

THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

THE ASS AND THE WHITE HORSE

Have you ever read the story of the fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse? The whole story is very strange and wonderful. We give it to you just as it appears in the record; which is called "the Unveiling of Jesus Christ," a most interesting story told in signs and symbols!

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war.

"His eyes were as flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself.

"And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God.

"And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

"And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations; and He shall rule them with a rod of iron; and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

"And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, and LORD OF LORDS.

"And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and He cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

"That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captain, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bound, both small and great.

"And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse, and against His army.

"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

"And the remnant were slain with the sword of Him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of His mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh." Revelation 19:11 to 21.

This may seem to you stranger than fiction; yet in it God would reveal to us His marvelous truth concerning the end of this age. Things which must shortly come to pass. Is not civilization moving rapidly toward some mighty climax? Undoubtedly.

This Rider of the white horse who is the theme of the Apocalypse is likewise the theme of the Book of Books, the Bible, God's Book.

This Rider once lived as a Jew in Palestine, the land of the Jews. When there He said to His disciples, "The Scriptures testify of me."

"Beginning at Moses and all the prophets He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself."

These are the first words of this Apocalypse, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ." He Is the Word which was with God and who was God, who said to His beloved disciple John, a prisoner on Patmos for Christ's sake, in this Revelation;

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which it to come, the Almighty."

The Almighty Alpha and Omega is the Rider on the white horse.

Presently we shall refer to the other four horsemen of the Apocalypse.

Just now let us get this picture in our minds and the significance of it all deep in our hearts.

Here we have a picture of The King Of Kings And Lord Of Lords, crowned with many diadems, coming out of heaven riding on a white horse. He is coming to the earth for judgment, which is righteous but terrible. He is coming to make war. This event is future.

As we said this same King, who is called Faithful and True, visited this earth once before. He spent more than thirty years in the land of Palestine.

He was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death that He, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man.

He is also called "Wonderful" and "The Seed of the Woman."

In His own language, He came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give His life a ransom for many. He said:

"I came down from heaven not to do Mine own will but the will of Him that sent Me."

He was in the form of God and took upon Himself the form of a servant. He was Emmanuel, born of the virgin Mary.

The more we read about this Rider, the more mysterious He becomes.

At the time of His birth, the heavenly angels announced that He had come down from heaven to earth on a mission of peace; "Peace on earth, good-will toward men." He was born as King of the Jews and He was worshipped by some as King and Lord.

But the civil and religious leaders set themselves against the Lord's Anointed. By them He was despised and rejected. He said:

"The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the son of man bath not where to lay His head."

Surely He was the man of sorrows, acquainted with grief.

No one who ever lived on this planet was as meek and humble, as kind and gentle, as patient and compassionate as He.

After this Man had spent His appointed time here on this earth, "He knew His hour was come that He should depart out of this world." John 13:1.

"For this cause came I unto this hour." John 12: 27.

"Now is the judgment of this world. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This He said, signifying what death He should die." John 12:27 to 33.

Mark these words, "Now is the judgment of this world."

He went to Gethsemane to sweat as it were great drops of blood. He said to the holy God:

"Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from my lips; nevertheless not My will but Thine be done."

Then He went to Calvary where He was put to death between two thieves. When He was dying, He cried with a loud voice, "It is finished"; and yielded up the ghost.

Then He came back to life and in a glorified body ascended to God's throne in heaven.

In His own language, His first visit to earth was for the judgment of the world. And His second visit to the earth shall be for the judgment of the world. Both of these judgments are righteous judgments. God Is a righteous and a holy Judge. And in order to be a loving, merciful, compassionate Saviour He had to visit His righteous judgment upon a guilty world. "The wages of sin it death." This He did when Jesus Christ the Righteous yielded up the ghost on the cross. He became the propitiation for the sins of the whole world, dying as God's worthy substitute for the whole human race who had sinned and come short of the glory of God. Jesus is the Saviour of the world appointed by God.

"The Father hath committed all judgment into the hands of the Son."

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among His people. And they beheld His glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. The Son was holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners. He knew no sin, but on the cross was made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. Did you ever seriously consider the problem of the holy God, who is both a just Judge and a merciful Saviour?

The sentence of death is upon every guilty sinner. Whosoever will may go free by accepting the judgment of the world at Calvary.

"That God may be just and the justifier of everyone that believeth on Jesus." Romans 3:26.

God is not willing that any should perish. He offers to each individual the choice of meeting Christ as a Saviour, or meeting Him as a Judge. As a Saviour, He says, "Come unto Me"; as a Judge, He is going to say, "Depart from Me." "Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out." "Whosoever will, may come." Will you meet Christ here as Saviour, or hereafter as Judge?

In the twelfth chapter of John from which we have just quoted the words of the Saviour, we have a picture of the King as a Rider. Not here crowned with many diadems sitting on a white horse and coming to make war; but sitting upon the colt of an ass.

Just as truly as the Rider fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah when He entered Jerusalem upon the ass, just so truly is He going to fulfill this prophecy of the nineteenth chapter of Revelation when He comes in terrible judgment, riding on the white horse; the conquering Judge and War-maker.

These words of Zechariah were spoken about five hundred years before the birth of the Son of God, the Son of Mary.

"Rejoice, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee; He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. Zechariah 9:9.

It was not an uncommon thing for kings to ride on white horses or in chariots; but the kings of this world do not ride upon the colts of asses.

But the King of Kings came the first time to suffer; to be the Saviour of the world, led as a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth."

The ass is the symbol of humility. So is the lamb or the sheep. The white horse is the symbol of a victor, a conquering king. The glory of the King is to follow His sufferings.

