

# Pastor Russell's Sermon

## GOD WILL LAUGH AT HUMAN PRIDE

### An Old Prophecy Is About to Be Fulfilled, Says Pastor Russell.

### HAS DOUBLE APPLICATION.

It Applied to Jesus Personally, but Also to the Body of Christ, the Church—The Kings of the Earth. The Rulers Amongst God's People. Their Coalition Vain—God Will Laugh at Them—Jesus Will Deride Them—The Breaking of a Potter's Vessel Will Follow—Those Who Put Their Trust in Him Will Be Blessed.



On the Atlantic, September 7.—Pastor Russell's text for today was: "He that sitteth in the Heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision." (Psalm 2:4.) He said: The vast ocean, on which this stately ship is but a toy, reminds me of "God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea," and also of the vastness of Divine Power, and human insignificance in comparison. Humanity may justly feel encouraged by the progress made in the past century. Mighty ships of steel, a thousand feet long, carrying thousands of passengers, have replaced the wooden dories of a century ago. Propelled by steam, they are indeed leviathans of the deep. The oceans have been underlaid with cables of steel, carrying intelligence to the ends of the earth. And this majestic steamer is outfitted with a wireless system of telegraphy, by which she is continually in touch with sister vessels and with the world. And these are only a few of the many avenues of progress being trodden in our day. Those not guided by the Word of the Lord are puffed with pride, and disposed to feel that our grandparents a little way back were mere monkeys. God's people, guided by their Father's Word, and by the spirit of a sound mind, are held back from such delusion. They see that there are not many great or mighty today, as compared with the notables of the past. They see that God is behind the wonderful developments of today; for we are living in "the day of His preparation" (Nahum 2:3) for Messiah's Kingdom, and the Reign of a thousand years. These perceive that God is gradually lifting the veil of ignorance and superstition; and that, according to His promise, men are now seeing out of obscurity. Withal, our blessings are coming in a most natural way. The printing press, present-day mail service, telegraph systems and telephones, and world-wide education, are bringing the thinkers of earth in close touch with the world over. Scarcely is a discovery made of any kind, anywhere, that is not known world-wide within a week. A million minds engage upon the same project, with the result that there are still further improvements, still more wonderful inventions—and all these procedures repeated! Surely the only explanation is that God is back of the present intelligence now coming to the world. His time has come to bring blessings to mankind, instead of the curse which so long has prevailed.

**Kings of Earth Set Themselves.**

The kings of the earth, in a broader sense, include baneful kings and captains of industry, as well as political chieftains. These wise men of the world have grasped the situation only in part. They perceive the blessings and the riches rolling in upon the world through human invention, and are fortifying themselves in luxury and power beside the golden streams they have corralled. Thus they have "set themselves," according to our text. Moreover, the rulers of the people—the ecclesiastical rulers and princes—are affiliated with them. Together they take counsel. Their next step will be to put their counsels into practice.

**"Let Us Break Their Bands."**

For centuries past kings and governments have been more or less restrained by the peoples they governed. And the peoples have been more or less guided by the Bible, and its spirit of liberty. The new conditions of our day, however, have evaded many of the regulations and restraints of the past. The restraints are necessarily unequal to the new conditions. And the people are intent upon making new regulations to cope with the trusts and the wealth of the financial kings, and with the great power of political kings, as represented in modern military armaments and organizations. The Bible is the great stronghold of liberty. Through it the masses of civilization have learned that kings and peasants, rich and poor, must all eventually stand before the Judgment Seat and be judged by one Law. This same Bible portrays to the public the Divine Plan of the coming Jubilee of Restoration—the rolling away of the curse and the installation of God's blessing, through Messiah's Kingdom. It shows that the Messianic Kingdom is near, and that it will be inaugurated in the midst of a great Time of Trouble, symbolically represented by St. Peter as a conflagration, as respects eccle-

siastical interests, and subsequently the social interests of the world. Thus the Bible stands; and the spirit of hope and liberty which it inculcates is the Divine restraint, the "bands," the "cords," of our context. "The kings of the earth set themselves; and the rulers take counsel together against Jehovah and His Anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." The form which this opposition will assume toward the Bible and its spirit of liberty, the spirit of the New Dispensation, is difficult to detail in advance. We see, however, under the guidance of the New Testament, that this prophecy had a very limited fulfillment at the First Advent; and the fulfillment there may give us a clue to the larger fulfillment now nigh at hand.

