

CHRIST'S TRIUMPH A GLORIOUS ONE

Victor, He Leads Forth His Captives In Multitudes.

DIED TO RESCUE HUMANITY.

Pastor Russell Pictures the Release of Death's Prisoners and Shows From Scripture That In the Triumphant Procession Four Grades Will Participate.



Boston, Mass., May 19.—Pastor Russell spoke here today in the Boston Theatre. In one of his discourses he spoke from this text: "When He ascended up On High, He led a multitude of captives."—Ephesians iv, 8.

This grand expression respecting the glorious outcome of the Savior's work is quoted by the Apostle Paul from the Psalms. (Ps. lxxvii, 18.) The figure thus thrust before our mental eye is that of a great Conqueror whose victory is being heralded. With the Romans we know that it was a custom that generals returning from various wars were granted what were termed "Triumphs"—that is to say, triumphal processions, that the people might have tangible evidence of their victories.

Thus, for instance, Titus, returning from the war upon the Jews, in A. D. 70, brought with him certain notable persons, and the Golden Candlestick from the Temple, and these were displayed to the eyes of the people following the conqueror. They were subsequently sculptured on the Arch of Titus, still standing in Rome. And evidently the custom was still older than the days of the Romans, since it was so prophetically set forth by the Prophet David.

Let us permit our mental eye to feast upon the scene presented in our text. Jesus, in fulfillment of the Divine Program, had left the heavenly condition and descended to earth, taking a bondman's form or nature in order "that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for every man;" in order that He might rescue Adam and his race from the dying and death condition in which they were—under Divine sentence and under the power of Satan.

Therefore the Redeemer counted not His life precious to Him, but freely delivered Himself up for our offences and died, "the Just for the unjust," that He might bring mankind back into harmony with God. His humiliation ended in death, but His triumph began when, as is recorded, God raised Him from the dead by His own power, and set him at the right hand of His own Majesty—"far above angels, principalities and powers and every name that is named."

He That Ascended First Descended.

The prophecy says nothing about our Lord's descending from the heavenly glory to the earthly nature, but St. Paul supplies this feature saying, "He that ascended, what is it but that He first descended, into the lower condition of the earth?" Thus the Apostle asserts that He that descended in He that ascended above all heights, that all things may be fulfilled through Him.

An important thought here noted is that our Lord not only left the heavenly glory, but that He returned to a still more excellent glory—He did not suffer the disastrous loss of the heavenly nature as a result of His obedience in taking the human nature. As He left the heavenly nature to take the human, so in returning He left the human nature to ascend again to that which He had before, with the additional glory of the divine nature.

Leading Forth the Captives.

With most of the conquerors in olden times the captives were made slaves. Not so, however, will be the result of Jesus' victory. He leads forth to liberty and eternal life those who have been slaves of sin and death. His train of captives is a long one indeed; the procession has already occupied *eighteen centuries*, and is yet to be the great work of the *thousand years* of that Messianic reign!

First of all in the procession are the saints—"the Church of the First-born, whose names are written in Heaven." In the forefront of them we see the twelve Apostles, St. Paul taking the place of Judas. The Apostles are to be Kings who are to reign with Christ in pre-eminent positions, but following them are some others of the saintly company of Kings—in all a "little flock."

Then will come a company, more numerous, but less heroic—"a great multitude," uncrowned, but with "palm branches," not anti-typical Priests, but anti-typical Levites, associates and servants of the Royal Priesthood, the Bride. Then will follow Hebrews xi, 38-40; other faithful ones of the past, the Ancient Worthies. The Prophet speaks also of the "rebellious house." The classes previously specified were not rebellious, but gladly and willingly forsook all to do the will of the Father and to attain the liberty of sons of God, as the first-fruits of the triumph of the Lamb.

But during the thousand years of

Christ's reign He will lead forth the "rebellious house"—the world of mankind—not all of them, we may be sure, for some, the Scriptures positively declare, will die the Second Death, because, after realizing their delinquency, they will love sin and will therefore be destroyed as enemies of righteousness. But it is a blessed thought that many of those who are now aliens, strangers and foreigners from God through wicked works are in this condition of opposition, not willingly, not intelligently, but by reason of the ignorance and weaknesses which came to them by heredity, under the reign of sin and death.

