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THE WORD MADE FLESH

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. . . . And the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth."

This chapter delineates the character and importance of the work of Christ. As one who understands his subject, John ascribes all power to Christ, and speaks of His greatness and majesty. He flashes forth divine rays of precious truth, as light from the sun. He presents Christ as the only Mediator between God and humanity.

The Mystery of the Ages

The doctrine of the incarnation of Christ in human flesh is a mystery, "even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations." It is the great and profound mystery of godliness. "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." Christ took upon Himself human nature, a nature inferior to His heavenly nature. Nothing so shows the wonderful condescension of God as this. He "so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son." John presents this wonderful subject with such simplicity that all may grasp the ideas set forth, and be enlightened.

Christ did not make believe take human nature; He did verily take it. He did in reality possess human nature. "As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same." He was the son of Mary; He was of the seed of David according to human descent. He is declared to be a man, even the Man Christ Jesus. "This Man," writes Paul "was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honor than the house."

But while God's word speaks of the humanity of Christ when upon this earth, it also speaks decidedly regarding His pre-existence. The Word existed as a divine being, even as the eternal Son of God, in union and oneness with His Father. From everlasting He was the Mediator of the covenant, the one in whom all nations of the earth, both Jews and Gentiles, if they accepted Him, were to be blessed.

"The Word was with God, and the Word was God." Before men or angels were created, the Word was with God, and was God.

The world was made by Him, "and without Him was not anything made that was made." If Christ made all things, He existed before all things. The words

spoken in regard to this are so decisive that no one need be left in doubt. Christ was God essentially, and in the highest sense. He was with God from all eternity, God over all, blessed forevermore.

The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, a distinct person, yet one with the Father. He was the surpassing glory of heaven. He was the commander of the heavenly intelligences, and the adoring homage of the angels was received by Him as His right. This was no robbery of God. He declares,

"The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: while as yet He had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there; when He set a compass upon the face of the depth."

There are light and glory in the truth that Christ was one with the Father before the foundation of the world was laid. This is the light shining in a dark place, making it resplendent with divine, original glory. This truth, infinitely mysterious in itself, explains other mysterious and otherwise unexplainable truths, while it is enshrined in light unapproachable and incomprehensible.

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God." "The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region of the shadow of death light is sprung up."

Here the pre-existence of Christ and the purpose of His manifestation to our world are presented as living beams of light from the eternal throne.

"Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the Judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek. But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting."

"We preach Christ crucified," declares Paul, "unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."

That God should thus be manifest in the flesh is indeed a mystery; and without the help of the Holy Spirit we cannot hope to comprehend this subject. The most humbling lesson that man has to learn is the nothingness of human wisdom, and the folly of trying, by his own unaided efforts, to find out God. He may exert his intellectual powers to the utmost, he may have

what the world calls a superior education, yet he may still be ignorant in God's eyes.

The ancient philosophers boasted of their wisdom; but how did it weigh in the scale with God? Solomon had great learning; but his wisdom was foolishness, for he did not know how to stand in moral independence, free from sin, in the strength of a character molded after the divine similitude. Solomon has told us the result of his research, his painstaking efforts, his persevering inquiry. He pronounces his wisdom altogether vanity.

By wisdom the world knew not God. Their estimation of the divine character, their imperfect knowledge of His attributes, did not enlarge and expand their mental conception. Their minds were not ennobled in conformity to the divine will, but they plunged into the grossest idolatry. "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things." This is the worth of all requirements and knowledge apart from Christ.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life," Christ declares; "no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." Christ is invested with power to give life to all creatures. He says,

"As the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father; so he that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me. . . It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

Christ is not here referring to His doctrine, but to His person, the divinity of His character. Again, He says,

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in Himself; so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself; and hath given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of man."

God and Christ knew from the beginning, of the apostasy of Satan and of the fall of Adam through the deceptive power of the apostate. The plan of salvation was designed to redeem the fallen race, to give them another trial. Christ was appointed to the office of Mediator from the creation of God, set up from everlasting to be our substitute and surety. Before the world was made, it was arranged that the divinity of Christ should be enshrouded in humanity. "A body," said Christ, "hast Thou prepared Me." But He did not come in human form until the fulness of time had expired. Then He came to our world, a babe in Bethlehem.