The Old Testament prophets foretold the coming of Christ. They testified beforehand of His sufferings and the glory that should follow. He was prophesied as the suffering Messiah, dying for the sins of His people; and also as the conquering King sitting up on the throne of His father David. Isaiah 53 and Isaiah 9:6 and 7.

The Messiah and the mighty God were one and the same. He was called “everlasting Father.” This Divine Messiah came from heaven to His own people, the Jews, but they would not have Him to reign over them.

“For they that dwell at Jerusalem and their rulers, because they knew Him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which were read every Sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning Him. And though they found no cause for death in Him, yet desired they Pilate that He should be slain.”

Truly, “He came unto His own and His own received Him not.”

The heathen ruler said to the Jews, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered “We have no king but Caesar.” John 19:15.

The Jews thought that Jesus was going to put Caesar off the throne and that He Himself would then become the ruler of the world, with Israel safe in Zion. When the King came riding on the colt of an ass He did not dethrone the Roman ruler. But He shall come riding on the white horse He will dethrone the Roman ruler, the Beast.

Pilate wanted to let Jesus go, but the Jews cried “Crucify Him.” Pilate washed his hands saying “I am innocent of the blood of this just person.” Then answered all the people and said “His blood be on us and on our children.”

The Jews rejected their King and crucified Him; and above His cross were written these words: “This is Jesus of Nazareth the King of the Jews.”

He was not crowned with many diadems, but He was crowned with a crown of thorns.

“And when they had platted a crown of thorns on His head and a reed in His right hand, they bowed before Him and mocked Him saying, ‘Hail, King of the Jews’.”

“Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree.” Thorns are a part of the curse. The Holy One of Israel was made sin on the cross.

Surely the Jews have suffered many things because of their great crime; but their most intense suffering is yet to come; “the time of Jacob’s trouble.” Jeremiah 30:1 to 11. That time was foretold by the rejected King in those days between His so-called triumphant entry through the gates of Jerusalem up on the foal of an ass and the time that He was outside the gates of Jerusalem hanging on the tree. Read His solemn warnings in the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew.

“Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”

“But for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.”

“For there shall arise false Christs.”

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.”

“And then, shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

Surely Faithful and True, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, descending from heaven to earth, sitting on the white horse is the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

When Daniel the prophet of Israel foretold the glorious coming of the Son of man, he pictured Him as a Stone falling out of heaven, smiting the nations of the earth and becoming a mountain, filling the whole earth. Daniel 2:32 to 48.

In the ninth chapter of his prophecy he said that this smiting and the establishment of this kingdom would take place at the end of seventy weeks. Daniel 9:24 to 28.

The Messiah was cut off, but not for Himself, when He died on the cross of Calvary at the close of the sixty-ninth week.

Israel's seventieth week is yet future. Before that seventieth week shall begin, the Lord shall descend from heaven and receive unto Himself every member of His Body. They that are Christ's at His coming shall be caught up in the air to forever be with the Lord. I Thessalonians 4:13 to 18; I Corinthians 15:21 to 25.

In the fifth chapter of the Apocalypse we find that all of the redeemed saints of the Lord shall be in glory before the seals are opened and the wrath of God and the Lamb is poured out upon this wicked world.

Then in the sixth chapter, we have the beginning of great sorrow. Here we are introduced to the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. The great tribulation of the twenty-fourth of Matthew begins with the sixth chapter of Revelation and closes with the nineteenth chapter. In the story of these four riders we have the story of sorrow and woe.

The great tribulation begins with a crowned conqueror on a white horse and closes with the crowned Conqueror on the white horse.

Here is the beginning:

“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the voice of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, come and see.

“And I saw, and behold a WHITE HORSE; and He that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto Him; and He went forth conquering, and to conquer.

“And when He had opened the second seal. I heard the second beast say, Come and see.

“And there went out another HORSE THAT WAS RED; and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another; and there was given unto him a great sword.

“And when He had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and to A BLACK HORSE: and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.

“And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say A measure of wheat for a penny. and three measures of barley for a penny: and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

“And when He had opened the fourth seal. I heard the voice of the fourth beast say. Come and see.

“And I looked, and behold A PALE HORSE: and his name that sat on him was Death. and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.” Revelation 6:1 to 8.

1. The White Horse—A crowned conqueror.
2. The Red Horse—Fighting with a sword.
3. The Black Horse—Dispensing the necessary food at a most exorbitant price.
4. The Pale Horse—What a name! Death and Hades, dealing out great destruction unto death.

In His Olivet discourse the Lord Jesus prophesied that there would be false Christs, wars, famines, pestilences, great tribulation. Surely in this sixth chapter the unbelieving world is

entering the awful reign of terror under the Beast and Antichrist foretold by Christ and His apostles. The true child of God shall escape this time of God's righteous judgments upon the earth; but through it apostate Christendom and disobedient Israel must pass.

Take the time to read the terrible judgments of an offended and just God from the sixth to the nineteenth chapters of the Apocalypse. Be not deceived! Surely these things must come to pass. God, who cannot lie, hath spoken. You can escape them and the after-death judgment by fleeing to Jesus while the door of salvation is yet wide open. Some preachers would have us believe that the Church of Christ must go through this period of suffering. But we may rest assured that Christ will have every member of His Body in glory before the reign of the Antichrist shall begin on this earth. The Antichrist's power and reign on earth will not begin until the last member of the Body of Christ is safe with the Lord in heaven.