It is to be a distinct feature of the great Triumph of Immanuel that every eye shall be opened and every ear unstopped, that "the knowledge of the glory of God shall fill the whole earth," during His glorious reign of righteousness. Are we not distinctly told of the time that will follow, in which all the willing and obedient shall receive the Holy Spirit, which then will be poured out "upon all flesh" even as now, during this Gospel Age, it is poured out upon God's "servants and handmaidens" only?

"Oh, that will be a glorious Triumph for the great Redeemer! In the language of the Bible, 'He shall see the fruitage of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied.' What a glorious fruitage!—not only His own exaltation—not only the exaltation of His faithful Bride class, and the additional exaltation of 'the virgins, her companions, which follow her,' and the exaltation of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the Prophets, but finally the deliverance to human perfection of all the groaning creation willing to accept the same upon the Divine terms of loyalty to God and to the principles of His Government as these shall be made known to them.

"He Gave Gifts Unto Men."

It was the custom in olden times that a king coming into authority and power should give gifts according to His wealth. Governors and princes would be needed and he would dispense the honors of these offices to those found faithful in his service, loyal in the defense of his cause. So in this prophetic reference to our Lord's ascension it is declared, not only that He would lead forth a multitude of captives, granting them freedom, liberty, blessings, but also that He would confer certain gifts.

We might have spent valuable time guessing the nature of these gifts which the great Redeemer would dispense, but such a waste of time is unnecessary, since the Apostle proceeds to explain the matter and tells us what gifts are meant. He says, "And He gave some Apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers."

There is an astounding thought connected with this statement—that the Apostles were not self-appointed, and that they had no successors, and that the work of evangelizing, or making known the "good tidings," and the pastoral work amongst believers, are all under the supervision of the Head of the Church, the great Victor, who redeemed us with His blood, and who proposes, first, to lead forth a Bride class, and subsequently all the willing and obedient.

It behooves us to notice that the Apostle does not intimate that Jesus gave to some Methodism, to others Presbyterianism, and others Roman Catholicism, etc. No, when we hold such thoughts it was because of more or less misunderstanding—because we failed to see first that there is but the "one Church of the Living God, whose names are written in heaven," and second, that that one Church is not any of the various sects and parties, but includes the saintly in all of these; "the Lord knoweth them that are His."

Not Given to Convert the World.

Noting carefully the Apostle's argument we perceive that the Master did not give these gifts for the conversion of the world. He does specify, however, what they were for, namely, "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ"—the Church, the Bride class. Is it supposable that the Apostle erred in this statement and that the fact is the reverse—that these gifts were provided for the conversion of the world, and that the Apostle thoroughly misunderstood the matter and supposed that they were given for the perfecting of the saints, for the edifying of the Body of Christ? No! We are to be taught by the Apostles and may be sure that there is no mistake, no error in his statement.

Notice the force of the expression, "the perfecting of the saints." It is not sufficient that believers have a little knowledge, a little faith, and a measure of sanctification or devotion to the Lord, for after they have received and attained all of these things they still need the instruction of the Apostles and ministers, pastors and teachers, provided by the great Head of the Church for their perfection. Ah! there is a force and depth of meaning in that word *perfecting*. We remember that of our Head it is written, "Being made perfect through suffering, He became the Author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him." So His followers are to be made perfect through suffering.

The Master's perfecting, indeed, was a little different from ours, and yet there is a similarity between the two. He was perfect before He humbled Himself; He was still perfect as the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself; but as a result of His consecration He received a begetting of the Holy Spirit and the divine nature, and His development as a New Creature required that He faithfully carry out His vow, or covenant of sacrifice, in the do-

ing of the will of the Heavenly Father. By such faithfulness He perfected Himself on the Divine plane—that is, He proved Himself worthy according to the covenant—"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, to receive glory, honor, dominion and power."

Similarly the followers of Jesus are to be sharers with Him in the sufferings of this present time and in the glories which shall follow, for "If we suffer with Him we shall also reign with Him." Although we are imperfect in the flesh, while He was perfect yet the robe of His righteousness, the merit of His sacrifice, covers all of our blemishes and makes us, as His foot step followers, holy and acceptable before the Father, as joint-sacrificers with Jesus.

The begetting of the Holy Spirit starts us in the life Divine. We are not to be perfected in the flesh, but in the spirit, and our perfection and acceptance with the Father will be demonstrated by our loyalty of heart and thoroughness with which we submit our all to the Divine will and seek to glorify God in our bodies and spirits, which are His. Our justification comes to us as a reward of faith, regardless of works, but our glorification will follow only as a reward for faithfulness—"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

These Gifts Are Lasting.