No one born into the world, not even the most gifted of God's children, has ever been accorded such demonstration of joy as greeted the Babe born in Bethlehem. Angels of God sang His praises over the hills and plains of Bethlehem, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men."

O that today the human family could recognize this song! The declaration then made, the note then struck, the tune then started, will swell and extend to the end of time, and resound to the ends of the earth. It is glory to God, it is peace on earth, good will to men. When the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings, the song then started in the hills of Bethlehem will be re-echoed by the voice of a great multitude, as the voice of many waters, saying, "Alleluiah: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

By His obedience to all the commandments of God, Christ wrought out a redemption for man. This was not done by going out of Himself to another, but by

taking humanity into Himself. Thus Christ gave to humanity an existence out of Himself. To bring humanity into Christ, to bring the fallen race into oneness with Divinity, is the work of redemption. Christ took human nature that men might be one with Him as He is one with the Father; that God may love man as He loves His only begotten Son; that men may be partakers of the divine nature, and be complete in Him.

The Holy Spirit, which proceeds from the only begotten Son of God, binds the human agent, body, soul, and spirit, to the perfect, divine-human nature of Christ. This union is represented by the union of the vine and the branches. Finite man is united to the manhood of Christ. Through faith human nature is assimilated with Christ's nature. We are made one with God in Christ.—Mrs. E. G. White in Review and Herald, April 5, 1906. Reprinted by request.

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BUILDERS

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

"And the rain descended and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

"And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

"And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it." Matt. 7:24-27.

We are all builders; and must fall into one of the two classes mentioned above. We may build wisely, carefully and thoughtfully; a structure of character that will withstand the rain, wind, and floods of adversity, doubts, and temptations; or we may build carelessly and without thought, structures that will be no protection for the soul, but rather dangerous masses that may destroy the soul with their own fall and destruction.

The first thing in building wisely is to found our house upon the solid rock of love for mankind. For charity is a solid rock that all the floods of life cannot undermine, nor the winds of strife shake. "Charity never faileth." I Cor. 13:8.

"For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Gal. 5:14. And Christ says, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." Matt. 7:12. Can one find more solid ground for a structure than that?

On this lay the foundation Jesus Christ. Make His life and example the underlying foundation of your life; "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3:11.

"Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation." Isaiah 28:16. Here is a foundation with a corner stone that all the storms of life cannot shake, nor the floods of temptation wash away—a cornerstone that is a tried stone (Is. 28:16), a living stone, (I Peter 2:4) a precious stone, (I Pet. 2:6) a foundation that is "my strong rock": (Ps. 31:2) the rock of ages (Is. 26:4 marg.), my rock and fortress (Ps. 31:3) the rock of my strength, (Ps. 62:7) of my refuge. (Ps. 94:22) of habitation, (Ps. 71:3 marg.) and the rock of my salvation. (2 Sam. 22:47).

This is a foundation worth having.

When heavy storms or cyclones come, people flee

to the cellars and basements as the safest place: so when the storms of life strike us, and winds of adversity shake and threaten our spiritual structure, we have a sure foundation, a rock of refuge to flee to where we shall be safe. When the floods of temptation beat around us we shall have a corner stone, a tried stone, that has beaten back and withstood every temptation of life; a rock of salvation to which we may cling, even if our building has been of hay, wood, and stubble, too frail to withstand the storm; and clinging be saved, even though we suffer loss. (1 Cor. 3: 15).

But what a shame to build with such material upon such a perfect foundation! Rather rear the steel beams of Hope, and build in the stones of Faith, and adorn it with the gold, silver and precious stones of Charity.

On the other hand, we have the foolish man who built his house upon the shifting sands of selfishness, with a foundation of greed and love for pleasure; laying aside the chief corner stone (1 Peter 2: 6) which became a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence. (1 Peter 2:8).

On this he has reared a house of self indulgence, thoughtlessness, doubts, and fears. Struck by the storms of life it crumbles and falls; the floods hurl and wash away the sands of selfishness: there have been no kind acts or loving words to bind this foundation together, and the rocks of greed and pleasure are nothing to cling to, but rather added menace as all is hurled through the flood together; for "it fell: and great was the fall of it."