This great period of distress will reach its climax in the great Battle of Armageddon, at which time the eternal Son of God who died on Calvary's cross shall come with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgment upon all the ungodly sinners on this earth. This Divine Conqueror, riding the white horse, will come to earth and destroy His every enemy. He shall smite the nations and take for Himself the reins of government. Then shall the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ. God's will shall be done on earth even as it is done in heaven.

The conquering Saviour, together with His saints, shall reign over this earth during the glorious millennium of righteousness and peace. The nations shall learn war no more.

When the King came to earth the first time riding on the foal of an ass, He came to be judged by the nations. But when He shall come riding on the white horse, He shall come to judge the nations. What a difference! He shall put down all opposing authority and conquer death.

"God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained, and He hath given us assurance in that He 'Hath raised Him from the dead.'"

There is therefore now no judgment to them that are in Christ Jesus.

Think of the folly of "Postmillennialism." A thousand year righteous reign while the King is away, while Satan is loose going to and fro upon the face of the earth, is unscriptural absurd and impossible.

Those that are Christ's at His coming will live and reign with Him a thousand years.

Those who believe that Christ must come for His Church before He establishes His Messianic earthly kingdom are called Premillennialists." They are sometimes called other things by their enemies such as "pessimists," "fanatic," etc. Scoffers are arising constantly to fulfill Scripture by saying, "Where is the promise of His coming" But His coming is certain and imminent. Watch. Wait.

Premillennialists are of several varieties: "Pre-tribulation," "Post-tribulation," "Part-tribulation" and "Partial-rapture." But remember the Word of God teaches that all that are Christ's will be safe in glory before the four horsemen usher in the tribulation.

MILLIONS NOW DYING WILL NEVER LIVE

Several years ago I was giving a series of Bible messages on the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. On the last evening after I had finished speaking a gentleman came forward and said to me: "I certainly wish I had heard these messages fifteen years ago." I asked him why. He said

that for years he had been a member of a Methodist Church and he had asked several of the different pastors to give a message on the Return of the Lord. He said from each one of them he received some excuse for not preaching on the subject; but he did not hear the message. These different pastors told him that because of so many different theories, such a sermon generally ended in an unprofitable controversy.

“Some,” they said, “believed when the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost,” that was the second coming of Christ. Others said: “The destruction of Jerusalem in the year 70 A. D. was the coming of Christ.” Others said: “Christ comes to each Christian at death and receives him unto Himself.” Others said: “Christ’s coming will be at the end of the world; at the general resurrection of the dead.” And so on.

This gentleman said: “Of course, these answers did not satisfy my anxious soul which was yearning to hear the truth concerning this most precious fact. I saw so many references to the second coming of Christ and the great events connected with that second advent in the Bible, that I thought surely it was a pastor’s duty to explain it to his people.”

“Pastor Charles T. Russell came to the city. He was advertised to speak on the Second Coming of Christ. I attended the meeting. He quoted many of the Scriptures I had been reading. I was captivated, and now I see I was beguiled and my mind was corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

What a shame that the true Church of Jesus Christ should be guilty of such negligence; should so dishonor the Lord and His Word as to remain silent on this precious doctrine which is the believer’s blessed hope; the capstone of Divine truth!

Pastor Russell propagated his fallacy with some truth, like the Seventh Day Adventists and other false-prophets do.

The International Bible Students, under the general-ship of Judge J. F. Rutherford, are still spreading Pastor Russell’s heresies. They advertise extensively with the statement “Millions now living will never die.”

The Lord has thus instructed believers:

“Try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false-prophets are gone out into the world.” I John 4:1.

All Scripture is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness, So, we shall proceed to throw the search-light of God’s Holy Word on this religious concoction which Satan has mixed up to poison the sinner’s soul. Of course, he has not labeled it “poison.” It is labeled “Christian.”

Read carefully these words:

“For such are false-apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness, whose end shall be according to their works.” II Corinthians 11:13 to 15.

The disciples of Mr. Russell claim to be Bible students. They have selected “Bible Students” as the name of their sect. They claim that they believe the Bible.

I am sure that the Bible is God’s Word from Genesis to Revelation. These verses just quoted are self-explanatory and explain the Satanic counterfeits which are being propagated today with scriptural phraseology and labeled “the Christian religion.”

We are willing to admit here that much of what Pastor Russell has written about the religious corruption in the Church of Christ is true; that no ecclesiastical potentate has any scriptural place in the true Church. There are no cardinals, archbishops, priests, doctors of

divinity or reverends mentioned in the Bible as belonging to the true Church; although some who unscripturally bear these titles are saved, and are, therefore, in that Church, against which the gates of hell shall not prevail.

The apostasy and heresies in the denominations are appalling. But Pastor Russell's remedy is ten times worse than the disease. He denies in his writings almost every one of the Christian fundamentals.

In the first place, Russellism is Unitarianism, even in a more corrupt form than that taught by the Unitarian denomination. The Unitarians are at least honest and open in their denial of the eternal Deity of Jesus Christ, although inconsistent in using the Bible. But Pastor Russell's subtle infidelity is described in these two verses:

"There shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them." II Peter 2:1.

Note the word "privily"; and remember the crime with which these false-prophets are charged, "denying the Lord that bought them." This does not mean denying that Jesus of Nazareth was the best man that ever lived and by His sacrifice on the cross showed us how by following His perfect example we could attain unto righteousness.

Pastor Russell pretends to believe in the Divinity and atonement of our Saviour; but he denies both so far as the true scriptural sense is concerned. We quote another verse that describes him and his co-labourers:

"For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." Jude 4.

Note again, 'crept in unawares.' Unitarianism has not crept in unawares. To be sure, they are most inconsistent to call their religion "Christian" but they are at least open in their denial of the Lord that bought us.

