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The self-satisfied can be of no service to God.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

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BAPTISTIC

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"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word
it is because there is no light in them."—Isaiah 8:20.

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Rome Affirms What American Catholics Deny

But American Catholics seek to explain away the damaging evidence that their own records and authoritative documents afford by saying that all the Pope's claims are made from a "spiritual" viewpoint and that Rome claims no authority or power outside the "spiritual" realm. This is a false explanation. We quote from "Elements of Ecclesiastical Law," by Bro. Sebastian B. Smith, (Romanist), Vol. 1, Pages 253-4:

"In whatsoever things, whether essentially or by acci-

dent, the spiritual end—that is, the end of the church — is necessarily involved, in those things, though they be temporal, the church may by right exert its power, and the civil state ought to yield."

Can there be any question as to the meaning of this concise statement? Nor is this statement hoary with age. It is modern and American in its origin. It comes from the pen of one of the ready writers of the Vatican household in this generation. And if there be any question left as to the supremacy

of the church over all else, the state included, we have but to read the "Unum Sanctam" of Pope Boniface VIII, which has the approval of those who head up the Vatican to the present administration. Here is the language:

"And if the earthly power deviate from the right path, it is judged by the spiritual power; but if minor spiritual power deviate from the right path, the lower in rank is judged by the superior; but if the supreme power, the Papacy, deviate, it can be judged not by man, but by God alone."—History of the Christian Church, Schaff, Volume V, Part II, Page 25.

In other words, the Pope's "spiritual" supremacy covers the whole earth like a blanket. There is no free action outside his will. His authority is the most despotic force that has ever come the way of men to enslave and bind.

The efforts of American Catholics, who seek to explain away the plain teachings of Romanism, when it comes to the claims of supremacy of spiritual power, adhering in the Pope, over temporal power, adhering in the civil government, are also met by the declaration of Bro. Smith on page 90 of his "Elements of Ecclesiastical Law" when he says:

"Has the church power to inflict the penalty of death? Card. Tarquini thus answers: 1. Inferior ecclesiastics are forbidden, though only by ecclesiastical law, to exercise this power directly; 2. It is certain that the Pope and ecumenical councils have this power at least mediately—that is, they can, if the necessity of the church demands, require a Catholic ruler to impose this penalty; 3. That they cannot directly exercise this power cannot be proved."

So the "spiritual" power of the Pope and his cardinals is so great that even the sentence of death may be passed upon men—physical death, not spiritual.

Thus there are thousands who have died, but does Rome claim such authority? Certainly she does, and Bro. Smith, her loyal spokesman, quotes from an authority that no informed Romanist will question in settling this disputed point.



WHY HE PURGES US

Are you saying: "But, what a fruitless branch I must be that God must needs so to purge me?" Nay, not so. Have you not noticed what kind of branches it is that God purges? Hear His Word: "Every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it" (John 15:2). It is not the fruitless but the fruitful branch which is purged. And why? "That it may bring forth more fruit.—Scripture Truth.

There Is A Most Timely And Needed Message On "The Kingdom Of God"

WHEN? HOW? WHERE? WHAT WILL IT BE LIKE?

By ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

Text: "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is done in heaven."—Matt. 6:

Did Jesus tell His Disciples to pray for something that would never come to pass? Was He in earnest about this, or was He "just preachin'" as the little boy put it? The story is told of a preacher's little boy who wanted a favor of his father very much, so he climbed up into his lap and after considerable wheedling, his father promised him the thing that he asked for. It was almost too good to be true, and the little boy wanted to be sure that he was going to really get what he had asked for, so looking up into his father's face, in all seriousness he said, "Daddy, are you tellin' me the truth, or are you just preachin'?" No Jesus wasn't just preachin'—the boy put it—he meant that thing. He told those disciples—and that means that He likewise tells us to pray, "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven." He doesn't tell us to pray for something that He knows is out of line with the will of God. He doesn't tell us to waste our breath. He doesn't tell us to pray for something that will never, and can never, come to pass. Therefore, this prayer prayed by the people of God clear down through the centuries, is certain of fulfillment. The time will come when the will of God will be done as perfectly and completely on this old earth, as it is done in the shining courts of glory. The Kingdom of God will come on this earth. When will it come? How will it come? Where will it come? What will be like when it comes? These are matters of the most extreme importance, and after years spent in reading and studying the Bible, I have definite convictions along these lines. Some of these convictions I wish to give expression to, asking your most earnest hearing as I speak.

1. WHEN WILL THE KINGDOM COME? The matter of "When" is often an important matter. Years ago I went as a missionary to Brazil. I landed first with my family at Rio de Janeiro, expecting to be met by some of our missionaries there. But they had somehow been mis-informed as to when our ship would arrive, so we got off of that ship in a great foreign city, in a strange foreign land without a soul to meet us. I had learned how to say, "Bon Dia," "Good Morning," in Portuguese, and "Bon Noite," "Good night," and that was the extent of my mastery

of the Portuguese language. Manifestly I couldn't go around saying "Good morning and good night" to everybody and get anywhere, so I was in a predicament. The whole predicament was caused by a mistake concerning the "When" of my expected arrival. And a mistake concerning the "When" of the arrival of the Kingdom of God can lead to serious results also.