In your building then "Be ye perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." (Matt. 5: 48).

C. M. Shepherd.



TEACHERS, TEST YOUR ARMOR

A story is related of Napoleon Bonaparte giving an order for an absolutely bullet proof coat of mail. When it was delivered, he commanded the maker of it to put it on. Then taking a pistol, Napoleon stepped off a short distance and fired shot after shot at the man in the armor. Fortunately for the workman, the coat of mail stood the test, and the emperor liberally rewarded the man who had made it.

Teachers of children and youth are just as truly "shot at" as the poor man in the armor. The spiritual life of the teacher must be of the sort that can stand the test, if his teaching is to have any effect. Eyes that are young are keen to detect discrepancies between precept and example. Teachers must live the truths they would teach.

The writer recalls a series of disconcerting questions from the lips of a little child, which came like hot shot from a repeating rifle. Years have passed, but my cheeks burn in memory of that time when I found my armor too weak to resist the attack. The occasion was a children's meeting. The important feature of the lesson was our duty to forgive those who wronged us. Appropriate texts and illustrations were used.

"Teacher, do you do that way," asked an earnest voice, from four seats back.

"I try to," was the hesitating reply.

"Aw, yes, but do you do it," with expressed scorn. Desperately I answered, "Sometimes I do."

The effect was plainly felt. I was a stranger to the children. I had presented to them a situation with which they had all had experience. I had told them what they ought to do. How natural was the desire upon their part to know if I did what I was asking them to do. Doubtless the question in one form or an-

other was in the mind of every child at that meeting. What a pity that I could not at least have related one experience of personal victory and blessing in the thing of which I spoke.

Teachers are constantly pointing out the moral in the Bible lessons taught. In most instances the embarrassing personal question is not asked aloud. Teacher and pupils are acquainted. In practically every class it is safe to assume that the life of the teacher as related to the standards set forth in the lesson, is recognized by the pupils, and the influence of the lesson weakened or strengthened proportionately.

Do you teach your pupils their personal duty in matters of religion? Do you exalt the spirit of sacrifice? Do you appeal for the surrender of the heart to King Jesus? Do you warn against the attacks of the enemy of our souls? If you do, and no one responds, examine your armor.

Shall we not say, as did the blessed Master, "For their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also may be sanctified through the truth"?

L. Flora Plummer.

Ohio

A PLACE AND A WORK FOR ALL

A most inspiring theme for our meditation is the Lord's plan for you and me in His work of saving people for an eternal home in His kingdom. In His beautiful arrangement, Jesus has given "to every man his work." "Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God." C. O. L., p. 327.

Our Saviour will not return the second time until the whole church is united in the work of soul-saving. "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church-membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." Vol. 9, p. 117. And since "He will finish the work," we know the time is ripe when a perfect union of all God's people will be consummated for the rapid completion of His work upon the earth.

Since these things are so, it is very important that everyone of God's professed people find, as quickly as possible, his place in the great scheme of God. "Were every one of you a living missionary, the message for this time would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to every people and nation and tongue. This is the work that must be done before Christ shall come in power and great glory." Vol. 6, p. 438. One of the most interesting things in life is finding one's work, and then the doing of that work for God.

The Lord does not want us to attempt to find our place and work without His guidance. "Every one must now search the Bible for himself upon his knees before God, with the humble, teachable heart of a child, if he would know what the Lord requires of him." Vol. 5, p. 214. "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass." Ps. 37:5.

While the special work God has planned for you and me to do may not be known to us at once, we should not wait in idle expectancy. There is a work all should do at all times, and the faithful performance of this work will doubtless help us see plainly the specific work in life God has marked out for us.

"Wherever we see work waiting to be done, we

are to take it up and do it, constantly looking unto Jesus. If our church-members would heed this instruction, hundreds of souls would be won to Jesus." Vol. 9, p. 32.

"As servants of Christ we should be faithful in the position where God sees that we can render most efficient service. If opportunities of greater usefulness are presented to us, we should accept them at the Master's bidding, and His approving smile will be upon us. But we should fear to leave our appointed work, unless the Lord clearly indicates our duty to serve Him in another field.

