

WHY, WHEN AND HOW CHRIST'S SECOND ADVENT

"Billy" Sunday's View Better Than "Orthodoxy's", Yet Quite Unscriptural.

Bible Views Long Buried Now Coming to Light—Erroneous Teachings of the Creeds—Reasonableness of Bible Presentation—Instead of World-Burning, Messiah's Kingdom Will Bring World-Wide Blessing—Anarchy Destructive as a Fire Will Prepare the Way.



PASTOR RUSSELL

Norfolk, Va., February 28.—Pastor Russell, addressing a large audience here today, discussed "Why, When and How Christ's Second Advent," from the text, "If I go away, I will come again and receive you." (John 14:3) He complimented "Billy" Sunday by saying that although "Billy's" teachings do not come up to the Bible, nevertheless he is far ahead of so-called "orthodoxy" on this subject.

Mr. Sunday preaches considerably as I do on this subject, said the Pastor, yet still comes far short of my conception of the Bible teaching. Mr. Sunday's presentation recognizes that the Lord Jesus at His Second Coming will establish a world-wide Empire which will bless the entire world with light, knowledge and fullest opportunity to walk in the ways of righteousness. To this we agree.

But we disagree with Mr. Sunday's theory that the thousands of millions who died during the past six thousand years in ignorance of Christ are to suffer tortures to all eternity because of that ignorance. Amongst those billions he includes all who have never heard of Jesus' name in the true sense in heaven lands, and at home here, he explains to us, some of them were led straight down to Hell by the churches. These billions, according to Mr. Sunday, were very unfairly treated—very unkindly.

We disagree with this and present the Bible thought, that the dead are neither in a fiery Purgatory nor in a fiery Hell, but in the Bible Hell—the tomb. We insist that the Bible teaches that "all that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God and come forth." The saints will come forth to the rewards of the Church in glory with Christ in His Kingdom. Others will come forth to a resurrection—a raising up out of sin and death—by judgment. See Revised Version, John 5:28, 29.

These billions who have not intelligently heard of Jesus and His salvation are not on trial now. Their death is the penalty of Adam's sin and not of their personal rejection of Jesus, whom they never knew. It is to give them the opportunity of a judgment, or trial, during the thousand years of Christ's Reign, that they will be called forth from the tomb. As all died through one man's disobedience, all are to be awakened and brought forth to an opportunity of everlasting life through the obedience of the other man—Christ. The resurrection of the dead, both just and unjust, is their hope. (Acts 24:15.) Aside from a resurrection, there is no hope. It is in view of this that the whole world, good and bad, are said to "sleep with their fathers."

"Orthodox" View is Still Worse. Those who style themselves "Orthodox" are still further astray from the Bible than is Mr. Sunday. While the latter proposes Millennial blessings for the fortunate living at the Second Advent, "Orthodoxy" declares to the contrary—that there will be no Millennium—that there will be no hope for anybody except the Elect few. They hold that, instead of establishing His Kingdom at His Second Advent, Jesus will destroy the earth and its inhabitants with fire. They overlook the teachings of the Lord's Prayer—that His people should pray "Thy Kingdom come," and expect it; and that they should believe that ultimately God's will shall be done on earth as fully as it is now done in Heaven. They neglect the Scriptures which tell that Paradise, lost as the Garden of Eden, is to be restored world-wide—that "the earth is God's footstool," and that "He will make the place of His feet glorious."—Isaiah 66:1; 60:13.

They neglect the Bible declaration that "the earth abideth forever"; and that God "created it not in vain, but formed it to be inhabited." (Ecclesiastes 1:4; Isaiah 45:18.) They neglect St. Peter's declaration that the Restoration Times mentioned by all the holy Prophets are to be realized at the Second Coming of Jesus. (Acts 3:19-21.) Instead, they hold, and express it in all their Creeds—Catholic and Protestant—that at Christ's Second Coming the earth and its inhabitants are to be consumed with literal fire. They are led to thus give a literal interpretation to St. Peter's symbolic statement, which portray the fire of anarchy which will destroy present institutions and make way for the New Heavens and the New Earth—the New Dispensation of Messiah's Kingdom. They fall into this error because of another formed during the Dark Ages

namely, that the only kingdom of God that this world will ever see will be such an one as it is now enjoying, while the various so-called kingdoms of God are butchered each other. Each is trying to justify its own selfish course, and all unite in saying that the civilized nations of today are Christendom—Christ's Kingdom.