Church history has a very bloody chapter that details the happenings at Munster, Germany many back centuries ago. Some people who called themselves Ana-Baptists, got it into their heads that they should bring in the Kingdom of God right away, and do it by force. So, there was a mad outbreak of fanaticism by these men who came to be called "The mad men of Munster," and many lives were lost before the uprising was put down. Because those people had some connection with the Ana-Baptist movement, Ana-Baptists got a black eye in the thinking of the world of that day. That bloody chapter in history is there because of men mistaking the "When" of the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Denominational Twaddle!

Today the leadership of practically all of the big religious denominations is in gross error concerning the whole question of the coming of the Kingdom of God. Ignoring the plain teachings of the New Testament as well as the Old, they are determined to bring something to pass that is not promised here in the Scriptures at all. What is the commonly promulgated theory of Baptist and other leaders of today? It is that we are now building Christ a Kingdom by means of our huge denominational organizations, and that by means of educational and missionary and other denominational enterprises we shall finally "bring in the Kingdom" before the King comes back. Then when He does come (and the more modernistically inclined are not very keen on that subject) we shall be able to present a more or less conquered world to Him, and to say, "Lord, here's the Kingdom that we have built for

you!" In the light of the teachings of the Word of God, nothing could be more heretical or more absurd than such an idea. Yet, every time I attend a big convention, I hear "Kingdom movements," "Kingdom enterprises," "Kingdom work," and "Bringing in the Kingdom" from the time I arrive until the time I leave.

Why It Is Twaddle

Now I submit to you that such Kingdom expectations is foolish and heretical to extreme, and for several reasons:

1. Because it is contrary to REASON AND COMMON SENSE. I saw the statement made recently, and reliable figures were submitted in proof of the fact, that the heathen world is growing more rapidly than is Christianity. In other words, heathen are being born faster, than people are being converted to Christianity. Thus if the world should continue for uncounted centuries there would be no human prospect of its conversion, or of the "bringing in of the Kingdom of God." The truth is, the world is getting worse instead of better. Crime is on the tremendous increase here in America and out

over the world. Instruments of destruction have been terribly multiplied. Instead of outlawing war, as we heard so much talk about sometime ago, nations are preparing for the next war, which in horror and awfulness is bound to exceed anything the world has ever known. Instead of the Kingdom being almost "brought in" we are in that time foretold by Jesus when He spoke of "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking for those things which are coming up on the earth."

(2) The current Kingdom expectation of religious leaders of today, is foolish and heretical because CONTRARY TO THE WORD OF GOD. I wish I had time to review Scriptures by the dozen on this question, but time is afforded to mention just a few. First, I remind you of Daniel's prophetic vision recorded in the 2nd Chapter of Daniel. There we have beyond question, the outline of world history from Nebuchadnezzar's day, to the end of this present age. And what is the picture? It is the picture of the "Stone cut out of

(Continued on page three)

The First Baptist Pulpit

"THE TABERNACLE IN THE MIDST OF ISRAEL"

"THE CANDLESTICK"

(Read Ex. 25:31-40; Ex. 37:17-24; Lev. 24:1-4.)

This was not a candlestick such as we ordinarily think of one today. Instead, if it were properly termed, it would be called a lamp stand. Instead of candles being placed upon it, there was merely oil placed within it, and a wick placed within that oil, so that actually instead of it being a candlestick, it was in reality a lamp stand.

This candlestick, or lamp stand, stood on the south side of the tabernacle, just across from the table of shew bread.

It was hand made in every particular, and was beaten out of pure gold. One talent, the equivalent of nearly \$30,000.00, was used for the making of it.

This candlestick was composed of a central shaft, with three branches growing out of it on each side. A branch came out of the top of the stand, which meant that with the three branches on each side and with the branch at the top, there were seven of these branches from which light came, when the wick within the oil was properly lighted.

The candlestick was highly

ornamented, and in an unusual way. Each of those branches had three sections, and each of the sections had a spindle that was shaped like an almond, with a flowered work at the end of the almond, so that it was not only a thing of usefulness, but a thing of beauty here within the tabernacle of the Lord.

I

THE MEANING OF THE CANDLESTICK.

This candlestick, or lamp stand, was a type of the Lord (Continued on page two)

HOW HE ANSWERS

"All answers to prayer may be divided into three classes. If I want a sum of money and ask God for it, he may answer me in one of three ways: (1) He may give me the money in my hand; or (2) He may give me ability to earn it; or (3) He may give me grace to do without it."—The Classmate.

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"The Candlestick"

(Continued from page one)
Jesus Christ and His children
shining for Him in the midst of
a crooked and a perverse world.
The central shaft represented
the Lord Jesus Christ Himself,
while the branches represented
all believers in the Lord Jesus
Christ. This would tell us that
the business of Jesus and the
business of each of us as be-
lievers in Him, is to shine and
make light for our Lord here
within this world.

We have the antitype of this
in the story of the vine and the
branches.

"I am the true vine, and my
Father is the husbandman.
Every branch in me that bear-
eth not fruit he taketh away;
and every branch that beareth
fruit, he purgeth it, that it may
bring forth more fruit. Now ye
are clean through the word
which I have spoken unto you.
Abide in me, and I in you. As
the branch cannot bear fruit
of itself, except it abide in the
vine; no more can ye, except
ye abide in me. I am the vine,
ye are the branches. He that
abideth in me, and I in him,
the same bringeth forth much
fruit; for without me ye can
do nothing."—John 15:1-5.