"Different qualifications are needed for different departments of the work. The carpenter is not fitted to work at the anvil, nor the blacksmith to use the plane. The merchant would be out of place beside the sick-bed, and the doctor in the counting-room."

"Our duty to act as missionaries for God in the very position where He has placed us, has been greatly overlooked by us as a people. Many are eagerly turning from present duties and opportunities to some wider field; many imagine that in some other position they would find it less difficult to obey the truth." Vol. 5, p. 184.

"Other lines of usefulness will open before those who are willing to do the duty nearest them." Vol. 9, p. 36.

The subject of the monthly home missionary meeting for Sabbath, February 3, will be "A Place and a Work for All." The Home Missionary Calendar announces the subject of the meeting, and the Church Officers' Gazette gives the program. This February service, if preceded by thorough preparation, will contribute much to the devotional and service sides of every participant. Let us all make the monthly missionary meeting a vital part of our church services for this new year.

E. R. Corder.

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INTERESTING EXPERIENCES

"The more our literature is circulated the greater will be the demand." This truth is illustrated by the following experience Brother C. G. Douglas relates. "Last evening I called at a humble little home in the city near the Goodrich rubber plant. A poor little woman came to the door with two small children. As I started to give the canvass for the Haynes' set: 'Satan,' 'Spiritualism,' 'Other Side of Death,' and 'Christian Sabbath,' the woman at once recognized the books and said, 'O, you don't know how I have been wishing for some of those good books! You are a Seventh-day Adventist.' I said, 'You are right, lady.' She said, 'A lady from your church called here at my home two years ago and left some papers, and I have wondered ever since why she never returned with some more of them.'

"She believes the Sabbath is right. She paid cash, sending her little girl to the store to get change. She said she once went out hunting for two hours trying to find our church and could not find it nor anyone who knew anything about it and came back disappointed."

Brother Craig is among those who will proclaim the Sabbath more fully. He said one woman asked him what he thought of Seventh-day Adventists and he answered, "Well so far as I have studied their doctrines they are

in harmony with the Bible." "I took her order for 'Great Controversy' and she told me she was searching for truth. A lady I sold 'Great Controversy' to six months ago said, 'What will you do with all who have kept Sunday?' I said, 'The Lord will do right with all.' I told her Sunday was a counterfeit, for there is but one true Sabbath. There is not one text in the Bible that would change the day. She is to read the tract 'Who Changed the Sabbath'. I sold 'Great Controversy' to a Catholic, also to a lady who had been a Catholic."

Notice the wisdom in the way Brother Craig deals with the one who is just purchasing "Great Controversy" and the one who had read it.

D. W. Percy, Field Miss. Sec.

New Jersey

A TESTIMONY OF A FAITHFUL COLPORTEUR

Sometimes we become discouraged because our hire is but a penny a day, but that is God's pay to the workmen in His vineyard. A year ago I began the colporteur work. It seems I can do better with the smaller books, although at times I sell a large one. The message is cut up in our World's Crisis Series and they appeal to the common people along life's pathway.

Recently I went to a certain man's home to deliver one of these books. His wife told me to go to the barber's to find him, but before I got there he had gone. When he reached home his wife told him I was looking for him, so he started out to find me. It means something to look for the other fellow but it pays. He was so glad when he found me. He became much interested, and I learned he is a Sunday School teacher in a large church. He ordered a "Bible Readings" and wanted it soon. I have since delivered the book and he is well pleased with it. God's truth is marching on, and He is searching out His people in more ways than one. Bless the Lord for His goodness to men.

Yours in the work, J. M. Farrow.

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WEDDING BELLS

December 28, 1922 at Ramah, New Jersey, a very pretty, but quiet wedding took place in the church which was artistically decorated for the occasion.

The bride was Miss Edna B. Applegate, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Applegate of Ramah; and the bridegroom was Mr. O. Estle Sutter of the Washington Sanitarium, Takoma Park, D. C. The bridesmaid was Miss Marguerite Folger, teacher of the Ramah school, and the best man was Mr. Bert West.

Mrs. Kelsey Moore sang "Oh Promise Me," and the bridal party marched in to the strains of the wedding march also played by Mrs. Moore.

Elder W. A. Nelson, pastor of the church, performed the ceremony, following which Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Folger gave a reception for the couple at their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Sutter will reside in Takoma Park, D. C. Their many friends wish them a successful and happy married life.

