

# Spiritual Call

A Continuance of "Macedonian Call"

*To be carnally minded is death, but to be  
SPIRITUALLY minded is life and peace.  
—Romans 8:6*

*Walk worthy of the vocation (calling)  
wherewith ye are CALLED.  
—Ephesians 4:1*

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## A Picture Talks To You

Here is a picture of a book, a pair of glasses, a lamp, and a chair. Look at it a long time. What does it say to you? The book is the Bible. On the blank pages between the Old and New Testaments are, perhaps, the names and dates of birth of your mother and father, yourself and your brothers and sisters. The writing tells, too, of the marriage of your parents, and perhaps the death of a little baby brother or sister.

Yes, you believe that this book is the Word of God, even though you have not treated it as such; that it tells you truly of man's origin, gives a history of his sin and troubles, and prophesies the time when the world shall be destroyed and the wicked punished and the righteous rewarded. You know that Jesus said, "The words that I have spoken unto you, the same shall judge you in the last day". And you believe that. It is evening now; the lamp tells you that; its light shines on the words of the Old Book. Perhaps it is opened at the passage: "Let not your heart be troubled", or, "In my Father's house are many mansions", or "Blessed are they who do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

Some one has been reading the book, and has left. No doubt it was an old person; at least, he wore glasses, for these are left by the reader of the book. Who does your imagination tell you it was? You are right—it was your father, or your mother. The past rises before you like a dream. You see him again in his quiet corner in the evening, reading the Book before he lies down for the night. Mother is busy with her darning and patching for the children—for you. She listens as he reads aloud the words of comfort. It did not mean much to you then—but it does now.

Both of them were interested in your eternal welfare, but you were not—not much, at least. Anxiously they tried to tell you of the life one should live; anxiously they tried to guide your feet aright; anxiously they prayed that you might see. But they did more than that—they set before you their godly lives. But you were young and strong and not concerned, and "must see the world for yourself". Perhaps you came into the church, but you did not remain faithful; the allurements of the world drew you into by and forbidden paths. Or,

perhaps you never opened your heart when the Master knocked at the door. You thought your parents were old fogies, you said you had your own life to live, you sowed to the wind and now you are reaping the whirlwind. In the disappointment and despair of your life, your mind turns back to your old father and mother. "Oh, that they were here now, that I might talk with them about what I should do!"

The bright colors of the world have lost their brightness; the card game has no excitement now; the dance has given up its thrill; the licentious shows seem like mockery in a distressed world; your trashy literature looks like so much dirty paper; your cherished business has tumbled to the ground; your friends have deserted you or have become your enemies, except as they can "work" you. "Oh, that mother could speak just a word and relieve my troubled heart!"

Backward, turn backward, O Time, in your flight,  
Make me a child again just for to-night!  
Mother, come back from the echoless shore,  
Take me again to your heart as of yore;  
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care,  
Smoothe the few silver threads out of my hair;  
Over my slumbers your loving watch keep;—  
Rock me to sleep, Mother, Rock me to sleep!

But she can not come back; he can not come back. It is too late to seek their advice, except as they gave it when living. You rejected it then. The vacant chair shows they are gone. You have only a memory. You have learned very late that the attractions of this life soon grow dim. Your Father and Mother were anxious for you, pled with you, prayed for you. You can not bring them back but you can go to them. "Tell Mother I'll be there in answer to her prayer."

They threw an influence for good over your life but you pushed it aside; now you appreciate their effort. What about **your** children? You saw Father read the Bible, your children see you read trash; you saw Mother go to religious services rain or shine, your offspring see you at a show in snow or sleet; you saw them close the day with a chapter from the Bible, your children see you turn the dial for a last "song of fools." What a memory to leave to **your** children! What a broken compass to put into their hands with such a dark night and such a stormy sea before them!

There is a little time left—redeem it before it is gone. Why do you wait? Your golden opportunities will soon be passed. Sin has nothing more to offer.

In the world you've failed to find  
Aught of peace for troubled mind;  
Come to Christ, on Him believe,  
Peace and joy you shall receive.

—D. A. Sommer.

## I Will Cling To The Old Faith

[The author of this article is a well known journalist and editor of London, England. He is not a preacher, and his words come with redoubled force on that account, as showing the effect that Modernism has on the average man's faith. Mr. Dark's article is well worth studying, and passing on to your friends.]

I am one of those people who are totally unaffected, so far as thought and faith and general outlook on life are concerned, by the discoveries of science and the deductions of materialistic philosophy.

