

I WRITE

As I See It

By Barton W. Marsh

Last week we presented some Scripture which had direct application to the world conditions in this particular period of time. There are some other Scriptures which have a direct bearing upon prevailing national social and economic conditions, which we will consider today.

The student of Bible prophecy understands that there is a reason for the present unsettled, disturbing condition of the world. That social and economic conditions directly affect the mind and conduct goes without question. It is also apparent that this is the most unusual, hair-trigger plunge in and take a chance time the world has ever known.

Spiritual forces, entirely beyond, and out of the realm of human control are at work in the world. That these forces are sinister and dangerous is not questioned by any serious-minded person. The Bible has much to say about this condition and the spokesmen of the world seem quite free to talk about it, but none, thus far, have been able to offer any adequate remedy for the festering disease. We believe that the Bible not only describes the state of affairs, but also presents the only remedy that can offer hope of relief.

We quote 2 Timothy, 3rd chapter, verses 1 to 5: "This know that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; Having a form of godli-

ness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." This is a fearful indictment and not a pleasant picture to contemplate.

Let us look at James 5th chapter, verses 1 to 8: "Go to now ye rich men, weep, and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered, and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasures together for the last days. Behold the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabbath. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth and have been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just and he doeth not resist you. Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

This is a frightening indictment, and next week we hope to present some statements from the great and wise which are direct confirmation of the Divine forecasts.

May we suggest that a casual reading of the Scriptures will yield no one the fruit of a rich understanding of them. To clearly understand the Book of Books, it must be studied, meditated upon and prayed over. The golden treasure of Divine Truth does not lie on the surface, to be picked up by the casual and careless reader. It lies deep. If you covet its riches, you will dig sincerely and earnestly. The reward will be ample.

Forest Timber To Contribute Heavily To U. S. Economy

Logs from the national forests of Oregon and Washington played an important part in the nation's lumber supply during the six months' period of July 1 to December 31, 1946, according to a report just issued by the Regional Forester, Portland, Ore.

A total of 690,418 board feet was cut from the 19 national forests of the north Pacific region during that time, with the stumpage valuation of \$3,199,944. Of this amount, 419,391,000 board feet, valued at \$1,965,319, was cut from the 13 national forests in Oregon; while 271,027,000 feet, at \$1,234,625 came from the six national forests of Washington.

"National forest timber now is coming into its destined role of contributing to the economic and community welfare of Oregon and Washington," said Regional Forester Andrews, commenting on these figures. "These substantial contributions to the basic industry of the Pacific Northwest justify the years of protection when most national forest timber was inaccessible and more recently during the depression at which time it was held off the market so as not to compete with distressed privately-owned stumpage. Even with this greatly accelerated cut, we still are under the safety margin of total allowable cut for sustained yield."

Andrews pointed out that with further development of timber access roads, additional remote timber could be made available, thus increasing the annual cut from the national forests under sustained yield. He added that in all national forest timber sales due provision is made to save roadside strips along scenic highways and recreation areas and to protect the forest stand for future crops.

During a similar six months period 28,000,000 board feet of all species of timber was cut within the Siskiyou national forest, with receipts in excess of \$188,000.

Maximum sustained yield cut on the Siskiyou has been reached within two working circles, but since much of the commercial timber in other working is still isolated, the cut for forest as a whole is only of sustained capacity.

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