I say then, this central shaft,
representing Christ, and these
three branches on each side of
the shaft—all seven of them
combined, giving forth their
light, find themselves as the
type of the Lord Jesus and His
own believing children illus-
trated in the relationship of the
vine and the branches.

II

THE COST OF THE CAN- DLESTICK.

The cost was one talent of
pure gold, which was about
\$30,000.00. This would tell us
that it costs to shine.

Let me remind you that it
doesn't cost you much to be a
member of even a Baptist
church. It doesn't cost much to
be a professing Christian. It
doesn't cost much to come to
services regularly. It doesn't
cost much to have your name
on some church record book,
but, beloved, it does cost you to
shine for the Lord.

I never had this truth im-
pressed upon me so forcefully
as of some years ago when in
another town I was visiting a
man who was quite an electric-
ian. He gave a little demonstra-
tion one day when I was in his
home. He had rigged up a bat-
tery and on the proper pressing
of a button, that battery would
ring a bell. He took that same
battery and attached it to a
lamp, and when he pressed the
button it didn't do anything at
all. He said, "Brother Gilpin,
I have come to this conclusion,
it takes a whole lot less power
to make a noise than it does to
make a light."

Yes, beloved, you can make
a noise mighty cheaply, but it
costs to shine. When I think
about those of you who are sit-
ting out here before me, whose
business it is to shine for our
Lord in this corrupt world—
when I think that it is your
business and mine to truly shine
for Him, I would remind you
that it is a costly thing to shine
for the Lord.

I am reminded of that woman
who had been a missionary,
who had come home and was
called upon by a group of
women of a missionary society
to speak to them. When she
had finished her message, after
exalting the Lord Jesus Christ
and giving a marvelous testi-
mony as to what Jesus meant
to her, one of the women said
to her, "Sister, I'd give the
world if I could have a testi-
mony like that." This mission-
ary said, "That is exactly what
it cost me."

Brother, sister, it does cost to
shine. It cost to build this can-
dlestick, and it costs for a child
of God to shine here within this
world.

III

THE SIZE OF THE CAN- DLESTICK.

Beloved, you will read in
vain to find any size or dimen-
sions given of the candlestick.
When I first read about the
candlestick and found that
there were no dimensions given
for it, I thought there was an
oversight, that God had over-
looked something. Then I be-
gan to think about it and it
dawned on me that we can't
measure how Jesus Christ
shines, and neither can we
know the number nor the man-
ner whereby God's people shine
within this world. Beloved, God
knew what He was doing when
He omitted the dimensions of
the candlestick.

IV

THE SHAFT AND THE BRANCHES.

As I have already said, the
shaft is to represent Jesus,
while the branches are to rep-
resent His people.

The branches were made out
of pure gold, and gold is a type
of Divinity. They were made
of the same material as the
shaft itself. This would tell us
that all of God's people have
Divine nature on the inside. If
you are one of God's own, if
you are a believer in the Lord

Jesus Christ, you have a Divine
nature — the same kind of a
nature that God Himself is the
possessor of.

I don't say that if you are a
church member, that is your
experience. I don't say that all
professors of religion have a
Divine nature. I do say, beloved,
that every person who is saved,
has the very nature of God on
the inside.

"Whereby are given unto us
exceeding great and precious
promises; that by these ye might
be partakers of the divine na-
ture, having escaped the cor-
ruption that is in the world
through lust."—II Pet. 1:4.

Beloved, if you are saved,
there is something of God on
the inside of you. That is why
I often say that we ought to
look a little bit like God; we
ought to talk a little like God;
we ought to walk a little bit
like God; and the world ought
to be able to see something of
God within our lives. If you are
saved, you have a Divine na-
ture on the inside of you, and
it is the Divine nature that
God put in you the day He
saved you. It is that Divine na-
ture that does the shining.

This old carnal, fleshly na-
ture that you have on the in-
side doesn't shine for the Lord.
It is a hindrance and a handi-
cap to you. It holds you back
and keeps you from shining.
This depraved nature which we
have inherited from our par-
ents, is that which inhibits and
holds back the new nature of
the Lord Jesus Christ that is
within all of God's children to-
day.

I want you to notice that the
strength of the branches lay in
the shaft. The branches didn't
have any strength in them-
selves; they were just fastened to
the shaft so that the strength
actually depended upon the
shaft.

If my analogy is true, and I
am sure it is, that the shaft
represents Jesus Christ and the
branches represent believers,
then our strength as believers
in the Lord Jesus Christ de-
pends upon the Lord Jesus
Himself. We haven't any
strength in ourselves, but our
strength depends upon the Lord
Jesus just like the strength of
the branches depended upon
the shaft of the candlestick.

"I am the vine, ye are the
branches. He that abideth in
me, and I in him, the same
bringeth forth much fruit; for
without me ye can do nothing."

THE WONDER OF A GUIDED LIFE

Oh the wonder of a guided life,
O'ershadowed by God's hand!
Whatever befall of good or ill,
To know it is the Father's will,
And that His love hath planned.

