



HEALTH AND LIFE

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# Health and Life

explained in  
Seven Bible Treatises  
by  
J. F. RUTHERFORD

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*Judge Rutherford's books explaining the Bible show and prove how the billions who have peopled this earth will each and every one have a full, comprehensive opportunity to enjoy everlasting life on earth in complete happiness, perfect health and ever-increasing delight.*

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W A T C H T O W E R

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY

International Bible Students Association

Brooklyn, N. Y., U.S.A.

BRANCH OFFICES:

London, Magdeburg, Paris,  
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# HEALTH AND LIFE

## The Standard

**T**HERE are two general divisions of the human race, to wit, the one that rules and the other that is ruled. The minority class rules the majority class. All honest persons, regardless of which class they are in, desire to see the people follow a course that will result in the general welfare and peace and prosperity. All realize that harmonious action of the people of any nation tends to bring about the desired result.

A standard is a guide directing the people in the course that they are to take, and which standard is raised up to enable the people to clearly see that course. In all nations the people in general have had to depend upon their rulers to lift up a standard for them. The rulers desire to keep the people in subjection that they might continue their rule. The commercial, political and religious elements, which constitute the ruling class of all nations, jointly formulate a standard and raise it up before the people and advise the people that they must follow such standard if they desire peace, prosperity and happiness. This triune "standard" company, of the nations of "Christendom" in particular, in substance says this: "Our organized govern-

ment represents the Lord and by divine right and authority is ruling, and all people should patriotically support the same. We must have more revenue for war purposes, for public improvements, and for salaries of the rulers; hence the imposition of heavy taxes. The commercial, political and religious elements must stand together, and we must have an orthodox religion; and whatever our individual views concerning the Bible or religion may be, we must not indulge in the discussion of anything that might be controversial. If you will follow our standard, it will lead you to peace and prosperity and happiness." The rulers do not advise the people, however, what lord they are serving. The Scriptures say that Satan is the god of this world of "Christendom", and not Jehovah.

With a few exceptions the people have for centuries followed such worldly standards so raised by the ruling class and have learned from experience that the facts do not support the claims made by the rulers. They see the comparatively small number of rich becoming more avaricious and oppressive and that these are crushing out competition and centralizing all the power in the hands of a few to the detriment of the many. They see fraud, deceit, duplicity and trickery freely resorted to in political affairs and that the religious leaders are marked with arrogance, impiety and ungodliness; hence the people cannot believe that the righteous





The triune "standard" company of "Christendom" Page 3

Jehovah God would approve of a combination and system such as now rules the world. The people in general have therefore lost faith in their standard bearers.

All standards held up before the people for centuries past have failed, and now every nation of "Christendom" is in distress and perplexity. Such an unsatisfactory condition could not exist if the scheme of government or standard had divine approval and authority. Why have these standards failed, and why is there so much distress throughout the earth? The answer clearly is, Because the people are in darkness concerning Jehovah and his Word and have been blinded by Satan the god of this world.

It is written, in Psalm 33: 12: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord [Jehovah]." While the nations of "Christendom" claim to be operating by divine right and approval, not one of them gives its unqualified allegiance to Jehovah God, and therefore their claim of divine authority is untrue. This unsatisfactory condition has come about in this manner: Men have formed governments and lifted up selfish standards to be followed by the people. These have ignored the instruction of God's Word and relied upon the wisdom of men and therefore have fallen easy victims to the wily foe Satan. The scheme of Satan has ever been to turn all mankind away from Jehovah God and to lead them into the paths of selfishness and unrighteousness.



The facts are, and they cannot be denied, that nearly all of the schools and colleges of the land today teach the theory of the evolution of man, and the origin concerning man as set forth in the Bible is entirely ignored and pushed aside. In the majority of the churches of the land the ministers are higher critics and evolutionists. These pose as the spiritual advisers of the commercial and political elements, and all walk on together in darkness; and now all the foundations of the world are upside down. How could the people be expected to be benefited by following the standards raised up before them by such standard bearers?

Distressing conditions have now reached a climax, because Satan's world (which means "Christendom") has ended and Jehovah God has announced his purpose to completely destroy Satan's organization and to remove blindness from the eyes of understanding of the people that they may see and know that Jehovah is the only true God, from whom all blessings flow. Not only are the people and nations in distress and perplexity, but they have reached an extremity. Before God proceeds to completely destroy Satan's organization, he directs that those who love him shall lift up before the people God's standard of righteousness that all peoples of good will may see the right way in which to go. Therefore this commandment is written, in Isaiah 62:10, directed to Jehovah's

faithful witnesses, to wit: "Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people."

What is the standard that Jehovah commands must be lifted up for the people? That which is of first importance in that standard is that Jehovah is the only true and living God. He is the Creator of heaven and earth, and the source of life and all attending blessings. He created the earth for man and man for the earth. He is the true and lasting Friend of man. His Word, the Bible, is the truth and is the light by which the feet of men are guided properly into the pathway of righteousness. All persons must come to know that Jehovah is God.

Also, the divine standard shows that Christ Jesus, the beloved Son of God, is the Redeemer of man; that his blood was poured out in death in order that man might have an opportunity to live; that Jehovah raised up Christ Jesus out of death, exalted him to the highest place in heaven and committed into his hands all power in heaven and in earth; that Jehovah has made Christ Jesus the King of the world and has appointed the time in which he shall judge the world in righteousness.

Jehovah's standard also discloses that Satan's wicked rule must now come to an end; that Christ Jesus, the world's rightful King, is now upon his throne and that Christ has thrown Sa-

tan out of heaven and that his next great act will be the complete destruction of Satan's power in the earth, the destruction of Satan's organization particularly including "Christendom", and that this will take place in the great battle of God Almighty; that, with the fraudulent and wicked rule of Satan for ever destroyed, righteousness will prevail in the earth forever; and that Christ, the great King invisible to mankind, will rule the world in righteousness, and his *visible representatives on the earth* will carry out his rule of order for the general welfare of mankind.

This divine standard points the people, not only to the way of everlasting peace and prosperity, but also to the way of everlasting life and happiness. The fact that Jehovah commanded that his standard be now lifted up for the people is conclusive proof that the time has come when the people must have an opportunity to know God and his purposes. Hence the worldwide educational campaign now carried on.

Note that the commandment Jehovah gives his witnesses is to "go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people". A gate is a way of entrance to the kingdom of righteousness. Jehovah's witnesses are therefore commanded to take the lead and show the people the way that they must enter in to the favor of Jehovah and his kingdom. They prepare the way for the people by telling them the truth. They point

out to the people Jehovah's great highway and go up on it in advance of the people in general. They gather out the stumbling-stones by showing the people that the many doctrines taught by the religionists of earth are false and hence have caused them to stumble. They lift up, not man's standard, but Jehovah God's standard, which guides the people into everlasting joy and life.

It was Jesus who said that if a man loved God he would prove it by obeying his commandments. Because they love Jehovah there are today many men and women going from house to house with Jehovah's standard of truth in printed form and exhibiting the same to the people. Those who hear this message may be benefited thereby. The visit of these men and women to your home is no part of a commercial enterprise. They take only a nominal sum of money for the books which they bring to you and which contain the message of the Lord, in order that more books may be published to aid the people. These witnesses discharge their responsibility to God by bringing to you his standard of righteousness. The responsibility is upon you as to whether you will heed the message. Satan's agents will try to prevent you from getting this information and from seeing the standard of righteousness which Jehovah commands shall be lifted up. Do not permit yourselves to be deceived. You desire life in

happiness, and a government of peace and prosperity. Remember that Jesus said that these blessings come to you by reason of knowing and obeying Jehovah God and Christ Jesus whom he has sent.

