

RESCUED FROM CURSE OF GOD

Pastor Russell Says We Are Emerging From Delusion.

WANING POWER OF CREEDS.

God's Curse Not What We Supposed. The Rescue Differs Also—The Curse We Imagined—The Curse Mentioned in the Bible—A Just Penalty, Not a Devilish One—It Could Not Be Worse. The Limit of God's Law—Jesus the Rescuer—The Preparation Is Ample. Results Sure—As Foretold in Bible.



Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 26.—We report one of Pastor Russell's sermons of today from the text, "There shall be no more curse." (Revelation 22:3.) He said:

We are emerging from a horrible nightmare of delusion. The shackles of superstition are breaking from our minds. Our forefathers, under the threat that to doubt the creed meant to be damned, feared to think for themselves. Satan helped not only to make our creeds, but to manacle us to them by direful threats. We may we praise God for the dawning light of the New Day, which is bringing us blessings of a spiritual kind, even as it is showering upon us temporal advantages such as the world never before knew. Freedom to think transcends all physical liberties. Truly "the liberty wherewith Christ makes free" is the great boon of God to man. In proportion as it has been received there is joy; otherwise there is discontent, groaning, pain.

God's curse, as set forth by the creeds, consigns the whole world to eternal torture, except as any should be so fortunate as to hear of the Savior, and to respond and to be favorably envoned for sainthood. In our irrational dread we stopped not to question the authority of those who made the creeds. It was asserted that they were a condensed statement of the Bible teachings, prepared by very holy and very learned men; and that it would be dangerous for any to attempt to understand the Bible without the aid of the especially ordained apostolic bishops.

But that day has gone. Education has become more general. Contradictions amongst the apostolic bishops has demonstrated that they are fallible—that none of them were inspired, as were the twelve "Apostles of the Lamb," whom Jesus appointed to be the twelve foundations of the Church of the New Jerusalem.

Back Now to the Bible. Satan, perceiving the crumbling influence of creeds and the tendency to return to the Bible, has invaded all the institutions of learning. He has captured nearly all the professors. Claiming to be an angel of light and leader toward the Truth, he has been poisoning their minds with Higher Criticism and Evolution. By this master stroke he has accomplished in these last thirty years ten thousand times more than Voltaire and Ingelsoll ever hoped to accomplish. Nevertheless, the Divine arrangement will not be frustrated, although worldly wisdom has captured the worldly-wise as the Bible foretold. (Isaiah 29:14) Liberty of mind has brought to Bible students an opportunity and a willingness to study the Scriptures without creed spectacles. And they are being blessed. A light is going forth to the ends of the earth—a truer light, from the Word of God.

The Curse of God. Instead of God's curse being eternal torture, from which only a handful would be rescued by the Savior, Bible students now see that the Bible distinctly tells that "the wages of sin is death"—that capital punishment was the Almighty is precisely what it is with the most intelligent of His creatures.—Rom. 6:23, 24.

The record throughout the Bible is the same as the statement with which it begins. There we are told that the Almighty declared the curse in these words, "Because thou hast hardened unto the voice of thy wife (be disobedient), accused is the ground for thy sake; * * * thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; * * * in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, until thou return to the ground whence thou wast taken; for dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." This fully accords with the Divine Law as elsewhere recorded in the Bible: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

The curse is a heavy one. Under it our race has been going down to the prison-house of death for six thousand years, a "groaning creation," as the Apostle declares. Every century our chains of sin have grown heavier, our mental, moral and physical powers have grown weaker, until now the average length of human life is only thirty-six years; whereas Father Adam was able to stand up under the curse for nine hundred and thirty years.

The dying has attacked us in various ways. Our insane asylums tell us of some who have died madly. Our orisons tell us of others who have died

morally. Our hospitals tell us of others dying physically. Yea, all of our aches, disappointments and trials tell us that the curse of God upon us is severe, although it is just.

