

Who is THAT ONE who
understands Revelation
and blessed are THOSE
who heed the Prophecy

The New Era Enterprise

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MINNESOTA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Blessed are THEY who
lay these things to Heart
and Co-operate in the Ful-
fillment—the time is NOW

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THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN In Explanatory Blank Verse

By W. F. HUDGINGS

[Editor's Note: This manuscript was written by Brother Hudgings, for his own amusement and not for publication, during the month of October, 1918, while he was "banished in the Isle of Patmos." He sent it to relieve the monotony of the environs and to add cheer to the effervescent heart of C. J. Woodworth, who was "exiled" in Atlanta, Ga. Brother Woodworth thought it too good to keep to himself and sent it to us. It is just too good for us to keep any longer: so here it is.—C.E.S.]

CHAPTER I. THE MESSAGE FOR THIS DAY. Authorship and Greeting.

1 THE REVELATION of the Christ, which God gave unto him,
To show unto his saints the things shortly to be fulfilled.
He sent and symbolized it by an angel unto John: (22:6)
2 Who bore a record of the Word—the Logos, firstborn Son; (John 1:1)
Gave testimony of his deeds, and all things that were done.
3 O blessed is he that interprets,
And all who shall now understand
These symbols and visions
And keep the things written:
Behold, their fulfillment at hand!
4 JOHN unto the seven church epochs,
Prefigured by churches in Asia:
Grace be unto you, and peace from our Lord,
Which is, and which was, and yet cometh;
And from all the seven bright spirits,
As lightnings, or lamps—perfect wisdom— (4:5; 5:6)
5 Which shine from his throne, from Jesus the Christ,
The Witness true, firstborn of dead ones,
And Prince of the kings yet to reign. (20:6)
Unto him who loved us and freed us
From sin, by his own blood most precious.
6 And made us a kingdom of priests unto God:
To him be dominion forever.
7 Behold, he cometh with the clouds,
And every eye shall see him;
And they, also, who pierce him;
And all the kindreds of the earth
Shall wail for him. Amen!
8 "The Alpha and Omega, I,
Beginning and the Ending
Of God's creation," saith he,
Which is, and was, yet cometh.
All power in heaven and in earth
Is given him—almighty. (Matt. 28:18)
9 I John, who am your brother, companion in all trouble,
And in the kingdom patience of our Lord,
Was in the isle of Patmos: a convict, exiled prisoner,
For Jesus' sake, and for the Word of God.
10 In spirit I was carried unto the Day of Jesus;
And heard behind a mighty trumpet voice,
11 Which saith: "What thou seest, write in a book and send it
Unto the seven epochs of my church:
To Ephesus and Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira,
To Sardis, Philadelphia, and then
Unto Laodicea: the seventh, last, but foremost."
12 I turned to see the voice which spake with me;
And being turned I saw there stood seven golden lampstands,
13 And in the midst one like the Son of Man,
Clothed with a comely garment, from armpits unto ankles,
And girt about the breast with golden cord.
And thus the church, Christ's body, was veiled throughout the ages,
But epochs first and seventh had much light.
14 His head and hairs were snowwhite, as wool, denoting wisdom;
His eyes omniscient, as a flame of fire.
15 His feet were bright as copper refined in heated furnace;
His voice was heard in many different tongues. (17:15)
16 His right hand held in favor the seven stars—church angels; (1:20)
And in his mouth a sharp two-edged sword. (Eph. 6:17)
His countenance, for brightness, was like the sun at noonday.
17 I looked, then fell before his feet as dead.
He laid his right hand on me, and spake unto me calmly:
"Fear not, for I'm the First and Last, thy Lord;
18 I'm he that died a ransom, but now alive, immortal,
And have with me the keys of death and hell.
19 Write, therefore, what thou sawest: the past age and the present,
These two epochs; and then the future five.
20 And now, behold the mystery of seven stars thou sawest
In my right hand, and seven candlesticks:
The seven stars are angels, or servants, of the churches;
The seven lamps, the seven church epochs."

CHAPTER II. THE FIRST FOUR EPOCHS AND MESSENGERS: St. Paul, St. John, Arius and Waldó.

1 By Paul, the faithful angel of the Ephesus epoch— (A. D. 33-70)
The forty years from Calvary to Judea's overthrow,
Write: "Hark, these things he saith who doth hold the seven stars;
Who walks among and cares for all the seven candlesticks:
2 I know thy works, beloved, and thy labor—patience, too;
And how thou canst not bear them which are evil in thy midst:
Thou tried them which have called themselves apostles and are not,
And found them liars, every one, because I called but twelve.
3 And thou hast borne in patience all afflictions for my sake
And hast not fainted. Yet have I somewhat to say to thee:
I marvel that thou art so soon removed from thy first love. (Gal. 1:6)
4 Remember, now, from whence thou fell: repent in word and deed,
Or else I'll come unto thee and remove thee from thy place.
5 But this thou hast—I credit thee—thou hast loved lordly deeds
Of bishops—Nicolaitanes—which thing I hate. (Acts 20:28-30)
6 Hear thou, who hath an ear, the things I say unto the church;
To him that overcometh will I give to eat and live
Of that best Tree of Life within the Paradise of God." (22:2)
7 And by the angel of the church in Smyrna, even John— (43-325 A. D.)
For twelve score years from Judah's fall till days of Constantine,
Write: "These things saith he, the First and Last, who died yet lives:
8 I know thy works and tribulation, poverty and pain;
But thou art rich in blessings which thy Lord alone can give.
I know the blatant blasphemy of all false Israelites
Of Satan's synagogue are they—not members of my church.
9 Fear not the persecutions of the pagan priests and kings:
Behold, the devil, operating through the kings of Rome,
Shall cast you into prisons, and your courage shall be tried,
And ye shall have great trouble during ten symbolic days— (Ezek. 4:6)
Ten years, while Diocletian reigns at end of Smyrna's age. (303-313 A. D.)
But be thou faithful unto death and win a crown of life;
10 Hear thou, who hath an ear, the things I say unto the church;
The overcoming saints shall not be hurt of Second Death."
11 And by the angel of the church of creedal Pergamos—
My faithful servant Arius, who spanned 800 years, (325-1160 A. D.)
Write: "These things saith he which hath the sharp two-edged sword:

13 I know thy works; thou dwellest round the devil's papal throne,
But holdest fast my name and faith throughout these evil days
Wherein each anti-papist is a faithful martyr, slain
Among you where the devil dwells and reigns as Papal Rome.
14 But now, O Pergamos, I have somewhat to say to thee,
Because thou hast among thee some who walk as Balaam did, (Num. 31:16)
Who taught Balaam how to throw a snare for Israel.
(Now Balaam was a prophet of the Lord who looked for gain,
And injured God's own people through connivance with a king.)
And Balaam-like, thy clergy sacrifice my Word of truth
To blasphemous creed idols, then they offer it for food.
They make my spouse, my virgin church, unite with powers of earth
Which thing is fornication: she should wait her Lord's return.
15 So thou hast them that teach the sin of Lordship in the church,
Of clergy over laity: the Nicolaitanes. (Acts 20:28-30)
16 Repent, or else I'll come unto thee quickly and will fight
And slay thee with the Sword of Truth which goeth from my mouth.
(Eph. 6:17)
17 Hear thou, who hath an ear, the things I say unto the church;
To him that overcometh I will give immortal life;
A white stone with a secret name (the holy spirit's seal)
Will such receive—a passport into joys forevermore."
18 And by the angel of the church in Thyatira write: (1160-1378 A. D.)
(This messenger was Waldó, spanning ten score years and more):
"These things declared the Son of God who hath omniscient eyes,
And feet like burnished copper, ever walking by thy side:
19 I know thy works and charity and faith and patience, too;
Thy suffering spake more eloquent than all thy preaching did;
20 Yet notwithstanding all of this, I have against thee much,
Because thou lettest Jezebel, that wicked church of Rome,
(Which calls herself a prophetess, infallible, supreme)
To teach, seducing many to unite the church with state,
Which thing is fornication—my return ye shou'd await.
And Balaam-like, this prophetess doth sacrifice the truth
To blasphemous creed idols, then she causeth thee to eat.
21 I gave her 'space' (a chronos), one full year, symbolic time,
(360 years, from 1160 to 1520 A. D.)
From Peter Waldo's message until Luther she condemned,
To show repentance for her sin, but she repented not.
22 Behold, I'll cast her down into a bed of strife and pain,
With all the rulers she enticed to welcome her legates,
Unless they all repent of her ungodly deeds of shame.
23 And I will kill her children—all the (non)protesting sects;
And every church shall know I search the minds and hearts of men;
And I will give to every one according to his deeds.
24 But unto those of Thyatira not in papal bonds,
As many as hold not this doctrine of the prophetess,
Which have not known the depth of Rome—of Satan, so to say:
None other burden will I put upon you, faithful ones;
25 But that which ye already have, hold fast until I come;
26 And he that overcometh, keeping faithful to the end
Will be a king and priest of God and reign upon the earth;
27 And he shall judge and rule the nations with a rod of iron,
And as a potter's vessel shall they all be broken down,
For this hath been decreed of God—by justice, wisdom, power:
28 And I will give myself to him—the bright and Morning Star. (22:16)
29 Hear thou, who hath an ear, these things I say unto the church."

CHAPTER III. THE LAST THREE EPOCHS AND MESSENGERS: Wycliffe, Luther and Russell.

1 And by the angel of the church in Sardis—John Wycliffe, (1378-1518)
Five centuries ere the harvest of the wheat and tares begins—
Write: "These things saith he that hath all knowledge, wisdom, power,
And holds the seven angels of the churches in his care:
I know thy works; thou makest claim to life, but thou art dead;
2 Be watchful, therefore; strengthen those in whom some life remains,
For I have found thy works are far from perfect in God's sight.
3 Remember how thou hast received and heard; hold fast, REFORM!
If therefore thou shalt not repent and give heed to my Word,
I'll come upon thee as a thief, thou shalt not know what hour.
4 But thou hast some in Sardis who have not defiled their robes,
And they shall walk with me in white, for worthy are these saints.
5 And he that overcometh this shall wear a raiment white,
And I will not blot out his name from out the book of life,
But will his name confess before my father and his hosts.
6 Hear thou, who hath an ear, the things I say unto the church."
7 And by the angel of the church in Philadelphia (1518-1874 A. D.)
(This messenger was Luther, who upheld the truth then due),
Write: "These things saith he, the Just and True, with David's key,
Who openeth the Scriptures, and whose door no man can shut,
And shuts the door to Antichrist, which none can open up:
8 I know thy reformation works; behold an open door:
Go spread thy message near and far, this door shall stand ajar;
For thou hast strength a little, and hast kept my Word and name.
9 Behold, of Satan's synagogues are they that spurn the light
And yet declare they're Israelites indeed, but they do lie.
Behold, I'll make them yet to come and worship at thy feet;
And in my coming kingdom thou shalt know my love for thee.
10 And now, because thou kept my word, and patience it enjoins,
I, too, will keep thee from that hour of trial yet to come
Upon the whole world which will try all men upon the earth.
11 Behold, my Day approaches, yea, my second coming nears;
Hold fast the faith which thou doth have, that no man take thy crown.
12 Of him that overcometh will I make a pillar, strong,
In that great Temple of my God, and he shall stand, unmoved;
And I will write upon his brow the title of my God: (14:1)
The name of God's great city, too—the New Jerusalem,
Which comes from God. And I will write upon him my new name.
13 Hear thou, who hath an ear, the things I say unto the church."
14 And by the seventh angel—Charles Taze Russell is his name,
That servant of Laodicea, in the harvest time— (1874-1918)
Write plainly to all 'Christendom': "Thus saith the amen,
The Witness, true and faithful, who began the church of God:
15 I know thy works, O daughters: thou art neither cold nor hot;
I would thou cease thy preaching, or else show warm zeal for truth.
16 So then, since thou art lukewarm, being neither hot nor cold,
REFRAIN THY MOUTH—I'll never more use thee to teach my Word.
17 Because thou sayest, 'I am rich with goods and nothing need',
And know not thou art wretched, naked, poor and blind, indeed,
I counsel thee to buy of me pure gold tried in the fire,
That thou might have true riches—persecutions for my sake.
Procure from me white raiment, that thy sins may be covered by,
And that thy filth and nakedness and shame do not appear.
Anoint, too, thine eyes of understanding with the salve
Of consecration: all who do God's will are made to see. (Jno. 7:17)
18 As many as I truly love I chasten and rebuke;
Be zealous, therefore; O repent; I warn thee finally!
19 Behold, I stand now at the door and knock: I've come to reign;
If any man will heed my voice I'll enter by the door
And sup with him, and he with me: we'll feast on truth divine.
20 To him that overcometh I will grant to sit with me
Upon my throne, as I overcame and sit and reign with God.
21 Hear thou, who hath an ear, the things I say unto the church."

