

The Plattsmouth Journal

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

The created world is but a small parenthesis in eternity, and a short interposition for a time, between such a state of duration as was before it, and may be after it.—Sir Thomas Browne.

A woman will insist upon having the last word, even when money talks.

People who pay as they go do not go as fast as some people, but they find the going much better.

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy has decided to utilize the right of way alongside the tracks for the production of alfalfa. Farmers are being offered the right of way for use at low rental, with the stipulation that alfalfa only be grown. The road figures that the growth will not only bring in a small income, but will save the expense of mowing weeds, burning stubble, etc., while the view of the growing plant will be more pleasing to the eyes of the travelers than weeds. The new movement is one of the phases of the Burlington's new agricultural development system, calculated to bring the railroad and the farmer in closer co-operation for their mutual welfare.

The London News and Leader, in speaking of Mr. Wilson as a conscientious and faithful president, says: In President Wilson America has produced the most courageous as well as the most instructed statesman in the world today. He may be tested on three cardinal points—his refusal to countenance Huerta's usurpation, his withdrawal from the six-power loan, and the tariff bill. In each case he has acted with a directness and loyalty to high principles that are rare in statesmanship. And in each case he has been justified by events. Mr. Roosevelt scoffs at his Mexican policy, but there has been no finer example in our day. His action over the six-power loan has been followed by the dissolution of that sordid trust. His victory over protection is before us in all its significance and completeness.

An effort is now being made to induce people to go to church on the Sabbath. It is a good idea. The moral effect upon man of dressing up, putting on a clean shirt and listening to a sermon, is great. It lifts him out of the current of his thoughts on week days, surrounds him with a new environment, and tends toward a clean and wholesome life. A man who sits around Sunday morning unshaven, unkempt, dawdling over his correspondence or his newspaper is simply continuing the atmosphere of his everyday life. What he needs one day in the week is to get away from it and to transport himself into a different atmosphere. He may not agree with what he hears, but the change is a mental stimulus, and tends to the moral elevation. The protest is now going up against working seven days in the week, and it is one that ought to be encouraged. Let us go to church, if not to worship, nor to pray, at least to think.

Do you think we will enjoy any sleighing this winter? Speak up, but not all at once.

It is always quiet the first month in the year, but you can't make some business men believe it.

But very few people are worrying about the income tax. It is the outcome tax that bothers the most of us.

What a happy time everybody would have in this world if by sowing thorns they would reap sweet scented roses.

An Illinois woman offered her husband at a rummage sale. It is queer what a lot of useless articles you can find at such places.

One of the greatest causes of the high cost of living is the fact that there are too many people standing between the hand and the mouth.

In 1912 over 22,000 people were killed by snakes in India, indicating that a pure food inspector should inspect the stills over there.

The chautauqua salute of waving handkerchiefs is to be put under the ban as unsanitary. Pretty soon the audience will be compelled to boil its hands before clapping them.

"Dr. Elliott offers a new religion," says a headline. And never a new religion was offered but there were those who were willing and anxious to follow it around awhile.

A young man who is contemplating marriage has written the Journal inquiring the best way to study a woman's ways. He should closely observe a balky gasoline engine.

A Plattsmouth man is bold enough to say there isn't a baby in the world less than six months old who is pretty. That man will never make a success at running for office. He is too honest.

So many candidates are coming out for office in Nebraska that we have a notion to file for lieutenant governor ourself. All that keeps us from doing so is that no one has made the suggestion.

Congressman Johnson of Kentucky is keeping up the fighting reputation of his state. In a dispute the other day with a Washington City attorney, he settled the dispute instanter by peeling away and knocking the attorney down. The Johnsons are somewhat noted for fighting.

Horses are being disposed of in many of the large California fields, and gasoline and electricity are being used in their stead. Great harvest-threshers used for harvesting and threshing grain at the same time have become famous, but up to recently these mammoth machines have necessarily been drawn by thirty teams of horses or mules, or more. Traction engines are now being used in some places, but the most recent development is the combination of gasoline and electric power. One machine is pulled by a traction engine hitched in front of it. On this gasoline traction is an electric generator which produces electricity to operate a motor on the harvester.

POOR JAPAN.

