

## FLIES IN THE OINTMENT CHANGE THE ODOR THEREOF

### Spurious Additions to the Word of God Condemned.



Cleveland, O., Nov. 20.—The Wise Man declared that a fly in the precious ointment would cause it to stink. We apply this suggestion to the Word of God, the precious ointment which God has supplied. Certain flies (falsehoods) crept into it during the Dark Ages, which are now causing a loathing and repudiation on the part of many of the best and wisest people in the world. All will admit that it is sinful to tamper with the Word of God—to either add to or take from it or to wrest or twist or pervert its meaning. Why is it, then, that ministers of the Gospel, who know that certain passages of the Scriptures are not to be found in the older manuscripts, fail to show to the people the truth on this subject? And if these ministers are not fully informed, whose fault is that? Would it not be preferable that they should absent themselves from some of the fairs and festivals and social functions, in order to inform themselves?

On what pretext are the clergy a specially privileged class, except for the purpose of giving their flocks reliable information along religious lines? And what is their commission from the Lord, except that they "should feed the flock of God, which he purchased with the blood of his own dear Son?" If the flock have been feeding upon certain Scriptures supposed to be genuine, and if they have been made sick thereby, and if their shepherds now know that these Scriptures are not a part of the Divinely inspired Word, why should not God's people be informed of the facts and be stopped from eating poisonous elements introduced by the Adversary?

**Poison in Our Bibles.**  
The more others are silent, the more we must speak. We cannot see God's sheep spiritually sick without warning them respecting their spiritual food. Not only have we received many misinterpretations of the parables and symbols of the Bible, but into our Bibles themselves certain false statements have been injected—long centuries ago. All well-informed ministers of the Gospel know that our New Testament was not translated from the writings of the Apostles, but from copies thereof. These, copied over and over again, no matter how carefully, were liable to errors. And in addition, as we might expect, occasionally, a bold transcriber would add a few words to make the record conform to the better to his conception of what it ought to be. This went on for centuries before the art of printing came into use.

The New Testament was translated from the Greek into the Latin language, and was known as the Vulgate. From that Latin translation sprang our various English translations—the Douay or Catholic edition, published in 1609 A. D., and the King James Bible, or Common Version, published in 1611 A. D. The latter was merely a revised translation, to assist in which revision other previous translations were used, and we are assured that the text was diligently compared with the Greek text. But until lately there were no ancient Greek manuscripts with which to compare it. The Greek manuscripts with which it was compared numbered only eight, none of which dated earlier than the Tenth Century. Today, however, we have three very old Greek manuscripts of the New Testament, namely, the Alexandrian MS., the Vatican MS., and the Sinaitic MS. Of these, the Vatican MS. was the first to come to the attention of modern scholarship. It is in the Vatican Library, appearing on its catalogue as far back as 1475 A. D., which manuscript scholarship accorded its with having been written in the fourth century. Next came the Alexandrian MS., which is supposed to have been written about the middle of the fifth century. It is now on exhibition in the British Museum. Finally, we have the Sinaitic MS., which is in possession of the Russian Government. It was found by Constantine Tischendorf in a Mt. Sinai convent, from which it takes its name. It is accredited with a date of about 350 A. D. Of these three oldest MSS. of the New Testament known in the world, the Vatican and Sinaitic are the older.

Assuredly nothing should be considered as part of the original Scriptures that is not found in any of these three oldest MSS. Why should we not tell this to the people? Why should we not inform them that some of the most confusing texts of the Bible are not found in these old manuscripts? Is it not a sin to preach doctrines as from God which have no part in these early MSS.? This is our thought. From time to time it will be our pleasure, as well as our duty, to teach the common people what the clergy already know on this subject. Moreover, the Bible Students Association of Brooklyn has arranged for the importation of copies of the New Testament bound in cloth showing the variations between the readings of these old Greek MSS. and our Common Version. The usual price of these is \$1.00; but, importing them in large quantities, they are able to supply them post-paid at 50c. each.

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**Consider Now Our Text.**  
"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned."—Mark xvi, 15, 16.

