

Divine character and government, there have been established, at different periods of the world's history, peculiar institutions, administrations, or economies, which, differing as they do in most important particulars, it is essential to distinguish from each other, in order to a just comprehension of any one of them. We recognize, then as remedial systems—1st. The PATRIARCHAL INSTITUTION, which continued from the fall of Adam to the Divine mission of Moses. 2d. The JEWISH REBELLION, which remained in force from Moses until the incarnation of Jesus as Lord and Messiah; and 3d. The CHRISTIAN ECONOMY, which continues from that time to the present, and is never to be superseded by any other.

The Patriarchal institutions of religion were adapted to the early period of the world. The head of the family was its officiating priest; religious knowledge rested upon tradition with special revelations to those who were distinguished for their faith and piety. This age had, accordingly its own special promises; its peculiar faith; and its appropriate religious rites.

The Mosaic system, also, had its own specific purposes to subserve. It was a theocracy; a peculiar form of government; a civil polity, as it contained the political regulations of an entire nation; yet it was at the same time a religion, embodying in its precepts, and shadowing forth in the various types and symbols of its elaborate ritual, the most sacred truths, and revealing the Divine character in new and most important lights. As an institution, indeed it was so peculiar and so different from any other that has ever existed, that there is not the slightest difficulty in determining its nature and defining its boundaries.

Especially is it to be distinguished from Christianity, in whose spiritual and literal truths its carnal and typical observances found their destined fulfillment; and to whose simple faith and all-embracing amplitude, its outward ceremonial and restricted boundaries gave place. Differing thus in its very nature and in its principles of membership, the Jewish institution contrasts with Christianity in all its essential points. In its covenants, its promises, its mediator, its priesthood, its law, its ordinances, and its sanctions, it is exhibited upon the sacred page as wholly diverse from the gospel institution. How indispensable it is, then, to a just view of Christianity that these important differences, which are so distinctly noted by the apostle to the Gentiles, in his Epistles to the Hebrews and Galatians, should be fully understood and acknowledged; and that the simple gospel of Christ should be freed from the corrupting admixture of Judaism, with which it is still contaminated in the minds of so many religious public.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

The same obscurity which has rested upon the landmarks of the various Divine institutions of which we have spoken, has naturally enveloped, also, the origin of the Christian Church. Some suppose its foundation to have been laid in eternity; others, concluding to await the creation of man make, Adam its first member; others postpone it to the days of Abraham; and not a few make it to coeval with Moses. To any one, however, who will trust the Scriptures upon the subject, nothing can be plainer than that the Christian Church commenced its formal existence on the day of Pentecost which immediately succeeded Christ's ascension into heaven. I need here only notice some of the scriptures from which this is abundantly evident.

In the first place, in order to show that it did not originate before Christ's personal ministry, it will be sufficient to quote the express language of

Christ himself, who, in reference to Peter's acknowledgement that he was the Messiah, says: "On this rock I will build my church." He here uses the future tense—"I will build." So that the church was not yet founded upon this rock, its only true foundation. Christ himself, indeed, became the chief corner-stone of this spiritual edifice, which is said to rest also upon his apostles and prophets, who were the earliest members and supports of the church.

There are, indeed, some passages which seem to imply that the church had already an existence during the ministry of Christ on earth. These must however, in harmony, with others which are more definite, and with the facts of the case, be understood as spoken prospectively; of which style we have various examples, as, for instance, in the institution of the Lord's Supper, in which Christ speaks of his blood as shed, before the event actually occurred. It is true that the body, so to speak, of the church, was prepared during Christ's ministry; and this body was, on the day of Pentecost quickened by the impartation of the Holy Spirit, just as God first formed the body of Adam, and afterward "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life." Just so, also, in the types of the Jewish religion, the tabernacle and the temple were first prepared, and then the Shekinah or Divine Presence took up his abode in them as necessary sanction, without which all their religious ministrations would have been unacceptable and invalid. It was not until everything was finished, and the ark of the Lord placed beneath the cherubim, that fire descended from heaven to consume the offered sacrifice, and that the glory of the Lord filled the temple. Without the presence of the Holy Spirit, the Church of Christ could have no life, nor power to exercise its functions, nor could it be recognized as distinctly and formerly established in the world. Hence the disciples were commanded to "tarry at Jerusalem until they should be endued with power from on high," and they were then to proceed to preach the gospel among all nations "beginning at Jerusalem." This was in accordance with the prophecies of Isaiah and of Micah, that "out of Zion should go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." So that we have thus distinctively fixed both the place and the time at which the Christian institution should commence. It was then and there only that all things were prepared. Christ had there offered himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world and he thence ascended the true holy place to appear in the presence of God where, having been exalted and crowned "a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance and remission of sins," and having also received of the Father the promised Holy Spirit, he communicated, upon that eventful day, those gifts and life-giving energies to his waiting disciples, by which the church was quickened into being, and enabled to assume, for the first time, its distinct and appropriate character and functions. Hence, thousands were on this day converted, as related in the second chapter of Acts; and it is in the close of the same chapter that we, for the first time, find the church distinctly spoken of as an existing institution. "The Lord," we are told, "added daily to the church such as were saved."