Not merely for a few days or years were these gifts to the Church provided; on the contrary, they were to endure throughout this entire Age, until the Church perfected shall pass beyond the veil and be forever with her Redeemer, to share His glory, honor and immortality. The Lord from time to time has raised up evangelists, pastors and teachers for this glorious service of preparing the "chaste virgin," the Church, to be the Bride in glory. But the Apostolic office, as represented in The Twelve, specially provided by the Father, has continued and needs no replenishment. We still have their instructions as fully as the early Church, "that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto every good work."

That the Apostle did not understand the matter to be merely for a day, but throughout this Age, until the completion of the Church, is clearly evidenced by his statement, namely, that all these gifts were for the edification of the Body of Christ and the perfecting of the saints to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect Man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.—Verse 13.

This is a wonderful statement, however we view it. Shall we say that it applies to each individual member of the Church of Christ, and that each individual must come into that full unity of faith, and that full knowledge of the Son of God, and to a developed stature or maturity in Christ? Or shall we understand the meaning to be, until the entire Church of Christ shall have reached a full knowledge and shall, as a whole, have come to the condition of a perfect Man, of which Christ is the Head and we are the members—to the full development or stature of the Anointed, the Messiah, Head and members? We believe that the latter is the Apostle's thought.

Nevertheless, it cannot be disputed that the selection of these members all the way down the Age must have been along the lines here indicated. Individually, one partially developed would not be fitted for the Kingdom. One not in the unity of the faith would not be suitable. One not developed to the proper measure or stature as a Christian would not be suitable. Nothing is more plain than that the individual Christian needs a great deal of instruction, edification, building up in the holy faith, testing, proving, chiseling, polishing, fitting, preparing before he shall be ready for a place in the glorious Temple of God, the Church in glory.

God's People No Longer Need Be Misled.

This thought is confirmed by the succeeding verses, in which the Apostle tells us that by the assistance of these, the Divinely provided gifts, teachers, etc., God's people need no longer, like children, to be tossed to and fro, and be misled by the sleight of men and cunning craftiness of those who would deceive. On the contrary, being sincere, and speaking the truth in love, they are to grow up into membership in the Anointed One in all things—coming fully and completely into fellowship and obedience, under the Head, even Christ.—Verses 14, 15.

Proceeding, the Apostle tells us that all who are recognized as members of the Body of Christ must be properly joined to the Head—by a proper compact, or covenant, intelligently made and fully intended. This union must be compacted, and it requires the entire Gospel Age to effect this developing and compacting as members, that the whole Body of the Anointed may be one, symmetrical, beautiful, co-operative, making increase in its members and edifying itself in love—growing in grace and in knowledge and in character-likeness to the Head of the Church, Jesus.—Verse 16.

In conclusion, then, the Captain of our Salvation has gone before, He has accepted us as His joint-heirs, and we are following on, blest by the gifts which He dispensed when He ascended up On High; and we, in turn, will be His gifts to the world of mankind. When as Priests and Kings we shall be associated with our Lord, we shall bless all the families of the earth with a glorious opportunity of knowledge and obedience, that they may, if they will, attain life everlasting. "the gift of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

TAFT'S TOUR OF HOME STATE ENDS

Makes 3,000-Mile Trip Through Every District of Ohio.

DISCUSSES RECIPROCITY PACT

Says Colonel Roosevelt's Tariff Proposals Are Painted to Sell—President Talks Optimistically of Primary to Friends on Car.

Dayton, O., May 20.—When he makes his last speech here tonight President Taft will have traveled almost 3,000 miles in Ohio, will have spoken in every congressional district in the state and have visited seventy-three of its eighty-eight counties.

Ohio politicians who have traveled with Mr. Taft say that never in the state's history has there been such a campaign. In his talks to the farmers in the counties along the western border of the state, from Lake Erie southward, the president's feeling of confidence in the outcome was reflected in his manner.

Although he used plain language about Colonel Roosevelt and the "Ohio bosses" at times, his old smile was again in evidence and he talked optimistically of the coming election with friends on board his private car.

To the farmers the president talked about Canadian reciprocity and about Mr. Roosevelt's tariff revision proposals. He bluntly asserted that Mr. Roosevelt had changed his opinion on reciprocity to get him votes and charged that he was "painting something to sell and not to use" when he made public his tariff proposals.