"No More Curse." The statement of our text is of itself a contradiction of the eternal torment theories. A similar contradiction is the declaration of the Lord through the Prophet that Sheol (Hades, the tomb) shall be destroyed. (Hosea 13:14) These comforting promises apply to all men. All go down to Sheol, Hades, the tomb. All are under the curse; and the destruction of Sheol clearly signifies the release of humanity from dying conditions and from the tomb. In other words, these two declarations are the equivalents of the promise of the Bible that "there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust."

But let no one suppose that the destruction of Sheol will be an instantaneous work. The curse of death has been upon our race for six great days of a thousand years each. God's proposition in the Bible is that in the Seventh Day, the Day of Christ, also a thousand years long, the curse shall be gradually removed. Not until the close of Messiah's thousand-year Reign will there be no more curse. Not until then will Sheol, Hades, the tomb, have been destroyed.

The reign of Sin and Death and their ravages upon our race are matters of history. The Reign of Christ, the Reign of righteousness, the Reign of the uplifting of humanity, are matters of prophecy. Those who believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of Jehovah may well rest their faith implicitly upon these prophetic assurances. Those whose faith in the Bible has been undermined by the Adversary's work along the lines of Higher Criticism are without chart or rudder on a sea of doubt. They know not God and have no message from Him. Their guesses would naturally be as widely different as their brains.

The Context Wesley's Favorite. John Wesley came into prominence at a time when the teachings of John Calvin had saturated theology. Less logical than Brother Calvin, Wesley had a more tender heart. He could not answer Calvin's position, which was fortified by numerous texts telling about "the Elect," "the very Elect," and the necessity of making one's calling and election sure. Wesley's loving soul especially rebelled against the thought that the non-elect should have been predestinated to their fate before the world was created. He could not dispute Calvin's logic, yet he felt that it was an aspersion against the Divine character, which made God to appear Satanic in the extreme.

While agreeing with Calvin that all except the saintly would be everlastingly tortured, Wesley claimed that even if God foreknew the number of the unsaintly and had foreordained their torture, there must have been some option left with them. He ransacked the Bible to find some proof-text supporting this theory. He found and especially rejoiced in the verses preceding our text. They pictured the New Jerusalem—the Messianic Kingdom in its glory. They show a river of the Water of Life proceeding from the Throne of the New Jerusalem.

A little further down in the same chapter, the blessed declaration is made that in that glorious time of the future the Spirit and the Bride shall say, Come, and he that is athirst may come, and whosoever will may take of the waters of life freely.—Rev. 22:1-3, 17. "Ah," said Brother Wesley, "that tells of free grace!" He perceived that these things belong to the Truth. He trusted that the time would come when the Church would conquer the world with the Gospel Message, and when these prophecies would be fulfilled, and there would be no more curse.

We perceive now that both of these brethren, Calvin and Wesley, had grasped precious truths; and that these merely needed to be harmonized, in order to give us the full truth on the subject of God's purposes. Brother Calvin was quite right that only the Elect are to be saved during this Gospel Age. Brother Wesley was equally right that eventually Free Grace will prevail.

"And every creature, bond and free, Will hail the glorious Jubilee."

The connecting links are furnished us in the Scripture which tells that before Messiah's Kingdom may be established, the Church must be completed and glorified. The Election then ended, Free Grace will begin. The Election pertaining to the "Church of the First-borns," and wisely guards that only copies of God's dear Son shall be associated with Him in His Kingdom and share His glories.

There Is No Bride Now.

Bible students should note carefully that the Church during this Gospel Age is not classed as the Bride of Christ. Hear St. Paul: "I have espoused you to one Husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." (2 Corinthians 11:2) Hear what Jesus says to His Brethren: "I will come again, and receive you unto Myself."—John 14:3.

Note the parabolic picture Jesus gives of the end of this Age. (Matthew 25:1-13) In it He likens the faithful, betrothed ones to wise virgins, who will enter in with the Bridegroom to the marriage. He informs us that then the door to that position of honor will be shut. The number of the Elect will be complete. Note again that this marriage, or union, of the chaste virgin Church, the wise virgins, to the Heavenly Bridegroom, is declared to be in the end of this Age, when "His Wife shall have made herself ready." Note the prophetic picture of the marriage of the Lamb, and the introduc-

tion of the Bride to the Heavenly Father, as presented in Psalm 45:10-15. Let us note that the river of the Water of Life will flow from the Throne, and let us remember that the Throne of Messiah has not yet been established in the earth. Let us remember Jesus' words to the effect that there is now no river of the Water of Life, but that each one of the Lord's faithful, begotten of the Holy Spirit, has in his own heart and experiences "a well of water, springing up within him unto everlasting life." These various considerations assure us that not to the present, but to the future, belongs this prophecy of Free Grace.

