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# THE ARMOUR OF LIGHT



**A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AND TESTIMONY.**

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY ROBERT M. MURDO  
930 N. LOCKWOOD AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.

PRICE FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM.

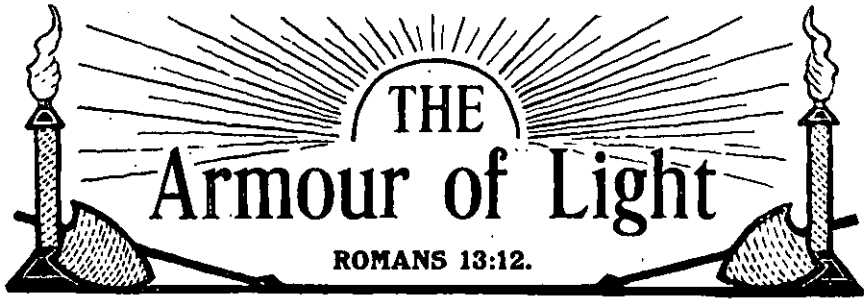
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## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### UNITED STATES

**New York and District.**—Arthur J. Mauger is conducting Bible readings Thursday evenings at residence of Leonard Leest, 255 North 9th Street, Paterson. Average attendance exceeds 50, chiefly of people interested by summer tent meetings. \* \* Asa C. Moore and Phoebe C. Hill were married at the Brooklyn Training School for Missionaries, R. W. Owens performing the ceremony. They hope to leave early in the year as missionaries to British Guiana, to which work they are commended by the Tenafly and Ridgely Park Assemblies. Both are now at the Training School. \* \* Charles Innes, Toronto, Ont., left New York district after a three weeks stay and while here visited Jersey City, Paterson, Kearny, Tenafly, Bronx, Brooklyn, 134th Street, 125th Street, besides preaching at Fort Hancock and Camp Merritt and attending the opening of the Training School for Missionaries and the Thanksgiving Conference. He will stop at Newburgh on his way back to Toronto. \* \* December 2, A. E. Ainslie had series of Gospel meetings at Chadwick Avenue Meeting House, Newark. \* \* November 29, **Thanksgiving Day Conference** at Judson Memorial Hall, under auspices of 57th Street (Manhattan) Assembly. Attendance about 700. L. S. Chafer, F. C. Jennings, Charles Innes, Richard Hill and William Dunning spoke. \* \* November 4, Richard Hill began series of six Sunday and Wednesday evening meetings in Ridgely Park. Large attendance and much interest, these meetings followed a campaign of the Weigle Evangelistic party which had deeply moved the town. \* \* December 2, **Monthly Meeting** at Chadwick Avenue Meeting House, Newark, N. J. Large attendance. A. E. Ainslie, Thomas Baird, John Hill and John James spoke. Next meeting January 6, 3:30 and 7:00 o'clock. Thomas Baird and other expected. \* \* Newton, N. J. Good meetings in new hall. Many conversions. Address E. G. Dillon, Park Block. \* \* John James now in district; address 40 Jones Street, Jersey City, N. J. \* \* January 14, **Monthly Bible Lecture** at 113 Fulton Street; Speaker, John Hill. Subject, "The Spirit's Message to the Churches at the Approaching End of the Age." \* \* Remember Room 32, 113 Fulton Street, Manhattan. L. A. Steen present daily from 1 to 3 p. m., to greet visitors, give information regarding meetings, etc. \* \* **Chicago Annual Conference.** A four days' conference was held in Elks Club Hall, Oak Park, commencing on Thanksgiving day, when Christians from assemblies in Chicago and surrounding districts came together for fellowship and ministry. There were not so many visitors from a distance this year, but more came from the immediate district which made the numbers about the same as last year. Ministering brethren who took part were; George L. Alrich, Thos. Baird, A. N. O'Brien, J. M. Carnie, R. McMurdo. Others who took part in the Gospel were, Dr. T. Beir from Brantford, Ont., Canada; Tom Olson, Bruce Gilbert and Rupert O'Brien. Mr. Merian from China gave an account of his work among



Volume V

JANUARY, 1918

Number 1

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

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In the goodness of God we are permitted to begin another year of service in sending forth this number of The Armour of Light. We are encouraged to know that the paper continues to find acceptance with those who have taken it from the first, and that the number of new readers is still on the increase.

### **Additional Help.**

Mr. T. Baird of New York has promised to give a series of articles throughout the year, which are sure to be appreciated. Our brother A. N. O'Brien has been our helper from the first and will continue to be so if the Lord will. The papers on Judges by James Brown of Chicago have proven helpful to some. This might encourage others to put into writing some of the truths they have gathered for themselves and send them to us. In this way we gain by giving, and grow richer by our poverty.