**Jesus the Head, the Church His Body.**

The Lord's Anointed is the Christ of glory—Jesus the Head, the over-coming Church the Body. This prophecy was fulfilled in respect to Jesus when Pilate and Herod, as representing the worldly powers, took counsel with the chief priests, Scribes and Pharisees, as representing the rulers of the people of God. The religious rulers were leaders, prime movers, in the opposition.

What happened to the Master Himself in the way of opposition from the religious rulers and, under their instigation, from the political rulers, is what we should expect shortly as the fulfillment of this prophecy. The opposition that will arise will be against the Lord and against those who are particularly His representatives and mouthpieces in the world. The federated religious interests, fearful of the Truth, and with cherished notions opposed to it, will shortly denounce it as Caliphans denounced Jesus. His declaration was, it is expedient that one man perish, rather than our whole nation. (John 11:50.) As Jesus was crucified "for the good of the cause," so we may expect that the last saintly members of the Body of Jesus will similarly suffer for the supposed good of the cause, as viewed by the Scribes and Pharisees of our Day.

**God in Heaven Shall Laugh.**

When Jesus was crucified, His enemies supposed that His influence would be gone, and that their projects would flourish. But God laughed at them, for they were really accomplishing His will. It was necessary in harmony with God's arrangement that Christ should suffer. Similarly, it is necessary that the last members of the Church, the Body of Christ, should suffer with Him and enter into His glory, by the resurrection "change." Then, too, instead of succeeding, the plans of the rulers all failed. Under Divine disfavor they entered the time of trouble, which culminated in the complete overthrow of their polity. Here we are to expect the same. The Divine purposes, instead of being thwarted, will be helped onward by human opposition to the Divine Plan.

The plans of these kings and rulers will be measurably carried out because (see verse 1) the heathen, the Gentiles, the irreligious, will rage, will be in tumult, striving for liberty and blessings in their own strength, not knowing of the Divine arrangement for the inauguration of the new Kingdom, which is to bless all the families of the earth.—Genesis 28:14; Galatians 3:16, 29.

The declaration further is that "the people [the favored people of God, nominal Christendom] will imagine a vain thing." They will be deceived, as they are at present, into the expectation that they will be able to convert the world and bring in the Messianic Kingdom, or into believing, as some do, that Messiah's Kingdom has already come and has ineffectually been attempting the control of the world until now. They are waiting now for a few millions to be poured into the missionary treasury to effect the world's conversion and to insure God's will being done on earth as in Heaven. The picture of God's laughing at the poor human pride which will thus vaunt itself is a forceful one. The failure that will come both to the professed people of God and to the world will be a great lesson in humility, never to be forgotten. The absurdities of the position would make all laugh, if they could strip themselves of their pride and realize that, without Divine interposition, God's will could never prevail on earth as in Heaven.

**"A Haughty Spirit Before a Fall."**

The Lord's next step will be to produce the Time of Trouble, which will teach mankind the great lesson they have declined to learn otherwise. "Then shall He speak to them in His wrath, and vex them in His sore displeasure." That will be the Time of Trouble so prominently mentioned throughout the Bible, "a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation," "no, nor ever shall be" afterward.—Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21.

Human pride, human schemes, which have ignored the Divine Program, will all in that time of trouble show their weakness. The result will be as described by the Prophet. But "when the judgments of the Lord are abroad in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." (Isaiah 26:9.) Humanity's heartaches and disappointments will eventuate in blessings, as they shall realize God's great and wonderful Plan, with its length and breadth and height and depth of infinite Love, in the Kingdom of Messiah. "The desire of all nations shall come." (Haggai 2:7.) The iron rule will compel obedience, while the Message of God's grace will, as promised, go forth as the Sun of Righteousness, inaugurating the New Day.

The concluding verses of this prophetic Psalm clearly indicate that the trouble under Messiah's Kingdom will be against those persons and those institutions which are unjust, un-

righteous, unholly. On the contrary, all who love righteousness and hate iniquity will be welcomed to associate themselves under Messiah's standard, whether they be rich or poor, influential or otherwise.