Had it ever occurred to you that the world is not running very smoothly yet, after all the centuries that man has been trying to adjust the machinery and deaden the jars and noise? One can scarcely believe that the Almighty made man in his own image, or that the work of creation has yet been finished. The job does not seem to be complete. There is a lack of the peace and harmony that one would expect in the products turned out by creation's master workman, and there are so many things going crosswise and crooked that one looks in vain for rule or reason why this or that is so. It seems sometimes that old Mother Nature gets cross and crabbed and starts out to vent her spleen upon poor mankind, and to visit punishment upon whosoever may fall within her reach. It may all be accident, or it may all be planned. We do not know, and we can see only the side of the picture next to us. Possibly the explanation is on the other side, and that sometime we may see with other eyes and understand. Right now, however, we may see no silver lining to some of the clouds that pass. Nature is forever making war upon mankind. Today's papers tell us a sad story of distress way over on the other side of the world. Japan is suffering from one of the greatest volcanic upheavals that has ever occurred since man has inhabited the earth. Thousands upon thousands of people have been buried beneath the fire and molten stone, and cities and villages and entire communities have disappeared as if swallowed by the angry earth beneath. The whole nation stands trembling with fear and awe, and those who would help are held back by the hungry flames and deadly fumes. It has been a massacre such as only nature could be guilty of or could commit. Men butcher each other, but they tire and quit to rest. Nature never tires in making war on man. This new affliction upon Japan is not the only one from which she suffers. Some nine millions of her population are in starving condition because of famine. Nature has withheld her harvest bounties, and the cry for bread is heard around the world. Why is all this distress bunched and piled upon the back of this small island people? Is Buddha, is Brahma, is Mahomed, is Vishnu, is God mad? If there be a silver lining to this dark cloud that overshadows poor Japan, it may be found in the world-wide sympathy that is carrying cheer and hope across the sea. Nature may be cross and cruel and unrelenting, but the heart of all mankind is going out to this stricken people, and the world's granaries and purses are opening up to supply their needs. Possibly this is the silver lining—possibly this melting of hearts into a heart big enough to love and befriend all mankind, is the other side of the picture. Nature can be kind—why should she be cruel?

Secretary of State Wait thought for some time that he was big enough to run for governor, but now he is willing to accept a renomination for the position he now holds, and he is going to have a hard job in doing that. There will be several candidates who will give him a race for his money.

Andrew Carnegie is now "a poor man" from his point of view. He has given away \$35,125,000, and has only a measly little \$25,000,000 left with which to support himself and family. As he is well advanced in years it is possible that he may be able to pull through on this amount, provided he exercises proper economy.

If a man is active in public affairs, he is branded an ambitious politician. If he isn't active, he is said to lack interest in the welfare of the nation. A man simply can't be satisfactory, and gets along best by keeping his mouth closed, devoting eight or ten hours a day to business, being polite, honest and the like, and telling a few people now and then to go to h—l.

Don't be too hard on the bums. This is a pretty hard world for the ordinary man to make his way through. With the ordinary man a little bad luck, a spell of sickness or any one of a dozen things may involve him in debt, throw him out of work or give him such a setback that he cannot make good again. He becomes a bum. The strife in this world is intense. Those who fall behind or lose their "nerve" are the bums. Fewer bums are born than are made by modern conditions.

Is not Dr. Billing somewhat lazy in his mental picture of the Monroe doctrine, when he says it is going to disappear with race prejudice, because of stimulation of immigration into South American countries by the opening of the Panama canal? There can never come in South America any greater mixture of races than we already have in the United States, yet this mixture is not destroying the Monroe doctrine, which has nothing radical about it whatever. End of the Monroe doctrine will come when other nations of the Western Hemisphere become strong enough to maintain a Monroe doctrine of their own.

Secretary Bryan will have to revise his drinks. Representative Bartholdt of Missouri told an audience in St. Louis the other night that he did not dare drink grape juice. "Grape juice," he said, "contains 6 or 7 per cent of alcohol. Beer contains from 3 to 4 per cent. I prefer beer." (Enthusiastic cheers from the audience). Adolphus Busch was once asked in Germany if he lived in St. Louis. "St. Louis," he said; "St. Louis? I believe that is a suburb of the Anheuser-Busch brewery." It is evident that Bartholdt was putting an anchor out to the windward.