### **Reported Addresses.**

The reported addresses by Alfred Mace were much appreciated. We would be glad to have more help along that line. Some of our readers may be able to take down an address as it is spoken. In this way wings are given to the words and they are carried far beyond the limit reached by the speaker's voice. The enemy is busy spreading abroad all kinds of false teaching. Let us help to make known the truth of God which brings life and freedom to all who receive it.

**Error on the Wing.**

Dr. Frank Crane, whose editorials reach millions of readers, has given his views on God and salvation, in *The American Magazine* for December. He says: "To do right and not wrong will save any man's soul."

When the Philippian jailer asked the question, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul and Silas had a different answer to give: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Dr. Crane is simply voicing the popular bloodless, antichristian theology which is proclaimed from many pulpits today. As we read the high sounding pronouncements of this "wonderful preacher" we are reminded of the noise made in the town of Man-soul by the two great guns that Bunyan tells us of, in the holy war, the one called "Highmind," and the other "Heady," which were cast in the castle by one called Mr. Puff-up.

**Christian Science for the Soldiers.**

"Announcement is made of the publication of a new vest pocket edition of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, which can be carried in the small pocket of a soldier's or sailor's uniform." The price of this new edition is \$3.00."

In striking contrast to this money grabbing scheme invented by these fakirs, Christian men and women are providing neatly bound volumes of the New Testament FREE to all soldiers and sailors.

**"A Generation Unfamiliar With the Bible."**

"One of the most notable religious meetings held in New York was that at Carnegie Hall where representative Catholics, Protestants and Jews united in a plea for non-denominational religious instruction in the public schools." There it was said, "We now have a generation largely unfamiliar with the Bible, and in a surprising degree lacking in faith as in Scriptural knowledge." It is not likely that the wrong will be righted at this late hour. Because of Israel's neglect of the favors bestowed upon that people. God said, "Therefore say I unto you, the kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof." "Behold the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord." Amos 8-11

### Jerusalem to the Front.

The capture of Jerusalem by the British is the most important event on the war program lately. Before Christ comes to Mount Olivet to claim His inheritance, and establish His kingdom on earth the Jews must be back in their own land, their temple rebuilt, and Jewish worship restored.

So long as the Turks held the city the Jews could not get back there, but now the way may soon be open for the return of the Jews to their own land. As Christians we are not waiting for the return of the Lord to the earth. We are waiting to hear the **shout** which shall call us to meet the Lord in the air, but this does not hinder us from considering the operation of God's hands as He shapes the events toward the revealed end. Rather let us all the more watch, and pray, "Come Lord Jesus."

## THE TABERNACLE OF ISRAEL

### A Great Type and Its Teaching.

The Tabernacle, with its furniture and priestly service, presents one of the most perfect types contained in the Old Testament. From the gate of the outer court to the Golden Mercy Seat, with its Cherubim of Glory, all is aglow with prophetic light and sublime foreshadowings of the person and work of our blessed Redeemer. Its materials were divinely chosen, its dimensions divinely given, and the whole plan divinely arranged in every detail. Its various parts, with their spiritual teaching, set forth the great truths of redemption which are fully unfolded in the New Testament, and the perfect harmony clearly established between the figure and the fact is one of the strongest proofs of the inspiration of the holy scriptures.

### Importance of the Subject.

The large place which the history of the tabernacle occupies in the scriptures is one of the proofs of its importance in relation to the redemption work of our Lord Jesus Christ. The story of the Tabernacle with its spiritual teaching fills whole books while the great facts of creation are summed up in two short chapters. In the epistle to the Hebrews, where the wealth and perfection of heavenly things are so fully revealed, the whole story is told in language borrowed from the

Tabernacle, and this is all the more remarkable when we remember that the Temple was still standing when that epistle was written. Again, at the close of the Book of Revelation where the veil is lifted upon the new creation we have these words: "And I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem; coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold the **tabernacle** of God is with men, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. Rev. 21:2-3. The tabernacle was a wilderness dwelling, and the mention of it in connection with the new heavens and the new earth associates with the eternal state the remembrance of wilderness days. Amid the glories of the new and eternal home we shall never forget all the way which the Lord has led us.

#### A Dwelling Place for God.

The Tabernacle was God's first dwelling place upon earth. His word to Moses was: "And let them make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them." And Jeremiah, speaking of it in after days, said, "A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary." Jer. 17:12. No other structure was ever erected in this world in the building of which God manifested such interest. The dimensions, arrangements and materials were all divinely selected and planned and every detail was minutely described so that no room was left for human contrivance. The Tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry were "patterns of things in the heavens," "figures of the true," hence the care with which every part was made according to the instructions which God gave to Moses on the mount.

The Tabernacle itself has passed away but the inspired description of it is preserved in the scriptures for us that we in our time may have the benefit of the spiritual teaching concerning the heavenly things embodied in the various parts of this "building of God."