For to me, progress means the increase of happiness among the meanest of the citizens of a country, and judged by this standard, it must be admitted that these often amazing mechanical inventions have been of the smallest use to mankind. On the other hand, the development of medical science, in so far as it has tended to protect from disease and to alleviate pain, is apparently of vast benefit to humanity. Even here I have my doubts. We live longer than our forefathers. But is long life of itself a benefit? We are cleaner. Our lives are far more complex. But we are certainly neither happier nor better. We must, however, accept the fact that we are living in a world controlled and affected by influences and powers of which our fathers were ignorant and make the best possible use of them for the common good.

It is when the scientists seek to apply their discoveries and deductions to the vital facts and problems of human life that they generally irritate or bore me. The theory of evolution tells us that our ancestors were monkeys who lived in trees and swung from their branches by their tails. Your typical scientist is the most dogmatic gentleman whom the world has ever known.

I do not deny the physical relation between man and the brute creation, but there is an infinitely greater difference between man and the next highest species of mammal than there is between a monkey and jellyfish or between an elephant and geranium. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the possessions of mind and soul and even body that are man's alone. Man stands preeminent among the creatures of the earth. Moreover, we now know that for at least five thousand years the character and the nature of man have not altered at all. The records of the Chaldeans reveal to us a race who thought as we think, dreamed as we dream, feared as we fear.

The scientist is, therefore, faced with the extremely difficult problem of explaining why evolution suddenly stopped. Homer's Iliad was written 2,500 years ago. The Greek Tragedies were written 2,000 years ago. Plato was teaching his philosophy about the same time. There has been no epic equal to the Iliad written during later ages. There has been no drama greater than that of Euripides. There has been no more profound philosopher than Plato. Aristotle remains the greatest of critics. It is therefore clear that, so far as reason and imagination are concerned, there has been no progress whatever in three thousand years.

A number of curious people who call themselves Modernists say that it is not necessary to believe in the Virgin Birth of our Lord or in His resurrection from the grave. They talk of "re-stating the faith in modern terms," puerile nonsense to be compared with the teetotaler offering his guests ginger beer and assuring them that it is champagne.

The medieval man believed, and I believe, that nearly two thousand years ago in the country of Judea a Man

was born of a Virgin and that thirty-three years later He rose from the dead. These amazing happenings were the logical result of what had occurred before. They were unusual, unprecedented, miraculous.

The men and women who find in the old faith not only the solution of the problems of life but the strength to face its difficulties and the promise that there will eventually be splendid compensation for its disappointments can not be brushed aside as the victims of superstition in an age when famous scientists converse with ghosts by the eccentric method of table gyration and middle-aged novelists photograph fairies in woods.

In more recent times almost all the most appealing, the most wonderful, the most selfless figures in human history have been men to whom the Faith has been the inspirer of action and the incentive to good works. Fr. Damien spent his life among the lepers because he was a Christian. I have never heard of a man leaving comfort and living on a lepers' island just because he believed in evolution, was convinced that men were descended from apes, and disbelieved in the Virgin Birth.

Saints alas! are rare figures in any age, but no age has been without its Christian saints, men and women who have made infinite sacrifices, who have spent themselves in the service of their fellows, asking for no reward and seeking for no recognition. Many such men and women are living in the world today.

Where are the saints of unbelief? How many sisters has evolution sent to the slums? Here, once more, common sense justifies belief. The faith that can create saints is of infinitely greater human importance than a machine that can separate an atom into a million particles.

A belief in the Christian faith has revolutionized the conduct of millions of human beings. It has made cruel men kind, it has made the selfish unselfish, it has inspired generations of service. I cling to the faith, therefore, because I am a sane, hard-headed person, not to be bamboozled by test tubes, and not willing to accept guesses as facts because the guesses come from professors of European reputation.—Sidney Dark, in Truth Advance.

## Why Christ Died

"Well, I cannot understand why a man who has tried to lead a good moral life should not stand a better chance of heaven than a wicked one," said a woman recently in a conversation with others about the matter of salvation.

"Simply for this cause," answered one. "Suppose you and I wanted to go to a place of amusement where the admission was one dollar. You have half a dollar and I have nothing. Which would stand the better chance of admission?"

"Neither."

"Just so; and therefore the moral man stands no better chance than the outbreking sinner. But now, suppose a kind and rich person, who saw our perplexity, presented a ticket of admission to each of us at his own expense! What then?"

