemed." — Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs, page 53.

If there were no promise of eternal life in the Scriptures, our faith would be vain. We would be disillusioning ourselves and failing to get the utmost value out of life. If there were no promise of eternal life in the Scriptures, then our whole purpose in this world would be different. There would still be a value in living a morally

good life, of holding up certain definite standards of right and wrong, and accomplishing things for the good of the race. The good that we would do would live on after us in the lives of our children and our grandchildren and in the lives of those whom we had influenced. But for us death would be the end. Our bodies would turn into the dust of the earth from which they came and we would have to deny that there is a spirit in man.

That is what some of the scientists would have us to believe. Yet many others would testify to the reality of the spirit in man. We don't have to trust to sci-

entific finding in regard to eternal life. All of our scientific knowledge has not been able to prove one thing or another in regard to the future state of man. We must turn to the Scriptures for the study of the things that matter in eternity and which apply to the spiritual life of man.

As we consider the theme of sin and salvation, we consider the sacrifice of Christ. We know that He was crucified, and buried, that His tomb was sealed by the Roman seal and guarded by the soldiers; yet He rose on the third day to live eternally with the Father.

Jesus had told the disciples that He must needs die and rise again. He had said that if His body were destroyed He would raise it again on the third day. He spoke of that generation seeking a sign, but that the only sign which should be given unto it was that, "as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so (would) the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

Christ was crucified on Wednesday, laid in the tomb before the sun had set and the Passover Sabbath had begun. This Passover Sabbath was on Thursday that year. The women brought spices on Friday, but as there was a seal on the tomb and a Roman guard for three days, they waited until the sun began to set on the weekly Sabbath ere they went to anoint the body of Jesus. This is according to Matthew. Other records speak of it as early in the morning on Sunday — there may have been two visits to the tomb. The important thing is that His body was not there. They were greeted by the angel who told them that Christ was not there, but had risen.

This was a rather hard blow for the leaders of the Jews to take and so they bribed the soldiers to say that His disciples stole the body. All the evidence is to the contrary, although that was commonly reported in Jerusalem at that time. Jesus appeared to Mary; then to the disciples; then He appeared to the two on the way to Emmaus and at other times. He was with them for a time and then gone. They did not see Him come, nor did they see Him go; but no one could deny His presence while He was with them. Thomas,

not being present at the first meeting, refused to believe that it had actually been Jesus, but when he saw Him he called out, "My Lord and my God."

As they went to the Mount of Olives Jesus visibly ascended into heaven, and told them that He would so come in like manner.

As Jesus rose from the dead, He lives eternally with the Father. He has taken His place on His throne on the right hand of God and there He makes intercession for the sins of man.

John tells us that Jesus was with God from the beginning, but that He was sent to earth in the form of man. While on earth He suffered and died and rose from the dead, returning to His place with God, and that because He lives, we shall live also.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3: 16. And this is life everlasting, that we may know Him, the only true God.

It is because Christ lives that He gives to us, His followers, the hope and promise of eternal life for ourselves. If Christ had not risen from the dead, our hope would be without fruit, without promise. But because He rose from the dead, we have the promise that we shall also triumph over death, and that we shall live eternally with Him.

Jesus told His disciples that as they saw Him ascend into heaven, so would He come again in glory upon the clouds of heaven. He told us that we would not know the time nor the hour, for even He Himself knew it not. However, He warned us that we should ever live as if He were coming at the next moment so that we will be ready when He does come.

When He comes in heavenly glory He will establish His kingdom upon the earth and peace and justice shall reign with Him.

We read in 1 John 2: 17, "The world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

There was no one so close to Jesus as was John, and his simple faith is warmly

expressed in his writing. He tells us that he that saith he abideth in Christ ought to walk as Christ walked. The right kind of living strengthens us and prepares us for the life which is to come. It is not some far-off, faraway consummation, but it is a process of growth from this life to the next. We begin eternal life here on the earth; we do not wait until after death to begin it. We continue in the life which we have found in Christ.