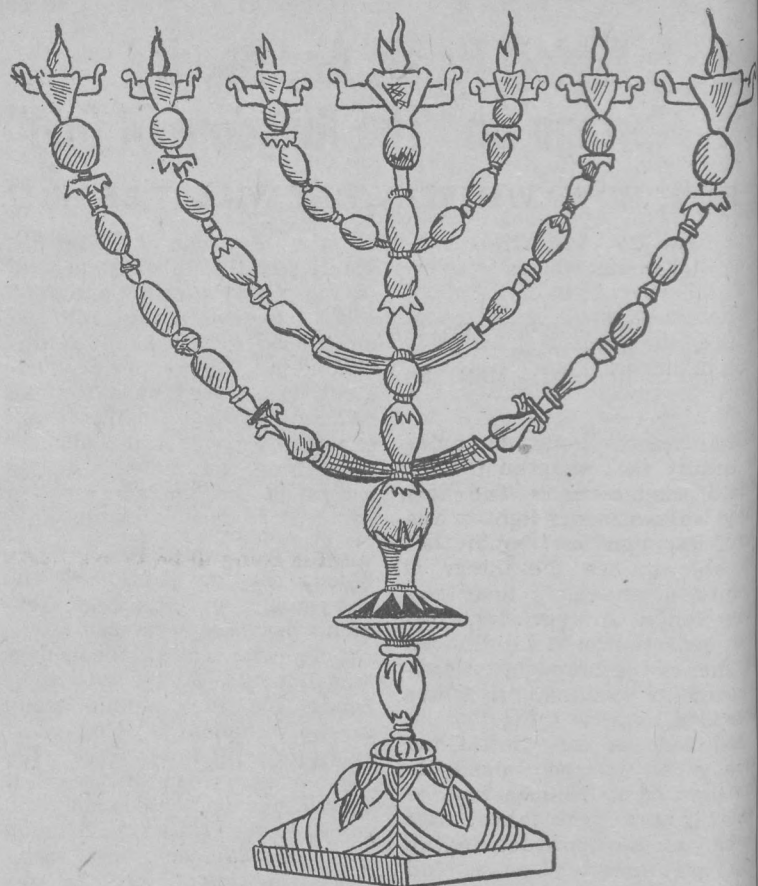
Oh the wonder of a guided life!
Each step along the way
Becomes a miracle of grace,
As His blest hand of love I trace
Each hour of every day.

Oh the wonder of a guided life!
No fear, no doubt, no dread.
Is not the future in His will?
He who hath led will lead me still
Through all the days ahead.

Oh the wonder of a guided life!
The hand of love divine,
That keeps the planets in their course,
And rules o'er all the universe,
Holds this small life of mine!

--Avis B. Christiansen

THE GOLDEN CANDLESTICK



—John 15:5.

I can do all things through
Christ which strengtheneth me."

—Phil. 4:13.

Where did the branches get
their strength? From the shaft.
Where do God's Children get
their strength? From the Lord
Jesus Christ, who is typified by
the shaft of the lamp stand.

Notice also that the beauty of
the shaft was put upon each
branch. The same kind of orna-
mentation that was put upon the
shaft of the candlestick was also
put upon every one of those
branches.

What a precious truth for you
and me, that the beauty of the
Lord Jesus Christ is upon each
believing child of God. It thrills
my heart when I remember this
truth, that the day God saved
us, that day God began to trans-
form us, so that ultimately the
same beauty that is in Jesus
Christ will adorn the child of
the Lord.

"But we all, with open face
beholding as in a glass the glory
of the Lord, are changed into
the same image from glory to
glory, even as by the Spirit of
the Lord."—II Cor. 3:18.

Beloved, it ought to be a
blessing to everyone of us to
remember that as the same
flowers adorned the lamp stand,
also adorned the branches, so
the same beauty of the Lord
Jesus Christ adorns all of God's
children here within this world;
and some of these days when
the flesh is laid aside and we
rise triumphant to be with Him
— when that day comes, then
there will be nothing of the
flesh to hold us back. Rather,
in that day, the beauty of the
Lord Jesus Christ will shine
forth unhindered in the life of
you and me.

There was no danger of the
branches falling off of the
shaft. They weren't fastened on,
but rather they were beaten out
of the same material as the
shaft itself.

Beloved, I am glad that there
isn't any danger of the spiritual
branches falling off. I thank
God that there isn't any danger
of a child of God falling from
grace. You hear people talk
about being saved today and
lost tomorrow. The man who
talks in that language is talk-
ing contrary to the Word of
God, and the man who believes
in falling from grace has never
yet seen the Lord Jesus Christ

as his Saviour. If he ever trust-
ed the Son of God as his Sav-
iour, he would know that sal-
vation is not something you get
today and lose tomorrow. He
would know that when you re-
ceive Jesus Christ, you are
saved forever, and that salva-
tion is that you are trusting
Jesus Christ for all of your sins.

Beloved, those branches could
not fall off that shaft, and the
child of God can't fall from the
Lord Jesus Christ to be eternal-
ly lost. Jesus said:

"And I give unto them eter-
nal life; and they shall never
perish, neither shall any man
pluck them out of my hand.
My Father, which gave them
me, is greater than all; and no
man is able to pluck them out
of my Father's hand."—John
10:28, 29.