Never in the history of man has it been so important that the people learn the truth. They must have some aid to know where in the Bible to find the great truths and how to fit these to the facts. The books that are brought to you are such aids disclosing to you Jehovah's standard. I bid you to be diligent in learning what is upon that standard; and, learning that, you may rejoice and live forever in happiness.

The standard of Jehovah holds forth a real hope for the people. There can be no hope without faith; and there can be no faith without knowledge, and then a confident reliance upon that knowledge. The promises of imperfect men constitute no basis for hope. The promise of Jehovah God is sure and certain, upon which the people can wholly rely. His promise is that the government of the world shall be upon the shoulder of his beloved Son, who shall be known as the Wonderful Counselor of the people; the Giver of life and happiness, and the Prince of everlasting peace. This promise Jehovah has made and bound with his oath, and then, that he might further assure the people, he adds, by his prophet Isaiah: 'I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass.'

# The First Resurrection

**J**EHOVAH raised up Jesus out of death, and the Scriptures declare that such is a guarantee that there shall be a resurrection of those who are dead. "Resurrection" means to bring back to life. Many have erroneously taught that all the dead will be raised up and appear within one twenty-four-hour day before the Lord. That teaching is entirely wrong. In 1 Corinthians 15:22, 23 it is written: "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order; Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's, at his coming." In Revelation 20:6 it is written: "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

These scriptures definitely prove that the dead will be raised up and there is an order in their coming. Christ Jesus was the first one raised from the dead, and those who have part in the first resurrection will share in the resurrection like unto Christ Jesus'. It is the resurrection that is first in time and first in importance. The first resurrection relates only to those who are the faithful followers of Christ Jesus, having been taken into the covenant by sacrifice and



for the kingdom, and who continue fully and wholly devoted to God until the end of their earthly course. To such the Lord said: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life."—*R.V.*

For many centuries the people have been erroneously taught that when a good man dies he goes immediately to heaven. This error is another of Satan's falsehoods, and his purpose in teaching it is to destroy the beauty and truth of the resurrection taught in the Scriptures. The Bible plainly says that all men who die go into the grave or tomb and are entirely unconscious and know nothing until the resurrection. The Apostle Paul was a good man and a faithful and true follower of Christ Jesus, and is one to whom is given the privilege to have a part in the first resurrection. Being one of the Lord's inspired witnesses he wrote with authority, when his long and faithful service was done, in 2 Timothy 4:6-8, to wit: "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." These words conclusively prove that Paul is one who receives the crown of life because of his faithfulness, and that this he receives at his

resurrection and not until the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. In the first verse of the same chapter he said that the Lord Jesus Christ will judge the living and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom. That fixes the time of the resurrection of the faithful followers of Christ.

Other scriptures show conclusively, and these I have pointed out on another occasion, that the second coming of the Lord dates from 1914, when he took his power as King, and that the coming of the Lord to Jehovah's temple for judgment dates from the spring of 1918. Concerning this the apostle wrote, in 2 Thessalonians 2:1, that then would take place the gathering unto the Lord of his faithful followers. The purpose of coming to his temple is for judgment, and it is stated, in 2 Corinthians 5:10, that all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ. These scriptures therefore definitely show that the resurrection of the faithful apostles could not take place until the second coming of Christ Jesus to his temple for judgment. Those of like faith and faithfulness have part in the first resurrection.

The book of Revelation states in terms that there will be only 144,000 who have part in the first resurrection. The Scriptures also make it clear as to how one can get into that place of favor, and which way is this, to wit: A man must first realize that he is a sinner and in need

of a Savior; that the blood of Christ Jesus is the redemptive price provided whereby he may be saved; coming to this knowledge he shows his faith by fully agreeing to do God's will, which means his consecration. He is justified by Jehovah God and brought forth as the son of God; that is to say, God gives his word of promise to him that if he continues faithful to his covenant to the end he shall live with Christ Jesus. His covenant with God requires man to be lawful, faithful and true to Jehovah at all times, and to refuse to compromise with Satan or his organization. He must be a faithful foot-step follower of Christ Jesus.

Jesus told his faithful disciples that God had made a covenant with him for the kingdom, and then said to them, as appears in Luke 22: 28-30: "And you are they who have continued with me in my trials. And I covenant for you, even as my Father has covenanted for me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (*Diaglott*) This shows that only those fully devoted to God are invited to a place in the kingdom and only those who continue faithful unto death shall have a part in the kingdom. Such are the ones that live and reign with Christ, having part in the first resurrection.

The reign of Christ for the reconstruction covers a period of a thousand years, otherwise called the Millennium. It is not required by the

Scriptures that the entire 144,000 must begin to reign with Christ at the beginning of his kingdom. Those who reign with him reign *within* that period of a thousand years. Christ was placed upon the throne in 1914; but the resurrection, even of his faithful apostles, did not begin until three and one-half years thereafter. From and after the beginning of the resurrection of these faithful ones, it is written in Revelation, chapter fourteen, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth." This shows why the apostle, in 1 Corinthians 15: 51, 52, said: "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment." Those who died faithful, such as the apostles, are the first ones resurrected, and then those on the earth who thereafter die faithful have an instantaneous change or resurrection. The very moment they die, that very moment they are raised to life with the Lord, and therefore blessed is their condition.

This is in exact harmony with the statement of Revelation 20:6, which says: "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection." Both of these texts are beatitudes of the Revelation and identify a class that are blessed with greater privileges than others because of their faithfulness to the Lord. They share with Christ Jesus in his resurrection. That explains why Paul in Philippians 3:8-14 said that he counted all things as nothing that he might win

Christ and know the power of his resurrection and participate therein.

This first resurrection is limited to the royal family that shall compose the heavenly kingdom, and there is a glory attached to it that none other receive. Those who have part in this resurrection are not only blessed, but they are holy. That means that they are completely and wholly devoted to God and to his kingdom. Such cannot compromise with this world or its god Satan. They must be absolutely devoted to God and to his kingdom. Such will be supremely blessed, as is stated in Psalm 21:6: "For thou hast made him most blessed for ever."

Before receiving such blessings the followers of Christ must prove their faithfulness and loyalty, and for this purpose are put to the most severe test. Hence it is written, in James 1:12: 'Blessed is the man that endures the test, for when he is tried, and maintains his integrity with God, he shall receive the crown of life, which is immortality.' Of such it is said that the second death has no power over them. In the beginning God only was immortal. Christ Jesus was given immortality at his resurrection, and those who share in his resurrection shall also be made immortal. And for this reason it is written, in 1 Corinthians 15:53, "This mortal must put on immortality." All such faithful ones resist Satan to the very end and steadfastly maintain their integrity toward God.

These faithful ones who have part in the first resurrection shall be priests unto God and unto Christ. Jehovah has made Christ Jesus the high priest for ever, and those who have a part in his resurrection are made under-priests of Christ and their day shall never end.