One of the most important of these interpolations or poisonous additions engrafted upon the Word of God is in the sixteenth chapter of Mark, all of which, from the ninth verse to the end of the chapter, is spurious—fraudulent. It is additional to anything that St. Mark wrote, as evidenced by the fact that these verses are not found in any of the three oldest Greek MSS.

Of course some of the items of these verses are found in other Gospels. It would never do to add a lie without a certain amount of covering of Truth to sugarcoat it! But notice our text and what a wrong thought it gives—inconsistent with the remainder of the Scriptures. Its intimation is that the preaching of the Gospel to every creature will result either in his believing it and being baptized, and thus being saved, or in his disbelieving and being damned. And this word "damned" carries with it, in the light of other misunderstandings, fire and blazing, roasting and torture, shrieking and woes indescribable. This is all wrong—contrary to the authentic Scriptures.

The authentic Scriptures inform us that this Gospel Age is one in which God is gathering from the world a "little flock" of footstep followers, saintly and elect, to constitute the Bride of Christ—his joint-heirs in his coming Kingdom. They show that not all are expected to hear this message at the present time—not many wise, great, learned or rich, but chiefly the poor. They assure us that to have the hearing ear is a special favor, saying, "Blessed are your ears for they hear, and your eyes for they see." St. Paul tells us that the world in general is blind and deaf to the message now sent forth (Romans xi, 7), and the experiences of eighteen centuries corroborate this. St. Peter tells us (Acts xv, 13) that God's work in the present time is not the conversion of the world (which certainly is not being accomplished) but that he is now taking out of the world a people for his name (to bear the name of Christ, as his Bride). The authentic Scriptures everywhere teach us that the poor, blind, deaf world, which has never yet heard fully and clearly of "the only name given under heaven or amongst men whereby we may be saved," is not on this account condemned or damned. They tell us that the whole world was born condemned, because children of Adam and sharers in his condemnation, but that God has provided in the sacrifice of Jesus a redemption for Adam and all his race. They tell us that, as a result, in God's due time, Christ, as the true Light, the Sun of Righteousness, shall enlighten every man that cometh into the world. They explain that God is now calling out a special class while the darkness is upon the earth and the gross darkness upon the heathen, and that the Sun of Righteousness, which is to enlighten the whole world, will not arise until the elect Church shall first have been gathered out. They tell us that, in the New Dispensation yet to dawn, all the families of the earth will be blessed through The Christ—Jesus, the Head, and the Church his Body or Bride. They tell us that then "all the blind eyes shall be opened and all the deaf ears shall be unstopped" (Isaiah xxxv, 5). They tell us that then the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in his beams, flooding the whole earth with the light of the knowledge of the glory of God. They assure us that that will be the period of Messiah's reign, for which we pray, "Thy Kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as in heaven." They tell us that the object of that reign will be that the world in general may have a trial to determine whether, with the light and knowledge and experience then granted, they will choose God and righteousness and the reward of eternal life, or will choose sin and its penalty, the Second Death.

**Unbelievers Damned Already.**  
Our word "damned," from misusage and the bad theology of the Dark Ages, has a sulphurous odor, whereas its plain, simple meaning is the same as the word *condemns*. Adam was damned or condemned 9000 years ago because of his disobedience. And all his children, by heredity, share his weakness and thus share his condemnation. But Adam is not condemned or damned to eternal torture nor to Purgatory. The Bible distinctly says in so many words that his sentence, his condemnation, his damnation, is to death. "In the day that thou eatest thereof, dying thou shalt die" (Genesis ii, 17, margin). After his disobedience, God said, "Unfit is the earth for thy sake. Thorns and thistles shall it bring forth unto thee. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread until thou return unto the ground from which thou wast taken; for dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return" (Genesis iii, 17-19).

