

# The Sword AND Staff

*"Preach the Word." (II Timothy 4:2)*

*"Feed the Flock." (I Peter 5:2)*

## The Last Broadcast

(AN AMAZING IMAGINARY ACCOUNT OF HOW IT COULD HAPPEN...)

• By VICTOR KNOWLES

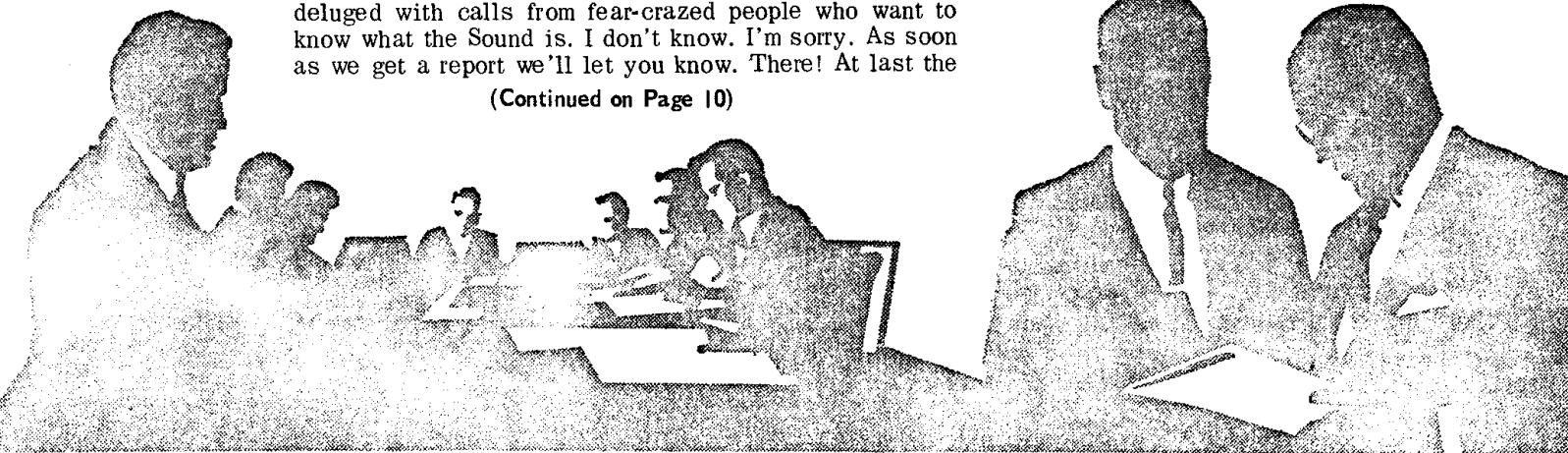
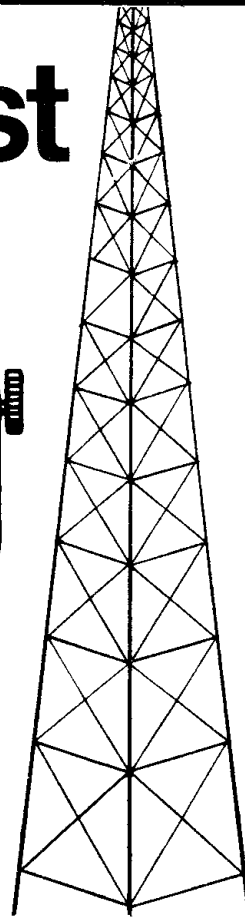
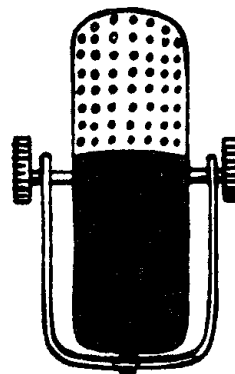
2885 Ava