There aren't enough devils
inside or outside of Hell to take
a child of God out of the hand
of God when once that man has
been saved.

Listen to the apostle Paul

when he said:

"For I am persuaded, that
neither death, nor life, nor an-
gels, nor principalities, nor
powers, nor things present, nor
things to come, Nor height, nor
depth, nor any other creature
shall be able to separate us
from the love of God, which is
in Christ Jesus our Lord."—
Rom. 8:38, 39.

In these verses, Paul men-
tions nine agents and agencies—
internal, infernal, and external
— and he says that none of these
nine nor any other creature is
able to take a child of God out
of the hands of the Lord.

Notice again:
"Who shall also CONFIRM
YOU UNTO THE END, that ye
may be blameless in the day
of our Lord Jesus Christ."—
I Cor. 1:8.

"For the which cause I also
suffer these things: neverthe-
less I am not ashamed; for I
know whom I have believed,
and am persuaded that he is
able to keep that which I have
committed unto him against
that day."—II Tim. 1:12.

The branches couldn't fall off
the candlestick, and, brother,
sister, a child of God can't fall
from the Lord Jesus Christ.

V

THE PRIESTS COULD ONLY
FULFILL THE SERVICE OF
(Continued on page three)

"The Candlestick"

(Continued from page two)
GOD AS THEY WALKED IN THE LIGHT THAT WAS PROVIDED BY THIS CANDLESTICK.

With the curtains hung in front of the tabernacle and over the top of it, there was no natural light inside of it. All natural light was excluded from the tabernacle. If the priests wished to walk in the light of nature, they had to go outside the tabernacle, and the moment they were outside in the light of nature, they were unable to see the wondrous things of beauty that were on the inside of the tabernacle. The more they walked in the light of nature, less and less would they be able to see the things of beauty of the Holy and Most Holy Place. The only way that the priests could fulfil the service of the Lord was as they walked in the light that was provided by Him.

Beloved, you can't fulfil God's service if you are walking in the light of nature. You have to walk in the light that is laid down in the Word of God if you are going to serve God. Human intelligence isn't worth a thing when it comes to the service of God. You can't walk in the light of human intelligence. You can't walk in the light of sanctified common sense. You can't walk in the light of what you have decided your own brain and by your own conscience. Beloved, you have to walk in the light that is laid down in the Word of God if you are going to serve Him.

Beloved, as those priests could only fulfil the service of God as they walked in the light that had been provided by the Lord, so you and I can only fulfil God's service as we walk in the light that is laid down within His Word.

VI

THE LAMPS OF THE CANDLESTICK WERE TO CAST THEIR LIGHT UPON THE CENTRAL SHAFT, SO AS TO REVEAL THE WEALTH, BEAUTY, AND WONDER OF

"Speak unto Aaron, and say unto him, When thou lightest the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light over against the candlestick."—Num. 8:2.

Those lamps on each side of the candlestick were for the beauty, the wealth and the wonder of that central candlestick.

Brother, sister, can you see in this what your business is in this world? Your business and my business as God's children is to shine in such a way for the Lord Jesus Christ that we ourselves will reveal the wonder and the beauty and the wealth of God in our own lives. God has never saved any man just to keep him out of Hell, but as is often said, we are saved to serve. Beloved, I'd say it like this: We are saved to shine. Why? To reveal the

wealth and the beauty and the wonder of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."—Eph. 1:3-6.

Before the foundation of the world God chose us to salvation, and every one of God's elect is going to be saved. Every one of them is, some day, coming to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ; not a one of them is going to be lost. Beloved, why did God elect them to salvation? They were elected to salvation to shine to the praise and the honor and the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The purposes of the branches were to shine so that the beauty and the glory of that central shaft shone out. Beloved, God's purpose for us as His children is to shine that we might show forth the praise and the wonder and the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

VII

THE POWER OF THE CANDLESTICK WAS NOT IN THE STAND ITSELF, BUT IN ITS OIL.

Oil is a type of the Holy Spirit.

"And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof. So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord? Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."—Zech. 4:3-6.

If the Holy Spirit isn't within you, you are worthless. Don't think for a moment's time that anyone is saved because of his goodness, or because he is a church member. A person is saved by that supernatural, miraculous operation of the Holy Spirit inside his soul. If you haven't the oil of the Holy Spirit within your life, you are lost. I don't care how many churches you are a member of, or what church you are affiliated with, if the Holy Spirit isn't within you, you are worthless and powerless.

Beloved, the candlestick couldn't shine without the oil, and there isn't any shining to come from the professing Chris-

tian unless the oil of the Holy Spirit is on the inside.

VIII

THE TONGS AND SNUFFERS.

The tongs and snuffers were small, but they were indispensable. The lamps had to be trimmed—the ashes from the wick had to be removed. The ashes didn't come from the oil, but rather from the wick, so that the priests day by day had to take the tongs and snuffers and remove the ashes of the wick so that the oil might be able to burn and shine and shine and shine.

Beloved, God sometimes has to take the snuffers of trial and affliction in order to purify his child and to get rid of the flesh, the burned-up wick, so that he might shine for the Lord. There can't be any shining if there are any impurities of that burned-up wick left in the oil. God's child needs to remove from his life that which would prevent the light from shining properly.