CHAPTER IV.

THE HEAVENLY VISIONS: The Empyrean Setting. God on His Throne.

1 Now after this I looked; and lo, there stood an open door
To higher things disclosed to view, and voices which did speak.
Behold, the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet blast,
Which saith, "Come up hither, see these things to come to pass."
2 Immediately I found myself in spirit, and behold
A throne was set in heaven, and Jehovah sat thereon;
3 He looked like sparkling jasper and the colored sardine stone.
And, lo, a rainbow shone around the throne, as emerald;
4 And round about the throne were four and twenty lesser seats.
Upon these seats, in raiment white, were elders crowned with gold,
Personifying four and twenty prophets of the Lord.
5 And lightning flashed from out the throne, and voices thundered loud,
Portraying judgments of our God on nations great and proud;
And there were seven lamps of fire which burned before the throne,
The seven spirits of our God—his power to know all things.
6 Before the throne appeared a sea, as clear as crystal glass:
Transparent, through the prophets, is earth's restless, troubled mass;
And in the midst and round about the throne stood four great beasts;
With eyes innumerable they swept the future and the past.
7 The first beast JUSTICE did portray: his form was lion-like;
THE second beast portrayed God's POWER; he was like a calf;
The third beast LOVE divine did show: his face was like a man;
The fourth beast WISDOM symbolized: an eagle on the wing.
8 And these four beasts had each six wings, and they were full of eyes:
They operated day and night, six thousand evil years.
And eight times "Holy" shouted they, "Lord God Almighty, thou
Which was and is and is to come, and ever more shall be."
God's attributes thus give him praise throughout the night of sin,
And in the eighth millennium all creatures honor him;
9 And when those beasts forever give their glory, honor, thanks,
To him that sits upon the throne, Jehovah God, Amen,
10 The four and twenty elders all unite to give him praise;
They cast their crowns before his throne and magnify his name.
These elders are the prophecies which tell of God's great plans:
There's Enoch, Jacob, Moses, Samuel, Job and David's psalms;
Then Solomon, Isaiah and Ezekiel, Jeremiah,
And Daniel then Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah,
Then Jonah, Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk, Zephaniah;
And Zechariah, Haggai, then Malachi and John. (Matt. 11:11)
11 These praise him, saying, "Worthy, thou, O Lord our Lord and God
To thus receive all glory, honor, power forevermore,
For thou hast all things made, and for thy pleasure were they formed."

CHAPTER V.

THE SCROLL WITH SEVEN SEALS. The Executor of the Plan.

1 And I beheld in God's right hand a scroll—his plan divine,
Inscribed in front and on the back, and sealed with seven seals.
2 An angel strong—God's perfect Law—cried loud from Adam's time:
"What worthy one can take the book and loose the seals thereof?"
3 No angel from the realm above, nor man of earth below
Could take the book and read within, nor even look thereon;
4 I wept because no man was found to read nor understand.
5 An elder from before the throne—'twas Jacob's prophecy, (Gen. 49:9-10)
Spoke unto me, "Weep not; behold the Lion of Judah's tribe,
The Root of David hath prevailed, to loose the seven seals."
6 And I beheld, amid the throne and beasts and prophecies
Stood forth a Lamb, slain, as it were, with seven horns and eyes.
The seven horns are perfect power; his eyes omniscient are. (1:4; 3:1)
7 And then he came and took the book from out the Father's hand;
8 And when the book he took from him, the beasts and elders all
Fell down before the worthy Lamb, with harp and golden viols
Of odors, which are prayers of saints: all magnified his name.
9 They sang a new song never heard before, God's plan revealed;
And cried, "O worthy thou to take the book and break its seals,
For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed to God by thine own blood,
Thy saints from every kindred, tongue and nation of the earth;
10 And thou hast made them unto God a realm of priests and kings,
And they shall reign upon the earth, to judge and bless mankind."
11 And I beheld and heard the voice of angels round the throne,
Encompassing God's attributes and prophecies divine.
The number of these angels which I saw appeared to be
Ten thousand times ten thousand, yea, and countless thousands more.
12 They cried, "O worthy, Lamb of God, which hath for men been slain,
To have all riches, wisdom, honor, glory, blessing, power."
13 And every one in heaven, and on earth, and in the sea—
The unrestrained and wilful, whose death even gives him praise—
Heard I then all exclaiming: "Blessing, honor, glory, power
Be unto God the Father and to Christ forevermore."
14 The four beasts: Justice, Wisdom, Power and Love declared, "Amen";
And all the elders (prophecies) did magnify his name.

CHAPTER VI.

PRECURSORS OF THE FINAL CONFLICT. Six Seals and the Papacy.

1 And when the Lamb the first seal broke, behold, I saw and heard
The first beast (Lion—Justice) roar as thunder, "Come and see!"
2 I saw and, lo, a pure white horse—true doctrine from the Lord.
Had been subdued to carry that ambitious Man of Sin. (2 Thes. 2:3, 4)
He had a bow for evil and a crown upon his head,
And forth he went to conquer, and he conquered mightily.
3 And when he broke the second seal I heard the second beast,
The ox, God's attribute of Power, exclaiming, "Come and see."
4 And I beheld and, lo, there went another horse (a creed);
This one was red, imperfect, and great power was given him
Who sat thereon, the Antichrist, to take peace from the earth;
To kill, as teachers, every one who dared to speak the truth.
And there was given unto him a weapon for the fight,
But unlike Christ's sharp two-edged sword, his was a butcher knife.
5 And when the third seal he did break, I heard the third beast—Love.
Say, "Come and see": and lo, a horse (a creed) with error black.
The rider, papacy, did hold a pair of balance scales,
Thus symbolizing secrecy of truth and faithfulness.
6 And then I heard a voice which spake from God's four attributes,
Declaring wheat (the kingdom class) was scarce and hard to find,
But barley (faithless, unchaste ones) was far more plentiful.
In love God warned true Christians to preserve their oil and wine—
The spirit of Christ Jesus and the doctrines of the Lord.
7 And when the fourth seal he did break the fourth beast (Wisdom) spake.
The flying eagle sounded forth and bade me "Come and see—
These things, unwise though they may seem, I'll overrule for good."
8 I looked, and lo, another horse: this one was ghastly pale—
The doctrine of crusaders that no protestant shall live.
His name that sat thereon was Death, and Hades followed him;
And power was given unto him o'er Europe—earth's fourth part
(While Africa and Asia and America escaped),
To kill with sword and famine and with death of every sort,
By beastly civil powers which sanctioned mandates of the pope.
9 And when the fifth seal he did break—in Reformation days,
I saw beneath the altar, sacrificially in death,
The souls of men beheaded by the Word and truth of God;
10 And, like the blood of Abel, these did cry in justice loud: (Gen. 4:10)
"How long, O Lord, thou holy One and true, wilt thou not judge
And thus avenge our blood on them that dwell upon the earth!"

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The Persecution of Bible Students Ends....

By Prominent Bible Student.

CONSCIENTIOUS FOLLOWERS of the Master have always been misunderstood and ill-treated. Jesus was misunderstood and wickedly used. The servant is not above his master. Seemingly strange things result from war. Advantage is often taken of war conditions to inflict unjust punishment upon others, and this is usually done at the behest of the religionist.

On May 6, 1918, an indictment was returned to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against J. F. Rutherford, W. E. Van Amburgh, A. H. Macmillan, F. H. Robison, R. J. Martin, C. J. Woodworth, G. H. Fisher and G. De Cecca. These men were at the time engaged in doing the work of the International Bible Students Association, a religious association organized by the late Pastor Russell in 1879 and ever since devoted exclusively to the proclamation of Bible truths. As Christians they believed the Bible and followed it to the best of their ability. They are conscientiously opposed to engaging in combatant war service. Following the Scriptural admonition, "Thou shalt not kill," and "though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh"—at the annual meeting of this association in January, 1918, at Pittsburgh, a resolution stating its position on the war question was passed, and a special committee bearing the resolution waited upon President Wilson and read and presented it to him. Shortly thereafter the trouble of the Bible Students began.

"Associated Press" Peddles Lies.

Several years previous a small wireless instrument, with only a receiver and no sending apparatus, was erected on the roof of the Bethel Home, headquarters of the organization at Brooklyn, N. Y. It was used only by some young men who were trying to learn the code. When the United States entered the war in the spring of 1917, this wireless receiving apparatus was dismantled and stored in the basement. A year later, in the spring of 1918, some over-zealous agents of the secret service bureau had this little wireless instrument dug up out of the basement, and then through the aid of the Associated Press deliberately spread broadcast throughout the world the wickedly false statement that "the Russelites were maintaining on the roof of their building a powerful wireless apparatus, sufficient to send messages across the Atlantic to the Germans." The purpose of this deliberate falsehood is obvious, viz., to create public prejudice before the contemplated prosecution began. Ever since, the metropolitan press, duly prejudiced, has seized upon opportunities to misrepresent this Christian organization.

More than 30 years before the entrance of the United States into the world war, Pastor Russell began the publication of a series of seven books known as STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, announcing in the preface of the first that there would be a seventh. When he died in 1916 he remarked, "Some one else can finish this work." The seventh volume of this series is known as "The Finished Mystery."

Mask Off the Clergy.

When the war began, Congress enacted an Espionage law, the ostensible purpose of which is to detect and prosecute spies. The manuscript for "The Finished Mystery" was ready for the printer before the enactment of that law, practically all of it having been prepared before the country entered the war. The book is strictly religious and not political. It offers an explanation of Ezekiel's prophecy and the Revelation, for which Bible students had been waiting for 30 years or more. For a number of years orders for this book had been in the office of the association. Thirty-two thousand volumes were delivered within a week after its publication. Because of the great interest in these two mysterious books of the Bible, the book had a phenomenal circulation. It is well known by Bible students that a large portion of Revelation and a still larger portion of Ezekiel foretold the false, fraudulent and dishonest posi-

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THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN

Continued From Page One.

- 11 And there was given unto each a robe of spotless white; But ere they wear them, it was said that they must rest in death A little season (one chronos), a year—symbolic time, (1518-1878 A. D.) From Reformation days until their fellow servants and Their multitude of brethren sacrificed, as they had done: They then may walk with him in white, when all things are fulfilled.
- 12 And I beheld when he did break the sixth seal from the scroll And, lo, an earthquake which did shake the earth in freedom's name— A mighty revolution in the land of shadowed wings. (1776 A. D.—[Isa. 18:1]) The papal sun became eclipsed—the pope lost civil power; (1799 A. D.) The papal moon became as blood—repugnant all her creeds; The papal stars, the hierarchy, fell from lofty heights Of dignity and power, as green figs shaken by the wind.
- 13 The heavens (churches), protestant and papal then did cease To be antagonistic: they did roll up, federate. And every mountain (kingdom) and the autocratic hills Were routed from their places by the presence of the Lord.
- 14 The kingly aristocracy and lordly clergy, too, And captains of industry and the mighty labor chiefs, And every bondman, freeman, of whatever craft they be, Began to hide in fortresses of unions and of trusts;
- 15 They said unto the governments and combines, "Fall on us, And hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, And from the wrath of Jesus in this dreadful evil day;
- 16 For Armageddon wrath is come, and who of us shall stand!"

CHAPTER VII.

SEALING OF THE ELECT. A Great Multitude Seen.