After the Church shall have become the Bride, after the Kingdom, symbolically represented by the New Jerusalem, shall have come down unto earth, then the Water of Life shall flow from it. Then the Spirit and the Bride shall say, Come; and for a thousand years "whosoever will may come, and take of the Water of Life freely." This is but another way to tell of the removal of the curse.

Prepared From of Old. We are not to think that because our eyes were blinded by the Adversary's dust for centuries that these things indicate a change in the Divine Program. Nay, He who sits upon the Throne of the Universe has from the very first had all the plans and arrangements before Him perfectly, and has been causing all things to work together according to the counsel of His own will.

Even from the beginning, in His purpose He had arranged for "the Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world" by the sacrifice of Himself. The sacrifice was made necessary to demonstrate the enormity of sin, and the length, breadth, height and depth of Divine Mercy and Love.

After four thousand years of sin and death, God sent His Son to die, to become the Redeemer of men, that He might become their King and Deliverer. God might have waited to the full end of the thousand years before sending His Son to redeem men, had it not been for His purpose to gather from all nations a number to be the elect Spiritual Seed of Abraham, associates with His Son in His great Kingdom work of human uplift. As it was, everything was accurately timed. In due time He sent His Son to redeem men. In due time, also, He will send His Son to dispense the blessings secured by His sacrifice.—Acts 3:19-21.

Meantime, the Election of the Church—the saintly Little Flock, all tried, tested, proven in their loyalty to God, even unto death—has been almost accomplished. We are already in the Day of His Preparation. (Nahum 2:3) He is pouring out blessings on the minds of men and is quickening human understanding. The result is that the world has taken on new beauty, fresh energy.

Crossing Into Millennial Age. A spring time of Divine favor and refreshment is here, as foretold. But the blossoming deserts, answering to the irrigation streams and to the arctian springs; the railroads and the telegraphs, bringing together the ends of the earth; the printing presses, causing knowledge to increase and awakening the whole world—all these things are blessings so great as to astound us. One week of life now has almost as much possibility in it as a year had a century ago.

Evidently we are just crossing from the Gospel Age to the Millennial Age. With the death and translation of the last member of the Church, the Gospel Age will have fully ended, and the Millennial Age will have fully inaugurated. Oh, how immense is the thought that we are living in the most wonderful epoch of the world's history—that stupendous changes are at hand! The Prince of Darkness is about to be completely destroyed, and bound for a thousand years. The Prince of Light, our Redeemer, is about to take His great power and reign. Blessings already beginning to be poured out, will go on increasing until "the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of God, as the waters cover the great deep," and "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess, to the glory of God."

As the curse came first upon the earth itself, so it is first rolling away from the earth. Already the wilderness is blossoming as a rose. Already new types of grain, vegetables and fruits are being brought to perfection, and are yielding phenomenally. Shortly the lifting of the curse will extend to humanity. With the knowledge of God will come a knowledge of the blessed opportunities which Messiah's Kingdom will afford to all who desire to return to the Father's House. More and more the willing and obedient will be blessed. Not only will the shackles drop from their minds, but also from their various powers.

By the close of the Millennium the groaning creation will have been freed from the bondage to sin and death. All the former things of sin and death shall have passed away. The final penalty of the Second Death will be executed upon all not found worthy of everlasting life under that most favorable opportunity.

What a glorious triumph that will be, when every creature in Heaven and earth and under the earth shall be heard saying, Praise, glory, honor, dominion and might be unto Him that sitteth upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb, forever! (Revelation 5:13) What a glorious condition will then obtain when there shall be no more crying, no more sighing, no more dying, for all the former things of sin and death shall have passed away! Ah! He that sitteth upon the Throne saith: "Behold, I make all things new!" Glad we are that our great Messiah is about to overthrow sin and evil, about to establish righteousness on a permanent and everlasting foundation!