This theory began in the year 890, with Pope Leo III, since which time Catholics claim that the Church is glorified, reigning with Christ, and the Pope serving as the world's king—viceroy, or instead of Messiah. English, German and other reformers coming out of Catholicism brought with them the same theory, which has been falsely added to the Lord's Prayer in the words, "Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever," which words do not appear in the oldest MSS. nor in the Revised Version. Protestants generally, refusing the Pope as the viceroy of Christ, are much confused when they attempt to explain the Kingdom for which they pray, "Thy Kingdom come," and the reference in Revelation to its lasting a thousand years. Protestant preachers are becoming Higher Critics, Evolutionists, etc., and take little account of the Bible testimony. What a pity that such do not instead resign their pulpits and enter business life, where higher standards of honesty prevail!

What Troubles Honest Preachers. There are honest preachers who believe the Bible, yet find it difficult to believe respecting Messiah's Kingdom. Properly enough these argue that if Jesus has been glorified for eighteen centuries as a Spirit Being, at the right hand of the Father, and has been preparing the Church for the Heavenly Courts, it would seem to be a retrogression for Him to return to earth and establish an earthly kingdom with soldiers, servants, courtiers, etc. Properly they reason that for the Lord Jesus to leave the Throne of Heavenly Glory, and return to sit upon a throne of gold and ivory, would seemingly be taking a backward step.

The difficulty is that these ministers have slipped a few cogs in the great Divine Plan of the Ages. What they need yet to note in the Bible is that Christ and His Church, His Bride class, the Royal Priesthood, the Household of Faith, are the only ones of the human family promised a share in the Heavenly rewards and blessings—that the Divine arrangement for the remainder of mankind is an earthly Eden, or Paradise, and human perfection in the Divine likeness. They fail to see that the saintly Church, now being gathered from the world for eighteen centuries, will compose a Spiritual Kingdom which, backed by Infinite Wisdom and Power, will be better able to serve the world's interests than could any earthly kingdom; and that, furthermore, the Divine Plan provides that the Ancient Worthies, from Abel down to John the Baptist, are to be resurrected perfect human beings, who will be honored by being made "princes in all the earth"—representatives, agents, of the invisible Spiritual Kingdom then in control.

The Kingdom Now in Embryo. Our Lord's many parables refer to His Church as a Kingdom class, a Royal Priesthood. This does not signify that He intended them to occupy places of honor and distinction now. The Master Himself was neither a King nor a Priest on earth. His is the Melchizedek Priesthood of the Messianic Age. Then He will also be the great King over all the earth. Well did He declare to Pilate, "My Kingdom is not of this Age" (John 18:36). As His saintly followers are to share in His Kingdom, they also must wait for its establishment. While waiting they pray, "Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is done in Heaven."

Of this Royal Priesthood the Apostle John declares, "The world knoweth us not." We are kings and priests only from the Divine standpoint, which none are able to recognize except "the brethren." Only in embryo are God's saints spoken of as the Kingdom class. They are now on probation. Jesus says that the overcomers will be granted to sit with Him in His Throne, as actual members of the Royal Priesthood, to reign with Him a thousand years.—Revelation 3:21; 20:6.

"He Must Reign Until"—After telling about the resurrection of the dead, St. Paul explains that the resurrection of the Church to glory, honor and immortality will be first of the program. Subsequently all will come forth, "every man in his own order," and Christ shall reign until He shall have put down all insubordination. Other Scriptures clearly inform us that the length of His Reign will be a thousand years.