- 1 And after this I looked and, lo, a messenger did stand (Matt. 24:31) Upon each corner of the earth: these were the harvest saints Which gathered God's elect from north and south and east and west. They held the four winds of the earth, the powers of Satan's realm Which were to cause, when once released, a whirlwind terrible; And would not let them blow, as yet, on earth nor sea nor trees: And thus the harvest work delayed the evil spirits' scheme To hurt society and try the masses and the saints. (Isa. 61:3)
 - 2 Another Angel, then, I saw ascending from the east: This was the Sun of Righteousness, who held the seventh seal; (Mal. 4:2) And, through the harvest messenger, he spake with voice distinct (3:4) Unto the harvest workers in all quarters of the earth To whom it had been given, through their harvest work well done, To haste the winds of trouble which would hurt the earth and sea.
 - 3 Said he, "Hurt not the earth nor sea nor trees of righteousness Until we seal God's servants all, with truth within their minds;"
 - 4 And then I heard the number of the sealed and faithful saints; One hundred forty and four thousand Israelites indeed;
 - 5 Of Juda (meaning celebrated) were twelve thousand sealed; The first place thus is given to the tribe which bore our Lord. (5:5) Of Reuben (meaning pity of the Lord) twelve thousand sealed; The second place belongs to those who suffer much for God, Of Gad (a troop he bringeth) there were sealed twelve thousand saints: The third place thus belongs to those who sow much seed of truth.
 - 6 Of Aser (meaning happy) were twelve thousand servants sealed; "Rejoicing though in trouble" is the spirit of all these. Of Nephthim (great wrestlings) there were sealed 12,000 more; The fifth place, therefore, goes to those who wrestle much in prayer. Manasses means forgetting; in this tribe twelve thousand were: These saints forget those things behind, and run well for the prize. (Phil. 3:13, 14)
 - 7 Of Simeon (he hears I was despised), twelve thousand sealed; The seventh honor goes to those much hated for the truth. Of Levi (meaning joinings) were twelve thousand servants sealed; These sacrifice all earthly things to join themselves to God. (Jos. 14:4) Of Issachar, who "bowed to bear," were sealed 12,000 more; (Gen. 49:15) The ninth place goes to those consumed with zeal for God and truth.
 - 8 Of Zabulon (a dwelling) were twelve thousand servants sealed; These laid their treasures up above, and longed to dwell with God. Of Benjamin (a son of favor) were twelve thousand sealed; These sympathized and suffered thus with martyred brethren slain. (Heb. 10:33)
- And, lastly, Joseph's tribe contained twelve thousand faithful ones, All characters of virtue, blessed by birth, and constant proved.
- 9 And then I saw a multitude whose number no man knew, Of every nation, people, tongue; they stood before the throne, And thus before the Lamb of God, all clothed with robes made white, And palms of martyrdom they held—companions of the bride.
 - 10 They cried in loud exultant praise, "Salvation to our God Upon the throne eternal, and unto the worthy Lamb."
 - 11 And all the angels stood around about Jehovah's throne, Encompassing the prophecies and attributes divine. (4:7, 10) And fell upon their faces and they worshipped and adored.
 - 12 Said they, "Amen, all blessing, wisdom, honor, thanks and power Be unto God, the mighty One, both now and evermore."
 - 13 Then one among the elders (twas Isaiah) said to me: (Isa. 1:10-20) "Who are these here arrayed in robes made white, and whence came they?"
 - 14 And then I said unto him, "Sir, thy prophecy declares."
 - 15 Then answered he, "These servants, with their hands in Jesus' blood Came through great tribulation, and therein they washed their robes." They therefore, stand before the throne and serve God day and night Within his living temple, and he knoweth every one.
 - 16 They shall not hunger any more, nor thirst for truth divine, Nor shall the Sun of Righteousness rebuke these saints again.
 - 17 The Lamb shall be their Shepherd and shall give them lasting life, And God shall wipe away all tears of sorrow from their eyes.

CHAPTER VIII.

WHAT THE SEVENTH SEAL DISCLOSED. The Reformation Trumpets Understood.

- 1 And when the seventh seal was fully opened by the Lamb (1917-18) A silence brief did follow, for the space of half an hour In 'Christendom', then forthwith it did storm and thunder loud.
- 2 And then I saw the meaning of things hitherto obscure: I saw the seven angels which had stood before the Lord, To whom were given reformation trumpets long ago.
- 3 And then another angel, whose great reformation work Surpassed all other movements—a SOCIETY of saints, Which waited on the Master at the place of sacrifice, And held a golden censor—instrument which carried fire: A reformation message which did burn and cause much trial. To him was freely given much incense (heart-faithfulness) That he should offer it to God with prayers of all the saints, Upon the golden altar in the holy, near the veil.
- 4 The fragrant smoke of incense, mingling with the prayers of saints, Ascended up before the Lord from out this angel's hand.
- 5 The angel took the censor, which he filled with altar fire— With burning truths of prophecies concerning 'Christendom'— And hurled it forcibly into the so-called Christian world. (22:10) Then there were controversies, and the lightning rent the sky; Upheavals in society occurred at this hour.
- 6 I saw the seven angels with the trumpets prepared to sound, Which, till the censor was cast forth I could not understand.
- 7 The first reform trumpet sounded—Martin Luther's loud protest; His five and ninety theses were as hail (distressing truths) Upon the papal priesthood; and as fire his message was, (1517 A. D.) Though mixed somewhat with error; yet, when cast into the earth The German part of 'Christendom' was burned, both trees and grass: Both saints of God and natural men (as Papists) ceased to be. (Isa. 61:3; 40:6)
- 8 And then the second reformation trumpet began to sound: (1532 A. D.) And lo, the British kingdom, as a mountain all aflame, Was cast into the turbulent, protesting human sea. But through death-dealing errors still retained within her creed, Episcopalian England turned truth's waters into blood.
- 9 And all the creatures (clergy) of this part of 'Christendom' Possessing life (?)—"succession" from the popes and priests of Rome— Were excommunicated; thus these false apostles died. (2:2) The non-conformist bodies of this part of 'Christendom' Which floated independently, as ships upon the sea— The Lollards, and all others—were absorbed, and ceased to be.

- 10 The third trump of the reformation then began to sound; (1535 A. D.) And from the papal heavens a great priestly star did fall In France: his name was Calvin—shining as it were a lamp. He fell upon the rivers of this part of 'Christendom'— On channels of religious thought proceeding from the Word.
- 11 The name which God gave unto him—so bitter was his creed— Was 'Wormwood', for much bitterness did follow in his wake, And God was blasphemed: for that creed predestined men to hell; And many portions of the truth were made to taste as gall; Yea, spiritually, many died: so bitter seemed the Word.

- 12 The fourth reform trumpet sounded, and the Baptist movement spread; But much light from the gospel sun, and moon (Mosaic law), And from the apostolic stars, was hidden by their creed. (About 1536 A. D.)

- 13 The Day of Christ was darkened and the night of sin obscured; Through failure to discern unfulfilled prophecies of 'old.' And I beheld (when thus the seventh seal was opened up) An eagle, flying swiftly through the heavens, crying loud, (Matt. 24:23) Explaining that the fifth and sixth and seventh trumpets are woes To 'Christendom', preparatory to her overthrow.

CHAPTER IX. THE FIFTH AND SIXTH TRUMPS. Two Reformation Woes.

- 1 The fifth reform trumpet sounded, and I saw another star, (1728 A. D.) Who fell not from the papal realm but from the protestant; This star was good John Wesley, founder of the Methodists.
- 2 His key unlocked no Scriptures; but the truths which had been taught By previous reformers, he confused and misapplied, Until a smoke arose and darkened truth, also the air— The reformation heavens—a precursor of their fall.
- 3 But Wesley's confused teachings drew a following immense: Like locusts they assembled and went forth to save the world; And power to capture members through tormenting threats of hell, Was given them, as scorpions of earth do capture prey.
- 4 But powerless were these locusts to consume the grass or trees— (Isa. 40:6; 61:3) The men of independent thought, or upright saints of God— But only those who had no seal of truth within their minds.
- 5 These locusts did not speak of death as sin's reward or wage; (Rom. 6:23) Their creed declared that sinners, all, were doomed to endless pain; And thus they taught for five full months (symbolic time, of course), (Ezek. 4:6) From Wesley's ordination till Christ said, "Refrain thy mouth." (3:6) (150 years, A. D. 1728-1878)
- 6 The torment of their teachings was as serpents when they sting. And in those days of darkness all reform was on the wane: Some sought the Bible doctrine that "the wage of sin is death," But could not find it anywhere within the creeds of men; Such longed to see God's justice vindicated, but despaired.
- 7 The likeness of the locusts was as steeds prepared for war; And on their heads were, as it were, the crowns of kings divine— Their confused doctrine falsely taught that they were spirit-born, But, lo, they were not born of God—their faces were as men.
- 8 Their hair was as a woman's, which did cover them about; This covering was their glory—they did trust in Jesus' blood. (1 Cor. 11:15)

- 9 Their teeth were as a lion's: they did eat obnoxious food— The errors of the devil—while they sounded forth his roar. (1 Pet. 5:8)
- 10 Their false breastplates of righteousness appeared sound, but alas, The holiness of flesh they sought could never be acquired, (1 John 1:8-10) But as they flew with energy to save the world from sin Their shoutings and exhortings were as chariots of war.
- 11 Their tails (their teachers)—"prophets that teach lies" concerning hell Were as the deadly scorpion which poisons as he stings; (See Isa. 9:15) And by their tails they injured men for five symbolic months. (vs. 5) These have their king: the angel of the bottomless abyss, (Eph. 2:2) Whose name, expressed in Hebrew, is 'Abaddon'—prince of death; But in the Greek, 'Apollyon'—destroyer of the earth. (2 Cor. 4:4)
- 12 One woe in 'Christendom' is past; behold, now, two woes more. (8:13)

- 13 The sixth reform trumpet sounded, after Methodism failed: (1846 A. D.) A Protestant (and spiritist) Alliance was designed, To give more power and prestige to the Protestant reform; It meant to fortify the sects, but God disdained them more. I heard a voice (twas Miller) from the place of sacrifice, Which voice did split the churches and thus urged the clergy on To form, for self-protection, their Alliance and their creed; And thus unto this angel with the trumpet he did speak: "Loose ye your four strong spirits bound within the Euphrates— Give them their baneful liberty within the Christian world." These spirits are four errors which the great Alliance gave As fundamental principles for Christians to believe: First, TRINITY, then INCARNATION of the Son of God, And IMMORTALITY of man, and LORDSHIP in the church. These four were loosed, a woe indeed, prepared for that great hour Of judgment, at the end of those thirteen symbolic months (Ez. 4:5-6) Of their "reform", when God shall laugh and hold them up to scorn, Ere which they slew the third of men—all Protestants of earth.
- 14 The number of the army of the horsemen—Protestants— Were then two hundred thousand thousand, as I heard it said.
- 15 And thus I saw the horses (creeds) in vision, every one, And they that sat upon them, having breastplates of jacinth And fire and brimstone—teachings which they always kept in front. Their heads were as a lion's, and their mouths did issue fire And smoke and brimstone—doctrines of the horrors of the damned.
- 16 By these plagues were the third of men, the Protestants of earth, Deprived of reason by the fire and brimstone and the smoke Which issued from the mouths of those who taught the frightful creeds.
- 17 The power of these creeds-horses is within their fearful mouths And in their tails—their "prophets which teach lies" concerning hell; (Isa. 9:15)

- 18 These tails are wise as serpents, but not harmless as the doves: They're heady and high-minded, and they hurt the cause of truth. The rest of men, the unconverted, which these plagues killed not, Were unrepentant, worshipping the devils if they chose, And idols of gold, silver, copper—money was their god— And stone and wood, their properties, and every earthly thing; Which idols cannot see nor hear nor walk nor save their souls.
- 19 But, notwithstanding all the creedal threats of hellish pain For all the unconverted, these repented not of sin: Of murders, nor of sorceries, nor wickedness, nor thefts.

CHAPTER X. THE TRUE REFORMATION WOE. God's Plan Revealed.

- 1 I saw another Angel—earth's new King, who came to reign, Amid the clouds of trouble; and the hair upon his head Was as it were the sun; the face of him also did shine; The feet of him were tried by fire and glowed resplendently.
- 2 He held within his hand an open book—the plan divine. He sat his right foot on the sea, the masses to restrain; And set his left upon the earth, to crush the plans of men.
- 3 And, through the harvest messenger, he, like a roaring lion, (3:14) Demanded "justice for the people" from the lords of Zion; And, after food had been supplied for thinking Christian minds, The voice of seven thunders, God's whole plan was manifest.
- 4 And whatsoever these thunders spake, I, John, desired to write; But then I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me: "Seal up the things these thunders say, and write them not, as yet."
- 5 And then the Angel who did stand upon the sea and land, The King of kings and Lord of lords did lift his strong right hand And swear by him who lives forevermore, Jehovah God, Creator of the heavens and the things that therein are, amen. The earth, also, and all the things that therein are, amen. That there is time no longer—"there shall be no more delay!" (Weymouth)
- 6 But in the days of harvest, when the seventh angel spake, (3:14) God's mystery was finished, for the Gospel call had ceased, (A. D. 1881) As shown unto his prophets and unto his harvest saints.
- 7 The voice which spake from heaven, even God, spake once again And said: "Go take the message of the little book—my plan— Now open in the Angel's hand, who stands on sea and land."
- 8 I went unto the Angel, from my bondage, and I said: "Give me the little book," and he exclaimed, "Take, eat it up; But it shall cause thee bitter trials, persecutions sore; Yet unto thee its message shall be sweet as honeycomb."