Once more we call your attention to several verses found in John's Second Epistle, beginning with the seventh verse:

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

"Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

"Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

"If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

"For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds."

Mr. Russell and his successors most certainly transgress the doctrine of Christ and the anathema of God is upon them.

And God also says in His infallible Word:

"If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:9.

The disciples of Pastor Russell know nothing about the gospel of grace; or if they do, then they willfully repudiate it and substitute another gospel, which is not another.

Read what God says about those who come with a different spirit, preaching another Jesus and another gospel. II Corinthians 11:4 and 13.

God's Word plainly declares that when the rulers of this world put God's only begotten Son to death, they "crucified the Lord of glory." I Corinthians 2:8. And they did it for the same reason that religious leaders deny today that He was, and is, the Lord of glory. They knew not this Lord of glory who said in John 17:5:

"Father, glorify thou me with the glory that I had with thee before the world was."

Surely it would take One who was more than a perfect human being to utter such a sublime and unique prayer.

One of the disciples of Jesus said to Him: "Shew us the Father and it sufficeth us." To which the Lord Jesus replied: "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known Me Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." John 14:8 and 9.

This is in full accord with the words God spake by the mouth of His holy prophet Isaiah:

"For unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6.

Mr. Russell had a very clever way of trying to rob the Son of God of His eternal Deity. He spake of Him as a perfect man; said that He was not God but yet He became Divine. He had the audacity to say that the Bible teaches that the man Jesus is forever dead and that His body was either dissolved in gases or has been hidden away by God.

To this we shall presently refer, but now please read Philippians 2:5 to 11 and notice that the exalted Son of God at His Father's right hand in heaven is called Jesus, and it is by that name that the whole universe of God is to worship Him.

In these Philippian verses we are clearly told that before He was made in the likeness of men, He was in the form of God. Phillipians 2:6.

An honest unbeliever will say, "I know the Bible does teach that Jesus is God, but I do not or I cannot believe it.

Two or three years after Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, endured the cross and sat down in heaven at the right hand of the throne of God, Saul of Tarsus was halted on the road to Damascus, and as a light shone from heaven, he heard his name called and he said, "Who art thou Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest." Acts 9:5.

The Lord spake from heaven in the name of Jesus. If Jesus is to be considered His human name, then the human Jesus spoke from heaven.

Now, Pastor Russell of course not only claims to be a Christian, but his followers claim for him that he was the very anointed of the Lord, the latter day prophet, raised up by God to sift and separate until he gathered the true wheat out of Christendom; that is to get the bride ready to meet the Bridegroom. And yet he teaches that Jesus was a perfect human being; but no more. This is Unitarianism. No Christian denies the Deity of Christ.

The disciples of Pastor Russell often quote Colossians 1:15 in which Christ is spoken of as "the first born of every creature"; and ask with other skeptics and infidels the same question; "If he was the first born of every creature, how could He be the Eternal God?" Why not ask how He could be only a good man in the light of Colossians 1:17: "And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist?" He is before all things and yet He is the first born of every creature. Adam was created. Adam had neither father nor mother. The Son of Mary was begotten by God, and was born as the only begotten Son of God.

Some have said that the Father created His throne and His Son and then let the Son make everything else. But the Son is included in the first verse of the Bible, "Elohim," God; and the twenty-sixth verse of that first chapter of Genesis, reads:

“And Elohim said, Let us make man in our own image.”

Turn to the opening verses of the first chapter of the gospel according to John:

“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.”

“All things were made by Him.”

Also we are told plainly in another verse that God created all things by Jesus Christ. Ephesians 3:9. Read this carefully. The International Bible Students deny this Divine truth.

These so-called Bible students have a clever way of trying to corrupt the meaning of John 1:1 by saying the second word God is “Theon” and means a god. But only the ignorant can be deceived by such translations.

And notice in the fourteenth verse the “was” should be properly translated “became.” “The Word became flesh.” It was a voluntary act on the part of an omnipotent Being who said after He became flesh and was dwelling here on earth:

“I have power to lay my life down and I have power to take it up again.” John 10:18.

We are told that Jesus is entered into heaven as our forerunner. Hebrews 6:20. Our High-priest in heaven is called by the name of Jesus, the One who was made after the power of a deathless life.” Hebrews 7:16.

A short time ago one of Mr. Russell’s devotees was in my office and I asked him to explain Hebrews 1:8. He twisted and squirmed, hesitated and looked quite uncomfortable as he reluctantly read several times those words: “Unto the Son He saith, Thy throne, O God is for ever and ever.”

He wanted to turn away and consider some other portion of the Word and he really became quite impatient with me when I said, “I prefer to have an explanation of that verse before we leave it.”

Then we turned to Revelation 1:8. “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.”

Then we went to John 20:26 to 28. “Then came Jesus.” “And Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God.”

This was after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Then we turned to Romans 9:5. “And of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed forever.”

Then we turned to I Corinthians 15:47. “The second man is from heaven.”

Then, to II Corinthians 5:19; and I Timothy 3:16.

“God was in Christ.”

And Matthew 1:23. “They shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”

The teaching of the International Bible Students concerning Jesus is most blasphemous. They teach that He was begotten as the Son of God at the time of His baptism and heavenly anointing when John the Baptist was baptizing.

God has plainly declared that no man can redeem his brother, and yet He has declared that as by man came death so by man must come the resurrection of the dead. None but a perfect Divine heavenly Being could become a human Redeemer, and humanity’s Redeemer. This human Redeemer, Jesus, said “I came down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him that sent Me.”