Let me remind you, God wants you as His child to shine for Him. It doesn't make any difference what your work is, nor how you make your livelihood. That in itself is just a means to the end. The end is that you should shine for the Lord.

May it please the Lord to help those of you who are saved to resolve within your heart that you are going out from here with one purpose in mind—to shine for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Conclusion

Beloved, if you are unsaved, you can't shine for Jesus. There isn't any possibility of you ever shining for the Lord Jesus Christ until God in grace and mercy puts the Holy Spirit within you, and when the Holy Spirit is on the inside, He says: "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."—Eph. 5:18.

Oh, if you are a child of God, seek to be filled with the Spirit that you might shine for Him. If you are not His child, then in this hour may the Holy Spirit come within your soul and begot you to a new life in the Lord Jesus Christ, and then with the Holy Spirit within, you will be able to shine for the Lord.

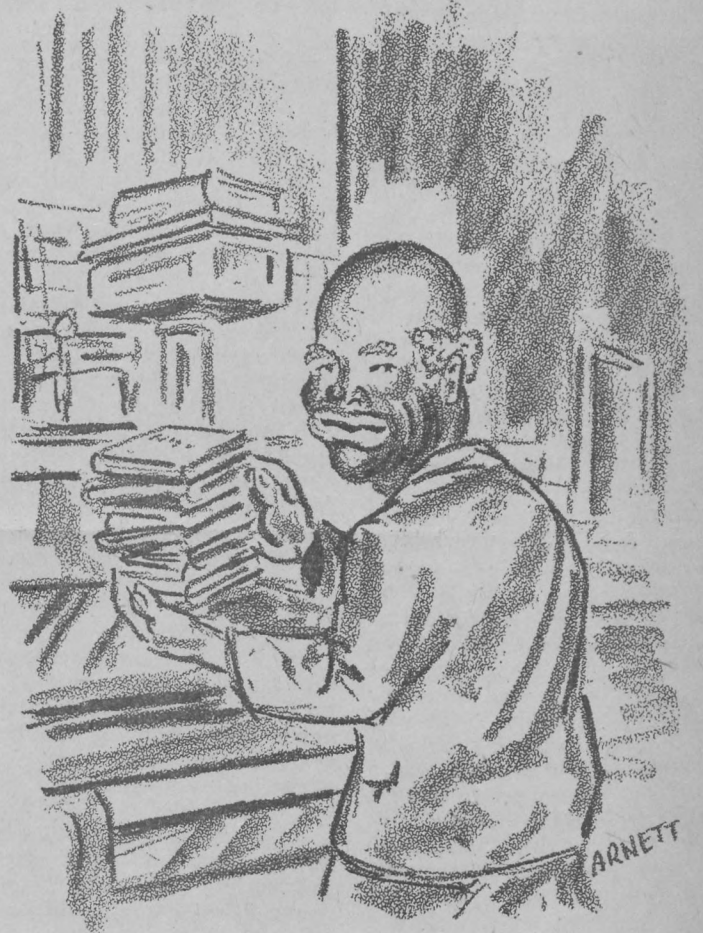


The Kingdom

(Continued from page one)
the mountain without hands" (representing the Lord Jesus) striking the golden image, representing the various world powers—and striking it on the feet at that—that portion that represents this world at the end of time of this age—and demolishing the whole thing—grinding it to powder in complete annihilation. Then what happens? That stone begins to expand and expand and expand until it becomes a "great mountain and fills the whole earth." Not gradually, but by sudden cataclysmic force the Stone conquers. And we are taught clearly that not until Jesus returns—and not until Gentile world power is destroyed, shall the Kingdom come and the "stone become a great mountain and fill all the earth."

Then again, it is set forth in Daniel that in the end time of this age, a certain ten fold division will be formed in the territory once occupied by the old Roman Empire. These divisions will be ruled over by rulers or "kings." And what does the prophetic word say? Listen: (Daniel 2:44).

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"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."

That tells us when the Kingdom will be set up, and that time has not quite come yet.

Then again, listen to this: (Luke 19:12-15).

"He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return."

"And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading."

This parable can only mean that our rejected Lord has gone away, and that He shall be invested with the power and authority to rule. He shall be given a Kingdom, and shall return to take it over. And to make this plain and clear beyond any denial, we have this passage: (Matt. 25:31).

"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory."

WHEN will Christ sit upon His throne? When will His Kingdom be "brought in?" The answer is crystal clear—"When the Son of Man shall come in all His glory with all the holy angels with Him, THEN shall He sit upon the throne of His glory." Then—then—then—and NOT in this age. When modernistically inclined men scheme and plan to bring in the Kingdom before the King comes back, they are wasting their effort, and are foolishly and wilfully ignorant of God's plan and purpose for this age.

WHAT IS THAT PLAN AND PURPOSE? What is God doing in this present age? This Scripture gives us an indication: (Acts 15:14-16).

"Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name."

"And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

"After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up."

God is "calling out" a people for His name through the preaching of the Gospel of the saving grace of God. Thus our business—and the business of every true church is not "kingdom building"—not "bringing in the Kingdom"—but EVANGELISM! The proclamation of the good news of eternal salvation through a crucified, buried and risen Saviour. Thank God, we are widely proclaiming that Word at Buffalo Avenue. This morning I was privileged to bring a gospel message over ten radio stations, to thousands of people. May God grant that we shall eventually be able to reach out through other stations to thousands more. That—I repeat is our business—to make Christ known to a lost world—not to try to do something that He has never authorized us to do in this age. His Kingdom will come, when He comes, and not until He comes.