- 10 I took the little book from out the Angel's hand and ate, And in my mouth its message was as honey to my taste; And when I had consumed it I was satisfied and filled.
- 11 And then he said unto me: "Thou must prophesy these things Before all peoples, nations, kindreds, tongues and also kings." (Psa. 149:8, 9)

CHAPTER XI.

EVENTS FORESHADOWING THE TIME OF THE END. The Temple Measured. The Two Witnesses.

- 1 A reed to me was given, which was like unto a rod— The Word of God; to measure, and also to lean upon. It saith, "Rise and measure that great temple (church) of God, Its sacrificing spirit and its worship, faith and love; But measure not the court without the temple," saith he, "For it pertaineth not unto the priesthood, but the world." The holy city, saith God, shall under foot be trod For two and forty months of papal power (symbolic time). (Ezek. 4:6) And unto my two witnesses (the Bible) I'll give power; And they shall speak a thousand and two hundred, three score years In sackcloth (in dead languages) by papacy's decree. (539 to 1799 A. D.)
- 2 These two parts of the Scriptures, the Old Testament and New, Are two symbolic Olive Trees where oil (my spirit) dwells; Two golden candlesticks are they, which stand before the Lord.
- 3 If any man desireth to corrupt these Witnesses, Then fire proceedeth from their mouths, devouring mightily; If any man will hurt them they will slay him with the truth. (Hos. 6:5)
- 4 These Witnesses have power to prophesy and hinder rain. (Jas. 5:17) To turn the waters into blood, and smite the earth with plagues. (Ex. 7:21)
- 5 And when their days of prophecy in sackcloth are fulfilled, The beast that then ascendeth from the bottomless abyss (The revolutionary state of France in "Terror's Reign") Shall then make war against them, and shall overpower them both.
- 6 And then in deadly silence shall they lie within that street, Or avenue of 'Christendom', the Sodom of this age, Which, like that ancient city, has been doomed to be destroyed; Which also is called Egypt, where the Lord was crucified— A land of sin and idols, where Christ's body has been slain. (Acts 9:4, 5)
- 7 The Protestants of Europe, of all kindreds, nations, tongues, Shall see these Witnesses suppressed for three and one-half years (By order of Assemblies, which proscribed the bless-ed Word); (1793-1796)
- 8 But Christians will not let the Bible thus be hid from view.
- 9 Yet, all the earthly minded ones—the infidels of France), Rejoice in festal merriment to see the Scriptures killed, Because these two great Prophets, the Old Testament and New, Rebuke and torment all those unbelieving terrorists.
- 10 And after three and one-half years these Prophets came to life And stood upon their feet again—the ban had been revoked; (1796) And great fear fell upon those men who previously had scoffed.
- 11 The Witnesses then heard a voice commanding them Arise; And they ascended up to God, exalted in men's minds, Amid a cloud of trouble; and their enemies beheld.
- 12 At this same time an earthquake shock (a revolution great) Occurred in France, and that tenth part of 'Christendom' did fall; (Dan. 7:24)

- 13 And in this earthquake seven thousand titled men were slain As noblemen; and all the rest were made to fear the Lord.
- 14 I measured with the reed until the second woe was past (8:13; 9:12, 13) (The sixth trump—that great Protestant and Spiritist Alliance, Designed to fortify the sects, but hastened their defeat); And now, behold the third woe upon Babylon—the TRUTH. (Chap. 10)
- 15 The seventh angel sounded, in the harvest of the age. (A. D. 1874) And there were voices many, which the saints did freely spread Throughout the Christian heavens, saying, "Lo, the realm of earth Will soon become the Kingdom of our LORD and of his Christ, And he shall reign to bless mankind forevermore. Amen." (4:10)
- 16 And then I saw the four and twenty elders (prophecies) Which sit before Jehovah, fall before him and give praise.
- 17 They cried, "We give thee thanks, O Lord, our God, which art and wast, Because thou now hast taken unto thee thy power, and reigned. The nations all were angry, and thy wrath is justly come; (Zeph. 3:8, 9) And now the resurrection, when earth's dead shall all be judged; Thy prophets and thy saints shall now receive their full reward, Yea, every one on earth that fears thy name, both small and great; But those false systems which corrupt the earth thou wilt destroy."
- 18 The church of God was then revealed above the sects of men, And in his temple there was seen an ark, the testament Of God: a final exposition of his harvest truth.
- 19 And lightnings rent the heavens and great voices thundered forth; (8:5) An earthquake shook society, and hail deluged the earth. (16:21; Job 38:22, 23)

CHAPTER XII.

THE BIRTH OF ANTI-CHRIST. Its Rise, Prosperity and Decline.

- 1 I looked and saw a wonder in earth's spiritual realm: A woman (twas the early church) clothed with the gospel sun; The moon (the Law) was not her light, but gave her its support, While on her head a crown of stars (apostles, twelve) shone forth.
- 2 This woman, once a virgin, I beheld now great with child. The mystery of Iniquity was working in her midst. (2 Thes. 2:7) She cried, travailing much in birth, and pained to be relieved.
- 3 And there appeared another sight: a dragon, red with blood; 'Twas Pagan Rome, with seven heads—its seven stable powers, And, formerly, ten horns, or powers (before three were removed); (Dan. 7:7, 20)

- 4 The Greeks and Lombards, Ostrogoths and Vandals, Heruli, The Franks and Britons, Visigoths, the Saxons and Suevi, (The Heruli and Ostrogoths and Vandals disappeared, And papacy did then assume great power upon their ruins.) Upon the dragon's seven heads were seven kingly crowns.
- 5 The dragon's tail (twas Constantine, Rome's last great pagan king) Drew unto him a third of all the bishops of the church— Those false apostles, wand'ring stars, ordained of men, not God—(2:2) Convened the Council of Nice, dictated its false creed. (325 A. D.) And thus did cast those stars to earth: he paganized their minds. The dragon then did stand before the woman in travail, Expecting to devour her child as soon as it was born;
- 6 And finally she bore the child, "the man of sin"—a pope, Who was to rule the nations with a rod of iron, as Christ, Whose vicar he did claim to be, assuming pomp and power, And thus pretentiously he sat as God upon his throne.
- 7 The woman, thus delivered, standing free from papacy (All Christians with fidelity to truth and righteousness), Then fled into the wilderness of solitude—outcast, Where she was nourished by the Lord, within his 'secret place' (Psa. 91:1) By those who dared to read the Word and speak its truths divine, A thousand and two hundred, and three score symbolic days, (Ezek. 4:6) Until the papal civil power was crushed by Bonaparte. (539-1799 A. D.)

- 8 And there was war in heaven—Pagan Rome against the pope; And Michael (meaning "who as God")—the pope—and his prelates Did fight against the dragon for supremacy of earth. The dragon and his forces fought to hold religious power, But they prevailed not over him—the papacy triumphed. The dragon, thus defeated, ceased to hold his former place, And Pagan Rome, victorious, rejoiced and cried aloud:
- 9 "The dragon, paganism, that old serpent, Satan-like, Which hath deceived the world by claiming sacerdotal power, Hath now, alas, been cast to earth, with all its pagan priests." From out the papal heavens they did shout exultantly: "And now is come salvation, strength, the kingdom of our God, And let us call it 'Christendom', because the power of Christ Is exercised among us by the vicar of the Lord, By whom the great accuser of our brethren was cast down: The dragon, which accused them in God's sight continually.
- 10 But now they've overcome him by the blood and cross of Christ, And by the creeds of councils and decretals of the popes; And loved they not their lives but sacrificed them for the church. Rejoice, therefore, ye heavens, and all ye that dwell therein— Thou Vicar of Jehovah and the hierarchy all; And woe to ye inhabitants of earth and of the sea, For now the devil, Pagan Rome, is cast down to your plane, And having wrath because he sees God's kingdom now is come, And therefore knows his time is short, and papacy supreme."

(Continued on Page Three.)

THE PERSECUTION OF BIBLE (Continued From Page One.)

tion that many clergymen would take, and the explanation of these books would necessarily expose a certain class of religionists throughout the world who have been misrepresenting the Lord. When Jesus spoke to the Pharisees it angered them. He said the same thing would happen to his followers. The explanation of these prophetic books published in "The Finished Mystery" tore the mask off of these religionists and exposed them to the gaze of the world. Several hundred of them met in convention at Philadelphia and passed a resolution asking Congress to amend the Espionage law, adding the death penalty. A high army official informed the Bible Students that this was intended to get them. Thus history repeats itself.

Present-day Heretic Hunter.

There happened to be called to the Department of Justice a gentleman, who is no longer associated in that government service, bearing the distinguished name of John Lord O'Brian, well known from his previous record as a heretic-hunter, who vigorously prosecuted one Dr. Crosey of Rochester because he dared to take a position different from his co-religionists. It just happened that the work of looking after the International Bible Students Association fell into John Lord O'Brian's hands, and he vigorously chased them. In a report prepared by him and which appears in the Congressional Record of May 4, 1918, this statement is made: "The International Bible Students Association pretends to the most religious motives, yet we have found that its headquarters have long been reported as a resort of German agents." Did the writer of this report deliberately lie, or was he recklessly making statements based upon unsupported evidence?

No Pro-German Activities Found.

Not one German agent was ever about the premises of the International Bible Students Association. Not one word of testimony has been obtained or could be obtained indicating that they had anything to do with the Germans; and with the zealous and active agents hunting evidence surely some would have been found had it existed. That they were active in trying to find some is proven by the fact that these agents seized the books of account of the

(Continued on Page Three.)

Prayer Meeting Topics

WEEK BEGINNING JUNE 3.

Text: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech, there are no words, their voice is not heard; but their melody extendeth through all the earth, and to the end of the world their words.—Psa. 19: 1-4 (Leaser).

The magnificent pageantry of the heavens daily and nightly should elicit our praise and adoration, and should inspire in our hearts holy and reverent devotion. Let the noiseless activity, the perfect obedience to divine law, and the blessed shining of the heavenly hosts, impress their wholesome lessons upon us—of zealous activity without commotion or ostentation; of perfect obedience to the will of him who doeth all things well, who is too wise to err and too good to be unkind; and of letting the glory of the Lord which has illuminated us shine from us in turn upon every beholder.

WEEK BEGINNING JUNE 10.

Text: Lord, Teach us to pray.—Luke 11:1.

In brief, our prayers, to be acceptable to God, must express confident faith, loving esteem and reverence, full sympathy with the divine plan and submission to the divine will, childlike dependence upon God, acknowledgment of sins and shortcomings and desire for forgiveness, with a forgiving disposition on our part toward others, and an humble craving for the divine guidance and protection. These may not always all be expressed in words, but such must at least be the attitude of the soul. Those who thus come to God are privileged always to have their interests considered at the throne of grace, and the welcome we shall always find there may be judged of by the cordial invitations to come often and tarry long. Well might we hesitate to avail ourselves of such privileges were we not thus assured, but having this assurance we may come with confidence to the throne of grace.—Heb. 4:16; 13:6.

THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN

(Continued From Page Two.)

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth
He sought the pope's approval, and did persecute the saints—
The true church, independent of the papal Antichrist. (1 Jno. 2:18, 19)
14 And God gave her two eagle wings (Old Testament and New)
That she might fly in safety out into the wilderness.
Into her 'secret place' where she was nourished by the Lord (Psa. 91:1)
For three and one-half years of papal power (symbolic time) (vs. 6)
Away from Satan, that old Serpent, who did try her faith.
15 The Serpent then, about the end of these symbolic days—
Transformed into an angel of the light—cast from his mouth
A flood of truth concerning Rome and wrongful priestly power
Which turned a mad, revolting France to infidelity.
And thus he hoped the saints would be destroyed by the flood.
16 The earth, however, helped the church and opened wide its mouth
And swallowed up the flood of truth the Dragon-Serpent cast,
And would not let the Man of Sin again ascend to power.
17 The Dragon-Serpent then was wrath with all the church of God,
And went to make war with her seed who keep the Lord's commands,
And all who have within their minds the precious truth of God.
(Gal. 3:29; 4:2)

CHAPTER XIII.

THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE: Papacy and Federated Protestantism.

1 I stood upon the border of the time of trouble (sea).
And there beheld the meaning of the vision of the beasts:
I saw a beast (the papacy) rise up from out the sea
Of discontented masses in the days of Constantine.
He had ten horns and seven heads, usurped from pagan Rome. (12:3)
His crowns were transposed from the heads and placed upon the horns:
He ruled thus indirectly through the powers with which he joined.
And written on his heads I saw a most blasphemous name:
The name I saw was 'Christendom' (Christ's Kingdom—falsely claimed).
2 This beast I saw was like unto a leopard which has spots—
His policies he differed as he deemed expedient.
His feet were as a bear's feet, so persistent were his claims:
His mouth was as a lion's (which, of course, is king of beasts):
The pope did thus profess to be the greatest power of earth.
The dragon (pagan Rome), while Constantine was on the throne,
Did give his power upon the beast and moved his seat from Rome
Unto Constantinople, and then papacy arose. (12:3)
3 (The dragon's) papal head was later wounded nigh to death
By reason of the Reformation, but its wound was healed.
And all the earth eventually didst wonder at the beast. (Dan. 7:7, 20)
4 The papists praised the dragon for surrendering his power,
His temporal authority, unto the pope of Rome.
And then they worshipped and adored the beast instead of Christ.
And said, "O who is like unto the beast in all the earth,
And who is able to make war against his sovereign power!"
5 And there was given unto him a mouth of boastfulness (Daniel 7:8, 25)
Which spoke great things and blasphemies through many monstrous bulls;
And power was given unto him to do what'er he willed.
Till two and forty months (symbolic time) had been fulfilled. (12:6)
6 His mouth in blasphemies didst speak against God and his saints,
Against the true church of the Lord which dwells with him by faith.
7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints
And thus to wear their flesh away, but not their faithfulness.
(Dan. 7:21; 8:24)

And power was given him to rule all peoples, nations, tongues.
8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall bow before the beast,
Except the saints whose names are written in that Book of Life
Belonging to the Lamb slain from before the fall of man.
9 If any man doth have an ear then let him understand.
10 And he that leaeth men into captivity to Rome,
He must himself become a captive of its subtle power.
And they that wield the Sword of truth against the papal beast,
As heretics, seditionists, they surely shall be slain.
And thereby shall the saints reveal their patience and their faith.
11 And I beheld another beast arising from the earth;
Though like a lamb, he had two horns and civil (dragon) power—
The church and state of England and of Ireland combined.
12 This second beast did exercise much power like papacy,
And caused the Protestants of earth to honor that first beast
By calling it the 'mother church'—and thus its wound was healed. (13:3)
13 This second beast did wonders in the sight of Protestants,
And, by deception, showed that God accepted all its works (1 Ki. 18:38)
By "proving" Apostolic (?) Ordination of its priests.
14 It thus deceived the Protestants of every sect and creed
By pompous claims and mysticism, strange, seductive works
Performed with power convincing in the presence of the earth,
Suggesting, by example, that all other sects should make
A Protestant Alliance—a great image to the beast
Which had been wounded by the Sword of truth and yet did live.
15 And, with his "apostolic ordination" he had power
To give unto the image of the beast vitality,
That thus this federation of the churches should then speak
In boldness to the civil powers and cause all Protestants,
Who would not recognize the mighty image, to be slain;
16 And thus the small and great, the poor and rich, the bond and free
Were forced by him to show a mark of full right-hand support,
Or else to manifest a mental sanction of its power.
17 And none could buy or sell—exchange his views concerning truth
Save he that had approval of the beast through membership
In that great Federation of (non)Protestants, or else
Doth bear the name of "Papist", or consents to that false claim
Contained within the number of the pope's imposing name—
That he, by God's appointment, is the Vicar of the Christ,
And that the "Christian" clergy speak and act by right divine.
18 And here, behold, is wisdom: ingenuity supreme;
Let him with understanding count the number of the beast,
For lo, it is the number of the head of Antichrist:
The title on his mitre counts six hundred, three score, six:
"VICARIVS" and "FILII" and "DEI"; add them up—
Each letter which hath value as a Roman numeral:

V — 5
I — 1
C — 100
A — 0
R — 0
I — 1
V — 5
S — 0

F — 0
I — 1
L — 50
I — 1
I — 1

D — 500
E — 0
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666

NOTE: The three words, VICARIVS FILII DEI (Vicar of the Son of God) is the most used title of the pope of Rome, and appears in blazing letters on his celebrated crown in the Vatican museum. The word VICARIVS is on the top portion of the three-fold crown, or mitre. The word FILII is on the second circlet, made with dark, shining, precious jewels. The word DEI is on the under part of the mitre, or tiara, and is made of one hundred brilliant diamonds.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE HARVEST OF THE SAINTS.

The Fall of Babylon. The Vine of the Earth Is Reaped and Crushed
By the Winepress of God.

1 I looked upon Mount Zion and, behold, there stood a Lamb, (1881)
And with him were an hundred forty and four thousand called,
Who had the names of Jesus and Jehovah in their minds.
2 I heard a voice from heaven as the sound of many tongues,
And as the voice of thunders, making known the harvest truths.
The voice was rich with harmony; they played the Harp of God; (15:2)

3 They sang a sweet new song about the elders, beasts and throne, (4:4, 6)
And none could learn to sing that song except the faithful ones—
The hundred forty and four thousand saints redeemed from earth.
4 Now these are they which weren't defiled by unchaste creedal sects,
For they are virgins of the Lamb, and walked where'er he led.
Redeemed were they from men, by Christ, the first fruits unto God.
5 And in their mouths was found no lie, for they are faultless white.
6 I saw a messenger that flew throughout the Christian realm
Which had the gospel undefiled, the everlasting truth:
'Twas STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, Volume One, the Plan Divine,
Proclaiming unto peoples, kindreds, nations, tongues of earth.
7 It spake with voice distinctly: "Fear the Lord and give him praise,
For lo, the hour of judgment nighs, the DAWN of earth's New Day;
And worship thou the Lord who made the heavens, earth and sea,
And study thou the Scriptures, which are fountains of the truth."
8 There followed, lo, another one, a second—Volume Two:
It bared the "Man of Sin" which must precede the Day of Christ,
(2 Thes. 2:2, 3)

And showed, indeed, the time at hand for Babylon to fall
Because of church-state mixture—fornication in God's sight. (2:14)
9 And then another angel—Volume Three—did follow them:
It cried aloud, "If any man shall worship papacy, (C, ch. 2, 4, 6)
Or praise his image and receive his mark in mind or hand (13:16, 17)
The same shall drink the wine of wrath of God: rebuking truths
Poured out unmixed with error—great his indignation is;
And such shall be tormented by their fire and brimstone creeds
Before the harvest workers in the presence of the Lord.
10 The smoke of their tormenting creeds ascend forevermore,
And they shall have no rest that worship that great papal beast,
Or praise his image by becoming members of the same;
11 And hereby shall the patience of the saints be manifest,
All they who keep God's teachings, and the faith of Jesus Christ."
12 And as I pondered over all the things thus far made known
I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Blessed are the dead
Which die henceforth in Jesus; yea, they're blest forevermore;
They rest from tiring labors, but their works continue on." (C-306)
13 I then beheld a purifying trouble, as a cloud,
And on it one was sitting like unto the Son of Man;
His head displayed a golden crown, his hand a sickle sharp,
The harvest then did prosper, as the set of three went forth.
(Vols. I—II—III)

14 And lo, another messenger from out his temple came— (C-309)
That pyramidal temple to the Lord in Egypt's land, (Isa. 19:19, 20)
And cried in language plainly, through its silent measurements,
To him that sat upon the cloud: "Thrust in thy sickle, reap; (C-341)
The harvest of the earth is ripe, the reaping time is come."
15 And he that sat upon the cloud to guide the world's affairs
Thrust in his sickle on the earth and reaped the wheat and tares.

The Vine of the Earth Reaped.

16 And lo, another messenger from out the Temple came:
This Temple was in Heaven; and the angel, who was he?
That wise and faithful servant of the harvest of the age,
To whom had been committed all the store of harvest truths,
Who, now although in glory, was to reap the vine of earth.
(Matt. 24:45-47)
17 Another angel came from out the altar, near the veil;
A sacrificing priesthood, a SOCIETY of saints
Which soon did hold a censer filled with burning coils of fire, (8:3-5)
The flaming truths of prophecy against great Babylon:
He cried in disappointment, for that servant now had gone
To whom had been committed that sharp sickle (present truth)
Without his having finished all the foretold harvest work—
The long awaited task of reaping that great vine of earth.
The altar-angel cried: "O canst thou trust thy sickle sharp
And gather all the clusters of that evil vine of earth—
That false religious system, Catholic and Protestant—
The kingdom time is nearing, and her grapes are fully ripe!"
18 The angel from the Temple, then thrust in his sickle sharp:
With truth he cut the clusters of the creedal vine of earth,
And forthwith brought it under wrathful pressure of the Lord.
20 The winepress, which the saints may thus identify with ease,
Was trodden from the city where the censer was cast forth,
A distance of a thousand and two hundred stadia,
Which winepress crushed the creeds until their blood flowed deep and wide

CHAPTER XV.

THE SEVEN PLAGUES OF TRUTH.

The Song of the Harvest Saints.

1 I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous. (Matt. 24:30)
The sign of Jesus' presence: I saw seven messengers
Prepared to pour on Babylon their seven plagues of truth—
The STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, seven volumes of rebukes,
For in them is contained the wrathful message of the Lord.
2 I saw a sea transparent: time of trouble, clear as glass,
And mingled with the fire of coming anarchy on earth.
And them that won the victory over beast and image, too,
Undaunted by the Papacy or Protestant Alliance, (13:11-15)
Resisting that great blasphemy—the number of the beast: (13:18)
I saw these stand above the sea of glass with harps of God.
3 They sang the song of Moses, that best servant of the Lord,
And then the song of Jesus Christ, the worthy Lamb once slain,
And shouted, "Great and marvelous thy works, Almighty God,
And just and true are all thy ways, thou king of every age;
Who shall not fear thee, O Lord God, and glorify thy name,
For thou alone art holy, and all nations yet shall come
And bow their knees before thee, for thy judgments are made plain."
4 And after that I saw another vision of the same:
The temple of the Tabernacle's teachings were disclosed,
5 And from this temple came the seven messengers with plagues,
The STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, based upon that temple's types,
And clothed in linen (paper), with their breasts (fronts) girt with gold.
6 And one of God's four attributes—'twas Wisdom from Above— (4:7)
Gave to these seven angels seven golden vials of truth:
The vials contained the wrath of God who lives forevermore.
7 The nominal church temple was then filled with blinding haze
By reason of God's majesty and power through truth revealed:
And no man, well developed, of full age, requiring meat, (Heb. 5:13, 14)
Could enter in and worship at this temple of the creeds
Throughout the time the angels with the vials poured out their plagues.

CHAPTER XVI.

CONTENTS OF THE SEVEN VIALS.

How the Plagues Were Received.