One of Mr. Russell’s favorite scriptures in his writings which he misinterprets to support his heretical teaching is I Timothy 2:5 and 6.

“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

In his great scheme of after-death redemption he uses the last phrase “to be testified in due time” to lead his victims into a false hope.

The Word of God instructs us very clearly as to the adequacy and full efficacy of the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ for every true believer.

“Now once in the end of the ages hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.” Hebrews 9:26.

God’s Word declares:

1. Jesus Christ put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.
2. “There remaineth no more sacrifice for sin.” Hebrews 10:26.
3. That by the offering of His body on the tree once for all He sanctifies and forever makes perfect believers. Hebrews 10:10 and 14.
4. That by God’s grace believers are completely justified without a cause through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Romans 3:24 to 27.
5. “To him that worketh not, but believeth on. Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.” Romans 4:5.
6. “By grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.” Ephesians 2:8 and 9.
7. “And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace.” Romans 11:6.
8. “That no flesh should glory in His presence.” “Christ Jesus who is made unto us wisdom and righteousness, and sanctification (or holiness) and redemption.” I Corinthians 1:29 and 30.

How could any follower of Mr. Russell be a Christian in light of these eight quotations, when his religious scheme of redemption denies the true meaning of all of them?

Shall any man glory in God’s presence? He certainly would have the right to some of the glory, if he wholly or partly earns his way into God’s presence.

If man ever wins God’s favor by doing what he is told to do by Mr. Russell, he will have some right to glory in his self-effort. This is the religion of the heathen philosophers; not the gospel of Christ by which believers are saved.

But there is so much of Cain in man’s nature that he likes either to depend wholly upon his good deeds for salvation or to mix his religious works with the grace of God and get a sort of a beneficial atonement out of the finished work of the Son of God.

But what saith the Scriptures? “Grace or works.” “If grace, no more works.” God’s good news for the sinner is:

“Declared righteous on the faith basis, without works.” Romans 3:28.

Good works have their proper place as the fruit of salvation in the believer’s life; but positively no place in the root; that is, as a means to attain salvation. Salvation is altogether by grace.

Mr. Russell further says that the believer is only begotten here and will not know whether he is truly born of God until he learns after dying or at the revelation of Christ whether he has earned a place in the one hundred and forty-four thousand Israelites mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

The ransom-work of Jesus will help him on his way toward this but it will be attained by good behavior, religious works and faithful service.

It was such an unholy mixture as this that caused Martin Luther to rise against Romanism; and herald his message of justification by faith.

Now, so far as the resurrection of Jesus Christ is concerned, here is God's answer to Mr. Russell's nonsensical resurrection theory: "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished." "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept." I Corinthians 15:17 to 20.

Now, the Scriptures use the name "Christ" and the name "Jesus" interchangeably in speaking of the Deity, death and resurrection of the Son of God.

We referred heretofore to Jesus our forerunner entered within the vail. What is a forerunner? The word is "runner-ahead." Jesus has run ahead.

We shall, of course, remember that the heavenly messengers used the name "Jesus" when the Saviour left this earth in His resurrection body, after He had said "A spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see me have." Luke 24: 39; Acts 1:11.

"And they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish, and of a honeycomb. And He took it, and did eat before them." Luke 24:42 and 43.

Here the record is "Jesus Himself." Peter, several years later referred to this incident and referred to Him as Jesus of Nazareth. Acts 10:40 and 41.

Now, the message of the two men in white apparel:

"This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11.

Any redemption that does not include the redemption of the body is not the Bible redemption. Christ became the firstfruits of them that slept by being raised in a real body of flesh and bones. Our bodies are going to be fashioned like unto His glorious body at His appearing. Philippians 3:21.

Sixty years after the Saviour abolished death John saw Him and heard Him on the Isle of Patmos. He heard Him say: "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hades and of death." Revelation 1:18.

All of the Christianized Satanic cults teach that Jesus died but that Christ did not. But time and again God tells us that Christ died: I Corinthians 15:3; Romans 5:6 and 8; Romans 8:34. And also that Jesus died: Hebrews 2:9; Hebrews 12:2.

He furthermore tells us that Christ was raised from the dead and that Jesus was raised from the dead and that the present body of Jesus is a glorious or glorified body.

"This man after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God." Hebrews 10:12.

Not one of the New Testament writers—not one of the five hundred who saw Jesus in His body after He was raised from the dead (I Corinthians 15:6)—ever for one moment believed that the human body of Jesus was lost. That body was changed; not exchanged for a different body but into a glorified body.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see Him as He is." I John 3:2.

Now are we the sons of God. Now. Now, here and now, if we are believers. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life." I John 5:13.

One other proof that Russellism is another form of Unitarianism is the fact that Pastor Russell and his successors deny the Deity and personality of the Holy Spirit. They laugh at the very idea of the Triune God. They acknowledge that Jesus commissioned His apostles to baptize into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; yet they deny that either the Son or the Holy Spirit has a place in the God-head.

One of their teachers asked me to define the Holy, if I believed that “it” was a person. I said, “Do you believe in the personality of the Father?” “Most assuredly” was the answer. “Then” said I, “define or describe God the Father as a person.” And what a perplexed expression was on his face as he made his futile effort. God is omnipresent yet God is a person.

All Christians must confess that we accept by faith many things in God’s Book that we do not clearly understand. God’s Word is always more reasonable than man’s contrary reasonings. The two-fold nature of Jesus Christ is far beyond the limits of human reason. So is the clear understanding of the Trinity, an expression which is not found in the Bible but which is used to suggest the three separate persons in the one Eternal God-head, a Divine fact caught in the Bible and believed by true Christians.