#### The Material.

When God brought Israel out of Egypt He brought them out laden with wealth. For long years the Israelites had labored in Pharaoh's brick kilns without getting any wages, but at the end God spoiled the Egyptians and enriched the children of Israel. "He smote all the first born in their land, the chief of all their strength. He

brought them forth also with silver and gold, and there was not one feeble person among their tribes." Psalm 105:36-37. Then having enriched His people with the wealth of Egypt the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering. \* \*. And let them make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them." Ex. 25:1, 8.

God, who gave the pattern, could easily have provided the material, but it pleased Him to allow His people to co-operate with Him in this service. In the work of creation God had no helpers but in redemption He works through human instrumentality. God gave the pattern, the people provided the material. The rich could give as much as they pleased and the poor as little as they had. There was no compulsion but the compulsion of gratitude to God for what He had done for them.

#### The Habitation of God.

In the present age God "dwelleth not in temples made with hands neither is He worshipped with men's hands, as though He needed anything." The only dwelling place that God has upon earth now is the Church of God which is "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Eph. 2:20-22.

Richly adorned ecclesiastical buildings may display the skill of the architect but such buildings, however grand, are nothing to God as such. The Tabernacle with its costly furniture was a pattern of the things in the heavens and was never intended to give example or sanction to the sensuous ornamentation of "places of worship." On the other hand, there is no virtue in bare walls and dirty windows. All things "decently and in order" will insure what is necessary to and convenient for the comfort of those who come together for worship or ministry.

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#### A MESSAGE FOR THE HOUR

By a Man in the Trenches.

This remarkable testimony, by a Christian soldier, is being read by tens of thousands. Send one dollar and we will mail one hundred copies to any address. \$4.00 per 500.

## NOTES ON COLOSSIANS

by A. N. O'Brien

Chapter 1:12-14.

Having been made to know the grace of God in truth, v. 6, through "the truth of the gospel," v. 5, these dear saints found themselves in relationship to God as "The Father" v. 12. This is the third time that this name of God appears in this chapter. In v. 2, as here, it refers to our relationship to Him; in v. 3 to the relationship of the Lord Jesus Christ to God.

The Old Testament revealed to saints that God was like a father in His pity for those who fear Him, Psalm 103:13. But they were not encouraged to call God by the name which speaks of such nearness. The Holy Spirit did not then dwell in those who feared God. This is plainly taught by our Lord Jesus Christ in John 14:17. "He dwelleth with you and shall be in you." Thus He dwelt with Old Testament saints, and even the disciples did not yet know Him as the indwelling Comforter, when the Lord spoke to them the words of John 14. Up to the verse just quoted (John 14:17), the Lord Jesus spake of God as "My Father" 21 times and as "The Father" 48 times in that gospel, and yet Philip says, "Lord shew us the Father." He had no doubt often noticed the name as it fell from the lips of the Lord, and he hungered for the blessedness of knowing God as Father. He knew that such a relationship realized in the soul, would meet his heart-hunger, for he said, "It sufficeth us." But while gently rebuked in v. 9 (for sin has separated man from God), the reason why he did not know the Father was that the Holy Spirit did not yet dwell in him.

Now, that redemption is an accomplished fact, God's people are "made nigh by the blood of Christ," and the Holy Spirit takes up His abode in the hearts of believers, as "the Spirit of Sonship." Rom. 8:15. He is called "The Spirit of His Son, sent forth (from God) into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father," Gal. 4:6. This brings us into that blessed knowledge of God, for which Philip longed, and it does indeed suffice us.

Many souls today feel the lack at this point, and try to supply it by schooling themselves to say, "Father," when addressing God. But manifestly no such efforts will be of any use, for the Spirit of Sonship is a person sent into our hearts. He is not an influence, nor a happy or childlike feeling (though His presence in the believer produces such



feelings), but a person. If He indwells, we cry, "Abba, Father," without schooling or effort. The cry is spontaneous, not forced.

Now these Colossian saints were "giving thanks unto the Father" for some very definite and blessed things.

I. He had made them "fit for sharing the portion of the saints in light." The word "meet" or "fit" has in it the thought of being competent. The same verb occurs in II Cor. 3:6, and in the adjective and noun form in the previous verse. The renderings there are, "sufficient," "sufficiency," and "made able." Perhaps "competent," "competency," and "made competent" would be better; at any rate, they would suggest the fact that one root underlies all three of the expressions. There had been the implanting of a new nature, which enabled them to share in a heavenly portion. By virtue of a new birth, they had a nature suited to heaven, and at home there; and a nature which could enjoy the glories, and the holy activities of that happy place. This prospect they had in common with other Christians, for it is "the inheritance of the saints;" and it is in the presence of God in heaven that it is to be enjoyed, for it is "in light."