Eugene, Oregon 97404

"...HAS SAID THAT the Commission to Reopen the Kennedy Assassination will announce its findings at a special news conference Friday. NBN will begin its live coverage at 9 P.M., Eastern Standard Time. In sports the Cincinnati Reds have won the World Series by defeating the Boston Red Sox, 7-1, to complete a four game sweep of the American League champions. Prices were mixed in the stock market today. The 2 P.M Dow Jones average of 30 industrials was down .23 at 855.21. The hour's lead story—former President Richard Nixon has stunned the world with his long awaited announcement that...Wait!...What's that...that...oh!...it sounds like all of New York City is screaming at the top of their lungs...what an unearthly sound! <sup>1</sup> On and on it goes... it seems to be pressing me right down in my seat...I've never heard anything like this in all my life...just a great, unending shout. But I can see now that we here in the studio are not alone in hearing this mysterious, monstrous sound...our screens show our correspondents all over the world...Cairo...Stockholm...New Delhi...Budapest...Peking...Karachi...all grimacing in pain as they hold their hands over their ears. This thing is worldwide. Perhaps we can...what...all right. I've just been informed that our NBN switchboard here in New York City has been

deluged with calls from fear-crazed people who want to know what the Sound is. I don't know. I'm sorry. As soon as we get a report we'll let you know. There! At last the

(Continued on Page 10)



**THE SWORD AND STAFF**

Post Office Box 147  
Mount Airy, N. C. 27030 U. S. A.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**

Introductory—\$1.00 for the first year; Regular—\$1.50 for renewals thereafter (a year); Bulk—.80¢ per copy a year when sent in bundles of at least five to one address. Other arrangements. Send a list of names and addresses, and they will be sent free samples for inspection.

THE SWORD AND STAFF is published bi-monthly sponsored by the Locust Grove church, Iron Ridge Rd., Galax, Virginia. James E. Gibbons is the editor. Second class postage paid at Mount Airy, N. C.

RENEW your subscription when it is due—no notice will be sent.

## Proverbs of Today

\*\*\*\*\*

*Practice makes for perfection in that which is practiced.*

"Many times what we are speaks so loudly that people can't hear what we say."

*It takes more than giving birth to a child to be a mother.*

"A good man is like a rubber ball—the harder they throw him down, the higher he bounces."

*Hope deferred makes life become a wearisome thing.*

"True prayer does not begin when we kneel, nor does it cease when we arise."

*Getting sin out of your life is not a matter of Christian growth, but of repentance and salvation.*

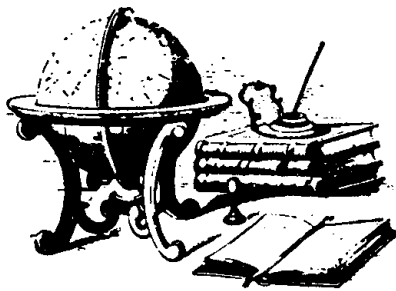
"It is falling in love with our own mistaken ideas that makes fools and beggars of half of mankind."

*Faith without knowledge is little more than mythology.*

"Habits are formed by the continuous repetition of an act, and consequently must be broken by continuous effort."

*It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God with the guilt of sin upon our hands.*

"Think of your faults the first part of the night when you are awake, and the faults of others the latter part of the night when you are asleep."