In I John 2:1 our Lord Jesus Christ at God’s right hand is called the believer’s Advocate. The Greek word is “paracletos”; a Paraclete. An impersonal influence could not be a Paraclete. He must be a person. The positive statement is repeatedly made in the Bible that both the Father and the Son are in heaven. The Son said: “I and Father are one.”

Now before the Son went back to glory He said very clearly “The Holy Spirit was not yet given, because the Son was not yet glorified.” John 7:39.

He said, “If I go not away the Comforter will not come.” “If I depart I will send Him unto you.” The word Comforter “is the same Greek word “Paracletos.” Christ was referring to the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it is plain that the Word of God speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ as a Paraclete. He was a person and is a person. A paraclete must be a person. Christ was not referring to His Father when He promised to send the Holy Spirit; for He said the Holy Spirit was not yet (given). God had been with all of His Old Testament people; but the dispensation and administration of the Holy Spirit had not yet been ushered in. Christ said, “I will pray the Father and He shall send you another Paraclete.”

What does the word “another” suggest? A Paraclete on earth to take the place of the Second person of the God head. Another and Paraclete prove personality. “The Holy Spirit said, Separate unto me Barnabas and Saul.” Read the fourteenth and sixteenth chapters of the gospel according to John and you will know that the Word of God teaches the Deity and personality of the Holy Spirit.

SOUL SLEEPING

One of Pastor Russell’s much used Scriptures to support his pernicious doctrine of soul-sleeping is Ecclesiastes 9:10—”For there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in sheol whither thou goest.”

His argument is, that if the soul goes to sheol at death, and there is no knowledge or wisdom, the soul must be in an unconscious sleep. He makes sheol the resting place of the body, which is unscriptural teaching.

Mr. Russell is following the example of the natural man; all that the preacher said in this Book is not true. All that the preacher said was not God’s truth. God has recorded in His Book

what the preacher said in the second verse of this same chapter but God by no means agrees with all that is recorded. We must study Scripture in the light of Scripture.

Mr. Russell rejects the truth of the Lord Jesus Christ concerning the rich man in Sheol or Hades where there was device and wisdom and knowledge. He says that this story of the rich man and Lazarus in the sixteenth chapter of Luke is but a parable to teach a lesson to the Jewish nation symbolized by this rich man. "They shall turn the word of God into a fable." The mark of a false-prophet.

Then says Mr. Russell, in the case of the message of salvation which Jesus gave to the dying thief, the sentence should read: "Verily I say unto thee today, shalt thou be with Me in paradise." Luke 23:43. The comma thus goes after "today" to indicate that today is the time of the saying, instead of the time when the thief would be in paradise. How's that for dodging God's truth? I wouldn't call it clever. I would call any one who would accept it, quite stupid.

The Word of the Lord says "The wicked shall be turned into Sheol, and all the nations that forget God." Psalms 9:17. Surely Sheol means something besides the grave.

When the sinner dies in unbelief, unsaved, he dies having no hope. He dies, dead in trespasses and in sin. His soul goes to hades in a conscious state, a state of despair; from which, so far as any light from God's Word is concerned, there is no escape.

After the thousand year earthly reign of Christ and His saints the wicked dead shall stand before God for final judgment and doom, which is the second death. This is not cessation of existence or annihilation. Revelation 20.

When the believer dies, he falls asleep in Jesus. Christ is in the believer, the hope of glory. He has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." Does He leave the believer at death to go to the grave-body and soul-unconscious in the dust with the worms? This is worse than nonsense. It is unchristian and unscriptural.

The believer has already passed out of death into life. John 5:24 and 25. He has been made alive. He is a new creature in Christ Jesus. The consciousness of eternal life shall never be withdrawn from any believer after he falls asleep in Jesus. His body goes back to the dust; but His spirit to God which gave it. Ecclesiastes 12:7.

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." II Corinthians 5:8.

"Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better." Philippians 1:23. Christ is not in the dust with God and the worms. He is in heaven at the right hand of His God and Father.

Think of one posing as a Christian prophet, trying to rob the child of God of this blessed truth! Think of his gullible victims who prefer to look forward to an unconscious state in the grave with the worms than to this glorious experience, "be with Christ." Where is Christ?

"It is Christ that died, yea rather that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God." Romans 8:34.

That is where Stephen saw Christ when he fell asleep crying, "Lord Jesus receive my spirit." Acts 7:59.

Paul was caught up into the third heavens or paradise to see Christ. II Corinthians 12:1 to 5.

Presently we shall consider the order of events in God's program at the coming of Christ. But here now is God's eternal unchangeable truth. Only those will have eternal life after death who have eternal life before death. When they that are Christ's fall asleep, they go immediately to God's heavenly paradise in a full conscious state of bliss.

There is the possibility and the probability that Jesus Christ will return for His redeemed ones this day or this month or this year or during this generation or the next generation; and if He does, then it will be true that millions now living shall never die. There is an “if” to this. If He shall come. No prophet on earth knows when He is coming, or can figure out by any numbers given in the Bible. Numbers are for Israel. This is a parenthetical age of indefinite length of time.

There is a very strong probability, almost an assured fact, that many more millions who are now dying in their sins will never live. Christ said, “If ye believe not that I Am, ye shall die in your sins.” John 8:24. Mr. Russell did not believe in His Deity. Do you? Millions who are now dead will never live.

When a sinner dies in his sins, he has not one promise in one single verse of the Bible that he will ever have a chance to receive eternal life after he leaves this world. So far as salvation is concerned, God’s Word is very plain that it is either now or never.