"Well, then we should both go in alike. That is clear."

"Thus, then, the Saviour saw our perplexity; He came, He died, and thus 'obtained eternal redemption for us,' and now He offers you and me a free ticket. Only take care that your half dollar does not make you proud enough to refuse the free ticket and be refused admittance at last."

—Little Evangelist.

## Did God Leave Out Something Important?

Roman Catholicism and practically every prominent denomination in Protestantism is built around a clergy. And yet, believe it or not, the word "clergy" is not in the Bible, nor is the idea there. Did God leave out of his Book a most important thing?

Man's way has brought havoc to New Testament Christianity, for it has specialized what God intended for ALL Christians to do—preach, teach, help poor and sick, etc. Theological seminaries, Bible schools and colleges, and protracted "Bible Readings" to develop "preachers", all develop a clergy, no matter how much we say or try otherwise. Young men spend their time and money in educating themselves, and expect to be supported, and that is the essence of the professional clergy. If such men do not make a living they sell out by compromising the truth, and that means havoc to the church.

There is no clergy in the New Testament. All Christians are made "kings and priests unto God," (Rev. 1:6). Every faithful Christian has as much right as any other to pray, teach, preach, officiate at the Lord's Supper, baptize, as any other with some restriction regarding women. Not one word is said about training preachers, but there is about training "teachers". "The things which thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to FAITHFUL MEN who shall be able to teach others also". (II Tim. 2:2.) He does not say, "be able to PREACH to others also". God's plan is to make every FAITHFUL MAN a TEACHER in the church, NOT a PREACHER in it. We should try to put forth young men in the church, not to preach, but to teach, at first at least. To take a chapter, or part of a chapter, and "teach" from it, is a good way to start. Of course, if one preaches he does some teaching, but the Holy Spirit makes a difference between teaching and preaching. The word "sermon" is not used in the New Testament. Preaching is primarily to tell good tidings to the world, while teaching is primarily intending to inform and exhort the church.

I doubt very much whether we should encourage very much any young man to spend his life in preaching the gospel, and push him into that. If his mind is not thoroughly converted to endure hardness as a good soldier, he may soon fall by the way, or sell out by the way. No man should preach whose conscience will permit him to do otherwise. A man who will not preach except he receives money for it, should not be preaching at all for he is a hireling, and will preach himself rather than Christ Jesus.

We should so fill a young man with the gospel, both in the church and the home, that his conscience will not permit him to do anything else. Such a man is not so apt to betray the Cause of the Redeemer.

The DIVINE training for a young preacher is given in I and II Timothy and Titus. Before any young man makes up his mind to spend all his time in gospel work, he should study again and again those epistles to young preachers, and in fact should memorize them, and see whether he is willing to make the sacrifices there portrayed, in spending his life telling the story of Jesus. All the secular training that a preacher needs can be obtained individually from the many schools around, or from books, for all that he needs is in books.

Let the young man who wishes to preach be converted thoroughly FIRST, and everything else will take care of itself.

## Establishment of Christ's Kingdom And Church

"Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me." John 5:39.

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." II Peter 1:20, 21.

Now let us look at the prophecy of Isaiah who prophesied seven hundred fifty years before the establishment of Christ's kingdom and church.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it." Isaiah 2:2, 3.

Also the prophecy of Micah: "But in the last days it shall come to pass, and the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow into it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Micah 4:1.

Paul, writing to Timothy says, "These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." I Timothy 3:14, 15.

Writing to the Ephesians he says, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone." Ephesians 2:19, 20.

Hence, we find that the house of God is the Church of Christ.

Now let us search on and we find that Luke says, "Then he opened their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures. And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Luke 24:45-47.

Daniel prophecies, "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." Daniel 2:44.

John says the kingdom is at hand: "And saying, Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 3:2.

In Matthew 6:9, 10, we find that Christ tells His disciples to pray for the coming of the kingdom: "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

In the gospel of Mark, Christ tells them that some of them will still be here to see the Kingdom of God come with power. "And he said unto them, Verily, I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which

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shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power." Mark 9:1.

In view of the above Scripture, one of three conclusions must eventually be arrived at:

1. Christ did not speak the truth.
2. Some of the apostles are still living today.
3. The Kingdom came before all of them were dead.

Then in Luke we find that it still had not come. "And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh unto Jerusalem, and because they thought that the Kingdom of God should immediately appear." Luke 19:11.