These matters here discussed can only be mentioned briefly. If you would have a full explanation thereof I advise that you provide yourself with the books called *Light*, which give a detailed explanation of the book of Revelation. Almost daily there come to you men and women who have entered into the covenant with God to do his will and who in obedience to his commandment are bringing this information to you that you may learn the truth. They must obey God's commandments in order to be faithful to him. Therefore when they come, know that they are not coming for any selfish reason, but that the message of the Lord's kingdom might be brought to you that you may understand his purpose and his manner of salvation for the human race. By being faithful to God and to their covenant to the end these witnesses will have part in the first resurrection and then will have much to do with comforting and blessing the peoples of the earth. The official family of God will administer the affairs of his kingdom, will always uphold his honor and dignity, and bring glory to his name, and will be permitted to teach the people the way to life and



the great privilege of forever serving and honoring the name of the Most High.

The first resurrection is limited to a small number. These are the ones with whom Christ shares his kingdom. To such the Lord Jesus said: "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." The setting up of the kingdom will be the vindication of his word of promise that he would bring forth The Seed by which all the families of the earth shall be blessed. That promised Seed is the kingdom class, or royal family, and under the reign of this Seed, the Christ, all the families of the earth will have an opportunity to receive the blessings of life.

The fact that the Scriptures emphasize the importance of the resurrection of Christ Jesus and speak of it as the first resurrection implies that there will be a general resurrection of others, and it is even so. Jesus said, in John 5:28, 29: 'All in their graves shall come forth.' In Acts 24:15 it is written: "There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust." The general resurrection covers a period of a thousand years, and within that period of time all in their graves will be brought forth and given a trial for life. Then those who under the test are obedient to the Lord will be given everlasting life. Thus it is seen that those who have part in the first resurrection are granted immortality by a change from human

to spirit nature; and in the general resurrection restitution to human perfection and life on the earth will be given to the people. In that period of time the earth will be made glorious and a fit place for restored man to live. At the end of the thousand-year reign of Christ the entire universe will be wholly devoted to God, and then all creation together shall praise Jehovah. His kingdom is the hope of the world.

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## Millions Now Living Will Never Die

**T**HE PEOPLES of this earth are now numbered by the thousands of millions. Many of these millions are in the days of their youth. The average length of human life is now approximately forty years. In view of these admitted facts and of the positive and indisputable truths set forth in the Bible it can now be confidently said that there are millions of these persons now on the earth who will never die. That does not mean that they will pass on to some other planet and reside there; but it means that they will live on this earth forever, and not die. Since life is man's dearest treasure, surely all thoughtful persons should have a keen interest in the facts related to this subject matter.

Let all creatures bear in mind that God is the great Creator and the Giver of every good and perfect gift. He created man in his own likeness and image and gave him the right to live on earth forever upon the specific condition that man would be faithful and loyal to and obey God. The Word of God is true and can be confidently relied upon. What God has purposed, he will bring to pass in his own good time and way. Anyone, recognizing that Jehovah God is all-powerful and perfect in wisdom, then may be sure that what God has promised, that he will also do. Jehovah gave man this assurance, when he caused his prophet Isaiah to write: 'I have purposed it, I will also do it. My word shall not return unto me void, but shall accomplish that whereunto I have sent it.'

After man had been sentenced to death and expelled from Eden that he might die, God expressed his purpose to bring forth a seed, meaning an organized power or government, through which all the families of the earth shall be blessed. That promise he not only made, but bound with his oath. Speaking of this promise, one of the inspired writers of the Bible, in Hebrews, chapter six, records that by these two unchangeable things, to wit, his word and his oath, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we have great consolation. The fact that God promised that the blessing should come to all the families of the earth means that all men shall

have an opportunity for everlasting life, because nothing would constitute a real blessing unless the creature receiving it has life. In proof that life is his greatest blessing it is written, in Romans 6: 23: 'The gift of God is life everlasting, through Jesus Christ.'

Jehovah organized the people of Israel into a nation for himself and used that nation to make prophetic pictures foreshadowing his purpose and the manner of executing the same. The rulers of Israel turned to wickedness, and God cast that nation away from him for ever. At the time of so doing Jehovah said by his prophet Ezekiel (chapter twenty-one): 'Remove the diadem, and take off the crown; I will overturn it, and it shall be no more until he comes whose right it is, and I will give it to him.' Thus Jehovah declared that with the fall of the last king of Israel no one should ever rule on earth in his name and by his will, until he whose right it is to rule shall come; which means the coming of Christ, earth's rightful King.

Both profane history and the Bible agree that the overthrow of Zedekiah, Israel's last king, occurred in 606 B.C., and there began the universal rule of the Gentiles under Satan as the god of the whole world. Other prophecies of God show that the period of time that must elapse after 606 B.C. until the end of the 'gentile times' and the coming of Christ, would be 2520 years, which period of time ended in the

fall of 1914. This date is fully and completely supported by the testimony of Jesus given in his great prophecy recorded in Matthew, chapter twenty-four. He said that the time would be marked by the World War, famine and pestilence, and that these would be the beginning of sorrows leading to the complete downfall of Satan's organization. These things came to pass as foretold in 1914. Since that day other prophecies mentioned by Jesus are in course of fulfilment and further show that we are at the end of the world, that Christ has come, and that God has given him the right to rule the world according to his promise. The time is therefore definitely fixed. Satan has already been cast out of heaven and is now confining his operations to the earth, which explains the reason for so much crime and wickedness now abroad. The facts and the Scriptural proof are that the next great act of Christ is to destroy Satan's organization at Armageddon and that such will be the last trouble upon the earth. Preparation is now in progress for that great and final battle of Armageddon; and, following it, must begin the restitution blessings of the people according to God's gracious promise.

Jesus specifically says to his followers that between the date of the conclusion of the World War and the time of the battle of Armageddon they must give testimony to the people and inform them of what is about to come to pass.

His words are in Matthew 24: 14: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." The witness work in obedience to that commandment is now in progress. It is carried on by radio, by books containing the message of the kingdom, and by frequent visits to the homes of the people. Already more than one hundred and ten million books containing the message of the kingdom are in the hands of the people, and the work is on the increase and is nearing a conclusion. The purpose of this work is not to convert the world, but to give information to the people; and immediately following the completion of that witness work, Jesus declares, Armageddon shall be upon the world in a trouble such as never before was known. In that time of trouble millions will die; but the Scriptures show that other millions will be carried through the time of trouble and survive. God says to the people through his prophet, in Zephaniah, to seek meekness and righteousness, and you may be hid in that time of trouble. It follows that those who are thus favored may be taken through the time of trouble. It is reasonable to conclude that those who are now hearing the message of truth will be such favored ones. All the facts show that Armageddon is only a short time away, and that period much less than the length of a generation.