**As Seen in Former Times.**

However strange it may appear to us now, a serious misinterpretation of this very prophecy of the Second Psalm was made by our well-intentioned forefathers. And that misinterpretation brought into the world a vast amount of trouble and persecution. It came to be generally believed that the Redeemer would not come to set up His Kingdom, to bind Satan and to bless the world. A new theory rose, gradually culminating in the year 800 A. D. It claimed that the Church, before experiencing the resurrection "change" at the Second Coming of Christ, was already the Kingdom of God and fully authorized to reign. Under this theory, missionary work was carried on with a vengeance. The sword, the thumb-screw, the rack and the stake, as well as the national wars, were all considered proper agencies for the enforcement of the Christian faith. This Second Psalm was especially appealed to as the authorization for such unchristian conduct.

It was claimed that, although Jesus was absent, His Church was authorized to reign over the kingdoms of the earth, and to bring them into subjection. All kinds of intrigue and scheming were considered to be justifiable to the accomplishment of the Divine purpose: that Messiah through the Church should conquer the world, that the nations might be broken with a religious sceptre of iron and dashed to pieces, or plotted against and torn in pieces by their subjects, as might be possible. The kings and the judges of the earth who recognized the Church as Messiah's Kingdom were accounted wise. They must serve with fear and literal trembling. On many occasions verse 12 was quoted as a warning to kings and to princes that they must keep in line with the behests of the Church—the king, the son, a claimed vice-gerent of Christ—lest he be angry and they perish by the way. As Revelation 20:1-5 tells us that the Reign of Messiah's Kingdom is to be for a thousand years, and that during that time Satan is to be bound, so it was claimed that this ecclesiastical system must thoroughly bind and dominate Satanic power, as represented in everything that opposed it. In full harmony with this misinterpretation were some of the facts.

For exactly a thousand years Ecclesiasticalism prospered and ruled the world—from A. D. 800 to A. D. 1799. The spell which had held Europe and much of the world for ten centuries was broken by Napoleon. When he carried the Pope a prisoner to France, the world wondered. Could it be that the spiritual power of Christ's Kingdom was ineffective against the great General, Napoleon? What did it mean? The answer came promptly enough that this was merely another fulfillment of Scripture—the loosening of Satan at the end of the thousand years (Revelation 20:1-5). The prediction was made, and fully believed, that very soon the adverse conditions would pass away, and the ecclesiastical throne be re-established in greater power and glory than ever before. But instead, Ecclesiasticalism has waned. In September 1870 its last support gave way in the French defeat of Sedan. Forthwith the King of Italy took away the last vestige of temporal power.

**Awakening of Bible Students.**

Since then, Bible students, and indeed the whole world, are awakening to the fact that no real Millennium of blessing was enjoyed during the thousand years of the past. We see instead that it was a period of great darkness, superstition and ignorance. Furthermore, the whole world is becoming convinced that the blessings that have come to us during the past century are not of Satan, but of God. Indeed, we are learning more and more to appreciate the fact that all these wonderful things of steam power and electricity, with their hundreds of applications for the advancement of science and the blessing of humanity, are foregleams of the true Millennium. More and more we are realizing that we are in the dawning of that New Day, and that the present time of scientific development and enlightenment is but a preparatory epoch, making ready for the coming blessings of Messiah's Kingdom. The Scriptures indeed describe the present as "the day of His preparation"—preparation for the thousand years of Messiah's Reign and the blessing of mankind.

It is not for us to say dogmatically how soon these blessings will burst upon the world in fullest measure. Some Scriptures indeed seem to indicate that they are very close—impending; but the great Time of Trouble with which these blessings will be inaugurated is almost upon us. The discontent prevalent everywhere is leading on rapidly toward the trouble.

How much need we have to remember our text! How much the kings and princes of the world need to be instructed and to be wise—to serve the Lord with fear, and to rejoice with hope and yet with carefulness! How much all men need to remember the closing words of the Psalm: "Blessed are all that put their trust in Him." The glorious Head of the Kingdom was exalted more than eighteen centuries ago. The First Resurrection will soon complete the Body of Christ, the Church, through which God has designed to reconquer the world. Soon the Kingdom will take to itself its great power. Under the Headship of the Messiah, it will go forth conquering, for the purpose of blessing, uplifting humanity, for whom Christ died.

sculptor, who learned of it through an accidentally overheard conversation in a San Francisco park. Even the most fashionable residences are being searched on the theory that Chinese servants of the owners might be the culprits.

It is easier for boys to be boys than it is for them to be quiet.