## EDITORIAL

## COMMENTS...

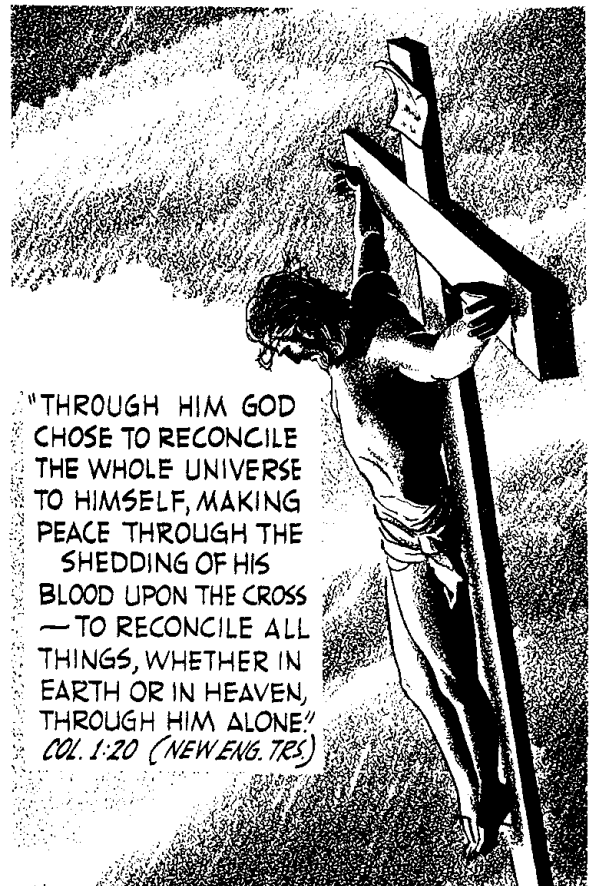
### UNCONDITIONALLY COMMITTED TO CHRIST

IF WE CLAIM to be the undenominational New Testament church, we must be like the one found and taught in the New Testament (it is that simple). Too long some have mouthed words about a "Restoration Movement," when they don't intend to restore much of anything. In reality they have taken their comfortable place as a denomination among denominations. They are largely influenced and controlled by the same attitudes and traditions as those of their apostate religious neighbors. The sin of hypocrisy was the one sin most severely rebuked and denounced by our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus died for the church, "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27). (Has Christ died in vain?). Of the matter on which we are writing, Paul wrote, "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (I Corinthians 3:17). Jesus has done everything for us; he could have done no more. He deserves our all. Let us be unconditionally committed to him, his Word, and to being his true church. Actually this is the only thing that will take us to heaven. □

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTICE:** With your address on the back of this paper you will see the date you subscribed; or when your subscription was entered into our records. When there is an "Re:" in front of the date that indicates when your address was re-entered (like when you moved). Since we send no renewal notices, you can take it from here as a hint to when you should renew your subscription. Thanks a lot. (The dates are on our new address masters, but not on our old ones). Lack of time prohibits sending notices. □

\*\*\*\*\*



"THROUGH HIM GOD CHOSE TO RECONCILE THE WHOLE UNIVERSE TO HIMSELF, MAKING PEACE THROUGH THE SHEDDING OF HIS BLOOD UPON THE CROSS — TO RECONCILE ALL THINGS, WHETHER IN EARTH OR IN HEAVEN, THROUGH HIM ALONE" COL. 1:20 (NEW ENG. TRS.)

# IF THEY DO THESE THINGS IN

## A GREEN TREE,



## WHAT SHALL BE DONE IN THE DRY?

• “For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in a dry?” (Luke 23:31).

JESUS ASKED this question as He was being led away to die on the cross of Calvary for the sins of the whole world. He died for your sins and mine. He was without sin. Even Pilate, the governor who questioned him in the judgment hall, admitted “...I find no fault in this man” (Luke 23:4).

He who made the tree was hung upon it with nails in his hands and feet. He who was sent by God the Father and was rejected by man, was nailed to a tree hanging between heaven and earth. They led him away...

“And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning unto them said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children.’” (Luke 23:27, 28).

Even though he was weak from the scourging he had already received, where they lashed his back with whips which tore his skin and started the flow of that precious blood; even though he had lost much blood from the whip, and also from the crown of thorns they placed upon his head, he said: “Weep not for me.” If they do these things in a green tree, if they do the Son of God, a man without sin, this way, what shall be done in the dry? Because of sin, he chose to die on the cross for you and me. Being without sin he was our substitute.

“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23).

“In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the

world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His son to be the propitiation for our sins” (I John 4:9-10).

While on this earth, before they crucified him, he healed the sick; he restored the dead, and many other miracles as recorded in the gospel accounts in the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. “And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written everyone, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen” (John 21:25).