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In spite of the fact that this country has been visited by strikes, drouths, floods, tornadoes and disturbances of various sorts, we have contributed more than \$18,000,000 last year to foreign missions and we did this at a cost of about 8 per cent. The general secretary of the movement wants \$50,000,000 a year for foreign missions, and with this sum he guarantees to convert all the heathens and turn them into voters at the polls, where they will clamor for their rights and insist that they are not getting paid for their political services when their party gets in power. What we need is reform. As Gobbo says in the Merchant of Venice, "This making of Christians will raise the price of pork."

Speaking about white slaves: In 1620 ninety young white girls, and in the following year sixty more were brought over from England and sold to the settlers in Virginia for wives. The price was first 100, then 150 pounds of tobacco, worth three shillings per pound, and a debt so contracted was made of greater dignity than any other.

PHOTO-DRAMA OF WORLD'S CREATION

Formally Opened in Cleveland by Pastor Russell.

GOD'S KINGDOM PICTURED.

Messiah Was to Be of David's Lineage. God's Typical Kingdom—Overturned. 606 B. C.—One Long Line of World-Empires—"The Times of the Gentiles"—Israel's "Seven Times" of Chastisement—The Two Periods Synchronous About to Expire Now. The Fifth Universal Empire—Jerusalem and Messiah.



PASTOR RUSSELL

Cleveland, O., Jan. 25. — Pastor Russell yesterday afternoon in the I. B. S. A. Temple, corner of Prospect and East 22nd Street, personally conducted the opening exhibition in this city of the Photo-Drama of Creation. This Drama is acknowledged by art critics to be by far the finest production of moving pictures and slides ever presented, and is to be shown, free to the public, in all cities and lands throughout the world, under the auspices of the International Bible Students Association, of which Pastor Russell is President.

In New York City, in his new \$500,000 Temple, two weeks ago, Pastor Russell presented the Drama for the first time to houses crowded from pit to dome. Last Sunday in the famous Music Hall in Cincinnati he personally conducted the opening of the Photo-Drama of Creation there.

The Photo-Drama of Creation is produced in conjunction with remarkably clear phonographic discourses, which have behind them the forty years of Bible study by New York's famous Pastor. By some process never before attained the phonographs used in this production have been relieved of the metallic sound altogether, thus producing the very finest oratorical effects. It is the wonder today of talking-machine dealers in the metropolis. The voice is resonant, clear, full and restful, and audiences rarely detect it as the voice of the talking machine.

The exhibition is in three parts: Part I traces the creation of the earth and of man, its king—then his fall into sin and its death-punishment, the first promises of complete deliverance from the penalty, and the Deluge and its causes on to Moses' time. Part II points us through the types to Messiah, the great Emancipator of the death-stricken race, and the world-wide blessings His soon-to-be established Kingdom will bring. It introduces us to the Heavenly Logos, who became the man Christ Jesus. It also shows and explains His sacrificial work and His unwavering faithfulness in fulfilling the prophecies concerning Himself, and how His miracles picture the restoration of mankind during His Second presence and reign.

Part III traces not only the sufferings of Christ, the Head, but also those of the Church, His Body, preparatory to their exaltation and consequent glorious work of blessing the non-elect for a thousand years—"whoever will."

Pastor Russell yesterday forenoon discussed that feature of the Production of the Photo-Drama that relates to the overthrow of Israel's typical kingdom and the foretold re-establishment of it at the end (now due) of the "seven (symbolic) times" of chastisement at the hands of Him whose right it is.

His text and discourse follow: "Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same. * * * I will overturn, overturn, overturn it—until He come whose right it is; and I will give it unto Him." (Ezekiel 21:26, 27.) He said:

God established the Jewish nation as His representative nation, or kingdom, in the world, with the understanding that in some manner and at some time that nation would be the channel of Divine blessing to all the families of the earth, in harmony with the original Oath-bound Promise made to Abraham. After a precarious existence of nearly six centuries the star of Jewish Empire set, and has not risen since.

The particular date at which the typical Kingdom passed away is clearly marked in the Scriptures. The solidity of the Empire in the hands of King David, and his son, King Solomon, was lost in its division in the days of King Solomon's successor. Nevertheless, in harmony with the Divine prediction, the royal line continued in the tribe of Judah; as it is written, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come."—Genesis 49:10.

The Lord's covenant with King David was that One from his seed should be the great King over the more glorious Kingdom of God, when it should be established. In other words, Messiah would be of David's lineage. The royal family of David's line had a precarious course for several centuries after King Solomon's death until Zedekiah, the last king of Judah. Of him the Divine declaration was, "And thou, profane and wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come when iniquity shall

have an end, thus saith the Lord God, Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same. * * * I will overturn, overturn, overturn it: and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it unto Him."