Society needs the saving influence of Christian character. It needs Christlike character to lift it up above the sordid plan of the worldly life. As our life begins in Christ, so must we live if we are to continue in His love. We must grow as we go through life with Him as our guide.

As Jesus pictured the great judgment scene with the sheep separated from the goats, there were two surprises: the sheep, that they had done these things for Christ; and the goats, that they had neglected to do them. The first had been living a Christlike life — evidenced in daily word and deed. They were to continue in that life in even greater glory. The others may have been Pharisaic — thinking they were righteous, but neglecting to live as He would have them live. They had neglected to minister to those in need.

Victor Hugo has this to say of the future life: "I feel in myself the future life. I am rising, I know, toward the sky. The sunshine is on my head. The earth gives me its generous sap, but heaven lights me with the reflection of unknown worlds.

"You say the soul is nothing but the resultant of the bodily powers. Why then is my soul more luminous when my bodily powers begin to fail? Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart. The nearer I approach the end, the plainer I hear around me the immortal symphonies of the world which invites me. It is marvelous, yet simple.

"When I go down to the grave I can say like many others, 'I have finished my day's work.' But I cannot say I have finished my life. My day's work will begin again the next morning. The tomb is not a blind alley, it is a thoroughfare. It closes on the twilight. It opens on the dawn."

We believe that because Christ lives, "eternal life, with spiritual and glorified bodies, will be the reward of the redeemed."

The body which we now have perishes and returns to the earth which gave it, but the soul lives on with its Maker. We know not what form the spiritual and glorified body will take, for we are not told exactly what it will be like. But this we do know: the body will be sufficient to care for the needs of the soul. We know that as Christ is, so shall we be also. We are told that our spiritual body shall be incorruptible. We shall have a glory that is greater than we now know.

The life which continues after physical death will be a life of great fullness. There will be no pain, no want, no sorrow, but only light and happiness and joy in the presence of our Lord.

(Continued from page 90)

right to make the terms and lay down the conditions upon which you may receive His salvation, remembering now that you are the man in need, and God the Banker?"

"Ah! I never saw it that way before," responded the banker in an astonished tone of voice. Why, of course, I am not in a position to dictate terms. God has that right, and He alone."

"And yet you have been manufacturing a scheme of your own, forgetting that paupers do not dictate: they accept. And all the time God, the great Banker, has been offering you salvation according to His plan. Will you now abandon yours and accept His? Are you ready to meet God on His own terms?"

"God helping me, I will," replied the now-humbled banker, as the new light broke upon his soul. — Published by permission of the American Tract Society, 21 West 46th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

The Sabbath, the divinely appointed weekly reminder of God's gracious presence among men, is necessary if we are to possess a strong personal religious faith, or maintain a genuinely Christian social order. — A Sabbath Motto, Bond.



# The Bible Speaks to Youth

By DR. FRANCIS CARR STIFLER

Public Relations Secretary, American Bible Society

Why do we read books?

The first and most obvious reason for those of us who are in school or college is that we can't very well get out of it. The chief tools of educators and our principal sources of information are books. And so long as we attend school, we must read.

But that, of course, is a silly answer and not worth serious attention. There are three real reasons why we go to books. Despite all that movies, the radio, and eventually television, may do to cut in on the quantity of reading done, books will continue to play an important part in our lives.

First, we read books for fun. Who does not love a good story well told? It is an unusual American boy or girl who has not lost himself in the Adventures of Tom Sawyer or Huckleberry Finn, gone romancing with D'Artagnan and his Three Musketeers, thrilled to the exploits of Sherlock Holmes, or enjoyed the whimsical wanderings of Alice in Wonderland. Even those of us who are none too keen about poetry accept the Idylls of the King for the account they give of Arthur and his knights of the Round Table.