M. Folger.

e World's S. O. S. Call for Help

East Pennsylvania

SICK AND IN PRISON AND YE VISITED ME

Perhaps it will be of interest to some to learn of my experience and success in holding a short series of stereopticon lectures in the Chester County Jail, West Chester, Pa.

This was my first attempt to hold meetings in a jail, but the Lord said, "I was . . . sick and in prison, and ye visited me not." With these words in my mind I went to get permission of the jailer, asking that all the prisoners be turned out in the corridor so they could see the views. He said, "No, I cannot do that," but I prayed to the Lord if He wanted me to speak there, He would rule, and He did. They later gave me permission to speak, saying they would turn the prisoners out in the corridor, but it was something they had never done before. I told them they would not have any trouble, as the Lord would control that part for us.

The first lecture was on Daniel 2, and they all took a deep interest in everything that was said and done. After the meeting closed every man went back into his cell without being told. As we came out the jailer said, "You surely got them tonight." His wife and many others were in the hall to see the pictures and hear what was said. She thanked me, saying they all enjoyed it very much.

The next meeting was on the Second Coming of Christ. As I had to have my canvass up in the gallery it was necessary for me to be in among the prisoners. They all gathered around me to shake my hand and tell me what they thought of it. My daughter assisted me with the singing, and we asked them all to join in with us. We were surprised to hear such good soprano, tenor and bass voices,—they certainly made the corridors ring with beautiful melodies. The people even gathered outside the jail to listen to their singing.

At every meeting they would ask me to sing that beautiful hymn "Lord, I'm Coming Home" and they surely would sing it. Two or three made the remark as we finished singing it, "Yes, I'm coming home." One young man asked me to what denomination I belonged, and when I told him I was a Seventh-day Adventist, he said he thought so, as he had boarded with an S. D. A. family in Michigan. Another one said to me, "If all the ministers preached like you do, I would not be here."

As I bade them good-bye, telling them it was our last meeting, about seventy-five of them gathered around me with sad hearts as they made these remarks: "Oh, do come again, won't you ask the jailer to let you come?" "Will you give me your address, please?" "Will you send me some reading?" giving me their home address.

As the result of the meetings, we have the jailer and his wife, the guards and many of the prisoners reading our papers and tracts. The Lord says to sow beside all waters and unto Him we give all the glory and honor.

G. Robert Hawthorne.

West Pennsylvania

THE COLORED WORK IN PITTSBURGH

The closing months of the year marked progress in every respect for this church. For weeks the church has been seeking God for the out-pouring of His Spirit and a deeper consecration and the Lord has been blessing in every way. Sabbath, December 23, sixteen were added to the church, nine by baptism and seven on profession of faith.

We are next planning for a ten days' revival from Friday evening, January 12 to 21st, at which time Elders M. C. Strachan, of Baltimore; J. B. Mallory, of Richmond; R. A. Benjamin, of St. Louis; and G. E. Peters, of Chicago, will speak. The churches of the city are invited to unite with us in making this time a season of refreshing.

In response to the call for missions, the week's salary call was heartily responded to in cash amounting to about three hundred dollars and pledges of about two hundred and forty dollars. We are now planning to begin the new year with a drive on our new church building which is our greatest need at present.

F. C. Phipps.

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NEWS NOTES

We hope to give a final report in the next issue of the *Visitor* of the Harvest Ingathering work done in this conference during 1922. This will depend on the promptness of every church treasurer.

Our supply of the 1923 Home Missionary Wall Calendar is exhausted and the publishers notify us that their supply is also gone. We are sorry some are disappointed by not getting one and trust that they will be on time with their order next year.

Some of our members do not understand about sending orders to the tract society only, but send them to some of the workers. Many times workers are out in the field and these orders await their return or are forwarded thus causing a delay. All orders for supplies and our publications should be sent to the West Penna. Tract Society and remittances for tithes and offerings to the West Penna. Conference. Remittances should be made payable to the tract society or conference, not to any individual worker.

Church elders, please send names to the conference office of all members not receiving the *Visitor*. This paper is sent by the conference to every member free. We want it to reach every one.