“She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.” I Timothy 5:6. This is the same word “dead” used concerning Christ’s death—“Dead while she liveth.” Here sinners are dead while they live. Hereafter they shall be the same.

What mean these words? I Thessalonians 4:13:

“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.”

We shall quote the remaining verses of this chapter; but first we call your attention to these words:

“We rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” Romans 5:2.

“Which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.” Colossians 1:27.

Again, “God, who will render to every man according to His deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour, and incorruption, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish upon every soul of man that doeth evil.” Romans 2:5 to 9.

Greater evil can no man do than to pervert the gospel of Christ. Those who accept and propagate this perverted gospel obey unrighteousness and do not obey the truth. Their after-death judgment awaits them—“indignation”—“wrath”—“tribulation”—“anguish.”

“It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” Hebrews 9:27.

When Christ told His disciples of His approaching death, He said:

“Now in the judgment of this world.” John 12:31.

When Christ died on the cross God judged the whole world. Some say that He died for Adam’s sin and redeemed the whole race. The Bible says, “Christ died for our sins.” “He is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world.” “He, by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”

And the Bible plainly declares:

“There is therefore now no judgment to them that are in Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:1. God also teaches that believers shall not come to judgment but are already passed out of death into life. John 5:24.

But the same Bible teaches that he that believeth not is condemned already. John 3:18.

“He that believeth not shall be damned.” Mark 16:16.

“He that believeth not shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” John 3:36.

The sinner’s last opportunity to escape the wrath of God has passed when he leaves this world in unbelief. The unbeliever has no hope after death. Therefore we are not to sorrow over our believing loved ones who have fallen asleep in Jesus even as others which have no hope.

Read the awful doom that awaits the unbeliever, drunkards, adulterers, murderers, etc. in Revelations 21:8.

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even do them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” I Thessalonians 4:13 to 18.

Many centuries ago Daniel, God’s holy prophet, said:

“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.” Daniel 12:2.

Daniel, being one of the Old Testament prophets to whom the mysteries concerning the Body of Christ were not made known, did not reveal the fact that every Christian should now know; that is, that between the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the unrighteousness the millennium reign of Christ will take place on this earth; and associated with Him in that reign will be those who have part in the first resurrection. “Over such the second death hath no power.”

“But the rest of the dead lived not until the thousand years were finished.” Revelation 20:3 to 7.

To His disciples the Lord, while on earth said:

“Thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.” Luke 14:14.

In Paul’s defense before Felix he said:

“And I have hope toward God, which they (the Jews) also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.” Acts 24:15.

The unjust are going to be raised to receive their eternal doom at the White Throne judgment—everlasting contempt—the second death; where there shall be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. This final abode of the wicked was not prepared for man. It was prepared for the devil and his angels. But most men even in gospel lands prefer the devil’s lie to God’s truth. Mr. Russell did. So does Judge Rutherford the blind leader and his blind followers, all of whom are headed for the ditch of despair. Dear friend, flee from these fantastical semi-pagan vagaries to the infallible word of the Living God.

RUSSELLISM’S SALVATION PLAN

Mr. Russell places emphasis upon the truth of I Corinthians 15:22 which cannot be over-emphasized, provided the next verse which is part of the statement be included. But how cleverly the International Bible Students evade the next verse to support their devilish theory of universalism. Read about those who handle the Word of God deceitfully. II Corinthians 4:2.

“Which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction.” II Peter 3:16.

I grant you that there is something fascinating and alluring to many religious souls in all of these counterfeit religions of Satan. But you look about you, and see how he has deadened the spiritual senses of many sincere religious people with his opiates. They are in the sleep of death

and seem altogether satisfied and oblivious to their awful peril. What is the truth, that God would convey to us in I Corinthians 15:22 and 23?

The statement is “As in Adam all die even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order, Christ the firstfruits, afterwards they that are Christ’s at His coming.”

In this statement we have the fact that Christ is coming, and at the coming of Christ some are going to be made alive. Who are these “some?” They that are Christ’s. The fifteenth chapter of I Corinthians explains that the expression here used “made alive” refers to the resurrection of the body. God’s Word clearly teaches us that those that are Christ’s have already been made alive.

“And you hath He made alive who were dead in trespasses and sins.” Ephesians 2:1—John 5:24 and 25.

Believers who receive Christ become the children of God. John 1:12. None but believers are Christ’s; therefore, none but believers shall be made alive when Jesus Christ comes. The rest of the dead shall not live until after the millennium, or thousand year earthly reign of Christ. Revelation 20:4 to 7.

Mr. Russell is not the only man who has done a lot of wild, dangerous and foolish speculating because he could not understand just what God is going to do with the heathen who have never heard the gospel. He says that his plan of redemption, as presented in his different volumes, is God’s plan; and we say that his plan and God’s plan have very little in common.

Mr. Russell teaches that the age of grace closed in October, 1874 at which time there was a partial resurrection of the dead: That Jesus at that time went into hiding with the faithful disciples, the true wheat, who were born of God; those who had earned the right to a place in the one hundred and forty-four thousand Israelites, who constitute the Bride of Jesus.

Then followed the forty years of harvest corresponding with the Jewish harvest, and this harvest period closed October, 1914. At that time Jesus was to manifest Himself with those who had been in hiding with Him and was to select from among the living believers the remaining wheat, those who were to make up the total of the one hundred and forty-four thousand. That date, October, 1914 was to be the closing day of the times of the Gentiles.

Mr. Russell arrived at the 1914 date by multiplying the seven times of Israel by 360 days, the length of the Jewish year, a day for a year. The product is 2520 years. He added the 2520 years to 606 B. C., the year that he said Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem, which was the beginning of the “times of the Gentiles” and thus learned that the “times of the Gentiles” were to close in the year 1914 A. D.