We find, then, that the three things required in order to the establishment of the Christian Church were all present upon the day of Pentecost referred to, and at no antecedent period. A body of disciples was then prepared. The Lord-Messiah having humbled himself to the death of the cross, was then exalted and glorified, and constituted head over all things to his church, "which is his body, the fullness of him who filleth all in all." And lastly, the glorious head then impart-

ed to this body that holy Spirit which he himself received of the Father, in order that his church might be thus fitted to discharge its appropriate functions, and that its members might be all animated by one Spirit and be thereby united to each other and to God, through him. Thus, as the mission of Jesus was to the Jews, that of the holy Spirit was to the church, and that of the church to the world.

We find, further, that the first Christian Church was that at Jerusalem; so that as the spiritual Jerusalem is the "mother" of all believers, the literal Jerusalem is the mother of all churches of Christ on earth; and the pretensions of the Roman hierarchy, based upon the antiquity of the church afterward founded at Rome, are false and unfounded, as they are arrogant and presumptuous.

Church and Educational Items.

—The Christian church at Hillsboro is being renovated and repaired.

—Rome spends \$200,000 on its public schools, of which ten years ago it had none at all. The Romans now evince great alacrity in attending the schools, and the latter are entirely inadequate to the demands of the population.

—John Williams was murdered and eaten by the cannibals of Erromanga, one of the islands of the Hebrides, in the Pacific Ocean. But Thomas Neilson, subsequently a missionary to the same island, sat at the communion table with a consistent Christian man who, as a lad, had joined in the cannibal feast of Mr. Williams.

—The Roman Catholic Bishop of B— is a most energetic cleric. He performs as much parish duty, I believe, as most priests. He received the other day the confession of a little boy. At the close, said His Right Reverence: "Well, have you anything more to tell me?" "No," said the lad, deprecatingly; "but I'll have more next time."

Dr. Fisch, of Paris, says that four million copies of the Scriptures have been sold in France; that all the young men in the army have been taught to read the Gospel of John, and that 500,000 young men know that gospel by heart; and that 100,000 soldiers driven into Protestant Switzerland during the late war, have returned to France, each with a New Testament and various religious tracts. Surely God's word does not return unto Him void.

—The whole number of missionary societies in the world is said to be eighty-five—35 American, 25 British, and 25 Continental, and their aggregate expenditure is little less than \$7,000,000 a year. The whole number of converts from heathenism is estimated to be 1,500,000. The number of missionaries now in the field is about 2,000, and the number of church members about 350,000.

—The colored Baptists of Texas, Arkansas, and Northern Louisiana, numbering about 100,000, have determined to arise and build a college for the education of ministers and teachers, in the city of Marshall, Texas. They are making a vigorous and successful effort to raise \$10,000 for this purpose among themselves, and they are hoping that a like amount may be contributed through the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

—Eighty thousand very poor Baptists, lately converted from heathenism, gave last year thirty-one thousand dollars for the spread of the Gospel. American Christians should blush, but they should not stop at blushing.—Presbyterian.

—Dr. Holland suggests that a capital practical rule to follow in reading is to peruse such books and papers as are at first really distasteful and difficult of comprehension—such works as it is difficult to interest yourself in. This very difficulty is a sure sign that you are wanting in this special department of knowledge, and indicates

that your mind will be called out into genuine study to supply the lack. Such study in reading is what benefits the mind. Hence, do not avoid uninteresting discussions.

—How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth.—Isa. lii. 9.

—Massachusetts is not only a state of cities, but is one among the most densely populated countries on the globe. It is only exceeded in this respect by Belgium, Great Britain and Italy. The number of persons to the square mile in Belgium is 460; in Great Britain and Ireland, 268; in Italy, 243; and in Massachusetts, 228.

Reports from the Field.

McMINNVILLE, OR.,
Sept. 27, 1880.

Bro. Campbell:

My meeting on yesterday, at this place, resulted in one accession by confession and baptism.

To the Lord be the praise.

Your brother,

T. M. MORGAN.

Appointments.

Editor Messenger:

Please announce the following:—
Westfall School-house, Chehalis, Oct. 5th, at 7 p. m.
Webfoot, Oct. 6th, at 7 p. m.
Amity, Oct. 8th, at 7 p. m.
Lafayette, (Regular), Oct. 9th, at 7 p. m., and Sunday, Oct. 10th, at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.
Woodburn, Oct. 11th, at 7 p. m.
Bethany, Oct. 12th, at 7 p. m.
Antioch, (Liberty School-house), Oct. 14th, at 7 p. m.
Rock Creek, Oct. 15th, at 7 p. m.
Salem, Sunday, Oct. 17th, at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.

Fraternally,
BRUCE WOLVERTON.
Scio, LINN Co., OR.,
Sept. 29, 1880.

Bro. Campbell:

Please announce that our meeting will begin at Scio, October 8th. Bro. J. P. McCorkle is to be with us. Also on the 2d and 3rd of October is our regular meeting.