This general sentence has rested upon all of Adam's race from that day until now. As St. Paul declares, By one man's disobedience sin entered into the world and death (not eternal torment nor Purgatory) as a result of sin and thus death (not eternal torment nor Purgatory) passed upon all men, because all are sinners (Romans v, 12). Jesus came to redeem two classes—the Church and the world—the Church class to be his "Bride" and to share his heavenly, spiritual Kingdom with him; the world to be blessed and restored to human perfection and to an earthly Eden, world-wide—God's footstep made glorious. The Church and household of faith, willing to walk in the footsteps of the Master in the dark, have been called during the past nearly nineteen centuries. Soon the

worthy ones, the "little flock," will enter into the joys of their Lord, at his Second Coming. The marriage of the Lamb shall come, for his Wife will have made herself ready (Rev. xix, 7). Then the world's salvation will be due to begin. The Times of Restitution will be the thousand years of Messiah's spiritual reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. Fleshly Israel, we are assured, will then be restored to Divine favor and become the special and active agents of the Messianic Kingdom in the distribution of the Divine favors to all the families of the earth. In the end all the incorrigibly wicked, who love iniquity rather than righteousness, will be destroyed.

Thus, as the Apostle declares, the sacrifice of Jesus constitutes a satisfaction for our sins (the Church's sins) and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world (I John ii, 2).

**Nonsensical, Spurious Context.**  
Let us briefly notice another absurdity in the addition to God's Word found in the last twelve verses of St. Mark's Gospel, fraudulently added and not found in any of the oldest Greek MSS. Notice the statement, "These signs shall follow them that believe: in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them. They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" (verses 17, 18). The majority of Christian ministers and their congregations seem not to be troubled by the fact that they do not have these evidences of their relationship to the Lord, and they do not attempt to heal the sick, to speak with tongues, and would not dare to drink any poisonous thing. But there are certain conscientious people, the very cream of all the Churches, who are greatly perplexed by these words because they know that they are not true in their experience. With them, therefore, it is a matter of feeling doubtful about their own salvation, or a question as to the reliability of the Bible as a whole. They need to have the relief which we now seek to give them. They need to know that these are not inspired words, but poisonous and injurious additions made during the Dark Ages. They may, consequently, look elsewhere in the Scriptures and find the proper assurances of their relationship with God being demonstrated by the fruits of the holy Spirit in their lives and in their hearts—"meekness, gentleness, patience, long-suffering, brotherly kindness, love."

**Miracles in the Early Church.**  
This spurious passage of our text is used by many ministers who know, or ought to know, of its falsity. But they have a certain theory in their minds to the effect that the miracles and unknown tongues of the early Church were lost by reason of unfaithfulness to God, and that Christians today should seek for their recovery. Not having any Scriptures to support their claim they use this interpolation and allow their hearers and readers to believe it to be the inspired message. To what length have people gone in support of human theory! The first principle of preaching should be to preach the Truth, the whole Truth and nothing but the Truth. Every theory which requires bolstering up by spurious passages should be abandoned, and will be abandoned by those who are honest truth-seekers, "Bereans."

Our Lord performed miracles. So did his Apostles. And so did those of the early Church upon whom the Apostles laid their hands. But no others have this gift. Consequently, when the Apostles were dead and when all those upon whom they had laid hands of blessing were dead, these miracles in the Church were at an end. We all see the propriety of this. Miracles were appropriate at the beginning for the establishment of the Church and, for a time, were necessary for their encouragement. In their early meetings they had no source of information aside from the Apostles, whom they rarely saw or heard. They had no Bibles—no copies of the Gospel nor of the Epistles. They needed the very arrangement which God provided—tongues and interpretations of tongues, etc., to draw them together and to instruct them until, in due time, the canon of Scripture would be completed that, through it, the man of God might be thoroughly furnished unto every good word and work (II Tim. iii, 16, 17).

By the time the Apostles died the Church had become established, had regular meetings, pastors and teachers, the Gospels and Epistles, and some of them had begun to develop the fruits of the Spirit. Thus the early Church naturally outgrew the tongues and miracles and entered a larger sphere, just as a child loses its swaddling clothes in favor of more suitable attire. For God's people today to desire to go back to speaking with tongues, etc., such as was practised, and very profitably, in the early Church, would be like an adult person desiring to be dressed and treated as a babe. It is our understanding that the speaking with unknown tongues in religious meetings, which is gradually spreading over the world, is a deception being practised upon earnest children of God, who are deceived by the fallen angels—the demons of the Bible. They are thus enslaved to error and have their attention drawn away from the Truth. To what extent the ministers of Christ of today are responsible for the delusion of these poor people is not ours to determine. Had the spuriousness of the last verses of St. Mark's Gospel been duly pointed out from every pulpit, as soon as the old MSS. were known, some, at least, might have been spared from this snare—some who, under misunderstanding, have been hindered from proper expectations in respect to God's Word and had improperly to expect the power of tongues and miracles suggested in this spurious passage.