They led him away... “And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the male factors, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:33-34).

Even through the pain and horrible agony, Jesus still loved; he still asked the Father to forgive his tormentors. “Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously” (I Peter 2:23).

He could have called 10,000 angels and stopped it all, but he didn’t. If he had not died, there was no way for man, no salvation without his death. It wasn’t nails that held him to that cross, it was love.

If they will do these things to the Lord of glory, the King of Kings, whose name is wonderful, what shall be done in the dry? They spat upon him, they mocked him; they said, “...if thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross” (Matthew 27:40). They could not understand that the Son of God must suffer so.

God not only says he loves us, but he proved it when he gave his only begotten son to die for sinful people like you and me.

The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, his son. And when you don’t accept this gift, think how God must feel, because his son had to suffer a terrible death so the gift would be available to you. But you throw it back in his face. You turn your back on the gift of God; you won’t accept it. Have you ever given anyone a gift and they refuse it? How would you feel if it was the most precious gift you could offer, and the person you offered it to didn’t want it? As Jesus hung there on the cross, he cried with a loud voice, “...my God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46).

---

• By **LOWELL GREEN**

Rt. 3, Box 118, Rockwood, Tenn. 37854

---

“I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. For dogs have compassed me. The assembly of the wicked have inclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet” (Psalms 22:14-16).

They crucified him... “Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the Ghost” (Matthew 27:50). “Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, truly this was the

(Continued on Next Page)

**IF THEY DO THESE THINGS IN A GREEN TREE,  
WHAT SHALL BE DONE IN THE DRY?**

*(Continued from Page 3)*

Son of God" (Matthew 27:54).

If they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?

A disciple of Jesus, called Joseph, went to Pilate and begged the body of Jesus (Matthew 27:57-58) and they buried him. Then the Pharisees came to Pilate telling him that they remembered how that Jesus had said that after three days he would rise again, and so they asked Pilate to make sure that Christ's disciples didn't come by night and take his body and say unto the people, he is risen from the dead, so Pilate set up a watch (Matthew 27:62-66).

"...The first day of the week came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And behold, there was a great earthquake. For the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men...the...angel said, I know that ye seek Jesus which was crucified. He is not here; for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay" (Matthew 28:1-2, 4-6).

Afterward Jesus appeared unto the apostles. They were afraid; but Jesus said: "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see..." (Luke 24:39).

He showed them the nail prints in his hands and his feet. "After that he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once..." (I Corinthians 15:6).

Christ was under the law... "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his son made of a woman, made under the law" (Galatians 4:4).

The New Testament came into effect after his death (Hebrews 9:15-17). The terms of his will were given on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:37-41, 47). Beware of people who try to go back under the law and pick the woman at the well, or the thief on the cross as an example of how we can be saved today. There is also danger of trying to be justified by the law; you can fall from grace (Galatians 5:4).

Many people mutilate God's simple way of salvation by adding to or taking away, as if Christ died in vain. Some teach that we are saved by faith only, which is contrary to Scripture (James 2:24), and they deceive many!

If they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry? After all that Christ has done for them, many people wear carnal names instead of (or along with) Christ's name. They give glory to men right along with Christ. There is no salvation in the name Baptist, Catholic, Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Seventh Day Adventist, etc.

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Colossians 3:17).

Friend, the names Catholic, Baptist, Methodist, etc., are just not as good as the name Christian! (Acts 11:26; I Peter 4:16; Isaiah 65:5; 62:2).

"Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which

ye are called?" (James 2:7).

Isn't Christ's name good enough for us to wear without wearing another?

If you will be saved you must... "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved..." (Acts 16:31). "...Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38); "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:10); "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized and wash away thy sins calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16); "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness; otherwise thou also shalt be cut off" (Romans 11:22).

My friend, won't you consider Jesus who was made in the likeness of men? "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:8-11).

My friend, don't belong to a denomination, just belong to Jesus and assemble with his church, which is not a denomination.

