TWO DISTINCT SALVATIONS ALL IN ONE OR THE OTHER

Every Human Being Is to Have a Full, Fair, Intelligent Opportunity For Eternal Life.

A SECOND CHANCE FOR FATHER ADAM ONLY



19. - Pastor Russell preached today at the London Tab ernacle to an overflowing house. His text was taken from Hebrews ii. 3: "So great salvation, which began to be spoken by our Lord, and was

confirmed onto us by those who heard Him." The speaker said:-

In the past many of us misunder stood these words-"so great salvation" -and have thought them to apply merely to an "elect" few of the saintly followers of our great Redeemer. Surely it should not be thought strange if a closer examination of God's Word would demonstrate to us that as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are His ways and plans higher than ours (Isalah Iv. 9). It should not surprise us to find that our forefathers were generally in considerable darkness in respect to "the length and breadth and height and depth of the love of God, which passeth all under standing" (Ephesians III, 18, 19). It should not surprise us to find that our Savior will yet see the fruitage of the travail of His soul and he satisfied (Isalah lili, 11), and that this satisfaction will result from the salvation of more than the "little flock." who walk in His steps and who, like Him. "present their bodies living sacrifices. holy and acceptable to God," in the service of Truth and righteousness.

There are several ways of treating this thought, that more than an "elect" few are eventually to reach eternal life through the Redeemer of mankind. One way, which many adopt, is to claim that our Lord and the Apostles did not really mean to establish so high a standard of saintship as their words imply, and then to conclude that the unsaintly will gain eternal life as well as the saintly-all except the degenerately wicked. This view of mat ters, which is the common one, is un doubtedly prompted by sympathy for friends, relatives, neighbors and the heathen; but it is wholly contrary to God's Word

Another view still held by some is that everybody but the saintly will suffer torture eternally and hopelessly.

The third theory which I desire to present here is the one I believe to be in accord with every text of Scripture and in accord with Justice, Wisdom Love and Power Divine, and in accord with sanctified common sense. I have time for only an outline of this Plan. which is most comprehensive, as fol

The Saintly New Creation.

Salvation in no sense began before the Redeemer's birth, forty-one hun dred and twenty-eight years after the fall of our first parents, in all that long period nobody was saved. The Apostle declares in our text that sal vation began to be preached by Jesus. Again we read that Jesus brought life and immortality to light through His Gospel (II Timothy I, 10). So, then life and immortality and the Gosper Message began to be preached by our Lord and was not preached before His day. Indeed we can see that if there is "none other Name given under heav en or amongst men whereby we must be saved," than the name of Jesus. then it could not have been preached: nothing could be preached previously except the Divine declaration that God purposed in due time to redeem mankind from sin and death through a Savior and a Great One-One able to save unto the uttermost all that would come unto the Father through Him.

This reasoning is surely true to the facts. Search all through the Old Testament and there is found no promise of eternal life set forth except by the Law given to the one little nation of Israel. That Law declared that he that doeth these things shall live by his obedience thereto (Romans x, 5 and the Apostle assures us that Jewdied because none of them kept the Law-because no imperfect human be ing could possibly meet the require ments of God's perfect Law. "By the deeds of the Law shall no flesh be justified in His sight" (Romans III, 20)

The Apostle, further explaining the matter, says, "Wherefore, then, serveth the Law?" He replies to his question "It was added because of transgres sion until the promised Seed should come" (Galatians III. 19).

The Promised Seed.

The Apostle's words direct our thoughts back to Eden, when God declared that the Seed of the woman would at some future time bruise the Serpent's head. But that Seed did not exist for over four thousand years after, and has not yet crushed the Serpent's head-destroyed sin and the works of Satan.

The Apostle's words again remind us of God's promise to Abraham, "In thy | xv. 50-52). Seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed" (Genesis xxviii, 14) Abraham was not thus blessed, nor were any others thus blessed, however faithful they were. All the blessing was to come through Abraham's Seed that heaven is not a place of developand could not be dispensed before Hiscoming. Hence the Apostle, referring

the faithful of past time, declared, "All these died in faith, not having received the promise" (Hebrews xi, 13)-the blessing-reconciliation to God and

And when Jesus came He did not attempt to biess the world, but on the Book. Now we see where we erred. contrary, in His prayer, declared, "1 pray not for the world, but for them 9)-the saintly, the "very elect" (Matthew xxiv, 24). These He called; these He taught-"Israelites indeed." These He directed to give the same message to others, not for the conversion of the world, but for the calling, instruction and edification of "the Church, which is the Body of Christ." fer with Him, that they might also reign with Him.