Many of our lay members during the holiday season canvassed among their friends and others with our children's books. From the number of orders received at the tract society it was evident they had success. Some like it so well they will continue in the work. We wish them every blessing heaven can bestow in their soul-winning work.

Elder Altman baptized two sisters at the English church in Pittsburgh two weeks ago. The same afternoon Elder Phipps baptized nine at his church. We are surely glad to see these dear souls come into the faith and we trust and pray the Lord will keep them faithful until He comes.

Have you ordered your copies of "Christ's Object Lessons"? One or more for every member in the conference. The entire profit on each book goes to help the Mount Vernon Academy where our young people are seeking a training to help finish the work before the Lord comes. Order one or more from the conference office, the price is \$2 per copy. You not only help the school, but should you give it away or sell it you bring a great blessing to the one who receives it and with the possibility of bringing him into the truth. There is nothing in the book that will arouse prejudice. It is a wonderful book and should be in every Seventh-day Adventist home.

Newly Elected Church Officers, Attention—The book "Officers of the Church" will be a valuable asset to you in executing your duties during the coming year. The price is only 60 cents. Order one now from the tract society.

C h e s a p e a k e

NEWS NOTES

A Conference Committee meeting was held at the office December 27.

Elder McCord spoke in the Baltimore No. 1 church Sabbath, December 23. At the close of the service a large number of "Christ's Object Lessons" were taken by different members to sell for the Dormitory Fund.

Elder Medairy who has been detained in Baltimore for several weeks, returned to his work in Laurel. He plans to do personal work during the winter months.

A large number of new recruits will attend the Colporteurs' Institute to be held in Takoma Park, January 4 to 14. We look for big things in the book work during 1923.

"Church Officers and Their Work."—Just the book every new church officer should have. Price 60 cents.

A special program was held in the Baltimore No. 1 church on New Year's Eve. During an intermission a light lunch was served in the basement of the church. The meeting lasted until 1923.

Brother W. H. Jones spent a few days during the holidays visiting his parents and friends in Richmond, Virginia.

Your friends, relatives, and others you have hopes of interesting should be receiving the Signs of the Times. In these days of fulfilling prophecy the Signs is in a class by itself as a live progressive teacher of the truth. With it you have the denomination's best thought and experience in a form that will commend itself wherever you choose to send it.

West Virginia

The "Christ's Object Lessons" Campaign is still progressing in West Virginia. One church has already sent in its second order, nearly doubling its original order, and we are expecting many others to do the same.

We have just received word that the Huntington church has raised \$626 in the Harvest Ingathering campaign. This is good news from Huntington.

The Thirteenth Sabbath was observed by the Parkersburg Sabbath school with very appropriate and interesting exercises, consisting of songs, exercises, recitations and selections by all divisions of the Sabbath school, including the Primary, Kindergarten, Junior and Senior. The program was enjoyed by all and a generous offering added to the enjoyment of the occasion.

We continue to receive inquiries regarding our books and our message from various places and realize more each day how the interest is spreading in West Virginia.

We quote the following from a letter from one of our colporteurs, H. E. Webster, who is located in Grafton, West Virginia: "The other day as I was coming in from work, I called at a store to price an overcoat. The man showed me a very good coat for \$22.50 that happened to be just my fit. After talking a few minutes, he asked me just what I wished him to ask, "What's your business?" Of course, I improved my opportunity without delay, but had not asked him to take a book on the coat before he himself suggested the plan. I thanked the Lord for leading me to this store, because I needed the coat and the man was very much interested in what I told him of our work. When I went to deliver the book, he said, "Did you come in here the other day to sell a book or buy a coat?" I told him I accomplished my plans in full. He answered, "Well, you are different from any salesman that ever came in here. Nine out of ten would never have sold me a book." I told him I didn't sell him the book either. I only carried the prospectus around and the Lord did the selling, not I. The man dropped his head a few moments and then asked me to tell him more about my work some time when he was not busy. So be of good cheer, the work will soon be over and our trials be forgotten."

Again from G. E. Missbaugh: "This week I called on a family in a little mine and on approaching the lady at the door, she rather turned me down, but when she recognized me, invited me very cordially into the house. She and her husband then told me that they had bought five books and two Bibles of me at a previous time, and then ordered two Family Bibles, a Home Bible and a Bible Dictionary and promised to give me another order when I came to deliver."