From the Bible viewpoint the Thousand-year Day of Christ is ample for the great work to which it has been consecrated by the all-wise Creator from before the foundation of the earth. Nor should we forget that all power in Heaven and earth is vested in the One who then will take the Throne. Neither should we forget that for eighteen centuries the Church has been under special preparation and instruction in the School of Christ, training for their work as a Royal Priesthood. They will be able to sympathize with the groaning creation and to be merciful, even in the administration of stripes necessary to many for their assistance along the Highway of Holiness, then opened up.

Messiah's Kingdom invisible. Some of the noblest minds have been tempted from faith in the Second Advent by the thought of an earthly Kingdom with Christ and the saints in regal state. They were quite right in thinking that earthly court and state would be beneath the dignity of Messiah and His Bride. The Scriptures declare that Jesus left His glory, hum-

bled Himself to become a man, in order that He might become the great Sin-Offender for our race. But the Redeemer prayed to be glorified with the glory which He had with the Father before the world was; and He promised His Church a share in His Heavenly glory. Did He intend us to expect a change from earthly to Heavenly inheritance and glorious change from earthly to Heavenly conditions, and will He give us, instead, earthly glory and merely perfection in the flesh?

How slow we have been to see that God never purposed that either Jesus or His faithful Elect should remain in the flesh! A few Bible statements misunderstood got us into difficulty. We read, "Every eye shall see Him," and forgot that there are eyes of understanding as well as natural eyes. We forgot that Jesus declares that very few now see or hear—only the saintly. Those eyes of understanding have been opened by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We forgot that Jesus said, "A little while and the world shall see Me no more." When once we discern that He has been glorified—that He has been given a spirit nature again, that He no longer has the human nature which He surrendered as a Sin-Sacrifice, then we see why the world will see Him no more, and why the Church must be changed by resurrection power before she can see Him.

"I Will Come Again." Jesus left the world, not so much in the sense of going so far away that He could not see His disciples and communicate with them, but rather in the sense that He would not see them or communicate with them. He would compel them to "walk by faith and not by sight," to "search the Scriptures," and to receive their spiritual blessings through the fellowship of the Spirit of the Truth. By His Holy Spirit He would be with them, and not by personal contact or further manifestations.

His Second Coming would be at the end of the Age, to awaken His sleeping saints and to change them to the Heavenly state. Then He would come again and receive them into Himself—first the sleeping ones and subsequently those alive and remaining, who would experience their resurrection change in the moment of death. Additionally, in the Harvest with which the Age ends, He promised to take special supervision of the gathering of His Elect.

This stage of His Coming is called, in the Greek, His Parousia—His presence. The world is not to know of His Parousia. On the contrary, it is described as secret—"as a thief in the night." Jesus described His Parousia, saying that at that time the world would be eating, drinking, planting, building, and know not of His Coming in the Harvest of the Age, even as the world in the days of Noah knew not. The intimation is, however, that some of God's people would be made aware of His Parousia; while others of God's people, the Foolish Virgins, would be overcharged with the cares of this life, and know not.

We cannot here discuss fully how Christ comes as a thief, but we offer free of charge a booklet which we have written with a view to making this matter very clear. Whoever will address me—Pastor Russell, Brooklyn, N. Y.—requesting a copy of Parousia Booklet—will receive a copy free.

"World Seeth Me No More." If Jesus really meant it when He said, "A little while and the world seeth Me no more," how can humanity know about the new, invisible Kingdom? The Bible answers most distinctly. It tells of the shining forth, the Epiphany, of the Messianic Kingdom. It tells of His Apokalypsis, manifestation, or revelation. "He shall be revealed in flaming fire." This flaming fire signifies severe judgments, as elsewhere. These are to be so severe that the elements of society will melt with the fervency of the heat in a terrible Time of Trouble. Additionally, "the heavens," the ecclesiastical systems, will be involved, and will pass away with a great noise, or commotion. It is from this revealing in flaming fire, Divine censure upon the world, that the great, the high, the mighty, the poor, all shall seek to "hide themselves in the dens and caves of the earth"—in the social orders and in affiliation with strong governments, etc.