"The Church Which Is the Body of

Christ." In the past many of us have overglorious Christ, which will be complet- with him. ed by the close of this Gospel Age, will as a whole be the promised Seed of

Abraham. From this viewpoint we can see why God's long-promised blessing has not yet reached the world, but from this viewpoint we can see that He is merely selecting or electing the Church, the Seed of Abraham. The promise to Abraham is, "In thy Seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed," and, as we have seen, the Seed of Abraham is "Jesus the Head and the Church His Body." In a word, our previous view of the Divine Plan was too narrow. We saw the election of the Church, but did not see God's gracious purposes for "All the families of the earth." The Church, as the Scriptures declare, is merely a "first-fruits" unto God of His creatures and is not, by any means, the entire barvest. Let us here remember St. Paul's explanation of this matter. He declares, "We, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of the promise" (Galatians iv. 28)-the heirs of the promise-through us all the families of the earth are to be blessed.

No Second Chance in This. It might indeed be said in one sense of the word that since father Adam reward of eternal life before him or a penalty of death, and that since he derness shall blossom as a rose and lost his chance of eternal life by disobedience, therefore any chance of eternal life coming to him or to any member of his race would, of necessity, be a second chance. This is undoubtedly true. From this standpoint for eternal life, because it was for desire to become His disciples-to take this very purpose that our Redeemer up their cross and follow Him through left the heavenly giory, was made evil report and good report even unto flesh, dwelt amongst us and "died, the death. The entire Gospel Age antithis second chance must expect no the sacrifices of our Lord and the more, because "Christ dieth no more." | Church, Els Body, are the "better sac-But, as we have already seen, nobody rifices," foreshadowed by the bullock had a second chance for eternal life and the goat offered typically by the prior to the coming of our Redeemer Jews. This is the acceptable year of into the world. "He brought life and the Lord which Jesus declared (Isaiah immortality to light." He died, the | Ixi, 2; Luke iv, 19). God's faithful just for the unjust, to make recon- people of this acceptable day are ciliation for iniquity-and this mes- glad to be invited to "present their sage of so great salvation began to be bodies living sacrifices, holy and acspoken by our Lord.

heard the Gospel since Jesus' day- come the end of all opportunity to thus be unto all people", these, the compar- joint-heirs with Christ and partakers atively few, who have heard of "the of the heavenly nature. only name given under heaven or amongst men whereby we must be

could not reject it. tion sure by so running as to obtain in the Second Death. this great prize of membership in the | This great Prophet has been in proc-Body of Christ.

These elect ones experience a change teen centuries. And when the last of nature, and in the future will not member of His Body shall have passed be human beings, but partakers of the beyond the veil, He will stand forth divine nature (II Peter i. 4). They in the glories of His Kingdom to rule, will be inducted into the perfection judge, instruct, restore and bless all of the divine nature in the First Res- the families of the earth with opporurrection, the chief resurrection, in tunity for restoration to all that was which they will be changed in a mo- lost in Eden and redeemed at Calvary. ment, in the twinkling of an eye, be- These "Restitution Times" are beauticause flesh and blood cannot luberit fully referred to in a poem known to the Kingdom of God (I Corinthians many of our readers, written by one

Human Salvation Is Restitution.

We all gagged at the thought that the heathen and everybody except saints would be consigned to an eternity of torture, yet we all recognized ment but a condition of perfection. We were perplexed, mystified. We did to Atsaham, Isaac and Jacob and all not follow our Bibles with sufficient

care. Many of us twisted the Scriptures, wrested them from their plainly obvious import, and always to our own injury. Some went in the direction of Universalism; others balfway, and still others abandoned the Holy

God has two salvations; one for the Church and a totally different one for which thou hast given Me" (John xvii, the world. The salvation for the Church is to heavenly nature, spirit bodies, and joint-heirship with the Master in His Kingdom, which flesh and blood cannot inherit, as we have already seen. The other salvation, for mankind, is an earthly one, called in the Scriptures "Restitution." Man was not an angel originally, not a spirit be-London, March The message to these from first to ing, but, as the Scriptures declare, last was that they were called to suf- "The first man was of the earth earthy.