What, then, will be the work of Christ? The Scriptures answer, in Acts, chapter seventeen, that then will follow the judgment of the world in righteousness, which means the giving to each one a trial and opportunity for life. In 2 Timothy 4:1 it is stated that the Lord Jesus shall judge the living and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom. It is certain that he will first judge the living on earth. These must be brought to a full knowledge of the truth and given an opportunity to prove their love for and devotion to the Lord and to his righteous government. The fact that God gave his word and oath that they shall be blessed, and the further fact that the blessing is life through Jesus Christ, is conclusive proof that all those who do obey shall receive the gift of life and shall not die. Whatsoever Jesus stated is the truth, because he spoke with authority from Jehovah. In John 8:51 Jesus uses these words: "Verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death." It would be impossible for anyone to keep the sayings of the Lord until he first receives a knowledge of them. Now the people are beginning to learn something about God's gracious provision through Christ and his kingdom; but when all hindrance is removed and blindness taken away from them, then they shall see and understand the truth. That will be at the very beginning of the restoration work of Christ. Then, says Jesus, those

who obey or keep sacred the truth they learn shall never see death. Surely there will be millions of people taken through that time of trouble and given a knowledge of the truth who will gladly obey; and, that being so, those millions will live and never die.

The witness work that is now being done will not bring the truth to all the millions of the world. The chief purpose of giving that testimony is as a warning and to serve notice upon the people and the rulers. God by his prophet Isaiah (chapter twenty-five) shows that blindness shall be removed early in the kingdom, and then the people shall recognize God's provision for them through Christ and will gladly say: 'This is our God, we have waited for him, and now he will bless us.' In corroboration of these words Jesus said, as written in John 11:26: "Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." The people now begin to believe; and as others get a knowledge, they will believe the truth, and all who will obey the Lord are sure to receive his blessings according to his promise and shall never die.

The book called *Life*, millions of copies of which are in the hands of the people, and copies of which are brought to your door, give the complete Scriptural proof that millions now living will never die. Therein is set forth in the prophecy of Job the truth concerning the restoration of man to health and life. In the thirty-third

chapter of that prophecy mankind is described as sick and afflicted, enduring great pain and sorrow, and headed straight for the grave. Then the prophet shows man being brought to a knowledge of the truth that Christ is his great Redeemer and King; then, says the scripture, man shall pray unto God and the Lord will be favorable unto him and render unto man his righteousness, meaning that he will give to man the blessings of his righteous government which man so much craves. What will be the result? The Scriptures answer in these words: 'God shall be gracious unto man and restore him, and man's flesh shall become fresher than that of a child and he shall return to the days of his youth.' That means the blessings of everlasting life which God has promised and which he will bestow through Christ upon all those who obey his righteous law.

Even though men have been very bad, as millions are today, God by his prophet Ezekiel (chapter eighteen) shows that if such turn away from their unrighteous course and do right when they learn the truth, they shall live and not die. Without a question of doubt we are now in the most important period of time yet experienced by man. It is the transition period, meaning that we are now passing out from the old and wicked rule of Satan and into the glorious and righteous kingdom of God under Christ. For that reason, among others, God is

now giving the truth to the people. All these scriptures, and all the facts now well known to exist, prove that the downfall of Satan's organization and the beginning of restoration are only a few years away at most. For this reason it can now be confidently said that millions now living will never die. I urge upon you to be diligent to obtain a knowledge of God's gracious provision for mankind, take your stand on the side of the Lord, seek meekness and do right, and be in line for the greatest blessings that could possibly come to creatures and that are certain to shortly be granted by the gracious hand of Jehovah God.

His kingdom is described, in beautiful poetic phrase, in Revelation, chapter twenty-one, as coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. This bespeaks a happy and blessed time for man, a time of rejoicing, because God's promised blessing made centuries ago is now to be fulfilled. The Revelator then continues in these words: "And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon

the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write; for these words are true and faithful."—Revelation 21:3-5.

These words were uttered by Jehovah God through his great prophet Christ Jesus and describe the blessings that are coming to men through his kingdom; and since the kingdom is at hand, this is further a conclusive proof that millions now living will never die. The more fully you understand this great and beautiful truth, the more you will want to praise Jehovah God.

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## Health and Life for the People

THE majority of the human race are sick both in mind and in body. An unhealthy body frequently results in a diseased mind. Practically all persons have some ailment. Not one enjoys perfect health and real life. Men have put forth their best endeavors to find the way to health, and the result is that in the course of time even the strongest become sick and die. If it is possible to learn the way to perfect health and everlasting life, then surely there could be nothing of greater importance to man than to gain a knowledge of that way. Jehovah God is the Giver of life everlasting, and his words point man to the means of gaining perfect health and life. It is worth your while

to examine God's Word concerning health and life and then determine whether or not you wish to make an effort to obtain these desirable things.

The very opposite of health and life is sickness and death. The real cause of sickness and death must first be known before one can appreciate God's remedy therefor. Sickness and death must be removed in order for health and life to be perpetually enjoyed by man. The cause of disease and death is stated in plain terms in the Bible. Adam, who was God's direct creation, was made perfect in health and given the right to life upon condition of his complete obedience to God's law. The Scriptures declare that all of God's creation is perfect, which is further proof that the original man was a perfect creature with perfect health. God put man to the test in order to give man the opportunity to prove his loyalty and devotion to the Lord. The eating of the forbidden fruit probably appeared to Adam as a small thing, but the bigger thing was his act of disobedience to God's commandment. The law of God plainly stated that any willful breaking of that law by perfect man would result in death. When put to the test Adam did willfully disobey God's law. God must be true and consistent and therefore must enter judgment against Adam in harmony with his law. The judgment of God pronounced against man appears in Genesis, chapter three,



in these words: "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it; cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

There is in this judgment no mention of eternal torment. God could not consistently sentence man to eternal torment, because that would have been contrary to his law; and for that reason alone the doctrine of hell torment is wholly false and the product of the fertile liar Satan. Only Eden was perfect, and all of the earth outside of Eden was unfinished; hence the words in the judgment: "Cursed is the ground for thy sake." The word "cursed" means unfinished. Eden provided man with all the necessary food, but after his expulsion therefrom he must earn his bread by hard labor. Such labor has really been a blessing to man to keep his mind and body employed; hence the unfinished earth was for his sake. The judgment against Adam was enforced over a long period of 930 years. That gave him plenty of time to meditate

on what he had done and also for his children to be born.

In Eden all the fruits, being perfect, were well balanced and would sustain life without sickness. Outside of Eden the fruit was imperfect, and the use thereof produced disease and sickness, which after a long period of time resulted in death. God had formed man out of the dust of the earth; and when Adam was dead, he returned to the dust, and since then has been completely out of existence. This is the plain Bible statement as to how sickness and death entered into the world and destroyed health and life.

But how does that judgment affect all men? Adam was the natural parent of all mankind. God gave to him the power to produce children, but this he did not exercise until after he was under the sentence outside of Eden and undergoing the sentence of death. The law of inheritance is that the children are visited with the weaknesses and sickness of the father; consequently the man, under sentence of death and undergoing the execution thereof, could not produce perfect children, but all his children would inherit and did inherit the imperfections of the father. Every man that is imperfect is a sinner in God's sight. Romans 5:12 states the divine rule in these words: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all

have sinned." It is therefore sin that is the primary cause of all sickness and death and is the evil effect resulting from the violation of God's law by the first man.