2. Now the second question: HOW WILL THE KINGDOM COME? It is often highly important to know HOW a thing is done. I recall that my son somehow came into possession of a second-hand Austin car (Continued on page four)

WHAT GOD HATH PROMISED

God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways all the way through.
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.

But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the laborer, light on the way;
Grace for the trial, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.

--Author Unknown

The Kingdom

(Continued from page three) during his growing up period. Now if there is anything in the world that the average boy likes, it is to tinker on an old car. My boy took the machinery of that car to pieces, and he had so many pieces lying around that I wondered how on earth they all came out of that tiny vehicle. I thought of the man who took the old "Ingersoll" watch apart, then he tried to put it together again, but he said he had a quart of works left over that he didn't know what to do with. Well, Zane put the Austin together after cleaning and shining all of the parts, but the thing wouldn't run. He worked and puzzled and fretted, and finally pulled the thing around to a garage and asked the mechanic what was the matter. He looked at the car and said, "Why you have put the thing together backwards!" He had somehow missed the "How" as to the way in which those parts should be assembled. And when I was a boy I took a notion to bake a cake. Why there wasn't anything to it! All I had to do was just to sling some ingredients together and stick the thing into the oven! I was like Andy Gump who undertook to write a book. He said "There are only 26 letters in the alphabet — and it's all a simple matter of arranging enough words out of those 26 letters." So, I slung together the ingredients and set them in the stove, but can you imagine how I got that cake out of the pan? I poured it out! That "cake" resembled a sort of "taffy." I learned that the "How" of doing the thing was important.

How are modern denominationalists trying to "bring in the Kingdom" today? The answer is, by reform legislative movements, by social uplift efforts, by teaching people concerning sanitation and nursing and health. By amusing and entertaining people, and by a social program of varied church activities. Missionaries are sent out to foreign lands to seek to "civilize" rather than "evangelize." I have a missionary friend who was not a preacher, but who was sent out by Southern Baptists years ago, to teach the Brazilians agriculture. He was going to teach them soil conservation, and crop rotation, and how to have better milk cows and all of that. But as he journeyed about, people kept coming to him and asking him about the Bible and Christ and Christianity, and he tried to answer their questions. Indeed, he found great joy in talking with people about Christ and His power to save. Finally he felt the urge to spend his life at that sort of thing. Speaking to other missionaries he said, "What these people most need is not to be told how to do scientific farming—but how to obtain eternal life through Jesus Christ." So he asked the Board to grant him leave of absence while he went to the Seminary and prepared himself to preach the Gospel. He graduated and went back and became one of the most eloquent preachers that we had in all Brazil.

Requires The Lord's Return

My friends, the Kingdom of God is not going to be brought about by the schemes and

plans of men. A thin veneer of so-called Christianity cannot be sprayed over society such as to transform it into the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom is going to be brought in by the personal return from heaven of the Son of God, and it will result from the exercise of the mighty, sovereign power of God Himself. Let us see if that is not exactly what the Word of God teaches: (Isa. 9: 6-7).

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

"Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

Listen: "The government has never been upon his shoulder" yet. Peace without end has never been known to this earth yet. But it will be. HOW will it be brought about? By the "United Nations"—that debating society that has been a worse farce than the old "League of Nations?" NO! By the Federal Council of Churches, or the World Council of Churches, or any other form of ecclesiasticism? No! How then? The answer is given here in our Scripture: "The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform it."

And over here in the book of Revelations, we have pictured the coming of that Kingdom, and in the setting in which it shall occur. Read the connection, and it is made plain that the Great Tribulation of prophecy, under anti-Christ has been in progress, and has come to its end — then suddenly comes the sounding of the trumpet, and then what? Let us read and see. (Rev. 11: 15-17).

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."

"And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats fell upon their faces, and worshipped God."

"Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned."

Doesn't that answer the question as to "how" God's Kingdom shall come? It says, "Thou hast taken to thee thy great power and hast reigned." The Kingdom comes by the arbitrary assumption of power of the great God of heaven — not through the schemes and plans of men.

Kingdom To Be On Earth

3. But now I must hasten on to deal with the question, **WHERE WILL THE KINGDOM COME?** Where did Jesus teach His disciples to pray that it would come? Right here on this earth "Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven." I wasn't brought up as a church going boy, and didn't begin to attend church with any regularity until after my conversion, but I remember that about the very first thing I was taught in Sunday school was that the Jews of Christ's day, and particularly the disciples, were under misapprehension concerning the nature of Christ's kingdom. I