It was that earthy man, perfect. in the image of his Creator, for whose happiness Eden was specially prepared. By obedience to God he looked the fact that the Church are, might have continued to enjoy his figuratively, "the Body of Christ"-to Eden home everlastingly. By disobedtbe hereafter, as the Apostle declares, ence he first lost his fellowship with "the Church which is His Body." And God, then his Eden home, and after again. We are members in particular nine hundred and thirty years of toilof the Body of Christ, which is the ing with thorns and thisties in sweat Church (I Corinthians xii, 27). In a of face, the death penalty upon him word, then, the entire Christ includes reached completion-he died. Adam's the members of the Body with the glo- race, sharing his weaknesses by laws rious Head of the Body. And this of heredity, have also shared death

"World Through Him Might Be Saved." The Scriptures tell us that God's real purpose in sending Jesus into the world was that the "world might through Him be saved"-not the salvation of the Church; that was an incidental feature. The Church is selected that as the Bride or Queen during the Messianic Kingdom she may be associated with her Lord, the King, as the Seed of Abraham in the blessing, the saving, of Adam and his family, or so many of them as shall be willing, from sin and death conditions. We remember the Master's words to the effect that "He came to seek and

to save (recover) that which was lost." We have just seen that it was a buman life, human perfection and an earthly home that were lost. It is these, then, that Jesus proposes in due time to recover for Adam and his family. The Messianic reign of Jesus and his Body-the Anointed, the Christ, The Messiah-will be for the purpose of blessing Adam and all of his race with glorious opportunities of an earthly salvation. The uplifting, restoring influences of Messiah's Kingdom will affect not only Adam and his race, but also the earth itself. Gradunlly Paradise Lost, as a little garden was placed on trial in Eden with a of Eden, will become Paradisc Regained as the world beautiful. Then the wilthe solitary place shall be glad.

"Times of Restitution."

At our Lord's First Advent the "acceptable time" began-the time when God, having accepted the sacrifice of ceptable unto God" (Romans xii, 1). The comparatively few who have In the end of this acceptable day will Good tidings of great joy which shall sacrifice the human nature and become

Then will be introduced a new period styled, in the Scriptures, "Times (or saved"-are the only ones who in any years) of Restitution." The acceptable sense of the word have had their sec- day for the Church's sacrifice has lastond chance. Indeed we might, Scrip- ed for nearly nineteen centuries. And turally, limit the matter much further | we know how long the "Times of Restiand say that the Gospel has been hid- tution" will last-nearly a thousand den from the majority of those who years. St. Peter tells us just when these heard it; their mental eyes and ears "Restitution Times" will begin. They being deaf and blind, they did not com- did not begin in his day. They have prehend the message, and therefore not begun yet. They will begin as a result of the Second Advent of Jesus, The "high calling" and "so great the Messiah, and the establishment of salvation" which so few have really His Kingdom and righteousness, "Times heard and seen is referred to by our of refreshing shall come from the presgreat Redeemer saying, "Blessed are ence of the Lord and He shall send your eyes, for they see, and your Jesus Christ, as before was preached ears, for they hear." "The natural unto you, whom the heavens must reman receiveth not the things of the tain until the Times of Restitution of Spirit of God, neither can he know all things which God hath spoken by them; because they are spiritually dis- the month of all the holy prophets cerned. * * * But God hath reveal- since the world began. For Moses ed them unto us by His spirit" (I Co- verily said onto the fathers, A Prophrinthians ii. 14). In other words, only et like unto me (of whom I am but the Spirit-begotten ones are now on a type or figure; shall the Lord your trial for life everlasting or death ever. God raise up unto you from amongst lasting. And only the faithful footstep your brethren. Him shall ye hear in followers will gain the giory, honor, all things whatsoever He shall speak immortality and joint-heirship with unto you. And it shall come to pass Him in His Kingdom. These are the that the soul that will not obey that "elect," the "very elect." These are Prophet shall be destroyed from such as make their calling and elect amongst the people" (Acts III, 19-23)-

ess of raising up for now nearly ninewho was particularly identified with the Christian Standard office brethren:-

A thousand years, earth's coming glory. The the glad day so long foretold; 'Tis the bright morn of Zion's glory Prophets foresaw in times of old.

