

PEOPLE'S PULPIT...



Sermon by CHARLES T. RUSSELL, Pastor Brooklyn Tabernacle.

Spiritual Israel, Then Natural Israel.

Text, "If ye be Christ's then are ye Abraham's Seed, and heirs" (Galatians iii, 29).

Watertown, N. Y., Aug. 29.—The issues of life, death and a hereafter are all in the hand or power of the Lord.

He owed us nothing in the beginning, and will be under no obligations to us in the end. We are his debtors for all that is profitable or enjoyable.

The Gift of God.

Eternal life is "the gift of God" for all of his creatures who will take it on his terms; and for all others he declares, "The wages of sin is death."

The context shows distinctly that the Apostles and the early Church drew comfort from the Oath-Bound Covenant, and clearly implies that this same comfort belongs to every true Christian down to the end of this age.

Assurance of Almighty's Oath. Doubtless Abraham and all of his family, Israel after the flesh, drew a certain amount of blessing and encouragement from this Covenant or promise and the oath of the Almighty, which doubly sealed it, which gave double assurance of its certainty of accomplishment; but the Apostle intimates in the words quoted, that God's special design in giving that Covenant and in binding it solemnly with an oath, was to encourage Spiritual Israel—to give us a firm foundation for faith.

Distort Simple Language. Many of us have learned to distort the simple language of God's Word in such a manner as to cause us anguish and distress. For instance, "destroy," "perish," "die," "second death," "everlasting destruction," etc., terms used by the Lord to represent the ultimate, complete annihilation of those who will not come into harmony with him after a full opportunity is granted them, are interpreted to mean the reverse of what they say—life, preservation in torture, etc.

Our Lord Jesus was the great heir of the Abrahamic promise, and the faithful of his consecrated people of this Gospel Age are declared to be his heirs in that promise, which is not yet fulfilled. For its fulfillment, not only the Church is waiting, as the whole of fellow-members of the Body of Christ, to be participants with the Lord in the glories implied in the promise, but additionally, the whole creation (the entire human family) is groaning and travailling in pain together waiting for the great fulfillment of that oath-bound promise or covenant (Romans viii, 19-23).

Those who follow the Apostle's argument and realize that we as Christians are still waiting for the fulfillment of this promise, will be anxious to know what are the terms of this Covenant which is the hope of the world, the hope of the Church, and the object of so much solicitude and care on the part of God, in that he would promise and then back his word with an oath. We answer that every Christian should know what this promise is, since it lies at the very foundation of every Christian hope.

How can this hope be an anchor to our soul in all the storms and trials and difficulties of life, in all the opposition of the world, the flesh and the Adversary, if we do not know what the hope is, if we have not even rec-

ognized the promise upon which this hope is based?

God Foresaw the Present.

This is the pitiable condition of many of God's true children; for they are merely babes in Christ, using the milk of the Word. They have need of the strong meat of God's promises, as the Apostle speaks of it, that they may be "strong in the Lord and the power of his might" that they might have on the whole armour of God—helmet, breastplate, sandals, sword and shield—and be able to quench the fiery dart of the Wicked One; able also to help the weaker ones in this day when the Adversary is assaulting the Word of God, the citadel of the truth, with various infidel arguments in the hands and mouths of those who profess to be ministers of the Word.

Need I quote the promise, the one so repeatedly referred to in the apostolic writings, the one which is the basis or anchorage for our souls?

The Apostle Paul referred to this very promise, declaring that the Seed of Abraham mentioned therein is Christ. All Christians agree to this, although they have not distinctively and properly associated it with the declarations of the promise. But the Apostle makes clear to us that in saying that Christ is the Seed of Abraham, he had in mind not only the Lord Jesus as the Head of the Body, the Head of the Church, but also the overcoming saints of this Gospel Age as the Body of Christ. This he distinctly states in many places, for instance Galatians iii, 16-29. Here he declares the matter expressly, saying: "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's Seed, and heirs according to the promise."

"The Seed of Abraham" is the Gospel Church, with her Head, the Lord Jesus; as the Apostle states again saying: "We, brethren, as Isaac was (typified by Isaac), are the children of promise" (Galatians iv, 28). It follows that the Seed of Abraham mentioned in the promise is not complete and will not be until the full close of which we believe we are now in.

But what a wonderful thought is involved in this plain interpretation of the Divine Word! It is big with hope for Spiritual Israel, the Spiritual Seed, and no less, it means a blessing for the natural seed, fleshly Israel, and ultimately the millennial blessings to all the families of the earth. Let us examine these three hopes: The hopes for these three classes center in this great Oath-Bound Covenant. Let us thus obtain what the Apostle tells us was the Lord's intention for us, namely, strong consolation—strong encouragement.