Now, this fitness we already have. The Word reads "hath made." It is not a gradual sanctification and an increasing heavenliness of mind, but a thing accomplished once for all when we were born again. Every Christian is fit for heaven, from the very moment of his regeneration. God works, for "He hath made us meet," and whatever God does is worthy of Him, and meet for His presence. The change of pronoun from "you," v. 9, to "us," v. 12, is worthy of note. He had been praying for them, but now He links Himself with them in thanksgiving. They were as meet for heaven and its joys as an apostle, though perhaps not yet so intelligent as to what had been done for them.

II. Not only has God thus fitted us for heaven, but He has also "delivered us from the power of darkness," v. 13. This is manifestly Satan's dominion, the power that once held us in darkness and in bondage. The Colossians had been benighted heathen in gross idolatry. Satan had long held them in his grasp, and in that grasp they were powerless to loosen. But God had interfered and "the prey had been taken from the mighty." Isa. 49:24-25; the "spoils" of the "strong man armed" (Luke 11:21-22), had been "divided."

This control of Satan over men is a terrible reality. The heathen are held in abject slavery by their fears; and their sacrifices to their

idols are really offerings to demons who play upon their ignorance and superstition. But in our own land the power of darkness is as marked though manifested in a different way. Behind all the legalism, which would buy man's right to heaven by human merit, Satan lurks, darkening the mind as to the freeness of God's grace. The infidelity of higher criticism, which has honey-combed Christendom, is also His work. The wretched heresies, which deny the true deity of the Lord Jesus, as "Millennial dawn;" the reality of sin and the need for salvation through the precious blood of Christ, as "Christian Science," and the eternal punishment of the wicked, as "Adventism," are all from the kingdom of darkness—from Satan.

How wonderful, and how blessed, to be delivered from this! It was no unusual sagacity on their part which had accomplished this—God had done it. And shall we not thank God the Father for our deliverance from darkness and snares as terrible as those which beset them?

III. But God has done more. "He has translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son." We are not left to ourselves to do as we think best, but are made subjects of the Son of God. It is a change of kingdom—of authority. Being delivered, we are naturally the possession of our Deliverer, and He has given us to "His dear Son." The consciousness of belonging to Christ springs up in the renewed heart at once. Saul of Tarsus owned Him as "Lord" in the very first sentence he ever addressed to Christ, see Acts 9:5. The Holy Ghost, who makes the soul to know God as "Father," teaches it to bow to the authority of Christ, as Lord. I Cor. 12:13.

Now, it becomes a subject of this kingdom to inquire, before seeking to serve, what will please the Lord. There is a vast amount of activity called "Christian work" which is merely self-will. In II Tim. 3:16-17, we are told that the Word of God is sufficient unto all good works." The business of a subject in a kingdom is not to make laws, but to obey those already made. We have not to invent ways of working for the Lord, but to work according to His instructions as revealed in the Word.

Where is the authority for the multiplied organizations of Christendom today? Where can warrant be found for their methods? Certainly not in the Word of God. Let my reader honestly ask himself, whether he has warrant in the Bible for what he is doing, and he will be astonished how much he has relied upon the traditions of men; perhaps even

mistaking them for the will of God. Christendom is a vast religious machine with unscriptural organizations and methods seeking its financial support partly (in most cases largely), from the world, and of course catering to it; for the world will not support that which it cannot control. But Christendom is unchristian, leavened with infidelity, and filled with worldliness. It does not even pretend to have a "Thus saith the Lord" for half its doings. It is not only leavened but "lukewarm," and soon will be spued out of the mouth of the Lord, whose name it pretends to honor. Rev. 3:16. It will then appear in its true colors as the enemy of God, and be judged with a severity becoming its wickedness. Rev. 17:5-6; 19:2-3.

The path for each Christian is to search the Word for himself, and obey it as it opens up to him. Christ delights to be looked to as Lord, and He will surely make plain what His will is for each honest soul.

The powerful motive for such obedience comes out in v. 14, of our chapter. We "have redemption" in Him. He has purchased us to liberate us; so that love might be our motive in our subjection to our Redeemer.

Satan has no longer any claim upon us, and retribution for sin no longer pursues us. Our sins have been judged when their penalty was put upon Him, as He hung upon the cross. The cost was His Precious Blood.

Going backward now over the three verses we have "forgiveness" and redemption, v. 14; deliverance from Satan and translation into the kingdom of the "Son of His Love," v. 13; and fitness for heaven, with the place of a child of God "The Father," v. 12.

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### SPECIAL NOTICE

#### New Features. More Help.

Our readers will be interested to know that Mr. A. N. O'Brien will edit a "Question and Answer Department" in the Armour of Light throughout the year. Send written questions direct to him, at 227 Victoria St., Duluth, Minn. Also Mr. Thomas Baird will edit a "Missionary Department," having been for many years a missionary in heathen lands. Mr. Baird is well able to undertake this service. Full information regarding this new department will be given next month. Mr. Baird's address is 293 Magnolia Ave., Jersey City Heights, N. J. Write him for information on Missionary work.