Jehovah God alone could make the necessary provision for man to again have health and life, and this he has done. To deceive the people Satan brings forth a false remedy. First he induces men to teach that there is no death. Jesus said that such was Satan's first lie. Then Satan gets up a religious organization and falsely attaches the name of Christ thereto in order to mislead the people. This organization is called "Christian Science" and teaches that there is no death and that ill health or sickness is a mental conclusion and that men and women can heal and give health to all who exercise faith in said so-called "science". Each one of these announced remedies is in full contradiction of God's Word and his announced purpose through Christ. This shows that many persons of good will have been inveigled by the Devil into his trap of so-called "Christian Science" and bodily healing. It is true that Jesus did some healing of the sick when he was on earth, but he stated that such was merely an example foreshadowing the great work that he would do in his kingdom. It also served to establish the faith of the people in him as the Messiah. So far as it is possible, Satan uses his power to cause some healing from sickness, his very ob-

ject being to turn the people away from God. One thing all must admit: that no one who claims to have been healed by the so-called "Christian Science" method ever stayed continually well, but in the course of time died, and even the healers themselves grow sick and die in like manner.

God's remedy to give health and life to the people is complete. If you will read the book called *Reconciliation* and companion books that are brought to you, therein you will find all the Bible proof bearing upon these very important questions. In brief, God's provision for man is this: The judgment against Adam must be satisfied, and this could be done only by the giving up of a perfect human life. The death of Adam, of course, satisfied that judgment; but before it was fully executed God made provision for another to take Adam's place in death, and in due time all mankind shall be released from the penalty of death and the effects thereof. God's law provides that a life may be substituted for a life. There was no perfect offspring of Adam; hence no man could take the place of Adam in death. In his own due time Jehovah sent Jesus to the earth. Jesus was made a perfect man, free from all sin. He was not the offspring of Adam, but the direct creation of God; hence he was qualified to take the place of Adam in death.

God promised that he would ransom man from death and the grave. That means that he

would provide a substitute for Adam and that through that substitute the right to life would again be granted to man. When Jesus came he said: 'I came to give my life a ransom and that the people might have life.' Again, he said: 'I give my human life for the life of the world.' The perfect man Jesus was put to death, and God raised up out of death Jesus Christ the divine and immortal One. Christ Jesus then appeared in heaven and presented the value of his human sacrifice in behalf of man, because it is written that Jesus Christ by the grace of God died for all men and that he appeared in heaven for us. This is a guarantee that some day all men shall have an opportunity to be raised to health and life. Before beginning the restoration of mankind God proceeds to do another work, to wit: he causes the preaching of the truth, and by this means takes out from amongst the people those who are willingly the followers of Christ and who become his witnesses. Then Christ comes the second time, and the restitution work begins after his coming and the setting up of his kingdom and after he has ousted Satan from heaven and destroyed his organization in the earth. All the prophets foretold that coming time of blessedness for the people. Moved by the spirit of God Peter after Pentecost testified, in Acts, chapter three: "Times of refreshing shall come from the [face] of the Lord; and he shall send Jesus Christ,

which before was preached unto you; whom the heaven must [retain] until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things, whatsoever he shall say unto you." This is proof conclusive that the only remedy for health and life is by and through the administration of God's great prophet, Christ Jesus.

The Scriptures plainly state that at the coming of the Lord Jesus and his kingdom he will judge the living and the dead and give to all the opportunity for health and life. He has now come, and as soon as Satan's organization is destroyed he will begin his judgment and blessing upon the people. The people will then learn what is the right thing to do, as it is written in Isaiah, chapter twenty-six, 'When the judgments of the Lord are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.' The meek are those who are willing to be taught, concerning whom it is written, in Psalm 25:9: "The meek will he guide in judgment, and the meek will he teach his way."

At the same time the Scriptures declare that the earth shall yield her increase for man's good. The blood of Christ bought the right to life for all men, and it now remains to apply

the benefits of that ransom and teach the people the way to life. As Eden, the only finished part of the earth, produced perfect food, even so the Lord will make the earth to yield its increase and produce perfect food and will teach the people how to eat it; and, the people thus learning of God's gracious provision for them through Christ Jesus, and rendering themselves fully in obedience thereto, the result is certain to be a restoration to health and life.

In proof of this, note these words in the Bible, at Jeremiah 33:6: "Behold, I will bring [them] health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth." Thus it is proven that a knowledge of the truth, and obedience thereto, is essential to health and life, even after that begins to be ministered to the people. Then, in corroboration of this prophecy, it is written, in Isaiah 33:24: 'And the inhabitants shall no more say, I am sick, because the people shall be forgiven their iniquity.' Those who are obedient to the Lord will not only be made healthy and strong, but be granted everlasting life as a gracious gift from God. In Romans 5:18, 19 these words appear: "Therefore, as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedi-



ence of one shall many be made righteous." This means that every one will have the opportunity for health and life. Sickness and death are man's great enemies. These enemies shall be destroyed, because it is written, in 1 Corinthians 15:25, 26: "For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." God's kingdom is the only means by which man can obtain health and life everlasting. That kingdom is at the door.

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## Judgment of the People

**W**HEN announcement is made that judgment is about to be rendered, those who are involved await the decree with fear and trembling. For centuries the peoples of earth have been told to expect a coming judgment day. False teachers have led the people to believe that the day of judgment will be a time of intense sorrow and suffering. It is the expressed will of God that the people shall know the truth upon this important question, and his time has come for them to get the truth.

Satan the Devil, working through his representatives on earth, and particularly those of "organized Christianity", so called, has deceived the rulers and the people. With the execution

of God's judgment upon the nations at Armageddon Satan's influence will end, and concerning which it is written, in Revelation 20:3: "The Lord shall bind Satan the enemy that he may deceive the nations no more." Immediately thereafter must begin the judgment of the people, which means that they must be put on trial before the Lord. Concerning this the Bible, at Acts 17:31, says that God has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man, Christ Jesus, whom he hath appointed, whereof he has given assurance unto all men in that he has raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Other scriptures show that the judgment of Christ toward the people will be righteous, and this text shows that the judgment will take place at a time when righteousness is on the earth and when there will be nothing to deceive the people. That time of judgment, therefore, must be a happy time for all who will love that which is right and who try to do right.

For many centuries the clergy of "Christendom" have taught the people that all have been on trial during the past and that the destiny of each one is fixed at the time of death and that the judgment of the Lord is merely to confirm what had already been determined at death. Such teaching and conclusion are entirely wrong. God's law is just and right. He will not put anyone on trial without first informing that one of the terms of the trial, because his Word so

declares. Almost all people have been kept in total ignorance of God and his purposes. It is therefore first necessary to bring them to a knowledge of the truth, and this will be the first work of the judgment day.

Knowing that Satan has been the one who has deceived and blinded the people, the promise of the Lord is that when Satan is bound blindness shall be removed that the people may see and understand the truth. In proof thereof God's prophet Isaiah, in chapter twenty-five, records this prophetic promise, that the Lord will destroy the face of the covering east over the people, and the veil that is spread over all nations; and this he will do in the judgment day.

With such blindness removed the people will see and understand the truth and will recognize that Jehovah is the only true God and the real friend and benefactor of the people. In that same chapter the prophet, speaking to the people, uses these words: "And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us; this is the Lord; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

All the people that have ever lived will, at the beginning of the judgment, be either dead in the grave or alive on the earth. Jesus Christ gave his life a ransom for all of these; therefore all are properly spoken of as "the ransomed of the Lord". The prophet, at Isaiah, chapter

thirty-five, says: "The ransomed of the Lord shall return" and come unto God's organization, which is headed by Christ Jesus the Chief Judge, and of which the true and faithful overcomers form a part. Whence will these ransomed people come? They will come from every part of the earth and the dead will be awakened and brought out of the graves. This is the same time mentioned by Jesus, when all that are in their graves shall hear his voice and be brought forth. Why will they come to the Lord and his organization? They come for trial and judgment. Each one will be given the opportunity to prove that he loves righteousness and wants to do right.