1 I heard a voice speak loudly from the temple (church) of God—
'Twas that Laodicean servant in the harvest time, (3:14)
Directing that the angels with the seven plagues of truth (15:1, 6)
Be sent into the earth to pour out all their vials of wrath.
2 The first one went and poured his vial of wrath into the earth:
'Twas STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, Volume One, the Plan Divine;
And in the sight of clergymen there fell a grievous sore
Upon the men of Antichrist who give the beast support,
And on the Image servants, that (non)Protestant Alliance. (Rev. 13)
3 The second angel's vial of wrath was poured upon the sea—
Effecting Christian "malcontents"—thus did the clergy say.
To them the sea became as blood, and every creature dead,
Who dared to drink this vial of wrath. It grieved them very much.
4 The third poured out his vial of wrath on givers of the earth—
On channels of religious thought—and on the Fount of truth.
The call, "Come out of Babylon," he made distinct and clear, (C, chap. 6)
And thus to all the clergy of the image and the beast (Rev. 13)
This message was repulsive and the truth appeared as blood.
5 I heard this angel giving thanks and saying unto Christ:
"O righteous thou, which art and wast, the holy One of God,
Because thou hast thus judged the beast and its great image too,
For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets of the church,
Now thou hast poured them blood to drink; that whereof is their due."
6 And then I heard the altar in the midst of Egypt's land (Isa. 19:19)
Corroborate the message, saying, "Even so, Lord God;
O true and righteous are thy judgments, thou Almighty One."
7 The fourth poured out his vial ("The Day of Vengeance") on the sun:
Upon the Christian clergy—luminaries, so they claim.
And power was given him to scorch these men with burning truths
9 And they became indignant and blasphemed that mighty one
To whom the Lord had given power to plague them for their sins,
And they repented not to give that servant due reward. (Matt. 24:45-47)

10 The fifth poured out his vial upon the seat of papacy,
Depicting Christ's atonement and the error of the mass.
That kingdom, misnamed "Christendom," was seen all dark within,
But nearly all did spurn the light: they gnawed their tongues for pain,
11 And blasphemed God in word and deed, repenting not of sin.
12 The sixth poured out his vial upon the river Euphrates,
Declaring that the New Creation is a church of saints,
Where clergy, ancient customs, church collections, also creeds,
Are relics of dark ages; and the clergy greatly feared
Such truths would cause the stream of their prosperity to dry,
As good, supporting members left the sects to join the Lord,
To be his kings and priests which soon shall come to rule the earth.
13 I saw three unclean spirits (teachings) croaking as though frogs:
The first came from the dragon's mouth, from out the civil power,
Demanding hate and slaughter and invoking aid from God.
The second unclean spirit came from out the papal beast,
The doctrine that the clergy speak and act by right divine.
The third came from the palate of the image of the beast
Described as that "false prophet," for he speaks the Serpent's lie,
Insisting that all people should believe men never die
(Gen. 2:17; Gen. 3:4)

14 Now these are demon spirits, working miracles indeed.
To gather all the kings of earth to war in that great day.
15 (Behold, I come now as a thief; and blessed are the saints
Who watch and keep their righteous robes, that none may see their shame)
16 And unto Armageddon did they gather all the kings.

17 The seventh angel poured his vial of wrath upon the air—
It seemed to beast and image to be aimed at ruling power.
And then I heard a voice from out the temple (church) of God
Declaring, "IT IS FINISHED"—lo, the mystery is done!
18 And there were seven thunders, and their lightnings rent the sky,
And voices of a multitude proclaimed the plan of God;
And then a mighty earthquake (revolution) shook the earth—
So terrible the shaking that it had no precedent.
19 Great 'Christendom', the city, then into three parts was cut—
Democracy, Autocracy and Bolshevistic groups;
Then papacy, the city of the nations, came to naught;
And Babylon, the false church system, thereupon was brought
Before the Lord, and unto her the cup of wrath was poured.
20 And every island fled away, and mountains disappeared—
Republics and great kingdoms passed away before the Lord.
21 And then upon the clergy there did fall hard, crushing truths,
As hail from out the heavens, every one a talent's weight;
And men blasphemed Jehovah, for the plague thereof was great.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE SEVENTH PLAGUE IN DETAIL:

The Papacy's Last Stand.

1 There came one of the angels—'twas the seventh, for he held (16:17)
The entire seven vials of plagues—epitome of all.
He spake unto me saying, "Come to me and I will show
The judgment of the harlot, that unchaste, vile papal church, (vs. 15)
Upheld by many waters (many nations) of the earth, (vs. 15)
2 With whom the kings and rulers sinned, by joining church and state,
Which thing is fornication: my return she should await; (2:14)
And men, indeed, are stupefied by reason of her sins."
3 In spirit did the angel take me from the world's pursuits,
And then I saw the judgment of the woman (papacy)
Which sat upon that scarlet colored beast (old pagan Rome),
And filled with names of blasphemy against both Christ and God,
And had ten horns and seven heads—the powers which she controlled.
(12:3; 13:1)
4 The woman was arrayed in royal purple, as a queen. (18:7, 12, 16)
And scarlet, claiming sacrifice; and decked with gold divine,
And precious stones, thus claiming custody of every truth; (1 Cor. 3:12)
And pearls, which symbolize her claim to all for which Christ died.
(Matt. 13:45, 46)

She held a golden cup within her hand, and it was filled
With filthiness of all her fornication with the world. (2:14)
5 Upon her forehead, "Mystery (of Iniquity)" was seen, (2 Thes. 2:7)
And, "Babylon the Great, the Mother of all harlot sects,
And desolate abomination of the earth"—the mass. (Matt. 24:15)
6 I saw the woman drunken with the blood of faithful saints
And with the blood of multitudes of Jesus' martyrs slain, (7:9-15)
And when I saw her character I wondered—was amazed,
7 The angel with the seven vials of plagues then said to me:
"O wherefore dost thou marvel? I will now explain to thee
The mystery of the woman and the beast which carries her,
Which had ten horns and seven heads—the powers which she controlled:
8 The beast thou sawest (antichrist) was once a civil power—
For two and forty months, symbolic time—but now is not; (12:5, 6)
Yet it shall once again ascend from out its present pit
And have its power restored awhile, and then become extinct.
And they that dwell upon the earth shall wonder, be dismayed,
Whose names have not been written in Jehovah's Book of Life,
When they behold the beast that was, is not, and yet shall be.
9 And now, behold a mind which hath the wisdom of the Lord:
The seven heads thou sawest are the seven earthly powers
On which the woman sitteth, namely: Lombardi and Greece,
The Franks and Britons, Visigoths, the Saxons and Suevi. (12:3)
10 Now there are seven other kings, or forms of ancient Rome:
Yea, five are fallen, one now is, and one is yet to come:
When Rome was founded it was ruled by kings for 12 score years;
The second form (Republic) lasted forty-five decades;
There was a brief Dictatorship; Triumvirate, also;
And then the great Dictatorship of Caesar was the fifth.
The sixth form, then established, still exists in Europe's kings;
But yet another cometh, and the pope shall be supreme;
And when he comes he must continue with great power awhile.
11 The beast that was in power, and now is not, he is the eighth:
Were not three horns among the ten plucked up to give him room? (12:3)
And thus he cometh of the seven which did share with him. (Dan. 7:7, 20)
But when he cometh now again, he'll shortly suffer death.
12 The ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, or powers, today—
Descendants of the ancient Roman empire, which do war.
Now these have never had official sanction from the pope,
But they shall yet receive such power and 'reign by grace of Rome'
A little while, a season brief, as vassals of the beast. (chap. 12)
13 These have one mind and give their power and strength to Antichrist;
14 And these shall then make war against the Lamb and all his saints,
But Christ shall conquer; he is Lord of lords and King of kings,
And they with him are called and chosen, faithful unto death.
15 The angel with the seven plagues spake further unto me:
"These waters which thou sawest, where the whore doth find support,
Are peoples, nations, multitudes and kindreds of the earth.
16 The ten horns which thou sawest, and the beast on which she sat,
Shall hate the whore and later make her naked, desolate;
And they shall then consume her flesh and burn her up with fire.
17 But God hath put it in their hearts to do his sovereign will,
To thus agree and give their kingdoms to the beast awhile,
Until God's purposes are done and all his words fulfilled.
18 The woman which thou sawest is that city, papal Rome,
Which reigneth over kingdoms of the earth with which she joined."

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE FALL OF BABYLON.

The Dying Days of Ecclesiasticism.

1 And after this I saw the harvest epoch once again; (Matt. 13:39)
I saw the Lord from heaven come to earth as King of kings.
The earth was bright with glory from this Sun of Righteousness,
With many running to and fro, and knowledge much increased.
(Dan. 12:4)
2 And, through the harvest messenger, he spake with voice distinct: (3:14)
"Great Babylon is fallen, and is now a demon's home,
The hold of all foul spirits, and a cage of unclean birds.
3 All nations have been drunken by the wine which she hath poured;
The kings of earth committed fornication with the whore, (17:2)
And earthly minded clergy gained much riches through her stores."
4 I heard another voice from out the heavens (church of God),
That mighty harvest reaper—a SOCIETY of saints—
Delivering the message: "Come ye out of Babylon
My consecrated people, and partake not of her sins,
That ye receive not my rebukes, my seven plagues of truth.
5 Her sins have reached to heaven, cleaved together, multiplied,
And God hath now remembered her iniquities, with plagues.

(Continued on Page Four.)

THE PERSECUTION OF BIBLE

(Continued From Page Two.)

Bible Students Association and with experts combed them over for five weeks and then returned them not having found one penny coming from a questionable source. However, these reports helped to fan the flame of prejudice that was rapidly rising.

Another paragraph in the report above mentioned appearing in the Congressional Record is: "One of the most dangerous examples of this sort of propaganda is the book called 'The Finished Mystery,' a work written in extremely religious language and distributed in enormous numbers. The only effect of it is to lead soldiers to discredit our cause and to inspire a feeling of home of resistance to the draft." Not a soul in all the land has been found or ever can be found who would testify that "The Finished Mystery" influenced him either for or against the draft. Strange none was found with all the activity in searching for witnesses! Strange indeed it would seem that a book begun 30 years before the war should be deliberately written and published to interrupt the war and, according to the above report, "the only effect of it is to lead soldiers to discredit our cause." Strange indeed that more than 30,000 people should order this book long before the war began and yet its only effect was "to cause resistance to the draft." Great minds act in peculiar channels in time of war.

False Charges Trumped Up.

These Christian gentlemen were charged in an indictment returned on May 6, 1918, with entering into an unlawful conspiracy to interfere with the Government in the raising of an army and navy; and as overt acts they were charged with the publication of "The Finished Mystery," the religious book above mentioned, and the writing of certain letters and affidavits. Section 4 of the Selective Service Act provided that any one a member of a religious organization, the teachings of which are opposed to war should not be compelled to engage in war. The only thing any of the Bible Students did was to make the necessary affidavits required by the statute in their effort to obtain the benefit of the law which Congress had enacted. There was no disposition whatsoever to interfere with the draft or any branch of the Government.

No Other Case Like It.

The trial of these cases took place at a time of great public excitement and it looked as though the Germans would be successful. Public feeling was running high and to charge a man with disloyalty practically meant his conviction regardless of his guilt or innocence. Certain newspapers and other agencies had created a strong prejudice in the minds of the people against these Bible Students. When the trial came on, even the trial Judge was so unusually unfair that he overstepped the bounds of propriety, and the Court of Appeals was bound to reverse his judgment and state that a fair trial was not had. The verdict against the defendants was returned and the Judge immediately sentenced seven of them to twenty years on four separate counts, or eighty years; and one to ten years on four separate counts, or forty years in the aggregate. They immediately applied for bail; but the court refused to grant them bail and committed them at once to prison. This is the only case of record in the United States where a person arrested under the Espionage law was denied bail.

Nine Months in Prison.

These men were put in prison and kept there for nine months against repeated efforts on the part of their friends and counsel to obtain bail. Finally their friends determined to appeal to the conscience of the people. A petition was circulated, asking their release; and within two weeks 700,000 people signed it. Letters were pouring in from all parts of the country to the Department of Justice, demanding their release upon bail.

Court Reverses Judgment.

The latter part of March, 1919, the Circuit Court of Appeals granted bail and within two months thereafter the case was argued and submitted on appeal, and the judgment of the trial court reversed. The defendants were still required to appear in court to answer the indictment and appeared five separate and distinct times, and each time the case was passed over and set down for a later date at the instance of the Government.

On the 5th of May, 1920, on motion of the United States District Attorney, all the cases were dismissed and the defendants discharged.

The reversal of the conviction by the Circuit Court of Appeals was an admission that the defendants had been unfairly tried and that their incarceration in prison had been illegal. Subsequently, when the District Attorney dismissed the indictments the defendants were fully exonerated, nothing finally standing against them. Their imprisonment, therefore, can truly be said to have been suffering for righteousness' sake. There was no testimony offered at the trial nor found anywhere that these men conspired and agreed together to publish this religious book, to write affidavits and letters, or to do anything else to obstruct the Government. They are all law-abiding Amer-

(Continued on Page Four.)

SOME OBJECT WITHOUT CAUSE.