## THE PROGRAM OF GOD

(Being the substance of an address delivered at Chicago Conference by T. Baird.)

**I. Has God a Program?** He most surely has; and Acts 15:13-18 supplies us with a clear outline of that program. I would as soon expect to find a **program without a God** as a **God without a Program**. "**Known unto God** are all His works from the **beginning** of the world."

**II. Has God Power to Perform His Program?** He certainly has; and all the power of God is placed behind the program of God to carry that program into ultimate fulfillment. The mere reading of the Riot Act will not in itself disperse the turbulent mob; but the military force of the country stands behind the mayor to put the terms of the act into execution.

**III. Where Did God's Program Commence?** For purposes of general utility it commenced in **Eden**. There doubtless was some operation of God prior to that time; but as far as the present human race is concerned we are safe to go no further back than Adam.

**IV. Where is God's Program to be Found?** In the **Bible**; and in the Bible **only**. Beware of looking anywhere else in the expectation of finding it. There are many books offered to us today as being "as good as the Bible;" but the Bible is the **Book of God**, and the **god of Books**. All that God wishes us to know of His will in this world is to be found in the Bible **alone**.

**V. Has God's Program Ever Encountered Obstruction?** Oh, yes! It has been **obstructed** frequently; but **frustrated**, never. Read Numbers 14:34, and find the amazing words "My breach of promise," and glance at the marginal rendering "the alteration of my purpose." Israel's **perversity** caused God to make a **temporary** alteration of His program; its conditions were **delayed**, but not **defeated**.

**VI. What is the Central Spec'acle of God's Program?** Something that no person but God would ever have chosen! **A man dying in weakness on a tree!** Would any world power ever have selected such an emblem for its motto? Never! And yet this is the very center of the circle of the program of God! It **stumbled** the Jew; it **disgusted** the Greek; but it **delights God** and it commands the affection of every Christian. I Cor. 1:22-23.

**VII. What Part of the Program Have We Now Arrived At?** God is taking out a people from the Gentiles to His name (Acts 15:14) We are still in the same section of the program as commenced at Pentecost; only we are much further along the road. God is still gathering out of Gentile nations in the earth an elect people, and will continue to do so until "the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled." The Church of God is a divine combination of all nations.

**VIII. What is the Next Event in the Program?** The calling up of the called out company! (I Thes. IV; I Cor. XV) Mysteriously suddenly, and completely the church will be removed from the world "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye." Dates and days have a divine place and purpose in the program of God for Israel; but when we come to consider the church we enter upon a timeless, dateless, signless, seasonless era.

**IX. What will happen after that in the Program?** God will next turn His attention toward Israel. "I will turn again and build the tabernacle of David." Acts 15:16: Palestine has long been desolate. Israel has for ages been the butt and scorn of nations. But it will not always be so. Even as we write the ancient capital is almost in the hands of those who will secure the land for the elect earthly people of God.

**X. And what after that?** "The residue of men might seek after the Lord and all the Gentiles." Acts 15:17. God's way was first with the Jews. Now it is largely with the Gentiles. Again it will be with the Jews, and yet again with the Gentiles.

**XI. Then cometh the end of God's Program?** After Christ has subdued all God's enemies and His own enemies; then will Christ Himself also be subject unto God that "God may be all in all." I Cor. 15:28. "Then cometh the end." I Cor. 15:24. This is the ends of the end and the end of the ends. God all in all! Christ all and in all! The Church the fullness of Him who filleth all in all! A blessed, holy and an eternal end to the Program of the all wise, Triune God!

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The highest end and greatest purpose ever reached through suffering is not the perfection of our own character, nor the comfort of other Christians, but a prepared fitness, and enlarged capacity, for the enjoyment of fellowship with God, in what He is, in the excellency of His own Divine Person.

**THE BOOK OF JUDGES**

By James Brown, Chicago, Ill.

Chapter 3:20-30

**Distress and Discouragement.**

Eighteen years had rolled over the heads of the Children of Israel, and still the hated Moabite continued to oppress. The majority were not greatly concerned, but a few Godly ones wondered if deliverance would ever come, or if the future held nothing but gloom and despair for them. Jehovah seemed to have lost all interest in His people, no signs of Divine intervention were to be seen, and with advancing years the people's courage failed and their strength waned. There would be constant reminders of their servility, for the proud Moabite would lose no opportunity to impress them with the fact of his importance, and to evidence the utmost satisfaction over the subjugation of a people, who had dared to attempt rebellion against him during a period which was more than twice the length of the first captivity. Ease and pleasure were to be Eglon's lot, no cloud overcast the sky so far as he could see, and nothing remained but the enjoyment of life to the full. To this end he had constructed for "himself alone" a "summer palace" where seclusion and comfort could be obtained, and the bustle of life would not distract, nor the broiling sun overheat; but little did he think that in doing this he was creating circumstances that would contribute to the cause of death.