There will be no secret meetings of lawyers and judges and side conferences in that trial. That everything will be open and aboveboard, that no one will be deceived and that all will have a full and fair show, is fully proven by the promise in Isaiah 35:8, which reads: "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called, The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those; the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein."

A highway represents a clear and unobstructed road to travel. It means, then, a clear and unobstructed way to learn the truth, to be obedient thereto, and to return to God. The people will not be clean at the beginning of restitution,

but must clean up and devote themselves to the Lord in order to go upon the highway. Neither the Devil nor any of his agencies, nor any other unclean or wicked thing, will ever be upon that highway or be permitted to hinder those who are faithfully serving God. Jehovah's faithful witnesses are upon the highway and are appointed and act as leaders of the people by directing them in the right way to enter into the kingdom. It is a "way of holiness", because wholly devoted to Jehovah.

The Bible pictures the Devil under the symbol of a vicious lion and his visible organization on earth under the symbol of a beast. The Lord gives assurance to the people that neither Satan the lion, nor any cruel oppressive money power, nor political organization, nor false preachers shall be there to deceive the people and hinder them in gaining and obeying the truth. He gives his assurance in these words of the prophet (Isaiah 35:9): "No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon; it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there."

The "redeemed" are all of the people, and all such who will do right shall walk in the way of righteousness and become righteous. As earth's ransomed millions learn the truth they will be happy and greatly rejoice because their deliverance and blessing has come to them in the day of judgment. In proof of that the prophet says:

“And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs, and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.”

The Jewish clergy were proud and haughty and austere and oppressive. They sought the favor of the rich and influential, while they made the burdens of the poor grievous to be borne. Jesus said of them, in Matthew, chapter eleven: ‘It shall be more tolerable for the people of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.’ The people of Sodom were extremely immoral; but they were totally ignorant of God, and therefore God has promised that he will bring them out of the grave and give them a knowledge of the truth that they may have a trial under righteous conditions; and it will be easier for them in that day of judgment than it will be for the hypocritical clergy who knew Jesus and yet who willfully denied and persecuted him.

Have conditions changed? Are the clergy of this day austere, haughty and proud, and do they seek the favor of the rich and the influential? Judge from observation for yourselves. Concerning all such in the time of judgment the Lord says (Isaiah 10:33): ‘The high and haughty ones shall be brought low and humbled.’ But how about the poor? The poor man now has little or no show before the courts. And will it

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be the same way during the great day of judgment of Christ upon the people? No; the poor will then have an equal show with all others, because it is written, in Isaiah 11:4, 5: "With righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."

A meek person is one who is willing to be taught and anxious to learn. When the meek receive a lesson they will be glad to profit by it. All such will have their trial before the Lord under most favorable conditions. That it will be a happy time for such poor and oppressed ones, who are meek, the proof is given in the words recorded at Psalm 37: 11: "But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace." Again, it is written, in Matthew, chapter five: "Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth."

The Lord states, at James, chapter five, that the cries of the poor and oppressed have reached his ears and that his time to take an account with the oppressors and relieve the oppressed is at hand. In that judgment the oppressors shall be broken and the poor shall receive God's favor. In Psalm 72 the Lord says of such: "He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save



the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor. . . . For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy."

To Abraham Jehovah made promise that he would raise up a seed that would bring blessings to all the families of the earth. God caused Moses to write down the prophecy, set forth in Deuteronomy 18: 15, which says: "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken." These two great prophecies refer to the same One, to wit, Christ, who is the seed of promise, and Christ the King, who is the great Prophet, Priest and King and Judge, who shall try and bless all the people who obey his law.

The clergy of "organized Christianity" have repeatedly told the people that all the unjust and unrighteous go to eternal torment at death and that in hell they will be forever tortured. Such is a defamation of God's name and word. Jehovah is just and he is the God of love, and torment is wholly repugnant to love and justice. What good could result to anyone by torment? God will torment no one. Almost all people have died in sin and without a knowledge of God and his purposes. They must know the truth before they are put on trial. They will therefore be brought out of death as imperfect creatures,

and the truth will be given to them. In proof of this it is written, in Acts 24: 15: "Have hope toward God, . . . that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust."

All persons by reason of inheritance are born sinners, and it is written, in 1 Timothy, chapter one, Christ came to the world to save sinners. A wicked person is one who first receives the truth and then repudiates it and despises God's law. Judas was one of the wicked, and the clergy were likewise, because they hired him to betray Jesus and bribed the soldiers to try to prevent knowledge of his resurrection. The judgment of each is written: "Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment, and the meek will he teach his way." "The Lord preserveth all them that love him; but all the wicked will he destroy."

India and China are full of an ignorant and degraded race; but in due time all of these shall be given the truth and cleaned up and given an opportunity to receive life, because God has promised that through Christ all the families of the earth shall have an opportunity for the blessings of life. God has not delayed these blessings, but he has awaited his own good time to bring forth his kingdom and set it up under Christ, vindicate his name and bless all those who give honor and praise to him and his word.

# Judgment of the Nations

**T**HE DIVINE record at Habakkuk 2:20 reads: "Jehovah is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him." (A.R.V.) This and other prophecies written centuries ago shall be fulfilled in the last days, as God has declared. We are now at that time. Jehovah has clothed his beloved Son with all power and authority in heaven and earth and seated him upon his throne as the great Judge of all creation. The Scriptural proof submitted on another occasion shows that Christ Jesus came to the temple of God in 1918 and began his judgment, first at the house of God, and quickly thereafter follows the judgment of the nations of the earth. Now therefore says the Lord: "Let all the earth keep silence." This means that God has a message to deliver to the people and he commands that they hear that message.

The word "earth" here used symbolically represents the visible organization of the peoples and nations of the earth. There are three specific elements of men that make up the visible and ruling powers, and these are, to wit, the commercial, the political, and the religious element. While the people cast their votes for the selection of men to office, they have nothing to say about the rule of the nation. There is a

proverb in the land which says, "Money talks"; and those who seek favor and influence yield readily to the power of money. In 1 Timothy 6:10 it is written that "the love of money is the root of all evil". That does not mean that the inanimate thing called "money" is evil, but it means that the love that selfish men have for money and the power it brings breeds evil or injury to their fellow creature. Although there are one hundred and twenty millions in the United States, less than three hundred men control the great corporations and money power of the land. At the same time there are many millions of people who desire to earn an honest living but who are deprived of so doing, and this in a time of the greatest material wealth the nation has ever known. It is doubtful if any of these ultrarich ever stop to consider how many people are suffering for the necessities of life. Their love for money blinds them to everything else but the gain of more power and influence.