The kingdom had not come when Christ instituted the Lord's Supper. "For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the Kingdom of God shall come." Luke 22:18.

When Christ was crucified the kingdom had not come, for we see a man named Joseph, a counselor waiting. "And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counselor; and he was a good man, and a Just: The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them; he was of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the Kingdom of God." Luke 23:51, 52.

Christ says he will build His church, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18.

Next we find that Christ appointed a kingdom unto his apostles. "And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel." Luke 22:29, 30. This shows that the Church and the Kingdom are one and the same thing.

The apostles were to tarry in Jerusalem until they received the power from on high. "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the City of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49.

Christ showed himself to his apostles forty days after his resurrection and talked to them of things concerning the Kingdom of God. They then asked, "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the Kingdom of Israel?" Acts 1:3-6. He then commanded them to wait in Jerusalem until they received power after the Holy Ghost is come upon them. Acts 1:8.

## Who Is Your Enemy?

"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?" (Gal. 4:16.)

If a man tells you your house is on fire, is he an enemy to you? If a man tells you of a faulty brake on your automobile, is he your enemy? Suppose you were getting on a bus that had a crazy driver, if some one told you about it, would you consider him an enemy of yours? If you were reaching for some water to drink, and the water was filled with poison, if some one warned you, would he be your enemy? No! You would always be grateful to them for their warning.

There are many persons whose spiritual houses are burning down; whose spiritual automobiles are heading for a wreck; who are riding on the bus the devil is driving, and drinking from the wells of sin. But isn't it strange when some friend warns them of their danger, they consider him as an enemy?—F. J. S., in *The Evangelist*.

IF ANY ONE is receiving this paper, never having subscribed, it is a compliment to you, for some one has sent your name, considering that you are sincere. Now, if you like our effort to present apostolic Christianity rather than modern church-anity, you are invited to send the names of as many friends as you can think of, who too are apparently honest, and we will send them a few copies. What do you say? We shall be glad to hear from you soon. We had printed extra copies of the July issue on "Do You Have Christianity or Mere Church-anity," and can supply that important issue, or this August issue either. To reach more and more people, the paper needs your prayers and help. Your donations help send it to others, and so is real missionary work. (The word "mission" comes from a Latin word which means to send.) "GO into all the world," A paper can go where a person can not.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a mighty rushing wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and sat upon each of them, And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:1-4.

After the apostles received the Holy Ghost they began to preach. Acts 2:14-36.

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:36-38.

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." Acts 2:41.

"And they continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayer." Acts 2:42.

Here we find the Church fully established and at work. "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Acts 2:47.

(Concluded next issue)

**The Devil**

Men don't believe in a devil now, as their fathers used to do;  
They've forced the door of the broadest creed to let his majesty through.  
There isn't a print of his cloven foot or a fiery dart from his bow  
To be found on earth or in air today, for the world has voted so.

But who is it mixing the fatal draught that palsies heart and brain,  
And loads the bier of each passing year, ten hundred thousand slain?  
Who blights the bloom of the land today with the fiery breath of hell,  
If the devil isn't and never was, won't somebody rise and tell,  
Who dogs the steps of the toiling saint, and digs the pit for his feet?  
Who sows the tares in the field of time wherever God sows His wheat?

The devil is voted not to be, and, of course, the thing is true;  
But who is doing the kind of work the devil alone should do?  
We are told that he doesn't go about as a roaring lion now;  
But whom shall we hold responsible for the everlasting row  
To be heard in church, in home, and state, to earth's remotest bound,  
If the devil by a unanimous vote is nowhere to be found?

Won't somebody step to the front forthwith and make their bow and show  
How the frauds and crimes of a single day spring up? we want to know.  
The devil was fairly voted out, and, of course, the devil's gone;  
But simple people would like to know who carries his business on!

—Alfred J. Hugh, in *Spiritual Life*.

**"Rightly Dividing the Word"—II**

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. II Tim. 2:15.

In a previous article the divisions of the Old Testament were described. In studying the New Testament we find that that too has some important divisions, which when rightly considered show that it is put together in an orderly and systematic manner.

There are four principal divisions in the New Testament; first we find the four gospels so called, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. These tell us about Jesus, his life here on earth, proving that he was the Son of God, that he was the one whom the prophets foretold should come; his teaching and the miracles proving beyond a doubt that God sent him and was working with him.

John expresses the purpose of these four books very appropriately in these words: Many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and

that believing ye might have life through his name. John 20:30, 31.