Ever since "The Finished Mystery" was published it has had its opponents. There shall be "conscientious objectors" to it for some little time yet to come. One thing which seemed fatal to the book, marking it as the product of the Adversary and reeking with spiritualism, was the statement found on page 126: "It is evidently God's purpose soon to allow the minds of many of His little ones to become an open battle-ground, upon which the fallen angels shall be judged, and the manner with which we meet the tests will prove our worthiness of crowns at the same time that it proves these disobedient spirits unworthy of life on any plane."

How could the mind be a battle-ground for evil spirits? Absurd!

If the statement had been in quotation marks and credited to "Z" so and so nothing would have been said; but because Brother Russell never made such a statement it must be false!

But, hold—

The Fifth Volume, "Atonement Between God and Man," top of page 169, says: "Mankind—the MINDS or 'hearts' of men—is the battle-ground on which the holy spirit of light, love, justice, truth, holiness, the Spirit of Jehovah and of His Son, man's Redeemer, CONTENTS with the evil spirit of Satan, sin, darkness, untruth, hatred, envy, malice, etc."

Where else would these two opposing spirits contend for mastery? The organs of the minds are the seat of the conscious ego—where the thinking is done; "as a man thinketh in his heart so is he," says the Word.

But, is not God's spirit more mighty than Satan's? Most assuredly.

It should be borne in mind that God has a plan of the ages; He allows sin to measureably have its way; He permits Satan to have great liberty. The fact is He does not coerce His Will nor possess anyone without permission or invitation—without a whole-hearted consecration to the Will of God. While Satan obtrudes himself, he imposes himself, he oppresses, he controls, forcefully, all who do not steadfastly resist him. Satan takes advantage; God helps those who want to be helped. The battle goes on in the liver?—in the kidneys?—in the stomach? In the only place where it could go on—in the MIND. Satan's object is to blind the minds, pervert the reason, prejudice the individual and warp him in his thinking, so that Light and Truth from God and Christ will not penetrate the darkness of ignorance and superstition.

When Satan is bound and the evil spirit beings restrained of their liberties the minds of the entire human family shall be cleared for Truth and Righteous activity, and being properly exercised thereby they may attain unto life everlasting—otherwise they shall die the second death by the close of the millennium.

THE PERSECUTION OF BIBLE

(Continued From Page Three.)

ican citizens who do not believe in violence and wrong-doing, but who believe in manifesting the spirit of the Lord and doing good to all as they have opportunity, and evil to none.

Timely Message Gladdens Hearts.

We quote from an interview recently given by one of the defendants, Mr. Rutherford, President of the Association:

"We are engaged in a fight against no one. Our work is purely to preach the gospel of Messiah's kingdom, for which he taught all his followers to pray; and we are glad that it is near at hand.

"Since my release from jail and my recovery from a great illness resulting from imprisonment, I have spoken to thousands of people on the timely and up-to-date subject: 'Millions Now Living Will Never Die,' and made glad many hearts.

"By the Lord's grace we purpose to continue to make proclamation of His message, because we are convinced beyond a doubt that within five years the people will awaken to the fact that they are entering the period of the greatest blessings man has ever dreamed could come to the world. We are perfectly willing to be misunderstood and persecuted in order that we might have a part in making known these glad tidings.

"Our prosecution and persecution in the last two years has cost us a great amount of money and time, physical inconvenience, and has retarded our work; but we neither

murmur nor complain, believing that in due time the Lord will overrule this, as he has at other times the wrath of men, to his own praise.

"If every one in the United States were as loyal as the Bible Students, there would be no agitation against the Government, there would be no revolutions, no violence, no disturbance of any kind. Everywhere I go I urge the people to calmness and to avoid strife and contention, and I appeal to the clergy that instead of lending their influence to persecuting humble laymen who are preaching the gospel, they tell the people the truth as to the meaning of this great time of stress, viz., that it is a fore-runner of the inauguration of Messiah's glorious kingdom for the blessing of mankind. I do this because

His message is the only thing that will bring comfort to hearts of the distressed and bring order out of the present chaotic condition.

Only Hope of Reconstruction.

"A distinguished government official has recently said: 'The world is staggering on the brink of chaos.' If it must go into this condition, our desire is that it go in with some knowledge upon which to base a hope for the early reconstruction of society and the blessing of mankind. Whether persecuted and interrupted, or permitted to pursue the even tenor of our way, we will continue to strive to do as we have in the past, to tell the people of Messiah's kingdom, the only panacea for the present ills of mankind."

THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN

(Continued From Page Three.)

6 Reward her, plague her, even as she hath rewarded me; Yea, make a double exposition of her sinful deeds; And use the cup which she hath filled—the truths she misapplied: Ezekiel and this Revelation—fill the 'double' full.

7 To what extent she glorified herself and lived at ease, So much torment and sorrow give her through the seven plagues. She saith in her heart, 'I sit a queen and reign supreme With civil powers and am no widow, and no sorrow see';

8 And therefore shall her plagues of death and mourning, famine, fire, Come in one day, for strong is God the Lord who judgeth her. The kings of earth who joined with her in church-state sinfulness Shall wait at her destruction, for she served their purposes.

9 And they shall stand apart and see her torment going on, But won't extend their arm to aid her lest they also fall. And they shall say, 'Alas, alas, that mighty Babylon, Whose clergy always helped our cause by preaching what we willed; Alas, that mighty city: in one hour her judgment comes.'

10 The merchants of the creedal marts—the clergymen of earth, Shall weep and mourn to see her fall, for none will buy their wares— The truths of Scripture once possessed, but which they did corrupt; Of gold and silver—truths about the bride, and bridesmaids, too; And precious stones—the jewels of the Lord and how they grow;

11 Of pearls—how Jesus purchased all the World through suffering death; And linen fine—the truth respecting righteousness of saints; (19:8) And purple—how the church attains her promised royal state; And silk—the weavings of our God from these poor worms of earth; (Job 25:6)

12 And scarlet—blest atonement through the precious blood of Christ. These truths they have discounted, and their errors have no worth: For instance, all their thine wood—traditions, once most sweet; Their many ivory vessels—decorations for the creeds; (Amos 6:4) And precious wooden vessels—treasured errors of the earth; (1 Cor. 3:12) And copper—errors of the mortal nature of the race; (12:5) And iron—their misconceptions of the Messianic rule;

13 And cinnamon and spices, odors, ointments of the law— The Babylonian errors—their view of the holy spirit's work; And frankincense—corruptions of true praise and prayer to God; And wine—misunderstandings of the cup which Jesus poured; And holy oil—anoointing of the priesthood misconstrued; And wheat and fine flour—errors as to why the saints are crushed; And cattle—wrong conceptions of our fleshly sacrifice; And sheep—improper feeding by false shepherds of the flock; And horses—demon doctrines which destroy living faith; And chariots—false churches which the demon doctrines draw; And bond slaves—misconceptions of the service God requires; And souls of men—the errors on the subject of the soul.

14 The fruits thy soul hath lusted for, O merchants (clergymen)— Thy love of ease and money, luxuries and praise of men— Are all departed from thee; and thy dainty, goodly things, Are perished now forever; ye art 'reverends' no more.

15 These merchants of false teachings which waxed rich through Babylon, Shall wait at her destruction, for she served their purposes; And they shall stand apart and see her torment going on, But won't attempt to save her, for they fear the angry mobs.

16 And they shall say, 'Alas, alas, that mighty Babylon That once was clothed in linen fine, commanding all respect; And decked in purple, scarlet, gold and pearls and precious stones; For in one hour such splendor and such riches came to naught.' And all the pilots (preachers) and their passengers and crews, And all that work the sea (the missionaries in the slums), Stood off afar and cried when they beheld her smoke and flame, And saying, 'O what city could compare to Babylon?'

17 And casting dust upon their heads they wept and wailed and cried: 'Alas, that city Babylon wherein we were made rich By reason of her costliness—her contributions, large— For in one hour is desolation come to every sect.'

18 Rejoice o'er her, my people—saints, apostles, prophets, too; For God hath now avenged your blood on her that did you wrong.' And then I saw a mighty angel (enraged humankind) Take up a stone, a great millstone, and cast into the sea, And saying, 'Thus with violence shall that great Babylon Be thrown to her destruction, and shall rise, no not again.'

19 And there shall be no harpers or musicians in her found From henceforth, for the Harp of God she spurned and would not sound; No craftsman shall in her be seen, no servant of the Lord. The voice of Jesus and his bride in her no more is heard, Because her merchants (clergy) made themselves great men of earth Instead of humbly following the lowly Nazarene; And by her sorceries were nations, great and small, deceived.

20 In her was found the blood of saints and prophets which she spurned, And all the bloodshed on the earth by kings whom she mistaught To think they reigned by right divine and thus could do no wrong.

CHAPTER XIX.

OVERTHROW OF SATAN'S EMPIRE:

The Beast and False Prophet Killed.

1 And after mighty Babylon was cast into the sea, I heard the voice of multitudes—'twas that Great Company, (16:18) Say, 'Alleluia; now is come salvation by God's power, For true and righteous are thy judgments; thou hast judged the whore Which didst corrupt the powers of earth by mixing church and state— Which thing is fornication: thy return she should await— And thou hast now avenged the blood of servants at her hand.'

2 Again they shouted, 'Alleluia!' And her smoke arose Forever and forever—the remembrance of her fall. The four and twenty prophecies and God's four attributes (4:4, 7) Said, 'Amen, alleluia'—praised the Lord upon his throne.

3 And voices came from out the throne (the church beyond the veil), And said to that Great Company of servants on the earth: 'Praise ye our God, his servants, ye that fear him, small and great.' And then another multitude, all peoples of mankind, Which sounded as the voice of many nationalities; They spake as mighty thunders, the truth was heard by all; They shouted, 'Alleluia! God, our Lord Almighty reigns; Come ye, rejoice with gladness and give honor unto him; The marriage of the Lamb is come, his bride is ready now.'

4 To her was granted clothing of pure linen, clean and white— Now linen is a symbol of the righteousness of saints.

A Posthumous Work.

5 And he to whom was given to make clear the present truth, The servant of Laodicea, now beyond the veil, (3:14; Matt. 24:45-47) Commissioned me (the John class, through its agencies) to write A message for the comfort of the church in her sore trial: 'O blest are those invited to the marriage of the Lamb.' And then he spake unto me: 'These, my words, are truths of God.' (14:17-20)

6 I fell to worship at his feet, and then he said to me: 'O see thou do it not; for I'm thy fellow servant still, And of the faithful brethren of the Lord; now worship God: The spirit of all prophets is to glorify the Lord.' (22:8)

11 And then was heaven opened, and I saw the things now due: Behold a white horse—truths of God, his vengeance toward the creeds; And he that sat upon him was the faithful One and True: In righteousness he judgeth, making war on 'Christendom.' His eyes were as a flame of fire, they pierced the earth and sky; And on his head were many crowns—the coming King of kings; And with him was a name which no man knew but he himself. And he was clothed with vesture dipped in blood of sacrifice; His name hath been called Logos (Spokesman), blessed Word of God. (John 1:1)

12 His armies of the heavens, all his church, did follow him With horses, white (true teachings), clothed in linen, white and clean. And from his mouth proceeds a sharp two-edged sword—the Word— That with it he should smite the mighty nations of the earth; And he shall overcome and rule them with a rod of iron, And he doth tread the winepress of the anger of our God; (14:19, 20) And on his thigh is written, 'King of kings and Lord of lords.'

13 I saw another angel—when this winepress was revealed: The little flock (Elijah class), who stood within the sun, (Luke 12:32) Resplendent in the full unfolded light of gospel truth. They cried with voice distinctly, saying unto all the birds (Matt. 24:28) That fly within the heavens—all of spiritual mind: 'Come hither, be ye gathered to the supper of our God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings and captains, warriors all—(Jos. 10:24) The mighty creeds that ruled the world, the systems great and small, The flesh of credal hobbies and of them that sit thereon, (9:16-18) Of all men, free and bond, both small and great of 'Christendom.'

14 I saw the beast (the papacy) and all the kings of earth, And all their armies, civil and ecclesiastical, Combined to make the war against the Lord and all his saints. But soon the beast was taken, and that great false prophet, too— (16:13, 14)

The image of the beast which wrought great miracles for him, Deceiving all who had the beast's approval (Catholics), And those who bowed before the dreadful image (Protestants). These systems both were cast alive into a lake of fire And burned with deadly brimstone, thus they perished from the earth.