Greco has caused the greater banking institutions to swallow up the smaller ones. The small merchant is forced into bankruptcy because of the oppressive power of combined wealth. The farmer grows his crops by much laborious effort, only to be compelled to sell them at a sacrifice or loss. Many day laborers work for a wage inadequate to properly support themselves and families, while many others are

unable to find employment. The greatest lawyers of the land are in the employ of the corporate money power, and few, if any, able lawyers are looking after the general welfare of the common people. A great public service corporation has a selfish desire to increase its holdings, and to do so it induces the law-making power to grant the privilege, and then the courts uphold its wrongful action, thus oppressing the people with greater burdens. The people have no redress. Crime and corruption hold sway in high places, and public officials seem to have forgotten that they have an obligation to serve the people. Their conscience is seared as with a red-hot iron. This deplorable condition, found in America, exists in every other nation, and particularly those nations called "Christian".

What is the cause of this unhappy condition amongst the nations of the earth? In the final analysis the answer is that Satan, the ruler of this world, has blinded the nations and led them into a trap. In doing so, however, the Devil has used subtle and hypocritical instruments to thus deceive and mislead the rulers and the people. The instrument of deception used is "organized Christianity" with its apostate clergy in the lead forming a part of the world. Everyone knows that the clergy freely participate in the politics of the land. The clergy cannot be blind to the fact that money and greed oppress the people and that this oppressive power is in the hands

of those that rule. Even some of the most prominent clergymen collect large sums of money and use it in political campaigns to elect their favorites to office. These clergymen cannot be blind to the fact that public officials walk with their hands behind them and that the acceptance of bribes has been so bold and open that even the givers of bribes are shocked.

Regardless of all such wickedness and oppression the clergymen in America, in Britain, in Germany and in Italy and all other nations called "Christian", boldly claim that these nations are divine institutions and that the rulers are holding sway by divine right and authority and that such constitutes God's kingdom on earth. These gentlemen of the cloth have misled the commercial and political men that rule the nations, and have wrongfully induced them to believe that they can continue their evil course without fear of God. These clergymen forming a part of the world are more reprehensible than the other men because they have claimed to speak as God's representatives. The time has come when the commercial and political men of the world must quickly see that they have been deceived by the religionists, and then they will cast off such as mere barnacles upon their organization.

God's judgment has been written against such ones, and now God will have the people hear a statement of that judgment before he causes it

to be fully executed. The duty of a true Christian is not to injure anyone, but to tell the people the truth as this appears in God's Word, in order that the people may know what is about to come to pass. Concerning those who are oppressing mankind the Lord says, at James 5:1-6: "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth; and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you."

In the ninth chapter of Genesis is the record of the everlasting covenant God made, in which he announced the sacredness of human life. God expressly commands that Christians shall not take the life of a fellow man. The clergy should know what the Bible says. When the World War came, they not only supported that war but urged young men to go to battle and told them that if they died upon the battlefield



their blood thus shed would be an immediate passport into heaven. They were therefore, in a large degree, responsible for the death of many of these young men. Concerning such God's judgment is written: "Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents; I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these."--Jeremiah 2:34.

Is it not time for the commercial and political rulers of the nation to awaken to the fact that they have been misled by men who claim to teach God's Word and that the time has come for them to put away such associates? Concerning those who refuse so to do, but who continue in their wrongful course, at the same time misrepresenting God, his judgment is written, in Jeremiah 51:57, in these words: "I will make drunk her princes, and her wise men, her captains, and her rulers, and her mighty men; and they shall sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the King, whose name is the Lord of hosts."

The religious leaders have misled many people of good will by inducing them to believe that such organizations as the Anti-Saloon League and the League of Nations are instruments provided by the Lord to clean up the world and make it a fit place in which to live. In this they have done a great wrong. Why should the people longer be misled by such teachers? Many good people say that "we must put forth an effort to clear out crime, that we may have a righteous

government". It is proper to desire a righteous government; but why not hear the Word of the Lord, who has pronounced his judgment and declared what he will do? When the Lord acts to clear out crime, the result will be entirely satisfactory to all honest creatures. To those who desire an honest rule and who are suffering under oppression the Lord now says through his prophet Zephaniah: "Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the Lord, until the day that I rise up to the prey; for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger; for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy."

The nations are now assembled for judgment, and shortly the Lord's judgment will fall. "The earth," used in this text, means the organized ruling power. These have defamed God's name and broken his law, and this they have done as members of Satan's organization; and the Lord now declares his purpose to destroy the entire organization of Satan the enemy. Shortly this shall come in the expression of God's indignation at the great battle of Armageddon.

What shall follow that great battle? Will the people then have any relief? The answer is given in Zephaniah 3:9 of this prophecy. After expressing his determination to destroy the oppressive organization the prophecy continues: "For then will I turn to the people a pure lan-

guage, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent." Such is a statement of God's judgment against the nations and what shall follow thereafter.

Immediately following the great battle of God Almighty, or Armageddon, the Lord will proceed with the judgment of the peoples of the earth. This will be an individual judgment. Never has there been a time of such importance as just now. The Lord is in his holy temple for judgment and that judgment is in progress. It is the will of God that the people now have an opportunity to know the truth, that they may choose the course they will take and thus be in line to receive the favorable decree of Jehovah. To aid the people in gaining such knowledge, and in obedience to the commandments of the Lord, there is now a company of men and women calling at your homes with books which are true helps to the understanding of the Bible. Their one purpose is to aid you to understand the meaning of these present-day events as described in God's Word. God's judgment upon the nations is now in progress and soon will be concluded by the complete fall of Satan's organization. The Lord is in his holy temple for judgment. By his prophet, at Isaiah, chapter thirty-four, he now speaks to the assembled nations and says: "Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people; let the earth hear, . . . and all things that come forth of it. For the indig-

nation of the Lord is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies." The decree of God is that they shall fall in the great battle of Armageddon. Then quickly will follow the individual judgment of the people. A knowledge thereof is of vital importance to everyone. You owe it to yourself to gain this knowledge quickly and thereby learn the way of the Lord and the blessings that he has in store for those that obey and serve him. Your Bible, together with books brought to you, give you the information you need that you may learn God's complete remedy for man.

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## Judgment of Christians

**J**EHOVAH'S law or rule of action concerning judgment is written in the Bible. The careful student can determine therefrom the nature of the judgment of the Lord. His judgments are now in progress concerning those who have made a covenant to do God's will and who are therefore called "Christians". An understanding of this matter will make clear some of the things that we now see coming to pass.

"Judgment" means a judicial decree rendered by a court or judge having authority and jurisdiction so to do. A judgment rendered by such authority is binding upon all involved therein.

A trial or hearing of the facts must precede the judgment. The authority for this statement appears in John 7:51 to the effect that the law of God judges no man without a hearing. That means that each one must have the opportunity to intelligently do or refuse to do God's will before final judgment is rendered.

All power and authority proceed from Jehovah, and he delegates power and authority to whomsoever he may choose. Psalm fifty states: "God is Judge himself," meaning that he is the supreme or chief justice. The Bible further states that justice and judgment are the habitation of God's throne and that the law of God is perfect and right. A creature can therefore always be sure that a judgment rendered in harmony with the will of God is just and right. When Jehovah delegates to another the power and authority to act in his name, the judgment rendered by that one is therefore the judgment of Jehovah God.