Then we surely must use books to increase our stock of knowledge. How else are we to know about the world we live in, about who we are, where we came from, what we are doing and thinking, and about the forces which make our universe tick? From the three R's up, we have to learn from books, in order to widen our understanding and to permit us to fit ourselves into the increasingly difficult puzzle of life of which we are a part. Such civilization as we now have has come about, because, centuries ago, men learned to make their thoughts and discoveries permanent by writing them down, so that others coming afterwards could profit from what had already been done, and build on that foundation. None of us can prepare well for his place in

life, no matter how humble, without the study of books. We all perform our jobs better if we take advantage of what books on the subject have to say. And that goes for farmers as well as for doctors, for factory workers as well as for lawyers, for clerks as well as for scholars.

Finally, we read books for inspiration: to search out for ourselves deeper meanings in life than appear on top. From some reading we get the same kind of feeling that comes when we listen to great music. We seem, for the time, lifted out of ourselves and our small interests to a higher level of experience. In reading like this the feelings as well as the mind play a part. Try a great speech like Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, a poem like Bryant's *Thanatopsis*, or an essay like *Vinginibus Puerisque* by Stevenson, and you will see what I mean. All philosophy (don't let that word frighten you) and much biography come under this head.

Now, the Bible is a whole library of books — sixty-six of them to be exact. In it we can find the greatest literature ever written of all three kinds just described.

For fine enjoyment you can find in the Bible some of the best stories ever told. A great literary critic has called the story of Joseph the most perfect story in our possession. Read the Books of Ruth and Esther for the real pleasure they will give you. The parables of Jesus are priceless gems, told, to be sure, to point a lesson, but none the less great stories. The story of David and Jonathan is a classic tale of the friendship of one man for another; and the dramatic events surrounding the life and death of the rebellious Absalom will stir your heart.

What finer instruction can there be than the sound training the Bible gives in the art of living? In the Old Testament, I would urge every young person to read thoughtfully several times the Book of Proverbs. Many of the Psalms are re-

flections upon the meaning of life. But the greatest of all teaching is found in the words of the greatest of all teachers — Jesus Christ. A thorough knowledge of



American Bible Society

"The earth is the Lord's"

the Gospels is an absolute necessity for right living. I believe that the Sermon on the Mount should be read as regularly as your favorite magazine — at least once a month.

But there is another angle to reading for instruction. Read the history of the Hebrew people as set down in the historical books of the Old Testament, and watch the ups and downs, the strength and weaknesses, of a nation made up of plain people just like any of us. Consider how they struggled to know God better, and how often they failed. Surely, individuals and groups alike can learn much from the experiences revealed here, with no attempt to blur the clear light of truth.

It is not hard to find inspiration in the Bible. In the Old Testament the Book of Psalms still lives as our most treasured collection of poetry. Who can remain unmoved by such masterpieces as "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showest his handiwork," "I

will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help," "Sing unto the Lord a new song, sing unto the Lord, all the earth," and many more. Passages from Isaiah and other prophets really sing themselves as we read them; for they have inspired some of our finest music.

In the letters of Paul are whole chapters whose grandeur rivals that of Mt. Everest in the physical world; for example, Romans 12, Philippians 2, and 1 Corinthians 13 — matchless in their beauty and loftiness of spirit. Parts of Revelation, too, should be included. And of all the prayers ever uttered, the prayer of intercession by the Master recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John's Gospel, remains forever unsurpassed.

We cannot hope here to give a complete statement of the Bible's treasury of riches — that would make our chapter too long, and even then someone would feel slighted because we had left out his favorite passage. All that has been tried here is to whet your curiosity, make you want to test for yourself some (I hope all) of the few highlights just mentioned.