In a most bitter and scathing denunciation of Theodore Roosevelt, Mr. Taft declared the "certainty of his defeat for the Republican nomination must be a source of profound congratulation to all patriotic citizens," declared that his predecessor in the White House would wreck the Republican party if he is not chosen by the Republican national convention, and compared Roosevelt to Louis XIV of France, who said: "The state, I am it."

T. R. CALLS UP BALLINGER

Strikes Repeated Savage Blows at President Taft.

Cleveland, May 20.—For one hour Colonel Roosevelt faced a large crowd in the Central armory here and struck blow after blow at President Taft.

He asserted that the president had made untruthful statements about him. He declared that the president's action in the Ballinger case was such that had he taken such a course as a president of a bank "he would have been in imminent danger of having the matter laid before the district attorney."

He asserted Mr. Taft supported Ballinger against every honest official in the interior department.

He attacked Mr. Taft for alluding to the fact that Dan R. Hanna of Cleveland, son of the late Senator Mark Hanna, was supporting him, and that Hanna had been indicted on the charge of rebating.

One by one he took up points on which President Taft has assailed him, and when he brought his speech to an end, he said:

"I am against Mr. Taft because Mr. Taft proved faithless to the cause of the American people."

"I am entirely satisfied with the last week," said Mr. Roosevelt.

TEMPORARY HEAD NOT NAMED

Republican Arrangements Committee Leaves Selection to New.

Chicago, May 20.—The members of the subcommittee on arrangements for the Republican national convention adjourned here without naming a temporary chairman for the convention. After adjournment Secretary Hayward announced that the committee had decided to leave the selection of a temporary chairman to Harry S. New chairman of the subcommittee.

Mr. New declared he would not name the temporary chairman within the next twenty-four hours and said the selection might not take place for several days. He denied reports that the action of the committee was caused by the refusal of United States Senator Ellihu Root of New York to accept the place.

RIVAL CLAIMS OF DEMOCRATS

No Candidate Will Win at Baltimore Convention on First Ballot.

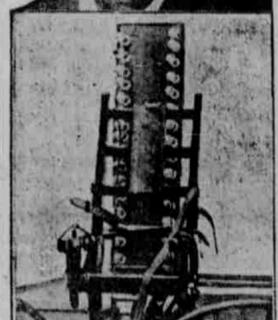
Washington, May 20.—With more than two-thirds of the delegates to the Democratic national convention elected, control of the Baltimore gathering remains as much in doubt as it did several weeks ago. Claims made by the managers of the different candidates at the headquarters in Washington made it clear that none of them expects to control the convention through instructions on the first ballot even though great strides are made for their respective candidates in the conventions and primaries still to be held.

Seven Bodies Buried in One Casket.

Yankton, S. D., May 20.—In one casket there arrived in Yankton for burial the charred remains of a husband, his wife and their five little children. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Peterson, formerly of Olin, and their entire family, burned to death in their little home on the family claim at Presho.

RICHESON AND VICTIM.

Slayer, the Fatal Chair and Avis Linnell, For Whose Death He Dies.



RICHESON SOOTHED BY 14-HOUR SLEEP

Slayer of Avis Linnell Regaining His Nerve.

Boston, May 20.—Fourteen hours of sound, refreshing sleep served to transform Clarence V. T. Richeson, who is awaiting the call to the death chair in the Massachusetts state prison, from hysteria to calmness and apparent resignation. Reports from the court house indicated that the slayer of Avis Linnell was regaining the remarkable composure and self control which has been the wonder of all who have studied him.

Richeson broke a fast of thirty hours when he joined his spiritual adviser, Rev. Herbert S. Johnson, and Chaplain Stephens in a substantial dinner. It was the first food that had passed his lips since he heard that all hope of executive clemency had been swept away.

That Richeson will not be wholly without family friends on the last day or two of his life was indicated when Attorney Morse announced that a brother of the prisoner, Douglas L. Richeson, was on his way from Chicago and would arrive today. He will be the only member of the Richeson family who will see the murderer go to his death.

Information that his body would in all probability be buried beside the grave of his mother in the family lot in Virginia brought consolation to Richeson.

Application for the brain of Richeson was made by an official of the Harvard medical school, who desires to examine it for abnormal features. The request will be referred to Richeson's family.

SIXTY THROWN INTO WATER

Two Killed and Forty Injured When Gang Plank Gives Way.

Seattle, May 20.—Two persons were drowned and forty injured when the adjustable end of a temporary gang plank at the Colman dock dropped precipitating sixty passengers into the water as they were preparing to board the sound steamer Flyer for Tacoma.