#### SEEK SMUGGLED OPIUM.

San Francisco, Sept. 13.—Customs officers were combing Belvedere Island, the site of the home of some of San Francisco's richest citizens, for a cache of smuggled opium. Information that such a cache exists was furnished to the federal authorities by Douglas Tilden, Jr., nephew of the

fatal explosion. Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 13.—Ludwig Mamlock, aged 18, is dead here today, and George Scheel, aged 42, is not expected to live as a result of terrible burns the men received in an explosion of creosote gas at the plant of the Carbon Chemical Works. The two were standing over a hot fire of creosote, which they were lighting match into the liquid. If a woman has a good figure, she knows it she thinks other women envious if they don't appear to have it.

### The Markets

Wheat unchanged and hops at a standstill is the condition everywhere. Oregon's hop crop will be probably 10 per cent above the average, but the crop of the world over is considerably short of normal. One of the features of the world's market is the general shortness of the hide supply and consequent high prices. The cattle shortage is partly responsible for this, but not entirely so. The tremendous amount of leather used in automobile trimmings has cleaned the market, and on top of this Argentina, which is one of the greatest sources of supply, has in order to increase the cattle supply, very wisely passed laws forbidding the killing of all calves and the slaughtering of heifers under six years old. The result of this is the slaughtering of nearly a million less cattle in Argentina alone than on average years. The peach market is cleaned out and prices are firm. Poultry is scarce and prices tend upward. Eggs are quoted at 34¢-35 cents.

Tropical Fruits.—Oranges, Valencia, \$4; navel, \$4.50@5.50; Florida grapefruit, \$5.50@7; lemons, \$8.50@10 per box; pineapples, 7¢ per lb. Vegetables.—Beans, 3@4¢ per pound; cabbage, 2@2½¢ per pound; cauliflower, \$2 per crate; corn, 10@15¢ doz.; cucumbers, 20@40¢ per box; eggplant, 5@7¢ per pound; head lettuce, 35@40¢ per dozen; peas, 3@7¢ per pound; peppers, 6@8¢ per pound; radishes, 10@15¢ per dozen; tomatoes, 40@60¢ per box; garlic, 10¢ per pound. Potatoes.—New, 75¢@1 per cwt.; sweets, \$2.25 per crate. Onions.—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack. Dairy and Country Produce. Butter.—Oregon creamery, solid pack, 30¢ per lb.; prints, box lots, 34¢. Eggs.—Oregon ranch, 34@35¢ per doz. Cheese.—Oregon Triples, 16½¢; Daisies, 17¢; Young America, 18¢. Poultry.—Hens, 15@16¢; springs, 18¢; ducks, young, 12@13¢; geese, 14@16¢; turkeys, live, 20¢, dressed, 25¢. Veal.—Fancy 15@16¢ per pound. Pork.—Fancy, 12-12¢ per lb. Provisions. Hams.—10 to 12 lbs., 22@23¢; 12 to 14 lbs., 22@23¢; picnics, 14½¢; cottage roll, 17½¢. Bacon.—Fancy, 30@31¢; standard, 25@26¢; English, 21@22¢. Lard.—In tierces, choice, 14½¢; compound, 9-9-4¢. Dry Salt Meats.—Bacon, dry salt, 13@14¢; backs, smoked, 14½@15½¢; bellies, dry salt, 14½¢; smoked, 15¢. Smoked Meats.—Beef tongues, 25¢; dried beef sets, 22¢; outside, 20¢; insides, 23¢; knuckles, 21¢. Pickled Goods.—Barrels, pigs feet, \$14; regular tripe, \$10; honey comb tripe, \$12; lunch tongues, \$22; lamb's tongues, \$40. Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc. Hops.—1913 contracts, 17@18¢; 1913 Fuggles, 20@21¢; 1912 crop, 16-1-2@18¢. Wool.—Eastern Oregon, 10@16¢ per pound; valley, 18@19¢. Mohair.—Choice, 30@31¢. Hides.—Salted, 12¢ per lb.; salted calf, 16@17¢; salted kip, 15¢; salted stag, 6@6¢; green hides, 11½¢; dry hides, 21¢; dry calf, No. 1, 25¢; dry stags, 12@13½¢.

#### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Feed, Etc. Wheat.—Track prices: New Club, 79@80¢; new Bluestem, 83@84¢; new Fortyfold, 80¢; new Red Russian, 78@79¢; Fife, 78¢; Valley, 80¢. Millstuffs.—Bran, \$23.50 per ton; 79; Fife, \$25.50; middlings, \$31. Flour.—Patents, \$4.70 per barrel; straights, \$4.10; exports, \$3.65@3.65; valley, \$4.70; graham, \$4.60; whole wheat, \$4.80. Corn.—Whole, \$37; cracked, \$38 per ton. Hay.—Fancy Idaho timothy, \$17@18; fancy eastern Oregon timothy, \$15@16; timothy and clover, \$14@15; timothy and alfalfa, \$13@15; clover, \$8.50@10; oats and vetch, \$10@11; cheat, 10@11; valley grain hay, \$10@11. Oats.—No. 1, white, \$25@25.50 per ton. Barley.—Feed, \$24@24.50 per ton; brewing, nominal; rolled, \$27@28. Groceries, Dried Fruits, Etc. Dried Fruits.—Apples, 10¢ per lb.; currants, 10¢; apricots, 12@14¢; peaches, 8@11¢; prunes, Italian, 8@10¢; silver, 18¢; figs, white and black, 6½@7½¢; currents, 9½¢; raisins, loose Mucatel 6½@7½¢; bleached Thompson, 11½¢, unbleached Sultan-ans, 8½¢; seeded, 7½@8½¢. Coffee.—Roasted, in drums, 18@30¢ per lb. Nuts.—Walnuts, 17½@18¢ per lb.; Brazil nuts, 12½¢; almonds, 15¢; almonds, 16@18¢; pecans, 17¢; coconuts, 90¢@1 per dozen. Salt.—Granulated, \$14 per ton; half-ground, 100s, \$10 per ton; 50s, \$10.75 per ton. Beans.—Small white, \$6.50; large, white, \$5.50; Lima, \$6.30; pink, \$4.15; red Mexicans, 5¢; bayou, \$5.90. Sugar.—Dry granulated, \$5.65; fruit and berry, \$5.65; beet, \$5.45; Extra C, \$5.15; powdered, barrels, \$5.90; cubes, barrels, \$6.05. Rice.—No. 1 Japan, 5@5½¢; cheaper grades, 4½¢; southern head, 5½@6¢. Honey.—Choice, \$3.25@3.75 per case. Fruits and Vegetables. Apples.—New, 90¢@1.25 per box; apricots, 75¢@1.25 per box; cantaloupes, \$1.25@2.00 per crate; peaches, 40@60¢ per box; watermelons, \$1.25 per cwt.; plums, 75¢@1.25 per box; pears, 75¢@1.50 per box; grapes 75¢@1.50 per crate; casaba, \$1.75 per dozen.

#### LOCAL WHOLESALE MARKET.

Bran, per ton .....\$26.00  
Shorts, per ton .....\$28.50  
Wheat, per bushel .....80¢  
Oats, per bushel .....35@40¢  
Chittim bark, per lb. ....4½@5¢  
Hay, timothy .....\$15.00  
Oats and vetch .....\$10.00@11.00  
Clover, per ton .....\$5.00@9.00  
Cheat, per ton .....\$10.00  
**Butter and Eggs.**  
Butterfat, per lb., f. o. b. Salem.....31¢  
Creamery butter, per lb. ....31@31½¢  
Country butter, per lb. ....22½@25¢  
Eggs, per dozen .....22@23¢  
**Poultry.**  
Fryers.....16@18¢  
Hens, per lb. ....11½@14¢  
Roosters, per lb. ....8¢  
**Steers.**  
Steers .....7@8¢  
Cows, per cwt .....4@5¢  
Hogs, fat, per lb .....8@9¢  
Stock pigs, per lb .....7 to 7½¢  
Ewes, per lb .....4¢  
pring lambs, per lb. ....4½@5¢  
Veal, according to quality .....11@13¢  
**Pelts.**  
Dry, per lb. ....8¢  
Salted country pelts, each .....65¢@1  
Lamb pelts each .....25¢

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### FATAL EXPLOSION.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.]  
Tacoma, Wash., Sept. 13.—Ludwig Mamlock, aged 18, is dead here today, and George Scheel, aged 42, is not expected to live as a result of terrible burns the men received in an explosion of creosote gas at the plant of the Carbon Chemical Works. The two were standing over a hot fire of creosote, which they were lighting match into the liquid. If a woman has a good figure, she knows it she thinks other women envious if they don't appear to have it.

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