That statement was made just prior to Israel's captivity to Babylon. And the crown and the scepter have been overturned ever since, and will continue so to until Messiah Himself, at His Second Advent, shall take the Throne as the antitypical Son of David. No king of David's line has been in power for even a moment since the overthrow of King Zedekiah. True, Israel had the Maccabean kings under Gentile suzerainty, and later they had the House of Herod. But neither of these lines was of the House of David; indeed, neither was Jewish at all. King Zedekiah lost his crown in 606 B. C.; and surely the kingdom has been well described as "overturned, overturned"; and it is still overturned, because the foreordained time has not yet come—although it is near.

"Times of the Gentiles." There were Gentile kingdoms in the world long before Israel became a monarchy. Yet God recognized only Israel and entered into covenant relationship with no other nation. But as soon as the verdict of our text was given against Israel, to hold until Messiah's Reign, then Divine providence recognized Gentile governments, although not in the same way in which Israel had been recognized—not as kingdoms of God, but as kingdoms of the Gentiles.

Nor were all Gentile nations recognized, but one great line of World-Empires of several dynasties which, so to speak, were given temporary or leasehold privileges covering the period of the overturning of Israel's crown—until the time for Messiah's Kingdom. Indeed, in portraying these kingdoms and their leases of power, it is particularly shown that their dominion will terminate absolutely when that of Messiah will begin.

Furthermore, Moses prophesied the chastisement of Israel, and in symbolic numbers told that it would last Seven Times. (Leviticus 25:18, 21, 24, 28.) The lease of Gentile Times, or years, is likewise Seven Times. Both began to count at the same date. Hence both will terminate simultaneously. When the lease of Gentile domination ends, Messiah's Kingdom will by right begin its Reign; and Israel, "Jacob," will be associated with Messiah's Empire as His earthly people—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the Prophets being made princes in all the earth as promised.

The Prophet Daniel's Foreview. God through the Prophet Daniel supplies us two pictures of the Seven Times of Gentile domination of the world. One of these pictures was given by vision to King Nebuchadnezzar, who overthrew the crown of King Zedekiah. Properly, it gives the worldly view of Gentile governments. The whole period was represented by a glorious image, whose head was of gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet of iron and clay mixed. Given the pointer that Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom represented the head of gold, any school boy could show that the next Universal Empire was Medo-Persia, the third Greece and the fourth Rome—the feet representing Rome ecclesiastical, with her daughters dominating Europe today.

We cannot here go into details except to note that "in the days of these kings" represented by the toes, the God of Heaven promised to set up His Kingdom—Messiah's Kingdom. This is symbolized as a stone cut out of a mountain, which struck the image on its feet and demolished it completely. Then the stone became a great Mountain, or Kingdom, and filled the whole earth—Messiah's Empire.—Dan. 2:31-45.

Pictured as Beastly. The vision of Nebuchadnezzar represented Gentile domination as gorgeous. But when a vision was given to Daniel himself it showed matters in a different light. All Gentile kingdoms to him were pictured as beastly. The golden head of Nebuchadnezzar's vision, picturing the Babylonian Empire, was represented as a ferocious lion; the Medo-Persian Empire as a bear; the Grecian Empire as a leopard; and the Roman Empire of the Caesars as a man of war, great and terrible beast, ferocious and destructive, as the pages of history corroborate.

In contrast with these Gentile governments, the coming Kingdom of Messiah was represented as human. "One like unto the Son of Man" took dominion under the whole heavens, in the name of God and as His Kingdom. The beastly forms of government disappeared, but that of the Son of Man endured—accomplishing to the full the Divine purposes.—Daniel 7:1-14.

Where Are We Now?

As before suggested, the key to our problem lies in the Seven Times—the period of Israel's chastisement and that of Gentile lease of power. The measurement in both cases begins at the time of King Zedekiah's dethronement, 606 B. C. A Time is one year; hence the Seven Times are seven years—yet not literal years, but symbolic; and, as God declared through the Prophet, and confirmed in the Scriptures, "The year is lunar—360 days; hence each of the Seven Times equal 2520 years. Now note that these Seven Times are almost expired; and hence Zionism is the watchword of all Jews who are trusting still in the Divine promises.