Luke also in the introduction to his account, has this to say: It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, that thou might know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed. Luke 1:3, 4.

These two quotations give us the purpose of the writing of all four of the books, namely, that we might be fully assured of the evidence concerning Christ, and believing on Him have life through His name.

Having believed on Him, what is the next step? Acts of Apostles comes next, to tell us what to do in order to be acceptable to God. This book tells us what the apostles did and taught in obedience to Christ's command to go into all the world and preach the gospel, and what they told repentant believers to do. Some teachers today teach that all that is necessary is to believe on Jesus, but that is not the way that the Apostles taught. In a future paper I shall attempt to show what they did teach.

The four gospel writers having given us evidence to cause us to believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ the Son of God, and acts of Apostles having shown us how to become Christians, then we want to know how to live Christians. Jesus said in giving the commission to His Apostles, "Teaching them (their converts) to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." This is accomplished in the twenty-one letters to churches and individuals, telling us how to live as Christians so that in the judgment day we may receive the welcome sentence of "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the rest prepared for you."

Then at the end we find the book of Revelations; this book tells us in a brief way of things which must shortly come to pass. God gave it to Jesus Christ, who sent and signified it to His servant John. It not only shows us things that must come to pass, but tells us of the glorious reward awaiting those who believe and obey the gospel and are faithful unto death, and of the terrible punishment awaiting those who do not believe and accept the terms of salvation that God has given.

Throughout the whole Bible there are but two places referred to for eternity. It is either heaven, with all of its beauty, peace and grandeur at God's right hand, or hell, with all of its horror and misery. There is no middle ground for anyone. We are either saved or lost; it all depends on what we do in this life while here on earth. —Fred D. Weed.

**"The Soul That Sinneth It Shall Die"—(Ezek 18:4)**

The Bible is the only revelation of God to man, and throughout its pages one of the chief thoughts set forth is man's responsibility to God. The Lord has required throughout all ages of time that man should give an account to Him of all his doings. If man recognized his duty to God, he has been rewarded for his obedience, but if he turned from Him and did not acknowledge his responsibility he was punished.

There are different ideas in regard to responsibility of man to his Creator. One is that each is individually responsible for his own acts. Another is that members are accountable to the ones that have the rule over them, which is the doctrine of the Catholic church; that their members are accountable to the priests and they in turn being responsible to those immediately above them, and

so on up to the Pope, who has supreme authority. Thus, so long as the members are obedient to the priest they are safe. But that the position of the Catholic church is wrong is almost self-evident, for God said: "The soul that sinneth it shall die," thus putting the responsibility upon each individual. Jesus Christ is the supreme authority in the church.

The church of Christ has taught that individuals are responsible for their own doings, but there is now creeping into the church the damnable doctrine that the elders have the last word in the church, and if one is led astray by their teaching they alone will be held responsible and not the one who is led astray through obedience to the elders. But the word of God still speaks: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

"In the letter to the Laodiceans, Jesus said that unless they repented he would spew them out of His mouth. They claimed to be rich, but Jesus said they were poor, and blind, and naked. His exhortation was for them to repent. But although the church was condemned Jesus says: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice and open unto me, I will come into him and will sup with him, and he with me."

Thus the Lord puts the responsibility upon each individual, and I am glad He did so, for no matter how corrupt the church may become, even to the point at which the Lord will reject it, yet I may continue to serve God and be acceptable to Him.

Remember! "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." (Ps. 118:3.) Again we hear John saying: "And I saw the dead, small and great stand before God . . . and they were judged every man according to their works."

There will be no excuse accepted for following men when we stand before the Great Judge. We have the word of God to instruct and guide us. It was given for us to read and follow. Why will we accept the word of man when we have the word of truth? That word only is "able to build us up and give us an inheritance among all them which are sanctified." (See Acts 20:32.) No man is able to do these things for us. Why depend upon them? We will all be judged out of the things written in the books, according to our works. (Rev. 20:12.)

"The soul that sinneth it shall die."

Study God's word, believe it, obey it, and then we will have a hope that is steadfast and sure and which entereth into that within the veil, where Jesus our Great High Priest standeth pleading for you and for me.—C. D. McCay.

### Religion In "The Latter Days"

The rottenness and immorality in the Church of Jesus Christ today is something I never, never could have believed—rottenness to such an extent that people coming to me for consultation, sit with a smile on their faces and talk glibly of it as though it meant nothing.