The dead: Mrs. G. V. Learned and Carl Bruder, one-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Bruder of Seattle.

Charged With Jury Tampering.

Omaha May 20.—Affidavits accusing the street railway company of tampering with petit jurors, of other improper acts in connection with lawsuits and of removing a witness from the jurisdiction of the courts while a grand jury was in session were filed in the district court in support of a motion for a new trial in the case of Aaron Freer, administrator of the estate of Mrs. Zelig Corenman. The suit was for \$25,000 damages for the death of Mrs. Corenman, who was killed in a street car accident.

HILLES ISSUES STATEMENT

Sets Townsend's Story of Delay in Harvester Trust Prosecution.

Washington, May 18.—President Taft's secretary, Charles D. Hilles, appeared unannounced in Washington, and at the White House gave out a statement concerning the delay in the prosecution of the International Harvester company during President Roosevelt's administration in 1907.

"I have come to Washington to get United States Attorney Townsend's statement in reference to the harvester trust," says the statement. Townsend was in 1907 one of the attorneys in the department of justice and had made an investigation of charges against the International Harvester company.

"It shows conclusively," the statement continues, "that President Roosevelt compelled his attorney general to discontinue the harvester prosecution in the fall of 1907, eighteen months prior to the colonel's retirement from office."

In his written statement Townsend says that in the spring of 1908 he was abruptly ordered to the Pacific coast to begin another investigation, and was therefore compelled to drop the harvester matter. He says that "shortly thereafter President Roosevelt instructed Attorney General Bonaparte not to take action."

BIG WINTER WHEAT CROP NOW SURE

Most Optimistic Report Is Issued by Burlington Road.

Omaha, May 18.—With an acreage that is up to, if not in excess of, the average, everything points to a bumper wheat crop for Nebraska this season. In many of the counties right now the average condition is 100 per cent, while in few does it fall below 73.

This optimistic report is given out by the Burlington road and is made up from detailed reports sent in by the company's agents along the several lines, which show the small grain to be in the best condition ever, taking the whole state into consideration. On condition and acreage of winter wheat the report shows the following:

County and Acreage.	Condition.
Holt, little grown.....	100
Antelope, very good.....	100
Pierce, large.....	100
Cedar, very good.....	100
Dixon, small.....	100
Dakota, large.....	100
Thurston, good.....	100
Burt, good.....	100
Dodge, large.....	100
Saunders, small.....	75
Colfax, fair.....	75
Sarpy, good.....	90
Cass, small.....	80
Otoe, very good.....	100
Nemaha, large.....	90
Johnson, good.....	90
Gage, good.....	95
Lancaster, good.....	95
Saline, fair.....	90
Fillmore, large.....	85
Clay, good.....	100
Adams, good.....	95
Buffalo, large.....	100
Reward, fair.....	85
Platte, large.....	100
York, large.....	95
Polk, good.....	95
Hall, large.....	100
Richardson, fair.....	60
Pawnee, good.....	75
Jefferson, fair.....	75
Thayer, good.....	70
Nuckolls, good.....	90
Webster, large.....	100
Franklin, large.....	100
Kearney, good.....	95
Harlan, good.....	95
Phelps, large.....	95
Furnas, fair.....	90
Gosper, large.....	95
Rod Willow, large.....	95
Frontier, good.....	95
Hitchcock, good.....	95
Dundy, large.....	100
Chase, good.....	100
Lincoln, large.....	100
Perkins, good.....	100

In treating of spring wheat the report shows a smaller average over the state, when compared with that of the winter variety, but generally this acreage is in excess of last year. Its condition everywhere is placed at 100 per cent, no locality falling below this mark. Oats are also placed at 100 per cent, with an acreage considerably greater than last year.

LIFTS BAN ON LOW GRADE OIL

Judge Leslie Rules That It May Be Brought Into Nebraska.

Lincoln, May 18.—The oil inspector's office has been notified that Judge Leslie of the district court for Washington county had rendered an opinion that under the Nebraska law low grade oil used for power purposes could be brought into the state and need not come up to the flash test required of oil used for illuminating purposes.

Dealers in oil engines made the fight asserting that the low grade oil was better for their purpose than the higher quality and cost so much less that the difference practically shut their engines out of the state if the better oil only could be procured.

Commercial Travelers Meet.

Beatrice, Neb., May 18.—The grand council of the United Commercial Travelers of Nebraska convened here with 200 delegates in attendance. A banquet, addressed by many of the visiting members, was held at the Christian church.