## "LOWER PRICES" A BIG FAKE

### Only a Manipulation in Reduction of Market Stocks.

The interests which manipulated the prices upward have released their hold on our throats temporarily for the purpose of getting a fresh grip. The so-called reduction in meats is fictitious.

This statement was made by Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture at Washington, in connection with persistent reports to the effect that there had been a reduction in the prices of all kinds of meats.

"This so-called reduction in the price of meats," said Dr. Wiley, "is merely a deliberate manipulation of the market, just as the increase in prices was unjust, unreasonable and uncalled for by conditions prevailing throughout the country. The prices were fictitious when they reached the top notch, because they were forced to that high level arbitrarily by the interests."

"The alleged reduction is also fictitious, because the reduction is not a reduction in fact, but merely market manipulation, deliberately planned to meet the selfish ends of the interests who have dominated the markets for years."

"If you do not believe that the so-called reduction is fictitious go into the markets and try to buy a pound of beef. You will suddenly discover that the reduction in prices is very unreal, and if you want the beef you will come pretty close to paying exactly what you have been paying for it in the past."

"But even if there is an actual reduction at this particular time it is far from being permanent. Why? Simply because the interests which controlled the market a year ago and forced the price of meats up to an abnormal level are still in control of the market."

"It is impossible to believe that they have suddenly become philanthropic and decided to give the people a square deal. No developments will show that the interests are after someone. There may be some independent movement they hope to drive from cover or take into camp. The hands of the interests at our throats just simply got tired from holding on. They have relaxed their hold temporarily in order that they may get a better and fresher grip."

"There is some reason, best known to themselves, why the interests have announced a reduction in the price of meats. Believe me, it was not prompted by any desire to help the consumer solve this problem of the high cost of living."

Secretary Wilson of the department of agriculture says that the announced reduction in prices was abnormal. He said it was due to the fact that the drought in the cattle raising country had increased the cost of hay.

"The farmer with cattle on his hands," said Secretary Wilson, "must pay \$35 a ton for his hay instead of \$30, the price of a year ago, and rather than do this he is sending his cattle to market. This has caused a flood of cattle in the Chicago market and accounts for the sudden tumble in prices."

"This tumble is abnormal and will not be permanent. However, a plentiful corn crop and plenty of grain will enable the farmer to feed freely, and we should get a lower level of prices. Lower prices are certain to come, provided that somewhere between the farmer and the consumer there is no combination or agreement to keep the prices up."

### Notice to Creditors.

State of Nebraska, Cass County, ss.  
In the matter of the estate of John H. Wallinger, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of said deceased will meet the administrator of said estate, before me, County Judge of Cass County, Nebraska, at the county court room in Plattsmouth, in said county, on December 12, 1910, and on June 14, 1911, at 9 o'clock, a. m., each day, for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance.

Six months are allowed for the creditors of said deceased to present their claims, and one year for the administrator to settle said estate, from the 12th day of December, 1910.

Witness my hand and seal of said County Court, at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, this 10th day of November, 1910.

(Seal) Allen J. Beeson,  
County Judge.

Mr. D. B. Ebersole transacted business in the metropolis this afternoon.

# - THANKSGIVING - NEXT WEEK



means homecoming, turkey dressing and new clothes.

You can be thankful that right here at your door is a store fully equipped to meet all your requirements in "dressing" and "fixins" for Thanksgiving time.

The garments we show you are **CLOTHES**—not merely clothing—they possess genuine style—not just a feeble flicker of it. An assortment to choose from that's deep as a well and wide as a church door. Come in and let us dress you for the occasion in one of our **QUALITY Suits and Overcoats.**

Men's silk lined dress gloves in Suede or Kid \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2. Some new arrivals in silk knitted four in-hand 50c.

## C. E. Wescott's Sons THE HOME OF SATISFACTION

### MASONIC LODGE HOLD BANQUET AT THEIR HALL

From Saturday's Daily.