All through the prophecies the Lord foretold the sufferings of Christ and the glories that should follow; nevertheless the glories to follow have been granted much more space in the Divine Revelation than the sufferings of the present time. The implication suggested by the Apostle is that when the glories of the future shall be realized, the trials and sufferings and difficulties of the present time will be found not worthy to be compared; but those glories and blessings have been veiled from our mental vision, and instead a great pall hangs over the future in the minds of many of the Lord's people.

Poor, Insect-Creatures. "We make God's love too narrow by false standards of our own." Do not misunderstand us. We are not teaching that heathen and imbeciles and the unregenerate in general shall be taken to heaven, where they would be utterly out of harmony with their surroundings and require to be converted and to be taught. Such an inconsistent view we leave to those who are now claiming that the heathen will be saved in their ignorance. We stand by the Word of God that there is no present salvation without faith in Christ Jesus, and that the heathen and the imbeciles have neither part nor lot in the salvation of the present time. We stand by the Scriptures which say that salvation at the present time is only for the little flock, who, through much tribulation, shall enter the Kingdom. We stand by the Scriptures which say that this Kingdom class now being developed is the Seed of Abraham under the Lord, their Head, their Elder Brother, the Bridegroom.

The period in which opportunity will be granted to man is in the Scriptures termed the Day of Judgment—a thousand-year day, the Millennium Day. It will be a day of trial, a day of testing, a day of proving the world to see whether, with a full knowledge of God and of righteousness, which he requires, they will choose righteousness in preference to sin, choose life in preference to the second death.

Millennial Kingdom which is to be God's agency or channel for bringing about the promised blessings—the blessings of all the families of the earth.

The great blessing of forgiveness of sins which are past, and even the blessing of being awakened from the sleep of death, would profit mankind but little, if the arrangements of that future time—the Millennium Age—were not on such a scale as to permit a thorough recovery from present mental, moral and physical weaknesses. Hence we are rejoiced to learn that in that time Satan will be bound, every evil influence and every unfavorable condition will be brought under restraint, and the favor of God through the knowledge of God will be turned upon the people—"The knowledge of the Lord shall fill the whole earth as the waters cover the great deep." Blessing, eye, favor upon favor, blessing upon blessing, is the Lord's arrangement and provision! All shall know him from the least unto the greatest, and none shall need to say to his neighbor or his brother, "Know thou the Lord?" (Isaiah xi, 9; Jeremiah xxxi, 34.)

The prophets spoke repeatedly of these blessings due to the world in the future. Mark how Joel tells that, as during this Gospel Age, the Lord pours out his spirit upon his servants and hand-maidens, so after these days, in the Millennium Age, he will pour out his spirit upon all flesh. There will be world-wide blessing through the knowledge of the Truth. Mark how Moses, the prophet, spoke of these coming blessings, and told how God would raise up a greater Lawgiver than himself, a greater Teacher, a better Mediator, and, under the better Covenant of the Lord, would bring blessings world-wide! Mark again how he represents the atonement for the sins of the whole world in the Atonement Day, sacrificial arrangements! Mark how again he typified foretold the blessings of the Millennium Age, representing it in Israel's "Year of Jubilee," in which every man went free and every possession was returned to its original ownership, thus representing the blessings of the future, man's release from the servitude of sin and Satan, and the return to him of all that was lost through Adam, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Micah, have spoken of those coming times, so that the Apostle Peter, pointing to the future, could truthfully declare that the coming times of restoration of all things have been spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets since the world began (Acts ii, 19-21).

Hope For Jews and Others.

The second class to be blessed under this Abrahamic Covenant is fleshly Israel. We are not forgetting that the Jews were a stiff-necked and rebellious people; that they slew the prophets and stoned the Lord's ministers and caused the crucifixion of our Redeemer. Nevertheless, the Scriptures clearly hold forth that after they have had a period of chastisement, which they have been undergoing as a nation since our Lord's crucifixion, and after Spiritual Israel shall have been glorified in the Kingdom, then a blessing from the Lord will come upon natural Israel; they shall be saved or recovered from their blindness, and as the Prophet declares, they shall look upon him whom they have pierced and shall mourn for him because the eyes of their understanding shall be opened. We rejoice, too, that the promise is clear and distinct that the Lord will pour upon them the "spirit of prayer and of supplication" (Zechariah xii, 10. See also Romans xi, 25-27).