"No calamity can befall the least of His children, no anxiety harass the soul, no joy cheer, no sincere prayer escape the lips, of which our Heavenly Father is unob-servant, or in which He takes no immediate interest."

Colporteur Reports

Name	Place	Book	Hours	Sales	Deliv'd
West Pennsylvania, Week Ending December 29, 1922					
Alice Martin, Connellsville			23	25.75	25.75
H. E. Buttermore, Clearfield			21	16.25	1.00
G. S. Buttermore, Clearfield			25	53.50	14.25
J. Washington, Allegheny Mag.			12	25.00	25.00
Sales not reported during the year				971.60	
Totals 4 colporteurs			61	\$1092.10	\$66.00

Virginia, Two Weeks Ending December 29, 1922					
W. G. Michael, Roanoke	BR	47	64.50	147.90	
*C. A. Blount, Norfolk	BR	89	192.00	52.75	
V. M. Price, Chesterfield	OD	23	61.00	9.50	
H. V. Roach, Roanoke	BR	58	127.75	216.90	
*T. W. Graham, Norfolk	BR	75	169.95	20.00	
Miss E. White, Petersburg	OD	39	108.75		
E. L. Williams, Lynchburg	BR	16	42.00	60.00	
Totals 7 colporteurs			352	757.95	507.05

New Jersey, Two Weeks Ending December 29, 1922					
Wm. Schmidt, Newark	GC	37	190.10	74.00	
Iris Bryne, Alpha	OD	51	130.25	97.25	
J. W. Janssen, Orange	BR	70	109.75	96.25	
O. K. Skidmore, Trenton	BR	36	103.50	10.25	
C. E. Fatscher, Jersey City	BR	30	89.25	1.75	
W. M. Jacobus, Passaic	BR	38	38.00	71.55	
C. Lauterback, Rockaway	OD	50	26.25	61.50	
K. Johanson, Hoboken	BR	41	22.50	13.50	
J. Johnson, Moorestown	OD	28	25.75	15.50	
Esther Lull, Atco		43	13.78	9.96	
Wm. Ellis, Asbury Park	BR	51	5.00	570.00	
Totals 11 colporteurs			475	\$754.13	\$1021.51

Chesapeake, Week Ending December 29, 1922					
J. E. Jones, Worton, Md.	BR	26	77.00		
Mable Kurz, St. Helena	OD	22	46.50	37.00	
L. W. Kurz, St. Helena	OD	31	100.25	123.00	
L. Robinson, Baltimore, Md.			5.50	9.71	
Ada Thomas, Baltimore, Md.	OD	26	52.25		
Totals 5 colporteurs			105	\$281.50	\$169.71

Ohio, Week Ending December 29, 1922					
Irving Evans, Cambridge	GC	12		187.00	
J. L. Gearhart, Tucarawas	BR	8		83.00	
Mrs. A. Hermann, Lucas	GC	1	2.75	8.90	
M. B. Ingersoll, Mahoning	GC			51.50	
C. F. Robinson, Gallia	BR	56	37.25	243.50	
Mrs. J. W. Shultz	Misc.	20	117.50	111.00	
H. C. Wilcox, Canton	DA	26	75.50	2.00	
Totals 7 colporteurs			123	\$233.00	\$686.90

Grand Totals 34 Colp., Sales \$3,118.68, Del. \$2,451.17

*Three weeks.

Strikes where the world is thinking. This is why every number of the Signs meets the current need, gaining attention and getting its message directly to the reader.

THE FEBRUARY WATCHMAN

In the current issue of The Watchman Magazine many interesting questions of importance are being answered through the Service Department, known as The Watchman's Answer. In the February issue the following questions are being answered.

The problem of suffering—Sickness and calamity come to the good as well as the wicked. Do they come as the penalty for their own sins or the sins of their parents, or are they the penalty for their transgression of natural laws?

Another question being answered is—Kindly state in a word the difference between eternal life and immortality.

Another theological question is—Does Jude and 15 refer to the second coming of Christ?

And—In what sense is God the Creator of evil as stated in Isaiah 45:47?