Oh, the insensibility to sin in the Church today! Worldliness has eaten its way right into the very heart of the Church. Not only worldly perversions, but worldly pleasures. You can't distinguish between a company of unsaved and a company of saved in any rally or church today. All that glitters, all that allures, all that is outward is that for which the modern Christian is living today.

What about worldly prominence? Have you ever seen a day when MAN was more publicized, more paraded?

Three big sons of Anak are stalking in the Church

today and doing just as they like because there are no Calebs who have the strength of the Spirit of God, who wholly follow the Lord, and who go right through with it.

What makes me have hope is to see the confidence with which Caleb looked into the very faces of those sons of Anak, and we read that he slew them. They had faces like lions, but they had hearts like frightened hares. They were big in size, but he was greater in spirit. He overcame them by the power of a surrendered life that was prepared to go all the way with God, regardless of what anyone said.

If we are going into the Church today with the sons of Anak walking abroad carrying those worldly perversions, those worldly pleasures, and those worldly prominences before Christians; if we are going to take the Sword of the Word; if we are going through with it in strength, it will only be as we come to the place of totalitarian surrender. For this purpose was the Son of God manifested, that He might disintegrate the works of the devil. Only through lives in which the Son of God has full sway and full control will God ever deal with these sons of Anak in our Church today.—Stephen Olford in Moody Monthly.

### MISCELLANEOUS

WE ARE GIVING YOU THE CREAM of religious writings which we are culling from many religious papers. If you like the articles pass the paper on to a friend. Or, send the names of friends you are interested in, and let us help them too, and in "the better way."

ILLINOIS—Bro. Sommer, your paper is named right—SPIRITUAL Call. Last week when Governor Dewey made his acceptance speech, he said at the end of that speech that this country needed a SPIRITUAL awakening. How true! And God's Word is the only solution, as I see it. So I pray you may continue it to the people. The Word in the end will prevail, as our Savior says, even as in the days of Noah.

A DISCIPLE WRITES: "There is a tract being sent out from Indianapolis about the new church starting there, and they say they are not taking sides either way, in this trouble. Do you believe that? I don't." The leader of the group has been a woman, in whose house they are now meeting, and she left the church at Lebanon, after creating disturbance over this very trouble, taking as many with her as she could, which was only five others. In Missouri Mission Messenger, February, 1948, page 7, Bill Hensley says the church at N. C. is "sponsoring it", and every one knows the heresy of that church with its doctrine—obey the elders, right or wrong, etc. Other churches of the same false doctrine are helping, and the editor of the MMM, in a note to the report, upholds Hensley's statements. Their house in Speedway City is costing \$16,000, they say. Is this tract they are sending out some more of that Dale Carnegie deception they are putting out?

WE REJOICE at having received the fine July issue of Spiritual Call. It is, in our opinion, one of the best issues in recent months. We are particularly pleased with your fine "lead" article on "Churchanity." We hope that God long gives you the strength and courage to maintain so solid a stand on basic principles of true Christianity. The stressing of the "outward form" has been one of my subjects many times over. Emphasis is placed on appearances rather than upon the condition of the heart. You have covered, in your article, many of the outward forms that have been exalted above the more important things. Basically these things stem, I think, from a desire to be like "Spiritual Babylon." Like the Israelites of old who wanted the order of things as in Babylon, so do professed followers of Christ seek first after the pride of life. And with our preacher factories striving to turn out a clergy in emulation of the "mother of harlots," the tide has swollen to stupendous proportion. The practice of alleged scholars in making arbitrary interpretations through wresting of the Scriptures is a part of the same thing. They think the infallibility of their great learning comes even before the common sense of others and the consciences of others. They mock the way of Truth which is so simple that "fools need not err therein." They exalt their knowledge above the Word.—E. L. Keeling.

(We are receiving a number of such articles as above, but prefer to give the space to essays on the divine life, to help you along the good way.—Editor.)

**THE HOT WEATHER IS HERE** when people do not read much, especially religious papers, with the result that receipts for such drop a great deal. A religious paper which does not take advertisements does not pay for itself under ordinary circumstances, and right now, besides the hot weather, we have a great fight on against an apostasy in the brotherhood. If the reader is opposed to the damnable heresy, as the New Testament would call it—obey the elders right or wrong—which is also as unreasonable and unjust as it is unspiritual, we hope that you will help us fight this battle for the Lord. If you fail to do your part, you may soon find yourself bound hand and foot and will wish some one to help loose you, but it will be too late. Already it is too late with many.