Of course Mr. Russell, being God’s prophet for the closing days of this harvest dispensation, he did not expect to die. But he did; and Jesus did not manifest Himself, according to Mr. Russell’s figures and prognostications. Now his students who are disseminating his unscriptural theories are reckoning from a later invasion by Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian king, and have set the 1914 date up once or twice, and they now tell us that the time is at hand for the closing of the “times of the Gentiles.” So the manifestation of Jesus with His 144,000 Israelites, Christian overcomers, will soon take place; hence their slogan.

“Millions Now Living Will Never Die.”

The Millennium Kingdom of Christ is about to be inaugurated on the earth, and this is what Russellism promises to the earth and its inhabitants. The 144,000 Israelites, Christians who measure up to his standard, will constitute the Bride of Christ, and share the highest honor on the

throne with Him in His glorious earthly reign. Then next the believers who do not attain unto the high honor of a place among the 144,000 but who have believed in Jesus, who have been begotten by the Spirit but not born, that is, those who have tried to do right as Christians. Then the clean moral upright unbelievers; and so on down to the heathen who died without having heard the gospel, as well as those who are still living. There is to be a general resurrection of the dead, and thus by this millennium program the ransom of Jesus is to be testified to every one in due time.

With the millennium blessing upon the earth, the ground will be so fruitful and productive that all of the billions who have ever lived, brought back to earth, will find full sustenance.

With the devil a prisoner in the pit during the millennium, the curse removed from the earth, and with almost every cause for doubt and uncertainty removed, the resurrected dead and those who will never die will have this most excellent opportunity to accept millennium salvation. Of course so many, under such propitious conditions, will accept the mercy of the Lord that salvation will be well nigh universal. But those who rebel and ultimately reject, shall be annihilated.

Now, we better understand what God meant when He said that people having itching ears, after their own lusts, would heap to themselves teachers. That these teachers would turn the Word of God into a fable, depart from the faith and go in the way of Cain, Korah and Balaam. If it were not for the clever devil, who is charged in the Bible with the crime of deceiving the whole world, it would be very difficult to understand how any sane person with a Bible in his hand could give any credence to these wild dreams and unscriptural perversions of this false-prophet.

He tells us that the babies who died and all who died under the age of responsibility, as well as all such living, will have to grow up under millennium influences to the age of responsibility, and each make his or her own choice.

Annihilation is not a Christian doctrine. It is a heathen doctrine. Probation after death is contrary to the Word of God. Remember God never confuses the Church or Body of Christ with Israel. Israel refers to God's ancient people. Concerning them God says,

"I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in . . . And then Israel shall be saved." Romans 11:25 to 26.

The Church of Jesus Christ will be in heaven when the 144,000 Israelites mentioned in the Book of Revelation shall be sealed. There are no Israelite Gentiles.

Pastor Russell's explanation of I Timothy 2:16: "to be testified in due time"; is, that all who have not heard the story of Jesus will have that testimony in due time, and the due time for most of earth's millions will be after Jesus has taken His earthly throne with His 144,000 his Bride or true wheat.

Now, any student of the Bible knows that the Church age is a parenthetical age. The Body of Christ is a mystery which was not made known to other ages, and as we said during this dispensation of the Holy Spirit we are living in a period of indefinite time. God never gives any days or months or years to the Church of Jesus Christ. Time and years belong to the Jew.

No obedient child of God will set any date for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. There is no prophecy that needs to be fulfilled before Christ shall come for His Church. He may come this very day or this week or this month or this year; but He may not come for some years yet. But when He does come there is not the slightest suggestion or intimation anywhere in the Bible

that the wicked dead are going to be brought back to this earth and given a second chance or probation after death.

All of this spurious teaching is the trick of Satan to bring calumny upon the true servants of God who teach the Blessed Hope "Jesus is Coming."

After the Church has been taken to heaven by the Lord who shall descend for His Church God will bring Israel into her seventieth week. Daniel 9:24 to 30. Then Israel is going through a time of great sorrow, which is known as "The time of Jacob's trouble, Jeremiah 30:5 to 10, The great tribulation. But Jacob shall be saved out of it. That period shall reach its climax in the Battle of Armageddon, and the Lord shall go forth and fight for Israel as He did in the days of old. And then the true King David, none other than Jesus the Messiah and King of the Jews, will occupy the throne of His father David in Jerusalem and begin to reign on earth as King. Read carefully these Scriptures: Ezekiel 37:24, Hosea 3:5, Zechariah 14:9 to 11 and Zechariah 8:3 to 8.

"David, my servant shall be King over them." Ezekiel 37:24, Hosea 3:5.

The Jew is called by God, "the natural branch." The Gentile, "the wild olive tree." Romans 11: 21 and 17.

There was a time when Jesus spoke of the Jews as children and the Gentiles as dogs. Matthew 15:24 to 27.

But He came unto His own and His own received Him not. And now He is provoking the Jews to jealousy by setting them aside and sending salvation to the Gentiles. Romans 11:11.

"What advantage hath the Jew? . . . Much every way: chiefly because that unto them were committed the oracles of God." Romans 3:1 and 2.

"Salvation is of the Jews." John 4: 22.

Even now God is able to graft them in again. Romans 11:23.

Christ on the cross broke down the middle-wall of partition between the Jew and the Gentile and by one Spirit we are both baptized into the One Body.

Both Jew and Gentile who reject Christ today leave this world without hope in the hereafter. Remember, so far as salvation is concerned, it is now or never for all alike.