**Death of Eglon.**

The selection of that "upper chamber of coolness" afforded an excellent opportunity for the effecting of the purpose Ehud had in mind. The psychological moment arrived when Eglon, eager to hear the message from God, stepped off his throne with unsteady gait. Quick as a flash Ehud's left hand grasped the dagger that was on his right thigh, and plunged it into the most vulnerable part of the self-centered corpulent one. The force of the blow caused the haft to follow the blade, and strange though it may seem, the flesh closed over it, thus preventing it's withdrawal, and then without uttering a sound the king of Moab sank to the floor—death overtaking him in a tragical manner, and when least expected.

**Delay Advantageous.**

Returning later Eglon's servants found the door securely locked,

and naturally concluded that he was taking his usual siesta, so they "tarried until they were ashamed." Then taking a key they gained an entrance, and found what was formerly a "summer palace" had become a veritable chamber of death, on the floor of which rested the motionless form of their lord and master. Methinks they tried to arouse him from his apparent lethargy, but their efforts were not crowned with success, for with one stroke the mighty monarch had been reduced to an inert mass. An autopsy would have revealed the presence of the dagger, but would not have explained its entrance, and so the death would be spoken of as a mystery in after years. While they were ruminating and cogitating Ehud made good his escape, and thus delay on their part was advantageous to him.

#### Death at the Fords.

Ehud passed beyond the quarries and escaped unto Seirath, which signifies "the goat walks," but it is not to be supposed that one bold enough to enter a king's palace on an errand of death would seek safety in the dangerous paths frequented by the goats. We next hear the sound of the trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim, and then we see Ehud marching at the head of a hastily formed army towards the fords of Jordan, where about ten thousand fat and lusty Moabites endeavor to make their escape to the west side, but no way of escape do they find. With a great slaughter Moab is subdued that day, and deliverance is at last obtained for Israel.

#### Danger and Deliverance.

To be surrounded by evil and beset with temptation is surely danger of a grave character, but failure to remember the "exceeding sinfulness of sin," and willing submission to temptation would be danger of the worst kind. That this was so with Israel may be inferred from the fact that Eglon, king of Moab, was the instrument selected by God for the infliction of punishment with a view to the correction of His people. Eglon signifies "circular" and Moab means "seed of a father" and as a circle has no end, and the shame of his birth is ever suggested at the mention of the name Moab, this would suggest to us the ceaseless, shameful activities of the flesh indulged in by Israel. For God in His wisdom corrects with a rod that ever reminds us of the character of the evil. Slowness to perceive their folly resulted in 18

years captivity for Israel, and shall we not quickly learn a lesson therefrom. In a typical sense the Moabites would speak to us of those who profess relationship to the people of God, and association with whom would result in disaster for us. Too often the ties of nature interpose between us and God, and association with worldly professors proves a stumbling block, if not a positive hindrance in the path of obedience. Deliverance shall be ours if we are characterized by Ehud (praise), but that shall only obtain if we make a two-edged dagger one cubit long, or in other words become diligent students of the Word, so that we may truly make it ours. Then when occasion demands we shall be able to select that which is just the right length, that which cuts more ways than one, that which we can ever with our left hand apply to the flesh in the **POWER OF THE SPIRIT**, so that death may ensue. Then turning and locking the door behind us, we shall with trumpet sound call others to share our triumph at the **CROSS**—the antitype of the fords where fat and lusty flesh with all its activities shall be subdued.

### PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM

By J. Baird.

"Jerusalem the Golden" has been wrested from the maw of the accursed Turk by the British Expeditionary Force operating in Palestine. Since the tenth century when Peter the Hermit headed a motley horde of 60,000 conscienceless nondescripts, until 1917, many abortive efforts have been launched to recover the Holy City from the tyranny of the unutterable Ottoman. Many of the Crusades were the honest attempts of sane-minded but misled persons, but some of these endeavors were effeminate, chimerical, and even ridiculous. One crusade was entirely composed of mere boys between the ages of ten and twelve years. Under the leadership of the shepherd boy Stephen they formed an army 90,000 strong and marched on Jerusalem singing hymns. Most of these irresponsible adolescents either perished from hunger, or exposure, or were captured.

Jerusalem was besieged by Godfrey about the close of the tenth century, and surrendered to the army of nominal Christians. They governed more or less successfully until 1189, when under Saladin, Sultan of Egypt, the sacred city again became subject to the tyranny of Turkey. And now again after long centuries of Mohammedan maladministration and oppression, the land and city is under the shadow of British protection and supervision.