Yours in Christ,
E. W. BARNES.

Bro. Campbell:

Please announce the following for me: I will preach at Amity on Saturday evening before the 1st Lord's day in October, and Sunday at 11 a. m., and at Bethel at 4 p. m. of the same day.
At Bethel, commencing on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday, at 7 p. m., continuing over Sunday.
At Sheridan, commencing on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday, at 7 p. m., continuing over Sunday.
At Chehalis, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sunday, and continuing over Sunday.

Your brother,
T. M. MORGAN.

The Home.

The song says, "Home sweet, sweet home." But the simple fact is that many homes are a hell to their inmates, who never see any peace except when they are away from home. And yet, home as God made it and intends it to be, is the nearest approach to heaven that earth can exhibit. "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace," and it would work a wonderful improvement in some homes if only loud talking were abolished, and the soft answer that turns away wrath were substituted.

Good pictures not only adorn a home, but they also turn it into a school. And to be good pictures need not be costly, but only pictures of good things. There is a great difference in different parts of our country in the reverence that is shown for a homestead. In the older States the home is sacred, and nothing short of an executor's sale is permitted to alienate it. But in newer and poorer States the home usually has a board nailed to the front gate announcing that it is for sale. The sentiment must be sacrificed to gain, it is true; but what a pity!—Ee.

I do not know the thing that I most want; I could not name it, though its whispers haunt
Each hour of every day;
So near, and yet, alas! so far away.
It always will be, here. But it is sweet
To know each minute laid at Jesus' feet
A drop of life has given
To that thing I most want—waiting in heaven!

Literary Notices.

GOOD COMPANY, Number Twelve, (\$3.00 a year; Springfield, Mass.) closes the volume, and subscriptions should be made at once. A specimen copy will be sent to any one not familiar with it, for ten cents.

Two papers just read before the American Social Science Association are given, both on subjects which have been attracting considerable attention of late. One about adulterations, is by a competent authority, Prof. S. W. Johnson of the Yale Scientific School. The other, Associated Charities, explains the modern method of organization by which the various benevolent societies and individuals in a town unite so that a large proportion of money given in charity need not be wasted as is now generally the case, and the deserving poor be more effectively reached. It is by authority on the subject, Rev. O. C. McCulloch of Indianapolis, one of the places where the plan is in practical operation. Two other articles bearing on the same subject are the Destruction of the Poor by President John Bascom of Madison University, and an account of the doings of the late Conference of Charities and Corrections.

There are also recollections of Seward, Greeley, Lincoln and Douglas, and papers about camp meetings, in favor of family movements as a social benefit, about the servant girl question; besides other articles.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK for October is full of interest for every reader. The lovers of artistic beauty will pause long over the first page, containing Darley's last masterpiece—a scene from "Barnaby's Rudge." The ladies will perhaps hasten on a little to see the numerous pages of new and beautiful fashions, and many will be the Ohs! and Ahs! of delight and satisfaction over the novelty page, the dainty, pretty basket made out of—wonders of wonders—and old sunburnt straw-hat. In every department we find variety, usefulness, and attraction for the use of the fair sex, the steady patrons of this most popular and attractive of Fashion Magazines. Godey's Lady's Book, 1006 Chestnut St., Phila.

Gen. Grant in 1884.

There is no doubt that those who so strongly advocated the nomination of Gen. Grant in 1880 have only postponed their hopes for four years and will then make a more determined effort to accomplish what they so narrowly missed at Chicago this year. The third term snake is only "scotched," not killed; but when a case of backache or kidney complaint gives way before the Oregon Kidney Tea, surrender is final and complete, and it will never rise again. Sold by all dealers.

Elegance of Home.

I never saw a garment too fine for man or maid; there never was a chair too good for a cobbler or a cooper or a king to sit in; never a house too fine to shelter the human head. These elements around us, the glorious sky, the imperial sun, are not too good for the human race. Elegance fits man. But do we not value these tools for housekeeping a little more than they are worth, and sometimes mortgage a house for the mahogany we bring into it? I had rather eat my dinner off the head of a barrel, or dress after the style of John the Baptist in the wilderness, or sit on a block all my life, than consume all myself before I get to a home, and take so much pains with the outside that the inside was as hollow as an empty nut. Beauty is a great thing; but beauty of garments, house and furniture are tawdry ornaments compared with domestic love. All the elegance in the world will not make a home, and I would give more for a spoonful of real hearty love than for whole shiploads of furniture, and all the gorgeousness all the upholsterers in the world can gather.—Dr. Holmes.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure for consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French, or English. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

A Fragrant Breath and Pearly Teeth

Are easily obtained by cleansing your teeth daily with that justly popular dentifrice, SOZODONT. Composed of rare antiseptic herbs, it imparts whiteness to the teeth, a delicious aroma to the breath, and preserves intact, from youth to old age, the teeth. Acidity of the stomach will destroy the strongest teeth unless its effects are counteracted with SOZODONT, and this pure tooth-wash protects the dental surfaces by removing every impurity that adheres to them. Ask your druggist for SOZODONT.