The foregoing are only a few of the many questions that are being answered month by month in The Watchman Magazine. The answer to these can be read in the February number. If you are not a subscriber why not send a dollar and twenty-five cents to your tract society today? Single copies 15 cents. Liberal commission on single copy sales. Arrange with your tract society for territory. R. F. Woods.

* * *

NEW SERIES OF PRESENT TRUTH

Beginning January 1 a new series of Present Truth will be launched with semi-monthly issues numbered from 61 to 120. The principal fundamentals of the message will be again gone over in a carefully planned rotation, each subject being given in its latest setting. As fast as the subjects of the old series are reprinted in the new series, the old numbers treating on these subjects will be dropped, thereby avoiding duplication of topics, yet preserving a complete, connected, full-message series always in print and ready for use in a topical presentation of a complete message. None of the numbers in the old series will be out of date or out of stock until the subjects are reprinted in the new series.

The annual subscription price will remain at 25 cents, domestic; 50 cents, foreign. These low subscription prices with fresh, new papers mailed twice a month will render 1923 an excellent year for effective subscription work. A new list will begin each month, thereby avoiding supplying back numbers and providing for each subscriber to have a full series. All subscriptions must cover one full series.

All of the numbers of Present Truth issued during the years 1920-23 can be had in Bound Volume form. These Bound Volumes contain 240 large pages 9½ by 14½ inches, with 288 of the best Biblical illustrations it is possible to secure. They will contain the most complete, classified, illustrated, topical matter on the message ever produced. Price, \$1 per volume.

* * *

"Lukewarm water will not run an engine anywhere, neither will lukewarm Christianity accomplish anything."

"If men would consider the end of sin they would shun the beginning of it."

We remember many things, we should forget, as injuries, disappointments, etc., but forget what we should remember: viz., God and our souls.—John Mason.

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

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Radio! Are all machines alike to you? S. C. Rockwell, Mt. Vernon, Ohio, gladly furnishes information of merits of any make. When you know what you want he will furnish it for less, accessories also.

New Edition, "Daniel Eleven, Narrated," by Justus Grant Lamson.—The first edition of this book was sold out eight years ago, but a continuous demand has made it seem advisable to get out another edition which will be off the press during January 1923. The new edition is brought down to date; maintains the old view of Turkey as the "King of the North"; and in addition to the very readable features of the "Notes and Comments" will have six maps showing the countries mentioned in the Narrative. Price, paper covers, 40 cents, Bound in cloth, \$1. Orders received by the author prior to February 1, 1923 will be sent postpaid at 25 cents for the paper bound, provided cash or stamps accompany the orders. Address J. G. Lamson, 224 Prospect Ave., S. E., Grand Rapids, Mich.

Beginning with January 1923 the first issue of the *Signs of the Times* each month will be a two-color number devoted to some topic or topics of world interest at the time, that opens the way for a strong presentation of Bible truth. All subscribers will get this on their regular subscription. Additional copies of each two-color monthly number may be ordered by individuals and churches at the low rate of 4 cents each in quantities of less than 50; 3 cents each, 50 or more. These numbers will be readily sold at the retail price of 10 cents each. Order of your tract society.

Two Million Copies a Year

TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND copies of the *Signs of the Times* going out each month means 2,400,000 copies a year. Its circulation by regular subscription is larger than any other Seventh-day Adventist periodical. Measured in weight, the year's output amounts to 96 tons. In column inches of reading matter, it measures 5,151 miles.

To estimate the measure of influence of the *Signs of the Times*, one must think in terms infinitely larger. Throughout the endless ages of eternity its influence will be felt. At this time, when the world is in turmoil, the *Signs of the Times* is carrying a message so attractively dressed and so clearly presented that it is bringing hope and cheer to many thousands of people. Scarcely a week passes without word coming from some one or from several who have decided in favor of living the truth.

In the annual campaign for securing subscriptions, set for January 21 to February 4, by the General Conference Committee, it is suggested that we plan to reach 50,000 more homes with the *Signs*. This would raise our figures in tons to 192, and our column inches to more than 10,000 miles. In influence, it will undoubtedly mean the reporting of hundreds accepting the truth instead of scores, as at present. You will enjoy having a part in an effort that has such unlimited possibilities.



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