This magnificent transfer of government is being celebrated by professing Christians all over this habitable earth, but only true Christians who are instructed in the Prophetic Scriptures can fully appreciate the relative value of the occupation of Jerusalem. It is not the mere fact of the surrender of the city that is of such unspeakable importance, but it is that fact in relation to other facts which makes the event so momentous for us all.

The Jews will now probably flock to Palestine in thousands. Colonies will spring into existence on every hand, and irrigating contrivances will soon be in full operation. The words of the Lord Jesus have a peculiarly solemn significance for us at this critical time. When the fig-tree in Palestine puts forth its leaves, it is the harbinger of spring. Matt. 24:32-33. So when we behold the Jewish fig-tree putting forth its leaves nationally, we may conclude that the Israelitish prophetic summer is near at hand. These are only some of the visible indications of the approaching day. Heb. 10:25. The natural branches are about to be regrafted into their own national tree, upon their own national root, in their own national soil. The called out will soon receive the call up.

#### God's Provision

The united testimony of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Apostles is that, as this present age draws to a close, lawlessness shall abound more and more until it is headed up in the **man of sin**, "whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all signs and lying wonders" when "evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." But over against this increase of evil God has made provision for His people so that as Christians we may live an overcoming life in the midst of the abounding iniquity.

The way into the holiest stands open at all times, and every child of God has liberty to enter in by the blood of Jesus. No power on earth can hinder the feeblest Christian from "drawing near with a true heart in full assurance of faith." Every Christian possesses the indwelling "comforter" who abides with us. "We know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." In the most lonely hour of the darkest day, we can still enjoy "the communion of the Holy Spirit." In the "Scriptures of Truth" we have a never failing supply which is suited to meet our need at every stage, and in every condition of our life down here, "That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (II Tim. 3:16.)

## A LOST FRIEND

By R. McMurdo.

The sudden death of Arthur I. Ferdon at Damascus, Va., from typhoid fever, in November, came as a shock to all who knew him.

Mr. Ferdon was converted at an early age, and from the first displayed a keen desire to follow the Lord in service, and to know His will through the Scriptures.

His close study of the Word of God soon led to a path of separation which ultimately brought him into fellowship with Christians meeting simply in the name of the Lord.

Spiritual things, in later years, became to him the paramount business of life, resulting, eventually in his severance with the business world, and in this way his unbounded zeal led him to make sacrifices, the true estimate of which God alone is able to make, one of the greatest being his resignation from a prominent position in a large New York bank for conscientious reasons.

Some time after his resignation from the bank he devoted all his time to the work of the Lord and was engaged in the preaching of the gospel in Virginia when he passed away.

Although his path of separation was criticised by some, misunderstood by many, and led to the loss of friends, yet Mr. Ferdon remained a warm supporter of the Armour of Light to the last and it was my privilege to enjoy his fellowship and confidence to the end.

All who knew him agreed in their testimony to his integrity, sincerity and devotedness to the Lord and to the work of the Gospel. An example of this is seen in a tribute paid by the former manager of the bank in which he served, who, in a letter to his father, testified to his high ideals.

Mr. Ferdon's sudden home call at an early age has brought great sorrow to his parents who are Christians, but they are finding consolation in the Lord and in the fact that they can look forward with confidence to the time when they shall meet together in the presence of the Lord.

**Mrs. John Harcus.** Beloved wife of John Harcus of Salem Hall, Detroit. Our sister passed away on Nov. 28, after a serious operation.

**Mr. A. I. Ferdon, Leonia, N. J.** Mr. Ferdon died of typhoid fever in Damascus, Va., where he was preaching the gospel.

**Mrs. Wilson.** Beloved wife of Mr. W. A. Wilson of Sparta, Ill. Our sister died as the result of a burning accident, much beloved by all who knew her.

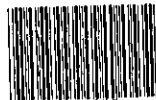
News has just reached us of the sudden death of Alexander Matthews at the home of his son, in Tacoma, Wash.