Obey Jesus and he will add you to his church (Acts 2:37-41, 47). "And the spirit and the bride say, come, and let him that heareth say, come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17).

After he rose from the dead, Christ ascended up into heaven. At an hour that we know not, he is coming back again (Acts 1:9-11; II Thessalonians 1:7-9). My friend, if you reject him now what shall be done to you when he comes back? □

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# What Christ Is

CHRIST IS THE WAY—Men without Him are like Cain, wanderers, vagabonds.

HE IS THE TRUTH—Men without Him are liars, like the devil.

HE IS THE LIFE—Men without Him are dead in trespasses and sins.

HE IS THE LIGHT—Men without Him walk in darkness and know not whether they go.

HE IS THE VINE—Men who are not in Him are withered branches prepared for the fire.

HE IS THE ROCK—Men not built on Him are carried away by the flood of judgment.

HE IS THE BREAD AND WATER OF LIFE—Men without Him will hunger and thirst through all eternity.

HE IS THE ALPHA AND OMEGA—Men without Him have neither beginning of good nor end of misery.

O BLESSED LORD JESUS, how much better were it not to be without Thee: never to be born than to die without Thee and eternally to need Thee! —Selected □

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# ATHENS - *The City That Was Frustrating to Paul*

• By LAFE F. CULVER, R. R. 7, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

(NOTE: Brother Culver was in the group, which included the editor of THE SWORD AND STAFF, that made a tour of Bible lands in March of this year. This article is written in view of some of his impressions and reflections experienced on the trip.)

AT SUNSET the mountains encircling Athens turn a stunning transparent purple. Grecian legend has it that Poseidon (god of the Sea) and Athena (goddess of Wisdom) fought over this violet-crowned site to see which would emerge with the prize of patronage over the newly founded city. Finally the Olympian god sitting in judgment awarded the coveted city to Athena for her olive tree (symbol of peace and prosperity). The years that followed, however, saw more of war and its ravages than the peace and prosperity that all human hearts long for.