**A NEW WRITER**—Recently we have published articles from Fred D. Weed, Bethel, Conn., Route 2, who is not generally known among the readers. The last of the old elders at Bridgeport, Conn., is dead, and the church is guided by the deacons of whom Bro. Weed is one. Every evidence is that he is trying to live the Christian life and loves truth and righteousness and justice among his fellow men. He makes no claim to eloquence or rhetoric, but what he writes makes sense. More than forty years ago the editor of the Spiritual Call worked some with the church at Bridgeport, and it was from there that we started on our six months' trip through Bible Lands and Europe.

### Church Membership

Some even take the position that as the Bible says nothing about church membership, we should have no such thing today. But the Book says elders are shepherds and have flocks, and a flock is a definite something, which we may call membership.

But entirely too much stress is given to church membership. Millions of people in America have the idea they are all right because they have membership in some religious organization, and have not been excluded. Also, many believe that if they have no formal membership, they are doomed for hell. Lords over God's heritage, foster this latter idea. Both of these positions are wrong.

In normal times, each Christian should be a sheep in a flock, and a preacher should be a sheep in a flock. But in times of apostasy and reformation, church membership means very little. To have membership in an unfaithful church without protesting, may mean our damnation before God; and to "come out from among them," "turn away from them," "avoid them," even with no membership is **exactly what God commands us to do**. It is not church membership in some outward organization which brings salvation, but conversion to Christ and the living of the divine life. There is much "church-anity" mixed up in this, as I have formerly called it.

In times of apostasy church letters mean little. Unless you know the faithfulness of the ones who wrote the church letter, such a letter does not mean much. A letter which a preacher receives from his home church means little, unless you know the standing of the church. If the elders of a church believe and practice that one must obey the elders, right or wrong, a preacher's membership in such a church is contrary to the New Testament, and he is a partaker with them in that heresy.

So in days of apostasy and worldliness, such as we are having now, we must study people and find whether they are living the Christian life and stand with Christ, not some mere outward organization. Many in the seven churches of Asia, mentioned in Revelation, had membership alright, but were doomed because they were not faithful Christians. So let us have Christianity not mere church membership.

### Gossip Town

Have you ever heard of Gossip Town,  
On the shores of Falsehood Bay,  
Where old Dame Rumor, with rustling gown,  
Is going the livelong day?  
It isn't far to Gossip Town,  
For people who want to go—  
The Idleness Trail will take you down  
In just an hour or so.

The Thoughtless Road is popular route,  
And most folks start that way.  
But it's steep downgrade; if you don't watch out,  
You'll land in Falsehood Bay!  
You glide through the Alley of Vicious Town,  
And into the Tunnel of Hate,  
Then crossing the Add-to-Bridge, you walk  
Right into the City Gate.

The principal street is called They Say, and  
I've Heard is the public well,  
And breezes that blow from Falsehood Bay  
Are laden with—Don't You Tell.  
In the midst of the town is Telltale Park,  
You're never quite safe while there,  
For its owner is Madam Suspicious Remark,  
Who lives on the street Don't Care.

Just back of the park is Slander's Row,  
'Twas there that Good Name died,  
Pierced by a shaft from jealousy's bow  
In the hands of Envious Pride.  
From Gossip Town peace long since fled,  
But trouble and grief and woe  
And sorrow and care you'll find instead  
If ever you chance to go.

—Unknown.

### Jailing Parents Fails As Delinquency Curb

Punish the parents, not the children! That's Miss B's idea. "The children aren't to blame in all this juvenile delinquency," she protests. "It's the parents' fault. There aren't any bad children—merely bad parents. If a few of these parents were sent to jail, some of the others would take the hint and we'd hear a lot less about juvenile delinquency."

That's not the way it works, Miss B. Fortunately, we don't have to theorize about it. **The idea of punishing the parents has been given a fair trial, and found to make conditions worse rather than better.**

Judge Paul W. Alexander, who presides over the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court in Toledo, O., presents an interesting discussion in the current issue of Federal Probation. **For seven years "we punished parents more and more, and kept having more and more juvenile delinquency,"** he declares. Possibly punishment of parents satisfied society's desire for revenge—there is no way of measuring that result. **But it can't be depended on to produce the other results that are desired.**

What the child needs is a **good home**. Sending the parent to jail produces not a good home, but a broken home. "It is generally impossible to punish the parent without at the same time punishing the child or the rest of the family. Imprisonment usually means breaking up the

## The Man Who Won

He kept his soul unspotted  
 As he went upon his way,  
 And he tried to do some service  
 For God's people day by day;  
 He had time to cheer the doubter  
 Who complained that hope was dead;  
 He had time to help the cripple  
 When the way was rough ahead;  
 He had time to guard the orphan,  
 And one day, well satisfied  
 With the talents God had given him,  
 He closed his eyes and died.