the Chinese. Mr. Cole from Kendalville was present as usual taking charge of the children's meetings. The serious war conditions which have developed in this country since the last conference seem to have brought Christians closer together, and this was expressed in a noticeable manner by the spirit of unity and harmony which prevailed. This same spirit was emphasized in the ministry of the word by the various speakers, the personal, premillennial, and imminent coming of Christ being kept well to the front. The arrangements regarding rooms, etc., and providing of meals were in the hands of Mr. C. E. Atwood and Mr. Thomas Bendelow, and came up to the standard of any previous conference. Too much cannot be said for the sisters who made the usual sacrifice laboring early and late for the comfort and help of the many who attended. It was cheering to see the good hand of the Lord in the salvation of quite a few, among them being two daughters of Mr. C. H. Potts of Avondale. Those who came from a distance, as well as those from the surrounding districts all felt that it was worth while to come together for the four days, and many expressed gratitude for the blessing received. Mr. T. Baird remained in the district for a week and visited Elgin, Laflin St. and Austin. His ministry was fresh, profitable and much appreciated. Mr. Geo. L. Alrich had a week's meetings in Grace Chapel, Evanston. A. N. O'Brien returned to Duluth after a prolonged visit to Canada. Mr. A. Merian gave an illustrated address on his work in China in Austin Gospel Hall, and also at the German meeting. Mr. Tom Olson visited Elkhart and New Carlisle, Indiana. \* \* **Leaving for the Mission Field.** Mr. George Shepherd, who has been in fellowship with the Austin Assembly is leaving shortly for China. He was saved in Dunedin, N. Zealand, in 1908 and met with the Lord's people gathered to His name in that city for six years. He came to the States in April, 1915, and has been in fellowship at Austin since that date. He was commended to the work of the Lord by the Dunedin Assembly, and now by Austin Assembly. He was set free from military service by the British authorities in the United States, on account of defective eyesight. By the overruling hand of God he obtained a passport to Mongolia. He has booked a passage on the "Empress of Russia," which sails from Vancouver, B. C. on Jan. 17, 1918. He expects to reach Shanghai about February 2, and will be directed to the north by Dr. Parrot of that city. After leaving the Siberian Railroad he must travel inland on mule back until he is met by Mr. James Duthie with whom he shall study the language and preach the Gospel. The Gospel has been preached at Hada only for four years, and already the Lord has saved and gathered 85 to His Name. There are no other missionaries of any kind in the district and as far as we know at present there is not a solitary witness for Christ between where Mr. Duthie is and the North Pole. Anyone wishing to write to Mr. Shepherd can address mail to him care of this office and it will be forwarded. \* \* **Oakland, Cal.** Special meetings were continued over Thanksgiving time. Mr. McClure spoke from a dispensational chart. Brethren Hunter, Livingston, Rolph and Dempsey also min-

istered the word. Mr. Thorp with his wife and children arrived here from China. He expects to visit Los Angeles and then go east. Mr. J. J. Rouse is expected here Dec. 11 for a few days on the way to Los Angeles Conference at Christmas, and New Year's at Monrovia. Mr. McClure is at Los Angeles now with brother Hunter having meetings till over Christmas. He expects to go to Victoria for New Year's meetings there. \* \* **Omaha Conference:** Those responsible for this conference were much cast upon God for help as some of those who usually minister the word were not able to be present. God graciously gave help. Two or three professed to accept Christ and the Lord's people were greatly refreshed. Those who had the burden of the ministry were Mr. C. A. Leonard, Wm. Miller, E. G. Matthews, D. R. Charles, Geo. Pinches and Arthur Rodgers. \* \* **St. Louis, Mo.** Conference will be held at Bible Hall, 3631 Finney Ave., on Sunday Monday, Tuesday, Dec. 30, 31 and Jan. 1st. Communications to George Wright, 4555 Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis.

### CANADA

**Toronto, Playters Hall.** Meetings continue with increased interest especially during the week. Our brother Arthur Smith has removed to New Liscard with a view to help in the Lord's work while carrying on his business. He is much missed especially in the Sunday School in which he took an active part and also in open air work. We have enjoyed the fellowship and ministry of our brother John Cruickshanks who has come to reside in our district. We had an enjoyable and profitable visit from Mr. A. N. O'Brien and shall the more appreciate his ministry in the Armour, since we have come to know the author personally. \* \* **Orillia, Ont.** The Thirty-Sixth Annual Conference for Christians will be held on Dec. 30, 31 and Jan. 1. All visitors will be entertained freely. Meetings will be held in the West End Gospel Hall. \* \* **Hamilton, Bethany Hall.** Christians here have had the joy of receiving a few among them, and quite an interest has been manifested. They have lost the help of Mr. Cruickshank who has gone to Toronto, and Miss Gourley who expects to give her help in the Missionary Home, 395 Third St., Brooklyn, N. Y. \* \* **London, Ont.** Mr. A. N. O'Brien paid a short visit on his way to Chicago Conference. His visit to Ontario has been greatly blessed to the Christians in the various assemblies. \* \* **Victoria, B. C.** Mr. T. H. Maynard writes, Victoria has had a remarkable seven weeks of real revival meetings with Dr. Oliver. Two exclusive meetings and two open meetings went in most heartily as helpers and workers and as a result we have scores of people now desiring to join with us. I am busy visiting every spare hour and trying to help on the converts. I was at **Main St., Vancouver**, ten days ago and was rejoiced to see such a crowd. About 120 broke bread and the hall was practically full for the Gospel meeting. \* \* **Aukland, N. Z.** Mr. Alfred Mace is still being encouraged in his service in this land. He says that it is a better field for the Gospel than he has been in of late years.



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