But if God is to have mercy upon the natural Israelite, whom he declares to have been stiff-necked and hard-hearted and rebellious, would it surprise us that the Divine, benevolent intention should be to bless others than the Jews—others who had not in the past the favors and privileges of this favored nation, and whose course, therefore, was less in opposition to the light? It should not surprise us. And so we find in this great Oath-Bound Covenant a blessing for all nations—all peoples.

First Christian.

Corner High and Center streets. Preaching by the pastor, Dr. Errett, 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Respective themes, "Permanency of the Kingdom" and "Conscience." Bible school 10 a. m., Dr. H. C. Epler, superintendent. Christian Endeavor 6:45 p. m., Seymour Working, president. Chorus and special selection by the C. C. C. C. morning and evening. The public cordially invited.

Camp Meeting. The camp meeting will soon be to an end. Many souls have and are being blessed. This is missionary day, come at 7:30 sharp. Program for tomorrow as follows: Rev. Noff at 11 a. m.; 2:30 song and praise, preaching at 3 o'clock; 7:30, Phelps and others. Come early and secure a seat.

SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON BY REV. DR. LINSOTT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER BIBLE STUDY CLUB

(Copyright, 1908, by Rev. T. S. Linscott, D. D.)

September 5, 1909.

Paul's Third Missionary Journey. Farwells, Acts 20:2-38.

Golden Text—I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Phil. 4:13.

Verse 2—What effect does Paul's method of "exhortation" of the brethren have, when practiced in these days.

Verse 3—Do enemies in these days either in the flesh or spirit, constantly lie in wait for the Christian?

Have our God formed plans for the future sometimes got to be changed to meet the tactics of the enemy?

Verses 4-6—It would look as if these leading evangelists of the new religion would be needed elsewhere than with Paul; say, therefore, what advantage it was to them, or Paul, or the cause, that they were with him.

What help is it to a preacher or a Christian worker to listen for some days to a man like Paul?

Where were Philippi and Troas situated?

Verses 7-12—Does verse 7 indicate that it was the practice of the early Christians to "break bread" together on the first day of each week?

What can you say against or in favor of the unmitigated demand which exists for short sermons, in view of this incident? (This question must be answered in writing by members of the club.)

Why is it that church members will listen, unwearying, for two hours to a political speech and get tired of even a good sermon if it lasts longer than thirty minutes?

Can you blame this young man Eutychus for going to sleep under a sermon several hours long?

Verses 13-16—As a geographical exercise look up on the map the places mentioned in verses 13 to 16 and say where they are situated.

Verses 17-21—Paul here opens his heart and gives his personal experience without any of the art of the

orator; would it be more Christian, and more practical, if modern preachers would constantly give their experience in their sermons, thus furnishing concrete examples of the power of the gospel?

Verse 22—Would it help us to know in detail the things that are to happen to us in the future?

What is the meaning of "go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem?"

Must such inward convictions as Paul had, always be heeded?

If we disobey these thoughts of the soul, what will be the effect upon our spiritual life?

Verse 23—Is it usual, or common, for God to give to spiritual men a glimpse into the outlines of the future?

Verse 24—Has each Christian as distinct a mission as Paul had?

Which should we rather sacrifice, our life, or the accomplishment of our mission?

Should our last farewells to our beloved friends be sad or glad?

Verses 26-27—Is it improper boasting for a faithful man to say that he has done his whole duty?

Should every minister be able to say as Paul said in verse 27?

Verse 28—What is the proper "feed" for the church of God?

Verses 29-31—In view of the fact that "wolves" are always on our track what should be our attitude?

What are our present dangers from within the church?

Verse 32—What is the only sure and certain protection for the Christian?

Verses 33-35—May any man "covet" riches and be well pleasing to God?

What is, at once, the supreme duty and the greatest luxury of the Christian life?

Verses 36-38—What lessons may we learn from this touching parting scene?

Lesson for Sunday, September 12, 1909: Close of Paul's Third Missionary Journey, Acts 21:1-17.

CHURCH SERVICES

First Methodist Episcopal.

At 10:30 public worship, "Old People's Day." The pastor will preach on "The God of the Aged." At 12 m Bible classes. At 6:30 p. m. Epworth league. Topic, "Multiplication by Division." At 7:30 evening song. Rev. G. W. Grannis, former pastor, will speak. A cordial invitation extended to all his old friends.

United Evangelical.

Cottage street near Center. Rev. G. L. Lovell, pastor. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Dr. C. C. Poling, presiding elder, will preach at both services—11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Communion at the morning service. Business meeting Saturday evening at 8. Prayer meeting Thursday evening.

Christian Science.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, 440 Chemeketa street. Services Sunday at 11 o'clock a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Subject of lesson sermon, "Man." Sunday school at 12 o'clock. The Wednesday evening meeting is held at 7:30 o'clock. Reading room in the church open each afternoon except Sunday. All are cordially invited to attend the services and the reading room.