Gradually mankind will see that it is "the wrath of the Lamb" that causes the "Time of Trouble" such as was not since there was a nation." The plowshare of trouble will go so deep that the world will effectually learn the lesson. As their eyes of understanding open still more widely, they will discern the beauties and blessings of the Messianic Kingdom—"the desire of all nations." But first the Christ, Jesus the Head and the Church the Body, Bridegroom and Bride, must enter into the glory of the Kingdom. Then will be established the earthly phase of the Kingdom in the hands of the Ancient Worthies. The world will "see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the Prophets"; but they will not see the King, nor the Bride, nor "the virgins nor companions" on the spirit plane. These will be as invisible to humanity as are Satan and his demon host at the present time.

One of our great obstacles in the past has been the failure to discern that God has been presenting two distinct salvations—that of the Church to the spiritual, Heavenly, Divine nature; and that of the non-elect, through the elect Church. To them will come the opportunity of earthly Restitution to human perfection, in the image and likeness of God, as was Adam—in a world-wide Paradise. Our Savior's First Advent was necessary for the redemption of mankind. His Second Advent is for the overthrow of Satan and sin and for the release of sinners.

FUNERAL OF DR. BUSSEY IS HELD

Distinguished Nebraska Scientist Given Final Tribute at Lincoln.

BURIAL IN WYUKA CEMETERY.

Lincoln is Put Upon List of Produce Postoffices—County Treasurers Must Make Remittances Every Month—Resurrect Measure Thought Dead.

Lincoln, March 1.—The funeral of Dr. Charles E. Bussey of the state university took place at Memorial hall on the state campus grounds. Rev. M. A. Bullock of the Vine Congregational church, assisted by Rev. E. A. Waite of the First Congregational church, had charge of the services. Before the funeral services the body lay in state for an hour, where hundreds paid their respects to the man who had done so much for Nebraska's big school. A section of the lower floor of the hall was reserved for the members of the university faculty and their wives and the administrative members.

The active pallbearers were Dean Albert F. Woods of the University of Minnesota, Dr. M. R. Gilmore of Lincoln, Dr. H. L. Shantz of Washington, Prof. F. C. Jean of Peru normal school, Dr. Irving S. Cutter of Omaha, and Dr. Raymond J. Pool of Dr. Bessey's department of the university.

The honorary pallbearers were men who are or have been closely identified with the university and were headed by Chancellor Avery.

While the body was lying in state it was in charge of several graduate students of the botany department, among them being Fred F. Weiland, W. L. C. Maenscher, R. J. Jeffs, T. G. Vincker, F. J. Fitzpatrick and Richard R. Boecker. The burial was at Wyuka cemetery. Large numbers of telegrams of sympathy and condolence have been received by the family.

Resurrect Measure Thought Dead.

Grace of Harlan, aided by Sandall of York, resurrected senate file 127 in the senate, incidentally drawing down upon their heads the wrath of the insurance men. The bill extends the right to recover attorneys' fees in the case of a contested claim on a loss so that it covers personal property as well as real estate. Gates of Sarpy objected to the bill on the ground that it made the insurance companies out as "scalawags." Sandall argued that it was the small claims that should have such protection, as the policyholder was always prone to give up his rights rather than go to law, where only small amounts were involved.

Lincoln Put Upon List.

Postmaster Francis E. Brown is in receipt of information from the first assistant postmaster general, Washington, stating that it has been decided to add Lincoln to the list of offices at which lists are published of the names and addresses of producers who desire to sell country produce direct to the consumer by means of the parcel post. All farmers desiring to have their names placed on the list should forward their names and address to Postmaster Brown at Lincoln, Neb., stating the kind of produce they have for sale, which should be listed under three heads—butter, eggs and general produce.

Senate Defines "Legal Newspaper."