was taught that they were more or less chumps for looking for a literal Kingdom. "They just didn't understand," so I was told — "the kingdom was a spiritual thing." And I was further told that Christ was then the King over a great "spiritual Kingdom"—that He was then ruling—and that that spiritual Kingdom is all that we need ever expect. The idea was planted in my cranium that things will rock along until one of these days there will be a sudden end with a great Judgment Day — a General Judgment Day. Then the saved will be whisked off to a far away heaven to live forever—the wicked shall be sent on to torment, and God will burn the earth to a crisp to get rid of it. There was just one thing wrong with that whole set of teaching—it isn't so! Those Jews had every right to expect a literal kingdom, with the Messiah on the throne of David, and the disciples had a right to look for the same. Following the resurrection we are told that Jesus appeared over the period of 40 days and taught the disciples concerning the Kingdom of God. At the close of that marvelous period of teaching, they asked Him this question: "Lord, dost thou at this time restore the Kingdom again unto Israel?" Jesus did not throw up His hands in horror. He did not tell them that they wholly misunderstood the nature of His Kingdom. What did He say? He said, "It is not for you to know the times and the season which God hath set within his own power..." In other words, His Kingdom will plan a program of "bringing in that not to know the time of this, for that was God's secret. In the meantime, they were not to be trying to plan a program of "bringing in that Kingdom" but Jesus said, "ye shall be witness unto me both in Jerusalem and in Judea and in all Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." That's still our business!

Killed The Calf!

God is not going to let the Devil keep this world. And He is not going to burn it up to get it out of the hands of the devil either. In this he is not as foolish as the farmer who had a calf infested with vermin. After trying other things in vain in an attempt to rid the poor calf of its inhabitants, he finally said, "I think I know what will turn the trick," so he took gasoline and saturated the calf with it, and stuck a match to it! It destroyed the vermin all right—but oh what it did to that calf! Listen—the greatest period of this old earth is yet in the future. When man fell into sin, the earth was "cursed for man's sake" But a Redeemer has come, and has died, and I want to tell you that the consequences of His redemption shall extend just as far as did the consequences of man's fall. God has predestinated, elected and foreordained that Christ shall sit upon the throne and that the faithful of this age, shall rule with Him in peace and righteousness during the wonderful kingdom age that is ahead. Listen to the Scriptures: (Rev. 5:10).

"And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." (Daniel 7:27).

"And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an

everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him."

And I remind you that Jesus said long ago, "The meek shall inherit the earth," and Paul said, "Know ye not that the saints shall judge the world?" And it is written here in the Scriptures, "For he must reign until he hath put all enemies under his feet." Then my friends, will come the fulfillment of that prayer that Jesus has taught us to pray, "Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven."

Quit Explaining It Away!

4. But now I come to the last question: **WHAT WILL THE KINGDOM BE LIKE, WHEN IT COMES?** Listen — it will be like the days of heaven on this earth. I am interested in this as in no other one thing that I know anything about, because I am going to be back here on this earth. When the Scriptures speak of "they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years" I don't try to explain it away—I don't try to get out of believing it—I take it literally, and I expect to be one of the "they" mentioned in that passage. Men have dreamed and have written of a golden age. Plato wrote a book setting forth an ideal for human society, and Thomas Moore wrote a book called "Utopia," and others have tried to picture a golden age, but Our Lord is going to actually, literally, bring in a golden age upon this earth. During my own lifetime we have seen some wonderful discoveries and inventions — many of which have been used for the destruction of human life. If such have taken place during this imperfect, sin-laden, satan-dominated age, then to what wonderful heights will science and invention attain during the golden age that is ahead? Why, it thrills me to even think about it.

Devil To Be Jailed

The thing that ushers in the Kingdom is the return of the Lord in glory. The thing that makes the golden age possible is the arrest and confinement of the devil. I like to read of how that old rascal is chained and shut up. He has had that coming to him for a long time, and I hope the Lord lets me see that thing happen with my own eyes. With the devil no longer loose to deceive the nations, we shall have universal peace. Men have talked about this and dreamed about it, and orated about it, but it has never come to pass yet, and will never until the Prince of Peace, the Lord Jesus is seated upon the throne of His kingdom. In speaking of this, the old prophet Isaiah more than 2500 years ago said, "and of peace there shall be no end. Upon the throne of his father David, and upon his kingdom to order it with judgment and with justice, henceforth even forever." But the Word of God sets this forth, and describes the golden age of the Kingdom more eloquently than I can ever do. Listen to it: (Isa. 2:1-4).

"The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem."

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it."

"And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the

Lord, to the house of God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem."

"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruninghooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

(Isa. 11:2-9).

"And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;"

"And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord; and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears;"

"But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked."

"And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and little child shall lead them."

"And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox."

"And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den."

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

You say, What does that mean—that passage about "A little child shall lead them?" It means exactly what it says. It doesn't mean that a little child shall lead others to salvation, as is sentimentally and I may add asininely quoted by some. It means that when Christ is on the throne, and the devil is in the "hoosegow," and The Kingdom of Heaven is a reality on this earth, that God shall take away the enmity of beasts toward each other, and toward man until the big old shaggy lion shall become a harmless playmate for the child. Ah, I like that verse that I just read, "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain (kingdom) for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." There's the fulfillment of the prayer, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven."

I'm going to be in on that, folks! As a child of God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ—as an heir of God and a joint heir with Christ, I am going to share in that glorious, golden age, and I invite every one of you to come and go along. No one has anything worth living for, in the end, but a Christian. But we Christians do. The things that God has revealed for the future for us, are enough to make us shout and sing with joy, then on top of all that, He tells us that "it hath not entered into the heart of man... the things that the Lord has in store for those that love Him." Do you love Him? Is the Saviour, your Saviour? Will you share in these wonders of the ages to come?