Reckoning from the date of the dethronement of King Zedekiah, we have the date 1915 A. D. This indicates that in 1915 Messiah's invisible, spiritual Kingdom will be in power. The lease of power to the Gentiles will then have expired, and Israel's disfavor will be at an end. This fact implies an awful

Time of Trouble at that date, as foretold by the Prophet Daniel and also by our Lord.—Daniel 12:1.

The great trouble of 1915 will suffice for all time, as says the Prophet, (Psalm 46:3.) There will be no more war. Then the "princes" of Israel will have dictatorial powers, backed up by the spiritual Kingdom—just what the world needs, but what it dare not trust to any imperfect men under the present reign of Sin and Death.

Jerusalem and Messiah.

The time has therefore come for the message of Isaiah 40:1, 2 to be given to God's ancient people. The time has come for the fulfillment of the highest ideals of Zionism! He that blesseth Israel shall be blessed of God! He Israel shall be blessed of God! He that curseth Israel shall be cursed of God! Let us all encourage God's ancient people to go up and possess their land, as Cyrus did in a figure long ago! It is not our thought to encourage all Jews to return to Palestine. Many of them are better off where they are at present. Only those who have faith in the precious promises do we encourage to go now. Gradually their numbers will increase, as faith in the promises of God returns to the Jewish heart.

But there is a work in which every Jew should have a share. If favorably situated, and unready to go personally, they should go by proxy—they should put plenty of money into the hands of the Zionist Manager at Jerusalem. He should be enabled to assist every worthy son of Abraham fleeing from Russian persecution. He should be prepared to advance money to every settler to purchase every foot of land in Palestine that is offered for sale. He should be enabled to supply all with tools, etc. He should have a free hand to do exploits in the name of God and of His Chosen People.

Zionism will prosper, whether or not. Messiah's Kingdom will be set up. But who will have the honor of having manifested his faith by his works and by his money? The love of money is a root of all evil amongst all people, and the Jew has not escaped it. Both Jews and Christians need the exhortation not to worship the Golden Calf, but the true God. I can thus reprove and exhort Jew, Gentile and Christian the more freely because it is well known that I never solicit money for myself or the work entrusted to me by the Lord—not even Church collections—not even institutions that money is scarce and desirable. I do, however, exhort Jews in prosperous circumstances to bless their own hearts by helping their own countrymen to fulfill the holy prophecies.

God's Great Kingdom at Hand.

The fault of Christendom has been the rejection of the Divine Plan and the acceptance instead of a human plan of salvation. The Church, it was asserted, was to convert the world for Jesus and present it to Him as a trophy. Alas, we have not been able to convert ourselves, which is the particular work the Master gave us to do! Greater humility would have shown us our folly long ago.

All through the Old Testament God's promises abound, telling all who have ears to hear of the glorious Reign of Messiah and of the success of His Kingdom—that the result shall be that "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess, to the glory of God"; that "the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped."

We remember the prophecies which picture earthly governments and show us their termination and the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on their ruins. We remember the Jubilee picture repeated by the Israelites every fiftieth year, proclaiming liberty and restoration of property for the people and typifying restitution of all that has been lost through sin and that is to be restored through Messiah's Kingdom.

Bible students are more and more coming to see that the Gospel Age is the time in which Messiah is selecting from amongst men a saintly class, and is proving and testing their loyalty to God and to righteousness. These are to be Messiah's assistants—"the Bride, the Lamb's Wife." Bible students all know that the New Testament abounds with references to the Kingdom. Nearly all the parables that our Lord gave were in illustration of something connected with the Kingdom or with the class being called out of the world to inherit the spiritual Kingdom as joint-heirs with Messiah. All such know, that the Great Father proclaimed, "One like unto the Son of Man" took dominion under the whole heavens, in the name of God and as His Kingdom. The beastly forms of government disappeared, but that of the Son of Man endured—accomplishing to the full the Divine purposes.—Daniel 7:1-14.

The Scriptures teach that Messiah's Kingdom is not only to bless those living at the time of its establishment, but gradually to awaken the dead from the tomb, and to give all of Adam's race a full opportunity for attaining life everlasting—or death. Indeed, the Bible assures us that eventually the whole world shall receive new life from Messiah in offset to the life received from Father Adam, forfeited through sin. Thus amongst the various titles of Messiah, that mentioned by the Prophets is that of "the Everlasting Father."—Isaiah 9:5.