Local News

From Saturday's Daily. W. H. Heil of the vicinity of Cedar Creek was a visitor in this city today.

A. B. Forno of Cedar Creek was in the city today looking after some matters of business.

R. C. Bailey, the Maple Grove blacksmith, was in the city today looking after matters of business.

Charles Gradoville of Havelock came in last evening on No. 2 to visit here with his parents over Sunday.

Henry Horn of Cedar Creek came in this morning to spend the day looking after business matters.

L. A. Meisinger, wife and little son departed this afternoon for Benson, where they will visit over Sunday with relatives.

A. F. Nickels and wife came in this afternoon from Omaha, where they have been visiting for a short time.

Adam Hild, of near Mynard, came in this morning to spend a few hours here looking after some business matters.

Mrs. Luke Wiles was a passenger this morning for Omaha, where she will visit for the day and look after business matters.

John Gauer of near Cedar Creek was in the city yesterday for a few hours attending to some trading with the merchants.

John Kraeger of near Murray was in the city today for a few hours attending to matters of business with the merchants.

F. J. Hennings, wife and daughter drove in this morning from their home at Cedar Creek and will visit here for a few hours.

Frank Steppatt and wife and babe were passengers this morning for Blair, Nebraska, where they will visit with relatives over Sunday.

W. H. Heil of Cedar Creek, accompanied by his wife and daughter, were in the city this afternoon attending to some trading.

Mrs. H. B. Tartich came in last evening from her home at Sioux City to visit for a few days at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Ballance.

Frank Svoboda came over yesterday from Malvern, Iowa, and visited here for the afternoon with his relatives and friends, returning home on No. 2.

Mrs. J. B. Archer and daughter, Mrs. W. B. Rishel, departed this morning for Gretna, Nebraska, where they were called by the illness of a sister of Mrs. Archer.

George W. Shrader of near Murray, and daughter, Mrs. Georgia Greamer, were in the city today for a few hours looking after some trading and calling on friends.

William Puls, sr., drove up this morning from his home near Murray to spend the day here visiting with his old friends and attending to some business matters.

Noel B. Rawls and wife and little daughter, who have been here for a short visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Rawls, the parents of Mr. Rawls, departed this afternoon for their home at Boise, Idaho.

Captain Isaac Wiles and Major Hall and wife returned this morning on No. 6 from Minatare, Nebraska, where they have been visiting for the past two weeks with relatives and friends.

George W. Snyder drove in this morning from his farm and was a passenger on the early Burlington train for Omaha, where he will spend the day looking after matters of business.

Mrs. Allan G. Wilson departed this morning for Omaha, from where she will depart for Clay Center, Kansas to visit there for a time with her parents. Rev. Wilson accompanied her as far as Omaha.

Mrs. I. M. Davis and daughters of near Murray came up this morning from their home and boarded the early Burlington train here for Omaha, where they will spend the day.

P. H. Horn of near Mynard was in the city today, bringing the young man who was so seriously injured at his farm by being kicked by a horse, with him to call upon the doctor who has been attending him.

C. W. Wileks and wife of Spokane, Washington, who has been here for several weeks visiting at the home of their daughter, Mrs. F. Goos and family, departed this morning for their home, leaving on the early Burlington train.

Mrs. William Long and son, A. G. Long, of the vicinity of Murray, drove to this city today to attend to the week-end shopping and other business matters. Mrs.

Long was a pleasant caller at this office and renewed her subscription to this paper for another year.

H. J. Meisinger returned this morning on No. 6 from a visit at Creighton, Nebraska, with his daughter, Mrs. George Horn and family. Mr. Meisinger greatly enjoyed his visit there and reports that the crops in the vicinity of Creighton were most excellent this year and that a heavy yield of corn was secured by the farmers of that locality.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION AT UNION, NEBRASKA

Large Attendance and Delegates and Visitors Royally Entertained by People of Union.