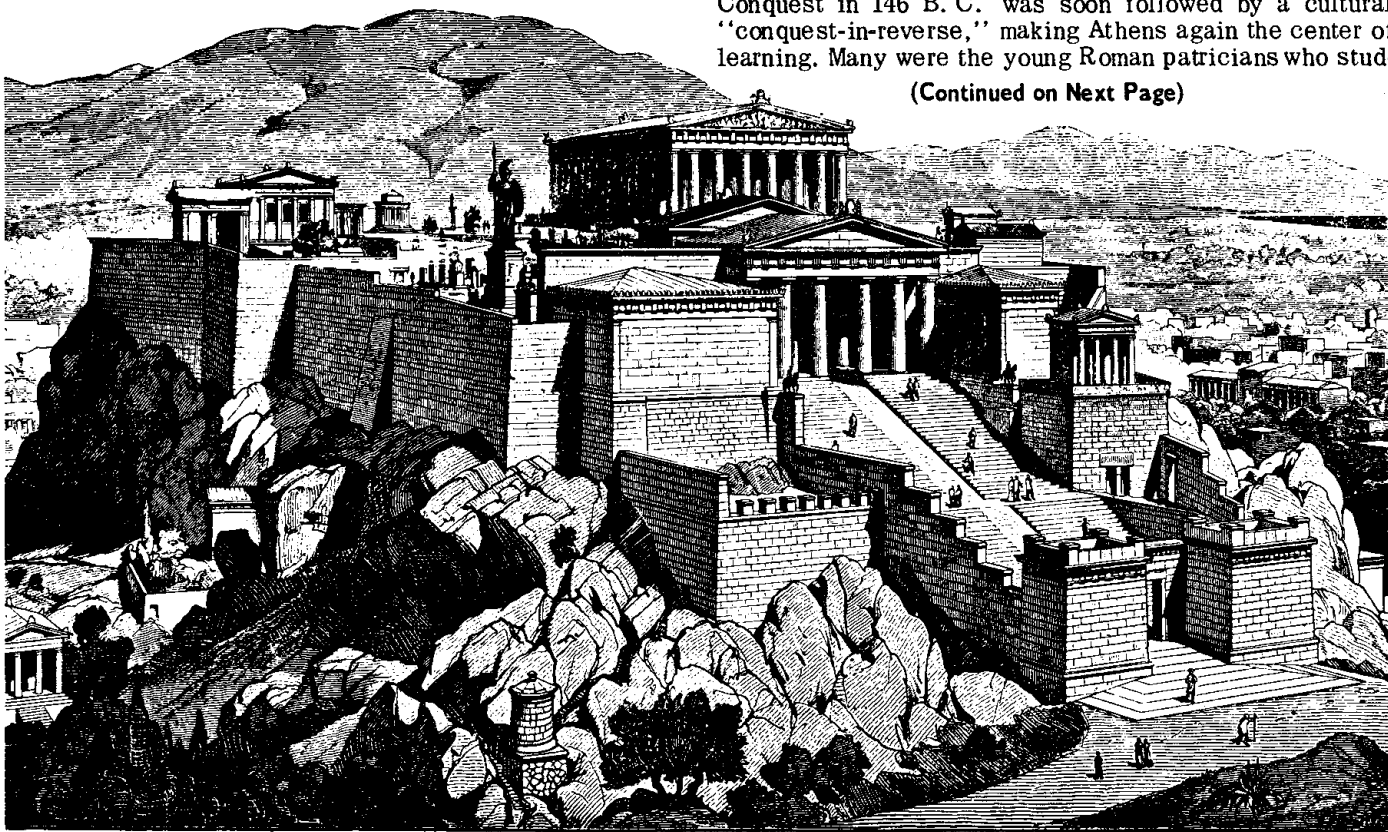
The Athens we visited this year is a teeming metropolis of 2½ million people jammed together on streets laid out for a much smaller population. The small cars swarm like frenzied ants in the downtown area. A watchword for the visitor might well be, "Let the pedestrian beware!" Drivers in Athens flash their headlights and sound their horns with an impatient emphasis that matches their volatile tempers. Like all large cities Athens possesses the contrasts of charm and shame, beauty and trash. One site in the city will command your respect while another will produce disgust.

As our bus groaned its way up the steep slopes of the Acropolis in Athens (a high rocky hill within Athens), a

sense of awe overwhelmed every student of history, be it Grecian history or Biblical. Though today it is but a crumbling resemblance of its former self, the mighty Acropolis still dwarfs Mars Hill and most of its surrounding terrain. Here one stands on the very ground that once hummed with religious and political activity. When Pericles assumed power in 461 B. C., Athens was the undisputed leader of Greece and enjoyed that distinction for 30 years, making it the most beautiful city of antiquity during the fabulous "Golden Age." Here Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle taught their philosophies to earnest students which ideas and ideals still influence Western Civilization. Here the best poets and dramatists vied for recognition in the polished marble theaters. Here were displayed the finest paintings and sculpturing the world had ever seen (the Greeks alone had learned how to capture the graceful lines of the human body in stone, even depicting the folds of a tunic in vibrant color).

When Alexander the Great, the all-conquering Macedonian, subdued Greece, he lavished special privileges upon Athens and rarely interfered with its local government. Upon one occasion he sent the shields of the conquered barbarians of Asia to adorn the Parthenon. Even the Roman Conquest in 146 B. C. was soon followed by a cultural "conquest-in-reverse," making Athens again the center of learning. Many were the young Roman patricians who stud-

(Continued on Next Page)



## ATHENS—THE CITY THAT WAS FRUSTRATING TO PAUL (Continued from Page 5)

ied in the philosophical schools and libraries of these renowned Greeks. Gradually the Greek language and Greek culture took over the world. When Paul was there, his sermon quoted one of their own poets (Acts 17:28).