One of the most delightful initiatory ceremonies held by the Masonic fraternity in this city for a long time occurred at their hall last evening. Prominent Masons from Omaha and Murray and vicinity, and other points in the county, were present and participated. After the initiatory ceremony in the lodge room, the lodge adjourned to the banquet hall adjoining, and enjoyed one of the finest banquets ever served in this city.

Mr. F. E. White, of Omaha, acted as toastmaster and the address of welcome was made by Rev. W. L. Austin, of this city, the response was made by Mr. Arthur Jackson, master of St. John's lodge, of Omaha. This lodge has the largest membership of any lodge in the state, having a membership of 500. Other speakers were Mr. A. L. Tidd, Superintendent Gamble, Captain Morrison, Mr. Salce, of the Masonic Home, and others.

The meeting drew the best attendance on record, the banquet hall being entirely filled with the banqueters.

The out of town Masons present were F. E. White, of Omaha; Sam Long, of South Bend; Arthur Jackson, W. C. Ramsey and C. Masden, of Omaha; D. J. and Sam Pitman, of Murray; W. C. Brown, James Loughridge, Don Rhoden, of Murray; Will Rummel, Julius Pitts, J. E. Griffin, W. T. Adams, G. W. Snyder, Joe Tubbs and Chas. T. P. Peacock, of the precinct.

### Franchise Amendment Fails.

The franchise amendment has been slain by the sleepers. Out of 173,463 votes cast outside of Lancaster and Douglas counties the amendment gets 70,118, while 47,491 are counted against it. Those who voted on the question are favorable by nearly two to one, but those who did not vote on the question are counted against it. On this basis, in the counties included, the amendment loses by more than fifteen thousand votes, Lancaster, which is not included, gives the amendment less than a majority of all votes cast, though the votes on the amendment are favorable by two to one. Douglas, which is not included, will go heavily against it. The device of carrying amendments by making them a part of the party tickets failed this time for two reasons. The number of straight party votes cast was very small, probably less than half the total—Lincoln Journal.

John Chalfant, of Liberty precinct, was in the city transacting business at the court house.

### TRUSSES

The only surgical house in the West where all fitting is done by an expert. Largest stock of trusses in the West.  
**THE W. G. CLEVELAND DRUG CO.**  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

### No Right to Trim Trees.

The supreme court of the State of Nebraska has decided that corporations have no right to trim trees belonging to individuals, according to the following opinion filed Thursday.

The verdict for damages secured by Anna C. Slabaugh against the Omaha Electric Light and Power company for cutting the trees in front of her property because they interfered with the light wires, has been affirmed by the supreme court.

The court holds: "In the absence of a valid legislative act or municipal ordinance granting to public service corporations authority to trim shade trees, growing in the streets of metropolitan cities, without compensating the abutting property owners for damages thereby inflicted and enacted before the lot owner plants trees in that part of the street contiguous to his lot, an electric light company is liable to the owner for damages accruing to his lot by reason of such trimming."

## CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher*

### Will Sunday in Lincoln.

Joseph W. Johnson was a passenger on the morning train today for Lincoln, where he goes to spend Sunday with his sons, Edward and Alge, and families. Mrs. Johnson went to the capitol a few days ago and both will be present at the family reunion and birthday anniversary dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Johnson today, and tomorrow all will be present at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alge Johnson. Both sons are new and have been in the employ of the Burlington railroad for many years, having recently erected fine new homes in Lincoln, and are enjoying happiness and prosperity in every way. The few days' visit will be a most pleasant one to the two sons and father and mother.

### Now a Resident of Plattsmouth.

Mr. Roy Pelton, of Minneapolis, had his household goods unloaded at the Burlington freight house here yesterday and removed to the George Ballance house. Mr. Pelton will be a Plattsmouth resident until the government building is completed, and will oversee the job for the construction company, of which his father is president.

## J. W. HUGHES Live Stock and General Farm Sale AUCTIONEER

Five years successful selling renders me thoroughly competent of handling your sale. Reference from those I have sold for. Graduate from Missouri Auction School. See me at Perkins Hotel.

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