From Saturday's Daily. The Cass County Sunday School convention closed its sessions yesterday afternoon at Union, and in the opinion of all who attended it was the most successful one held in this county in several years, both in the attendance and in the interest and enthusiasm displayed by the delegates. The new officers elected for the ensuing year at the closing hours of the convention were:

President—J. D. Cross, Union. Vice President—R. H. Frans, Union. Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. C. E. Noves, Louisville.

District Superintendents—First district, Jesse P. Perry; second district, to be supplied; third district, Miss Nora Ewald, Murdock.

Superintendent Elementary Department—Emma Jordan, Alvo. Superintendent Intermediate Department—R. H. Hutchman, Murray.

Superintendent Adult Department—C. C. Westcott, Plattsmouth.

Home and Visitation—Will T. Richardson, Mynard. Teachers' Training—R. W. Myers, Elmwood.

Missionary—Mrs. Fred Zink, Murdock. Temperance—Rev. Bashford, Avoca.

Literary—Mrs. J. B. Hungate, Weeping Water. The visiting delegates were delighted with the manner in which they were received and entertained by the residents of Union and the magnificent dinners and suppers served to the visitors by the Union ladies in the Presbyterian church certainly were all that any person could ask for, and those who were present to enjoy the treat say that there was enough good things to eat on hand to supply a convention twice as large as the one which met in that place. The homes of the Union people were thrown open to the visitors and there will always be a very pleasant recollection in the minds of all who attended of the delightful time and the splendid program given at the convention in that city.



CLOTHES that bring out the athletic lines of the figure—that's what young men want—snappy style, all-wool fabrics, fine tailoring, correct fit. These things you'll get here in Society Brand Clothes.

Just received—a shipment of advance styles in Stetson Hats—high crown, narrow brim style, in ivy green, navy blue and tobacco brown, made with the new sash bands—a very smart style to wear turn down brim fashion.



JUDGE SULLIVAN PROPERTY SOLD TO A. G. COLE OF PLAINVIEW

Another very important sale in property has been consummated by the Windham Investment company of this city in the sale of residence property on South Eleventh street, formerly owned by Judge A. N. Sullivan, to Mr. A. G. Cole of Plainview, Nebraska. The residence is one of the finest in the city and will make a most beautiful home for Mr. and Mrs. Cole. Mrs. Cole was formerly Miss Helen Travis, daughter of Judge and Mrs. H. D. Travis, and the many friends of this charming lady and her worthy husband will be delighted to learn that they are to locate here permanently. Mr. Cole is an attorney-at-law and will make a splendid addition to the Cass county bar, as he is a very able young man.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS ENJOY A MOST DELIGHTFUL SOCIAL DANCE

On Thursday evening the Royal Neighbors of America, at the close of their lodge meeting, enjoyed a most delightful social dance for a period of several hours, and the event proved a most enjoyable one for all who took advantage of the occasion to attend. The Svoboda orchestra was present and furnished the music for the dance in their usual pleasing manner, and everyone felt that the dance was one of the most enjoyable they had attended. The Royal Neighbors has quite a large membership and these social meetings serve to bring them all together for a nice social time and gives everyone a chance to get acquainted.

Beautiful Shetland Ponies for sale at all times, for the next 100 years, unless I die in the meantime. I have now an extra fine stallion, the best in the state, for sale. Well broke for both harness and saddle. Wm. Gilmour, Plattsmouth, Neb. R. F. D. No. 1. Try the Journal Want Ads.

Residence About Completed. The new residence of Judge J. E. Douglass on High School Hill is almost ready to occupy now, the force of painters under Frank Gobelman having just wound up their work in the painting and decorating of the house and the residence will make a very handsome home for the Douglass family and is situated in one of the finest places in the city. Subscribe for the Journal.

PARMELE THEATER ONE NIGHT ONLY THURSDAY, Oct. 30th THE PECULIAR COMEDIAN W. B. PATTON in "LAZY BILL" Excellent Company Special Scenery and Effects Seat Sale at Weyrich & Hadraba's Tuesday OCTOBER 28th Balcony 35c and 50c. Dress Circle 75c. Parquet 50c.