When the apostle Paul set foot in Athens, he faced a city proud of its prestigious past. None could ignore the magnificence of its pillared Parthenon that dominated the Acropolis itself. This marvelous structure with pillars 7 feet wide set forth a marble statue of Athena that was 40 feet tall and overlaid with gold and ivory. A sculptured frieze on the 100 foot wide gable end presented impressive reenactments of the history behind their 12 major deities. And 84 marble statues and 52 bronze ones convinced Paul that this city was "wholly given to idolatry" (Acts 17:16). Truly "everybody was doing it." Yet today this city is best known for the sermon Paul preached in it about the UNKNOWN GOD, and Mars Hill is worn so smooth by the countless feet of travelers who have been privileged to stand on it that its slick surface is actually treacherous underfoot.

Open your Bible to Acts 17, and let us review what happened in those few days that Paul was in Athens.

### I. CONSIDER PAUL'S COURAGE

After barely escaping the violence of the raging mob at Thessalonica, Paul left by night for Berea. Again his preaching success was cut short when the jealous Jews of Thessalonica came to Berea and stirred up the city against him. He was forced to flee to Athens. There, he had ample reason to wonder if it would really do any good to have a repeat-performance of this preaching-and-running. But his mighty spirit was stirred when he saw the city so saturated with idolatry. Previously he had stunned the pious Jews in the local synagogue with his frank preaching about Jesus, and they had their usual arguments against him. Now Paul pummeled the philosophers with the truth in the dusty marketplace under the very shadow of the Acropolis. Soon the arguments reached such an intensity that they invited him to the Areopagus (Mars Hill), which was an open-air judgment seat used specifically to settle religious disputes (Acts 17:19,20). On one side of this rocky court scene was a stone for the "accuser" to stand by, and on the opposite side stood the "accused" (Paul, in this case). Now began his famous sermon every word of which is still preserved in a massive bronze tablet at the base of Mars Hill.

Paul commended them for being very religious, but immediately proceeded to tell them of the one true God whom they were "ignorantly" worshipping (Acts 17:23). Fully realizing what reactions to expect when you tell a proud people that their religion is wrong, Paul courageously stated that God "dwelleth not in temples made with hands," and that "we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device" (verses 24, 29). One can almost see the expressions of disapproval among the frowning faces. No doubt some stood there whose beloved ancestors had actually helped raise those massive hunks of marble into their places (or directed in their placement). Their fathers and grandfathers had taught them from childhood to revere and to fear these very "gods!" How dare this impudent Jew to tell the great-est minds in the world that their religion was wrong!

Now came the crowning insult. I can see Paul lifting his eyes and turning his body to face the majestic Acropolis. The gleaming columns of the Parthenon glisten in the

brightness of the Athens sun. He gestures toward the worship center of the entire cultural world, and with one sweep of his arm he forcefully declares, "And the times of this ignorance God once overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent" (verse 30). WHAT? "IGNORANCE?" Resentment welled up in almost every Grecian heart. Paul continued to preach but now his words, once thought novel, fall on prejudiced ears. They listen only to find fault now. When he mentioned judgment and the resurrection of the dead, they mock him openly (verse 32). I can imagine their smirks and they exchange looks and hear their vengeful mimicry. Others show interest and speak of having another session. Paul, hiding his disappointment, strides out of the midst of these to whom preaching is "foolishness." Has the gospel message failed completely in the world's center of education? No, wait! Dionysius (the judge or one of the judges of Mars Hill) responds! So does a woman named Damaris and a few others. Paul sees that the great majority of these educated Greeks will be lost. He aptly expresses it in a letter to a congregation just across the way—the church at Corinth: "The Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: but we preach Christ crucified unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God... For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called" (I Corinthians 1:22-26).