15 The remnant (all the people), when their systems are destroyed, Were slain by that sharp sword of him that sat upon the horse, (vs. 15) Which sword of truth proceeded from his mouth to slay their sins; And all the birds of heaven did consume the sacrifice. (vs. 17)

CHAPTER XX.

THE THOUSAND YEARS' REIGN.

Satan Bound, Freed, Then Destroyed.

1 I saw an angel, even Christ, come down to earth to reign: He had the key of the abyss to solve the world's chaos; He held a great chain in his hand (the truth) with which to bind, And seized the dragon, head and body: Satan and his seed (That church-state system steeped in sin, and which the demons lead), And bound him for a thousand years, while Christ and church did reign.

2 He cast that monster into hell—his power he took away, Consigned him to oblivion, and set on him a seal, That thus the nations of the earth no more should be deceived Until the thousand years of Christ's blest reign should be fulfilled. And after that the dragon head shall be released awhile To organize a system once again to try mankind.

3 I saw the thrones of earthly kings while they still sat thereon, And judgment (condemnation) was pronounced upon them all. I saw the souls of them that were beheaded by the truth. The consecrated saints of God who served his will and Word, Who had not worshipped papacy (the beast, the Antichrist), Nor bowed before his image—that (non)Protestant Alliance, (ch. 13) Nor given to these systems their assent or full support: These lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years upon the earth;

4 The first (chief) resurrection is their blest eternal lot. O blessed, also holy, are all they which have a part In this first resurrection, for on such the second death (vs. 14) Doth have no power; but they shall be the priests of God and Christ. And they shall reign with him a thousand years to bless mankind.

5 And when the thousand years of kingdom blessings are expired Then Satan shall be loosed from out his prison, the abyss, And go throughout the earth to once again deceive the race: First, Gog—the high and proud ones of the natural Israelites, Then Magog—all the others who succumb to Satan's wiles. And they shall then be gathered unto battle in that day, And God shall thus permit a final testing of the earth.

6 And all with Satan's spirit of ambition I did see Encompassing the camp of faithful Ancient Worthy saints, Rebelling, too, against the Christ—the New Jerusalem. Then lightning came from God above, devouring every one. The devil that deceived them was then cast into the fire, That lake that burns with brimstone, where the beast and image are: Destroyed as completely as the systems which he led. (19:20, 21) And they shall be tormented day and night in minds of men: Both Satan and his systems are thus evermore condemned.

7 I saw a great white throne, and him that sat thereon (the Christ), And from whose face the heavens and the earth did flee away. (21:1) And they were found no more at all, for new ones took their place. (2 Pet. 3:13)

8 I saw the dead, both small and great, stand up before the throne, And all the books of Scripture they were made to understand. Another book was opened: it was called the Book of Life, And all the dead in Adam were then judged from out the books— According to the Scriptures and according to their works.

9 The sea, the surging masses of the dreadful day of wrath, Gave up the dead that fell therein, when they did hear his voice; (John 5:28, 29) And death and hell delivered up their dead from Adam's time, And they were judged in righteousness by Jesus and his bride. And they were judged and were cast into the lake of fire—destroyed. The lake of fire doth symbolize eternal second death. (1 Cor. 15:25, 26) And when the Book of Life was written in that judgment day, Those then not found therein were cast into the lake of fire. Destroyed in the second death, as though they had not lived. (Ob. 16)

CHAPTER XXI.

THE HOLY CITY—NEW JERUSALEM.

Christ's Kingdom Established On Earth.

1 I saw, and lo, a heaven new, and earth completely charged—(2 Pet. 3:13) Ecclesiasticism and society transformed; Behold, the former heavens and the earth had passed away, And there was no more surging, anarchic chaos (sea).

2 And I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, Descending out of heaven, as a bride adorned to wed: The church of Christ in glory, coming down to earth to reign. (2 Tim. 2:12)

3 I heard the voice of Jesus which proclaimed from out the throne: 'Behold, the tabernacle of the Lord is now with men, And lo, he dwelleth with them and they now shall be his sons, And God himself shall be with them to help them to return; And he shall wipe away all tears from every weeping eye, And there shall be no pains of death nor sorrow any more, For all the former things of sin have passed from earth away.'

4 And he that sat upon the throne said, 'I make all things new.' And then he saith, 'Now behold, for I'm the first and last, And freely unto him that thirsts I'll give the fount of life; And he that overcometh shall inherit all these things, And I will be his God and he shall be my earthly son; But unbelieving, fearful ones, abominable of men, All slanderers, whoremongers, those at heart unfaithful ones, And sorcerers, idolaters, who fail to give me praise, And liars, who love not the truth, shall have their part within That lake of fire and brimstone, which is everlasting death.' (20:14)

5 And then there came an angel, one of those which had the plagues (This angel was the seventh, for he had all seven vials— Epitome of all the seven plagues of Babylon.) (17:1) He spake and said, 'Come hither, see the church, the bride of Christ.'

6 He carried me in spirit to a mountain, great and high, And showed to me the holy city, New Jerusalem. Descending out of heaven filled with glory from the Lord: Her light was like a stone most precious—jasper, crystal clear (4:3) Her walls were high and mighty, her protection was of God. She had twelve gates, and from them blessings flowed to all mankind, And at the gates twelve angels, with their names inscribed thereon, Which names were those of Israel—twelve classes in the church. (7:5-8)

13 Three gates were on the honored east side, toward the rising Sun: Manasseh (in the place of Dan), and Joseph, Benjamin, (Ezek. 48:32) Three gates were on the north side: Judah, Reuben and Levi; And southward: Simeon, and Issachar and Zebulun; (Ezek. 48:31-33) And on the west side: Naphtali and Asher, also Gad. (Ezek. 48:34)

14 And there were twelve foundations underneath the City's wall, And on them were twelve names: the twelve apostles of the Lamb. (2:2) The angel which did speak with me possessed a reed of gold— (vs. 7) The Word divine, to measure that great city, gates and wall. The city lieth foursquare, and the length is as the breadth; It measured with the reed twelve thousand furlongs on each side: The length and breadth and height were equal, thus it was a cube.

15 He measured then the wall, the thickness of it, with the reed: An hundred forty and four cubits (measures) of a Man— The Man Christ Jesus, as the angel with the vials explained. (vs. 11) The building of the city was pure gold, resembling glass: The church did thus reflect the image of her Lord divine. The twelve foundations of the wall were built of precious stones: The first one was of jasper; everything doth rest on God. (4:3) The second was of sapphire blue, portraying faithfulness; The third, chalcedony, portrays conformity of saints To plans divine: its crystals have twelve faces with five sides, And twelve and five are symbols of the measurements of God. The fourth was grass-green emerald, portraying deathlessness; The fifth was of sardonyx stone of red and black and white— The sacrifice, humility and purity of saints.

16 The sixth was made of sardius, the commonest of gems, Portraying thus the loyalty which all saints always have. The seventh was of crysolite, that gold-transparent gem, Which pictures godly wisdom of the overcoming bride. The eighth was made of beryl, which portrays the love of God; Its crystals are suggestive of the grace which he hath shown: Its sixty and six faces bring to mind the blessed Word, His loving revelation—sixty and six books of truth; The groupings of the crystal faces, too, suggest his love, Which also all his saints possess toward God and all his sons. The ninth was topaz (peridot), and shows benevolence: It crystallizes in two groups of thirteen faces each, Thus showing how that God wills not that any class should die, (1 Tim. 2:4)

17 That he would save all thirteen tribes of Israel if they'd try— Yea, even that lax spiritual (and earthly) tribe of Dan, (Gen. 30:6; 49:17) God's spirit of benevolence is shared by all the Christ. The tenth was clouded chrysolite, durable and hard, Portraying constancy of saints throughout their earthly trial. The next, eleventh, was of jacinth, most magnificent; Its crystals are most intricate, but uniform throughout; The Christ is thus unchangeable, as even God himself. The twelfth, the crowning layer, was of purple amethyst, Portraying thus the royalty of all the holy saints.

18 The twelve gates were most beautiful—each one a solid pearl; The long, painstaking growth of Jesus' bride is thus portrayed. The street of that great City was pure gold, resembling glass— Transparent holy highway, and no fool need err therein. (Isa. 35:8)

19 I saw no temple there where saints did gather, giving praise, For God and Christ they worshipped in their hearts continually. The city had no need of sun nor moon to shine thereon (The gospel, nor Mosaic types, which once they needed much), For now Jehovah's glory and the Lamb's did shine therefrom.

20 The peoples of the nations shall progress within its light, And all the kings of earth shall bring their glory into it: Yea, every man shall be a king, as Adam ere he fell. The gates of it shall not be shut at all throughout the Day; And there shall be no night at all, the light shall shine away. And glory, honor, praise from all mankind shall flow thereto. And there shall none come into it who speak defiling things, Nor those who work abominations, loving not the truth; But only those whose names are found within the Book of Life.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE RIVER OF GRACE AND TRUTH.

The World-Wide Invitation to Participate in the Blessings.

1 He showed to me a river, clear as glass—the Stream of Life, Proceeding from the throne of God and from the blessed Christ; And in the middle of its highway of true holiness, (Isa. 35:8) And on each side of that great River stood the Tree of Life, Which bare 12 kinds of fruit each month throughout the 1000 years— One hundred forty and four thousand first-fruits unto God. (14:1) This Tree was Jesus and his saints, the seed of Abraham; (Gal. 3:29) Its leaves were for the healing and the blessing of mankind.

2 And there shall then be no more curse, for God shall come to reign; The Lamb shall sit upon his throne. The bridesmaids then shall serve, And they shall see the Father's face and have his name in mind; And there shall be no more dark night of tribulation there; (7:14) And they shall need no candle light from members of the Christ, (Matt. 25:8)

Nor any light from gospel sun—for God will give them light, And they shall reign forever, under Jesus and his bride.

A Posthumous Work.

6 And then the fellow servant who did make these symbols plain— (11: 19,9, 10) Said unto me, 'These sayings all are faithful, also true; The Lord God of the spirits of the prophets hath sent me, Who also am his prophet and his messenger, to show Unto his harvest saints these things which shortly must be done.'

7 And lo, I come now quickly, saith Jesus through the Word, And blest is he that keeps the things of this prophetic book. And I (the John class) saw these symbols and did understand. And when I understood them I did fall before the feet Of him, that faithful servant, who explained these things to me, To whom the Lord committed all his store of harvest truth. (Matt. 24:45-47)

8 Then saith he unto me: 'See thou do not worship me, For I'm thy fellow servant, of thy brethren in the truth, I'm only an expounder, teacher, prophet of the Lord Among the harvest saints who know this book: O worship God.'

9 Then said he unto me, 'Seal not the sayings of this book; Proclaim them loudly, quickly, for the time is now at hand; But he that is unjust at heart, this message will not bless; And those preferring filthiness, they shall be filthy still; But he that loveth righteousness should do God's righteous will; And he that would be holy should be holy unto death.'

10 'Behold, I come now quickly', saith Jesus to his bride, 'And my reward is with me to be given to each one According as his righteous works and faithfulness is found. I'm Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End; And I blessed that great multitude who wash their robes in blood (7:14; 22:3-5)

11 That they may have approach unto the Tree of Life—the Christ, And enter through the gates into the City of our God. But biting dogs (false prophets) must reform or stay without; (Isa. 56:10, 11) And sorcerers, whoremongers, all unfaithful ones at heart; And slanderers, idolaters, who fail to give God praise; And whosoever maketh lies and loveth not the truth.

12 I, Jesus, sent my messenger to show these things to thee. (Vs. 6) I'm David's Root and Offspring, and the Bright and Morning Star. (2:28; 5:5)

13 And now, unto the world, the Bridegroom and his bride say, 'Come'; Let all who hear, co-operate, declaring also, 'Come'; And let him that is thirsty come; yea, whoever will, And let him freely drink refreshing truths, obtaining life.

Conclusion.

14 I testify to every man who ever reads the words Of this prophetic book: If any man shall add thereto, Then God shall add to him rebukes—the plagues described herein; And he shall be ashamed when he shall come to understand.

15 If any man shall criticize or nullify this book, (chap. 16, 17, 18) Then God shall take away his part from that best Tree of Life, (Vs. 2) Such higher critics shall not be partakers with the Christ. And he that shows these things to be declares: 'My kingdom nears'; And those who hear, say, 'Even so, Amen; Lord Jesus, Come'; The grace of Jesus Christ the Lord be with all saints. Amen.