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First Congregational.

President Fletcher Homan, of Willamette University, will speak at the evening meeting at 8 o'clock, at the First Congregational church. Special interest to young people. Everybody welcome.

Gospel Temperance Meeting.

The gospel temperance meeting will be conducted by G. W. Grannis, at the W. C. T. U. hall, at 4 p. m. Sunday the 5th.

First Presbyterian.

Church street near Chemeketa St. Rev. Henry T. Babcock, pastor. Morning service at 11 o'clock; preaching by the pastor; theme, "Rest in Work" Exod. 33:14. Special music by the choir. Evening service at 7:30; (notice change of hour.) Preaching by the pastor. Theme, "The Miracles of Christ" John 2:11. Special music by the choir and orchestra. Sunday school at 10 a. m.; Senior C. E., at 6:30 p. m.; mid-week Prayer meeting Thursday at 7:30 p. m. Public cordially invited to all of these services.

Evangelical Association.

Corner Seventeenth and Chemeketa streets. H. C. Baker, pastor. Sunday school at 10 a. m.; morning service, 11. No evening service on account of the tabernacle meeting. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Central Congregational.

Corner Nineteenth and Ferry. Rev. O. A. Stillman, pastor. No services except Sunday school during the month of September.

German Reform.

Rev. Flueckiger of Los Angeles will preach at the German Reform church Sunday at 11 a. m. Everybody welcome.

Insomnia

"I have been using Cascarets for Insomnia, with which I have been afflicted for twenty years, and I can say that Cascarets have given me more relief than any other remedy I have ever tried. I shall certainly recommend them to my friends as being all that they are represented."

Thos. Gillard, Elgin, Ill. Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good, Do Good, Never Sicken, Weaken or Grip. 25c, 50c. Never sold in bulk. The genuine tablet stamped C. C. Guaranteed to cure or your money back.

BIG DOORS FOR THE STEEL BANK VAULT

The United States National bank has received the past few days the material for its big steel vault, the largest of the kind ever brought into the Willamette valley. The vault filled a large car, and the door of the money cave alone weighing ten tons. The five-story steel building is being rapidly enclosed, and the bank room in the corner is expected to be ready by October 1st.

Japs Will See It All.

(United Press Lensed Wire.) Portland, Sept. 4.—The Japanese commercial commission, which arrived in this country from Japan recently, to review trade conditions in the United States, will "swing the circle," of 10,774 miles in the United States, before the visitors prepare to return to Japan.

Why Druggists Recommend Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

Dr. Frank C. Hamman, a prominent druggist of Portsmouth, Va., says: "For the past six years I have sold and recommended Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is a great remedy and one of the best patent medicines on the market. I handle some others for the same purposes that pay me a larger profit, but this remedy is so sure to effect a cure, and my customers so certain to appreciate my recommending it to him, that I give it the preference." For sale by all good druggists.

The Lebanon paper mill is shipping in lots of balm wood.

Gambling.

Your life against 25 cents is just exactly what you are doing if you neglect a cough or cold on the chest, instead of treating it with Ballard's Horehound Syrup. A 25-cent bottle of this splendid remedy will cure an ordinary cough, heal the lungs and act as a tonic for your entire system. Sold by all dealers.

Albany will have a chrysanthemum show in connection with its apple fair.

Warning.

Do not be persuaded into taking anything but Foley's Honey and Tar for chronic coughs, bronchitis, hay fever, asthma and lung trouble, as it stops the cough and heals the lungs. J. C. Perry.

Hop Pickers, Attention!

Now is the time to buy your supplies. Everything necessary to complete the hop-picker's outfit.

HOP BASKETS TENTS STOVES BEDDING FURNITURE, ETC

J. N. SHANTZ New and Second-Hand Goods 373 COURT ST.



All Patent Medicines or medicines advertised in this paper are for sale at

DR. STONE'S Drug Store

The only cash drug store in Oregon; owes no one, and no one owes it; carries large stock; its shelves, counters and show cases are loaded with drugs, medicines, notions, toilet articles, wines and liquors of all kinds for medicinal purposes. Dr. Stone is a regular graduate in medicine and has had many years of experience in the practice. Consultations are free. Prescriptions are free, and only regular prices for medicine. Dr. Stone can be found at his drug store, Salem, Or., from 7 in the morning until 9 at night.

The Electric Fixture and Supply Co.

Are now in their new quarters at 245 North Liberty street. We have a number of new, catchy designs to select from. Come and see us.

Electric Fixture & Supply Co. L. S. HYDE, Manager