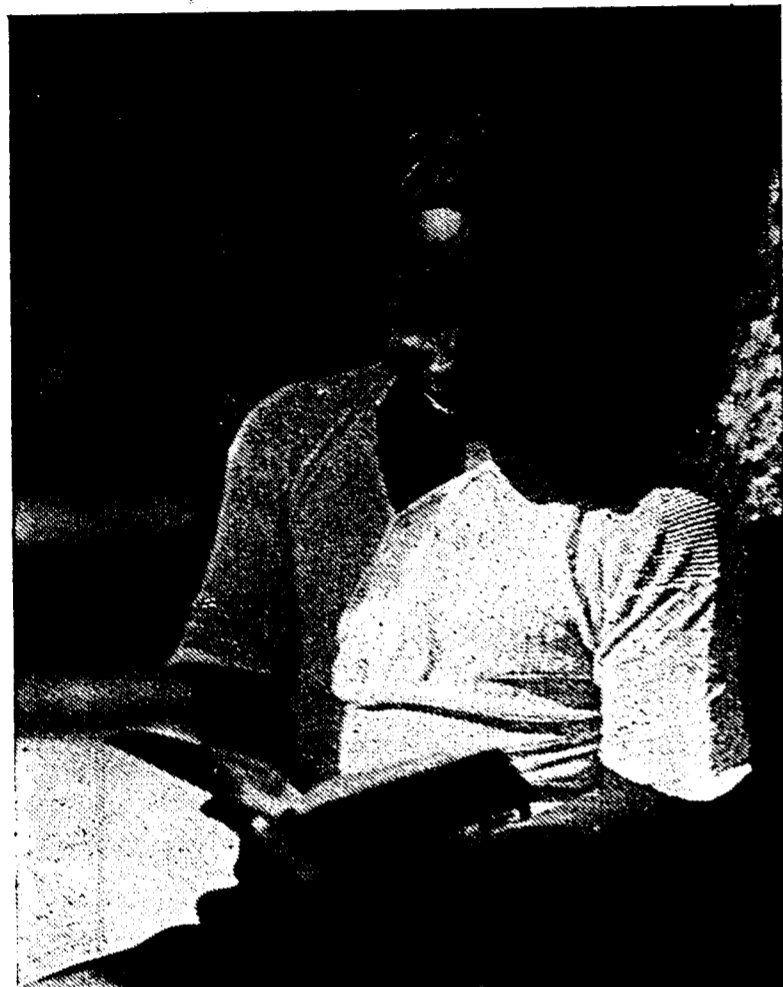
If anyone were to ask where to begin his reading, I should urge him to start with the Gospel of Mark; its swift moving account of the life of Christ gives a fine starting point, combining all three elements — enjoyment, instruction, and inspiration. Follow that with the two books of Dr. Luke — the Gospel that bears his name, and the Acts of the Apostles — mingling that reading with some selected Psalms.

Then, take Proverbs, and perhaps accompany that with Matthew's Gospel, since Proverbs makes rather slow going if read steadily.

By then you should be ready for the greatest love story ever told — the Gospel of John. From there on, the Bible should have captured you; and either on your own, or with the steering of your pastor or teacher, you should be able to find your way around and be at home in its pages.

A few further suggestions: Reading the Bible is an acquired habit, like brushing your teeth. It reveals its value only to the earnest seeker after it; it is not a book for

lazy or indifferent people. Don't approach Bible reading as you would a good-luck charm, to keep off witches and goblins. A chapter a day, in that spirit, will certainly not keep the devil away. Approach



American Bible Society

Native Christian in Truk (So. Pacific) reads from his Bible. This is the only book in his language. It was published by the American Bible Society.

it in the spirit of a miner searching for precious metal, who is not content until he has struck "pay dirt." For the pay dirt is there, as millions of Christian people bear witness.

Or better yet, look at it as a book of rules. Every real sportsman knows thoroughly the rules of the game he loves. Every business and professional man who has made the grade operates on well-known principles and a stock of necessary knowledge relating to his particular field of endeavor. He has his shelf of books the contents of which he knows thoroughly, and to which he refers constantly. The rules of the game of life are contained in the Bible — the greatest textbook on the subject ever composed, because it is God's masterpiece. No one who wishes can win in the game of life who is unfamiliar with the rules. They're all there for you to search them out.