He had time to see the beauty  
 That the Lord spread all around;  
 He had time to hear the music  
 In the shells the children found;  
 He had time to keep repeating  
 As he bravely worked away,  
 "It is splendid to be living  
 In this splendid world today!"  
 But the crowds—the crowds that hurry  
 After golden prizes—said  
 That he never had succeeded,  
 When the clouds lay o'er his head.

—Unknown.

family. Fining the parents means depriving the child and family of so much sustenance," Judge Alexander points out.

There are a few cases, he says, where some punishment—more often, mere threat of punishment—will force a parent to give co-operation; but what most parents of delinquent or neglected children need most is not punishment, but help.

The probation department of the court can often give parents some help, but that's pretty late in the game. **Why not give parents some help before, not after, their children become delinquent?** Why not demand that the schools prepare high school pupils for family life?—Dr. Paul Popenoe, in daily newspaper.

### Note by Spiritual Call Editor

The reader can see that the world is utterly at sea regarding the remedy for the juvenile delinquency problem. Even Popenoe proposes to push it onto the schools. He does not mention religious duties. Paul plainly commands, "And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but **bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**" Unless we can get religious parents to do that, there is no hope for the world or for the church. It is a lack of conversion. The editor of the Spiritual Call believes with all his heart that this is a most vital duty in church and world affairs, and will make an effort to have something on the subject in **EVERY** issue. If the reader is receiving this paper, never having subscribed, it is because you have a friend who considers you honest, or because you have small children, which we wish to help you train in the right way. If you have friends with small children, or sincere grown friends, whom you are interested in, and you think the Spiritual Call may help them, send us their names and addresses, and we will send them a few copies. This is a small matter, apparently, but there is no telling the great and lasting results, even for eternity.

## Only God Can Deliver From Lying Lips

Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips and from a deceitful tongue. Psalms 120:2.

I wonder why David prayed the Lord to deliver from such. Evidently he could not do it himself, and this was a last hope. It is certainly true that one can not keep up with a liar. I had some experience a few years ago, and found it impossible to correct all the misrepresentations, half truths, and falsehoods. So I cut myself loose **entirely** from such a character, and regardless of what he says pay no attention.

So in temporal things and religious things, when one finds himself mixed with a deceptive person, he must protect himself if he can. First, he can have nothing whatever to do with him, or, second, he can demand all communication **to be in writing**, so that the deceiver can not twist and squirm and deceive and lie **without being exposed**. When he refuses you know he is afraid of the truth. When a smooth talker, a deceiver, and underhand worker demands only an "oral" investigation, where he can twist and squirm and misrepresent, and then change his position, you know also that he is afraid of the truth.

David's prayer in his despair should be the prayer of the militant Christian today—"Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips and from a deceitful tongue."

### CHRIST THE ANSWER

As one by one our shattered idols fall,

And one by one the hopes of youth depart,  
 In this high moment of world destiny,

Life's hard realities may sear the heart;  
 But courage, light, and inner peace will come  
 If we have faith in Christ through all the years,  
 Whose rod and staff are here to comfort still—  
 Release us from time's tensions and our fears.

Sustaining strength will come in trusting souls  
 Poised in his love, and valor for each day,  
 To free us from the tyranny of hate,  
 Grim messenger of discord, holding sway  
 In realms Christ's way of life alone can save.  
 The love that neutralizes selfishness,  
 The love he taught amid earth's bitter blight,  
 Alone can banish chaos and distress.

Christ is the answer to all human needs,

**Have faith in him, and wait, he points the way,**  
 For in this life of change he changeth not.

The Morning Star that heralds a new day  
 Dissolves the dross of years, the doubts of time,  
 Shines on and on truth's pathway to disclose—  
 The path of peace to this bewildered world;  
 Let nations in its rays their hopes repose.

—Clyde Edwin Tuck.

Beware of the man whose main thought is to advance himself.

A solemn and religious regard to spiritual and eternal things is an indispensable element of all true greatness.

—Daniel Webster.

This man is great, and he alone,  
 Who serves a greatness not his own.

—Owen Meredith.