It seems to me, Brother Editor, that in the foregoing there cannot be a very wide difference of opinion as between your view and my own of the Bible's



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-JOHN BAUER -

THE GREAT COMEDY

Will Be at the Parmele Theater Friday Night, March 24th

Creditable indeed it is to write a brilliant comedy, and the public is never slow to show its appreciation HOW CAN THE MATTER of a play that entertains. Still more commendable when playmakers achieve laughter and amusement without an atom of indelicacy. Praise; to Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood for this very thing. In

can, and it hasn't a word or a scene posts. Days" isn't found every day, nor | were hitched five and six blocks from

every twenty years for that matter. the business part of town. Farmers ing as this one is doing. "There is lively fun in 'Seven Days' " said the New York Herald. "It is an uproarious comedy and it is clean as well as amusing. There is not a line Telephone company was held at the one need blush over; and there is steady laughter all evening."

BE REMEDIED IMMEDIATLEY?

farmers have flocked to Plattsmouth Pollard, Nehawka; C. H. Smith, "Seven Days" they have written a in large numbers to do their shopcomedy that scintillates with wit and ping and probably to look after other cleverness in every fraction of a matters of business. This fact second, that keeps an audience in demonstrates that farmers feel inparoxysms of laughter from start to clined to come to the county seat to finish without an instant's let-up, and buy goods when they are accorded does so in an absolutely wholesome cordial treatment. The Commercial manner. Americans should rejoice in club has done considerable in the meeting, and found time to drop in this. Here is an American comedy, direction of fixing things so that it is and see the Journal people for a brief written by Americans, dealing with pleasant for people to come to time, Americans, in America, home-made Plattsmouth. But one thing we perand home-bred throughout, recog- ceived last Saturday which has been nized as the eleverest play and the sadly neglected and which needs the biggest success since the days of the direction of the Commercial clublate Charles H. Hoyt, also an Ameri- that is the insufficiency of hitching or a hint that could offend the most grumbling on this score last Saturevery member of the human family Christ Jesus, became willing through fastidious. Perhaps some of those day and the Saturday before. One must eventually have a second chance Him to accept the sacrifices of all who theatrical managers who have been farmer remarked in our hearing that importing European farce will profit he was going to quit coming to Plattsby the object lesson furnished by mouth if there was not more hitching "Seven Days" and realize that it is posts put up, and then jokingly adjust for the unjust." Whoever enjoys types Israel's Day of Atonement, and possible to get a superior article here ded that he had to go half way to at home, and understand further that Mynard before he could find a place the American public prefers clean to hitch his team. But, seriously comedy to much of the suggestive speaking, we do need more hitch stuff from abroad. Still, a "Seven racks, as last Saturday many teams

for it has been fully that long since don't like that and we would like to there was a play that has captured see the Commercial club take the popular fancy and set people laugh- matter up at their very first meeting.

Telephone Company Meets,

The adjourned meeting of the stockholders of the Plattsmouth office of the company in this city this morning at 10 o'clock, at which time a dividend of 11/2 per cent was declared and payable April first. The following officers were elected: T. E. Parmele, president; C. C. Parmele, vice president; J. N. Wise, secretary; T. H. Pollock, general manager and treasurer. The directors elected were: For the past three Saturdays T. E. Parmele, C. C. Parmele; M. H. Henry A. Talcott, Greenwood; Phillip Linch, Alvo; T. H. Pollock; B. Wolph, Nehawka.

> Our good friends, J. A. Walker and D. J. Pitman of Murray were in the city today attending the telephone

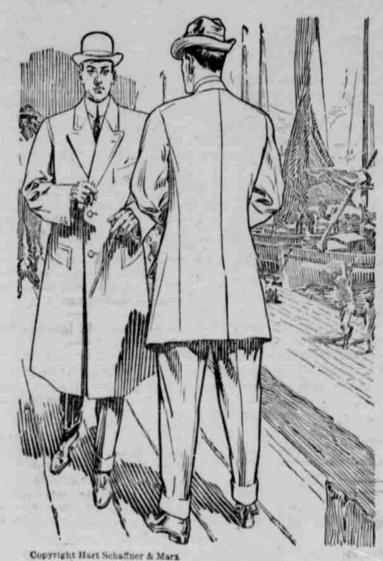
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