And, finally, you will find yourself entering into friendly understanding with the people in the Bible, and into real companionship with the historic and present Jesus who is to be found here.

Give the Bible a chance. Cut its power in on the daily program of your life. You will never need to turn up the loud-speaker. The Bible will be found speaking with full power — especially to youth. — From "The Bible Speaks to You," the Greystone Press, publishers, used by permission.



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## Children's Page

### Remember Your Creator

(Ecclesiastes 12: 1.)

By Irene Hulett

Remember your Creator

When in your youthful days,  
And follow His directions  
In all life's devious ways.

For evil days will surely come  
And worldliness allure,  
So we should try most earnestly  
To walk God's way secure.

When we do not remember,  
And from the right path stray,  
Our homes are often troubled,  
And rougher is the way.

Your hands, your feet, your mind, your  
tongue  
He made to do His will;  
He wants you to use them for Him,  
His purpose to fulfill.

Now what should you remember?  
I've tried to write it clearly.  
"Remember your Creator"  
Who loves His children dearly.

Milton, Wis.

### The Lord Is My Shepherd

By Mizpah S. Greene

A little boy was trying to memorize the 23rd Psalm and said proudly to his teacher, "I know the first verse already. Just listen! 'The Lord is my shepherd: that's all I want.'"

Although this is not just the way the 23rd Psalm begins, yet I think it shows that a child may have faith that our Lord Jesus is ready to supply not only his wants but his needs. As we repeat, "I shall not want," let us think like this little boy, "That's all I want."

"He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters." Yes, our Lord supplies us with the greatest of blessings if we strive to do right and trust in Him. He surely will

lead His faithful children in the pathway of righteousness; that is, help them to do right.

"He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Yes, if we strive to be faithful Christians, He will keep us strong to do the right with all our soul and mind and strength.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

We will never have cause to fear death, evil, or sorrow if we depend upon the love and strength that come only from our Lord.

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over."

We can depend upon our Lord to protect us from our enemies and with His help our cup of joy runneth over.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

"The Lord is my Shepherd  
I shall not want;  
He maketh me down to lie.  
In pastures green he leadeth me  
The quiet waters by."

His goodness and mercy  
Shall follow me,  
Where'er I am,  
Through all my days  
And with my Lord some day I'll dwell  
In heaven, our home forever.  
Andover, N. Y.

### SPECIAL ISSUE

This is a special issue of the Sabbath Recorder, taking the place of the first regular issue of the month indicated. Twelve special issues are published each year and may be subscribed for independently of the regular numbers.

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## *Christ versus Alexander*

By Charles Ross Weede

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three,  
 One lived and died for self; one died for you and me.  
 The Greek died on a throne; the Jew died on a cross;  
 One's life a triumph seemed; the other but a loss.  
 One led vast armies forth; the other walked alone;  
 One shed a whole world's blood; the other gave His own.  
 One won the world in life and lost it all in death;  
 The other lost His life to win the whole world's faith.

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three.  
 One died in Babylon; and one on Calvary.  
 One gained all for self; and one Himself He gave,  
 One conquered every throne; the other every grave.  
 The one made himself God; the God made Himself less;  
 The one lived but to blast; the other but to bless.  
 When died the Greek, forever fell his throne of swords;  
 But Jesus died to live forever Lord of lords.

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three,  
 The Greek made all men slaves; the Jew made all men free.  
 One built a throne on blood; the other built on love,  
 The one was born of earth; the other from above;  
 One won all this earth, to lose all earth and heaven;  
 The other gave up all, that all to Him be given.  
 The Greek forever died; the Jew forever lives.  
 He loses all who gets, and wins all things who gives.

— From Bulletin, The Evangelical Seventh Day  
 Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.

# The Sabbath Recorder



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