Fly-by-night newspapers, started for campaign purposes and gaining most of their sustenance from the sale of legal advertising, came in for some sharp raps at the hands of the state senate. The occasion was the advancement to third reading by the committee of the whole of senate file 131, by Krumbach. This measure defines a legal newspaper as one having a minimum circulation of at least 200 weekly copies and as one printed either in whole or in part at the place where it is issued.

Hall Calls For Money Under Law.

Treasurer Hall made formal demand on county treasurers for remittances monthly of all funds due to the state. Sent with each demand is the opinion of Attorney General Reed to the effect that the state finance officer has a right to require such remittances.

Charged With Attacking Woman.

Upland, Neb., March 1.—H. J. Rinterman of Upland swore out a complaint against J. C. Hartman, a prominent retired business man of Upland, formerly of Bladen, charging him with having made an assault upon his wife, Amelia Rinterman. The case is to be tried before the county judge in Bladinaughton.

Norfolk Club Sends Check.

Norfolk, Neb., March 1.—The Norfolk State league baseball manager mailed a check for \$500 to President Miles as forfeit money for the 1915 series. Norfolk business men have subscribed \$4,500 for the baseball fund this year. Towne will again manage the team.

Mose Justus Chosen to Pilot Pawnees.

Columbus, Neb., March 1.—Mose Justus, formerly pitcher for the Columbus baseball team, will pilot the Pawnees during the 1915 season. This was decided at a meeting of the directors of the local association when they accepted him as manager.

IN PLATTSMOUTH FORTY YEARS AGO.

Old man Metteer has come out in a new buggy. He cuts a swell now—beats Elam Parmele all hollow.

We learn that Mr. Jacob Vallery's folks are sadly afflicted in the way of sickness. It is with regret we notice the same.

The wife of Mr. Sidenstricher, an old and much respected citizen, died on Thursday last, very suddenly. The funeral was largely attended.

Bryan & Chambers sold \$100 worth of harness in one day not long since, and got the money for it. Who says Plattsmouth is not a good town to do business in?

A Later Day Saint has been preaching around here lately and last Sunday he baptized a Mrs. Ringo in the Missouri. Such a bath ought to wash away a good many sins.

Mr. Ethel, of California, a former resident of Cass, and a nephew of Robert and James Doom, has been visiting us lately. He is a newspaper man, too, and that dooms him to a full notice.

Charles Snyder, Hatt's old butcher, was married last week and immediately started for the Black Hills. His armament consisted of 17 swords, 31 pistols, 1 mountain Howitzer, 2 short guns, 3 razors and a dog.

M. B. Murphy, our favorite B. & M. mail agent, has been removed, discharged, paid off, and Uncle Sam has hired him over again at bigger wages and less work. Hurray for "Mike!" The upshot of all this lingo is that Mr. Murphy has been transferred to the U. P. mail route from the B. & M. made several changes in the U. P., and our friend, Murphy, benefits by one of them. We shall miss him on our trips over the old B. & M., but then the U. P. boys will get fat laughing at his jokes, so it's all even. They're a lean set up there. Mr. Martin Dunham, an old, old friend of the Herald, also gets a place in the U. P. service. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all, boys!

At the grasshopper meeting of February 17th an idea was advanced and generally supported by the speakers present that disturbance of the eggs in the fall, and especially breaking up of the eggs sacks and scattering the eggs, thus exposing them to the action of the elements, would destroy their vitality so that they would not hatch in the following spring. From some experiments made by myself I was led to the same conclusion, but now, after a more thorough test experiment, I am forced to abandon it. In September, 1876, observing that the hoppers had deposited their eggs about as thickly as they could be crowded in my garden paths, where the earth was trodden hard and solid, I took a hoe and gradually scraped them out, thus breaking the sacks and scattering the eggs on and near the surface, exposed to the frosts, sun, rain and snows. After our meeting adjourned on the 17th, I took a magnifying glass and examined the surface of the ground closely, and found no eggs. The birds or elements had evidently destroyed them. But on moving the earth I found them apparently as thick as I left them in the fall from the surface to one or two inches deep. The earth was very light and full of them. I took from those nearest the surface a hundred or so and put them in a glass jar and placed it in a warm room. On the 23d, six days after, they commenced hatching, and now, so far as I can see, all are hatched out and full of life and activity. They have no food except as they devour each other, of which I see no signs as yet. I propose to see how long they will live on nothing.