Jehovah appointed Christ Jesus as the great Judge and clothed him with all rightful power and authority in heaven and in earth. This statement appears in Matthew 28:18. It is written, in John 5:22, that God has committed and delegated all judgment to his beloved Son. In 2 Corinthians 5:10 the statement is found that in due time all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ. That means that when God's due time arrives Christ Jesus begins his

judgment, and all the judgments rendered by him are in exact accord with what is already written in the Word of God.

Before Jehovah appointed Christ Jesus the great Judge it was necessary for Jesus himself to undergo a trial and thereby prove his qualifications. For three and one-half years following his baptism in the Jordan Jesus was subjected to all manner of trials and tests and, upon the authority of Hebrews 5:8, he learned obedience by the things that he suffered during such trials. In Philippians 2:8-11 it is written that Jesus was fully obedient even unto an ignominious death, wherefore God raised him up out of death and exalted him to the highest position in the universe and commanded that all creation shall bow before his name and acknowledge him as the Messiah to the glory of God.

Long ago God expressed his purpose to have associated with Jesus Christ in his judgment work a limited number of others, who would be taken from amongst men. Before exalting anyone to the high place of associate judge with Christ Jesus God's law requires him to do the following things, to wit: the creature must first exercise faith in God and in Christ by making a consecration or an agreement to do the will of God; must be accepted by Jehovah and justified and brought forth as the son of God; and then he is put upon trial and must prove his

complete loyalty and devotion to God under the test. Such trial covers the entire experience of the Christian from the time he becomes a son of God until his death. Just before his death Jesus called his disciples that had been faithful to him and said to them, as appears in Luke 22:28-30, in substance this: 'You have stood faithfully by me in my trials, and now I invite you to share with me in my kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.' A like invitation has been given to every one who has wholly devoted himself to God and entered upon trial for a place in the heavenly kingdom. In order to be elected to that high position and exalted into the kingdom the man now must be faithful and true to God and to Christ to the very end. He must be an over-comer, which means that he must renounce the selfish things of this world and devote himself unreservedly to the Lord and his kingdom.

"The world" means the organization of the peoples into forms of government under the supervision of the invisible one Satan. The world is composed, therefore, of an invisible and a visible part. The Christian who receives the final approval of the Lord in the judgment can have no part in the world, because his allegiance is wholly to God and his kingdom and he must prove his faithfulness. It is easy to be seen that the Lord would not exalt a man to the high



position in his court unless that man first prove himself faithful and true to his agreement to do God's will. In Matthew 7:21 Jesus said: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." To those who would agree to do the will of God, Jesus stated: 'I have chosen you out of the world, and you must overcome the world.' Then, as appears in Revelation, chapters two and three, Jesus further says: "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations." "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." This proves that from the time one becomes a Christian until his death he is on trial, and upon the record that he makes final judgment is rendered when due time for judgment arrives.

Concerning those who are approved upon final judgment it is written, in Revelation 20:6, that these have a part in the first resurrection and live and reign with Christ.

When does the judgment begin? That question is answered in 2 Timothy 4:1 in these words: "The Lord Jesus Christ . . . shall judge the [living] and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom." The Scriptures show that the second appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ and

the beginning of his kingdom dates from the autumn of 1914, evidenced on earth by the World War and what followed thereafter. The Scriptures further prove that three and one-half years thereafter, to wit, in the spring of 1918, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared at God's temple for judgment. In the prophecy of Malachi (3:1-3) Jehovah says: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' sope: and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." This statement is further supported by Psalm eleven, to the effect that Christ Jesus comes to his temple for the purpose of rendering judgment. In 1 Peter 4:17 it is plainly stated that "judgment must begin at the house of God". The "house of God" means those who profess to be Christians or followers of Christ Jesus.

The claim is made that there are millions of Christians on earth and that these are going to heaven. No man has authority to say who shall or who shall not go to heaven, but it is our priv-

ilege to examine ourselves according to the law of God and to determine whether or not we can hope to be of the heavenly kingdom class. Many have believed that, if a man is a preacher or clergyman, he is sure to be taken to heaven. Such a conclusion is wrong. No man can occupy a more favorable position than that of a preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ; and when I speak of clergymen or preachers I do it, not unkindly, but only to aid the people in arriving at a just conclusion as to whom the Lord says he will approve. If it appears that a man cannot have God's approval merely because he bears the title of clergyman or preacher, then if you find those who do not measure up to the Lord's requirements, you may know that they are not safe guides or advisers and you should avoid them. This does not mean that you are to treat them unkindly, but merely refuse to follow their instruction. Now let each one measure himself according to the law of God and thereby determine whether or not he is in line for a place in heaven. Do not be discouraged, however, but bear in mind that only a small number will be taken to heaven and that the great majority will have their place of life on earth.

It is recognized that great corporate interests and the professional politicians constitute the chief rulers of the world and that their allies are the clergymen of the various churches. The clergymen make themselves a part of the world

and actively take part in the politics thereof. They take sides in war and use their church buildings as recruiting stations and urge young men into war. These things they have a right to do, of course, as men of the world; but a true follower of Christ has no such right. In James 4:4 these words appear: "Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world, is the enemy of God." Surely God would not approve his enemy and put him in the heavenly kingdom, nor would he delegate to such power to act in his name.

In the year 1930, in New York city, a great structure was erected which is called a "church". One of the richest men in the world furnished most of the money to build it. Many statues are there installed of scientists and philosophers, and the tower itself is dedicated to a woman. These figures of persons represent all creeds, including higher criticism and Darwinism, which is a direct contradiction of God's Word. The pastor claims to be a Christian minister. In that church the mighty and the rich draw nigh to God with their mouths, but, as the prophet says, God is not in their thoughts. It is a worldly institution parading under the name of Christ. When the campaign was on to put the United States into the League of Nations one hundred and forty thousand preachers actively participated in that campaign. I

cite these things to show that the church organizations of the land are a part of this world and do not support God's kingdom.

Since the day Jesus was on earth men have not changed. In his day the clergymen claimed to represent God, and yet they persecuted Jesus because he told them the truth. In the present day the men who oppose the teaching of the truth of the Bible are the clergymen and their allies. I now advise you to carefully read the twenty-third chapter of Matthew and note that Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of the sanctimonious clergymen and told them that they loved to appear in long garments, to be hailed as rabbi and doctor, to court the favor of the rich; and that they made the burdens of the poor grievous to be borne; and that they loved to pray to be seen of men; and that they had a form of godliness, but were hypocrites. Call to mind the facts at the present day and see how well these words of Jesus fit the men today who claim to represent God. Then Jesus said to those same clergymen that they knew God had promised to set up his kingdom, and that they had once been in line for the kingdom, but because of their unfaithfulness God would take away from them the right of the kingdom and give it to those bringing forth the fruits thereof. (Matthew 21:43) That means that only those will be approved by the Lord, and be received into his kingdom, who are faithful and loyal to God and

bring forth the fruits of the kingdom. The words "fruits of the kingdom" mean God's truth, as set down in the Bible, concerning the redemption of the human race, the establishment of his kingdom, and the complete vindication of his word and name. Men feed upon natural fruits to sustain the body. They also feed the mind upon spiritual truths, that they may grow in the knowledge and grace of the Lord. Those who please God must teach his truth and carry this to the people. The clergymen completely fail to bear the fruits of the kingdom to the people, and to this all must agree. A small company of humble men and women bring to your door these fruits of the kingdom.

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