In company with some ladies the Herald took a very pleasant sleigh ride last week. Among other places visited, we paid our respects to the new machine shops of the B. & M. R., south of town. Turning our team over to one of the 40 odd boys who had helped to make the bells jingle and the sleigh run easy over cross walks and so on, we pushed the great brown door open and entered, followed by the ladies, who had a great desire to see the inside of the buildings. Spying our special friend, Will Ballance, we asked him to show us around. Will said he was just forging a thunderbolt to elect a United States senator with and must strike while the iron was hot, or he'd do it gladly. He referred us, however, to his brother, "Rob," who wasn't on the thunderbolt department, and more-over, was much better looking and a greater ladies' man, he would gladly

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE WAR PICTURES TO BE SEEN AT THE GEM THEATRE

The people of Plattsmouth are to be given a rare opportunity of seeing, through the medium of the moving pictures, the battle fields of the great European war, as Messrs. Peterson and Shlaes, of the Gem theater, have secured the use of the celebrated Chicago Tribune war pictures, the only real actual pictures that have been taken in the historic battlefields, by Edward F. Weigle, staff photographer of the Chicago Tribune, who, at the outbreak of the war was at the front with the Belgian army and witnessed the thrilling encounters at the early stages of the war, and everywhere these pictures are accepted as the real, actual story of the fight in that country. The Chicago Tribune turns half of the proceeds of the showing of the pictures over to the Belgian relief fund, for the relief of the sufferers in that country. The management of the Gem were compelled to pay a big price to secure the pictures and half of the proceeds goes to the relief fund. A special matinee will be given Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock for the school children, and in the evening the pictures will be shown again at the Gem. Those who have seen the pictures state that there is nothing better or more educational shown in the country than these reproductions of the scenes taken on the bloody battlefields of Belgium and France.

FUNERAL OF GEORGE EDGERTON YESTERDAY AT 10 O'CLOCK A. M.

The funeral of the late George Edgerton was held yesterday morning at 10 o'clock from the parlors of the Hotel Riley, where for several years past the departed had made his home. There were a number of the relatives and old friends present to pay their last tributes of respect to the departed friend who had for so many years been with them. The services were in charge of the Rev. W. S. Leets, rector of St. Luke's church, who celebrated the impressive and solemn Episcopal burial service. A choir of voices from the members of the St. Luke's choir rendered a number of appropriate selections during the services. At the close the casket was borne to Oak Hill cemetery, where it was consigned to mother earth to rest until a call to another life. A number of friends accompanied the body to the cemetery for the last sad rites.

Card of Thanks. We desire to thank this method to return our most sincere thanks to those kind friends who so faithfully administered to the wants of our beloved brother and uncle, George Edgerton, during his last illness and assisted with their helpfulness and sympathy at his death. Especially do we desire to express our deep feeling of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Mont Robb and family for their care of our sick one and to the Eagles for their assistance and sympathy. Mrs. Diana White, Mrs. Mary C. Edgerton, J. A. Edgerton, G. W. Edgerton, G. E. Edgerton.

Shows Some Improvement. Mrs. Mary C. Egerton, who for the past three weeks has been confined to her home, suffering with the grippe, is reported as showing slight signs of improvement. She has been very dangerously ill, and her condition is still very critical and gives her family and friends much cause for apprehension. Able to Be Up. Yesterday J. H. Becker, who for the past ten days has been confined to his room by an attack of the grippe, was able to be up and around his home for the first time since he was taken sick. He has had a very severe time with the malady, but now feels that he has succeeded in getting the best of it and his friends trust that his improvement may continue. Residence for Sale. Five-room cottage for sale cheap if taken at once. John Wooster. 3-1-2wks-d