### II. CONSIDER PAUL'S FEARS

When we consider how fearlessly Paul preached to kings, and how angry Jews and furious mobs had stoned him, we might readily conclude that he could overcome any terror-filled obstacle. Surely this is true when we later read of what he endured for the cause of Christ (II Corinthians 11:22-28). Yet it was more than just a physical opposition that he feared, for it seems that he feared FAILURE more than anything else. Paul knew that the gospel was the POWER (from the Greek word for "power")

(Continued on Page 9)

## No Nail Prints

AN OVER-ZEALOUS PRIEST once visited an old woman on her death-bed. She had been converted from Roman Catholicism more than fifty years before, but her relatives were sure that the priest would "bring her back to the church" and have her accept the last sacraments so that she could be buried in a Roman Catholic cemetery.

The priest, too, was confident that he would be able to absolve her before she died. "I have come to absolve you and give you Extreme Unction," he told her.

"What is that?" she asked him.

"I have come to forgive you your sins and to anoint you before you die."

"Let me look at your hands," she demanded.

Puzzled, the priest held out his hands which she examined closely back and front. Then she shook her head and said, "Sir, you are an imposter!"

"Imposter!" he exclaimed.

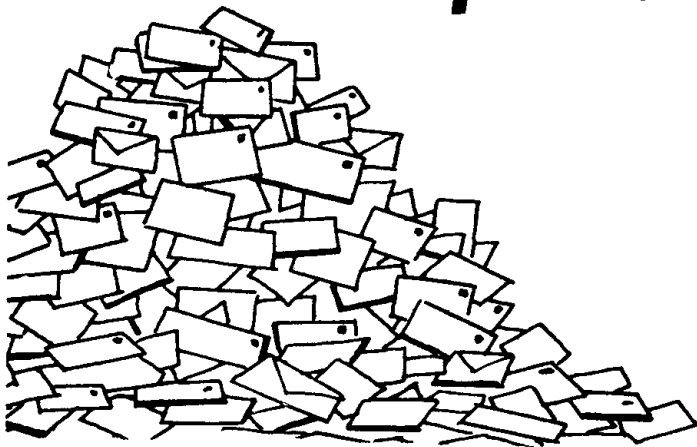
"Yes, sir, you are an imposter. The only man who can forgive my sins has the imprint of the nails of His crucifixion in the palms of His hands." —Selected

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



# READERS'

## ... Response



SCRANTON, NORTH CAROLINA:

■ "Please remove my name off of your mailing list of THE SWORD AND STAFF. The article in your last publication by John Book is one that I strongly disapprove of. What he said about Cecil Todd, Rex Humbar and Bob Harrington was unkind, ungodly and not Christian at all. I feel it's Cecil Todd's own business where he goes! I praise God for men of compassion like him. Oh, yes, give us more men like Bob Harrington who are not afraid to speak for Christ, even in Hell Holes like Bourbon Street. Give us more men like Rex Humbar and Bob Harrington, whom John Book called 'enemies of the Lord.' That's a dangerous charge indeed, sounds like judging to me. The Word of God says: Refrain from these men, and let them alone; For if this counsel or this work be of men it will come to nought; But if it be of God ye cannot overthrow it, lest haply ye be found even to fight against God! Acts 5:38-39. This is the best advice I can give Mr. John Book! Jesus said, He that is for me is not against me! Mr. Book referred to 'TONGUES' as a tragedy but the Bible says, And forbid not to speak with tongues. 1 Cor. 14:39. I would that ye all spake with tongues. 1 Cor. 14:5. Mr. Gibbons, it seems that the theme of alot of your papers are about how everyone is so wrong in their beliefs. Could it be possible that you or John Book could be wrong on anything?? I personally would not want to be in John Book's shoes for his serious and dangerous charge by referring to Rex H. and Bob H. as enemies of the Lord and yours also, Mr. Gibbons, for printing the article. You can put this in your next publication if you like. I wrote this not to condemn or ridicule anyone, but I just wanted to humbly but firmly express my views concerning the article by John Book."

(EDITOR'S COMMENTS: First, let us try to defuse this reactionary and explosive letter by calmly getting right to the point. It seems the writer was disturbed because certain human personalities were mentioned (to whom he seems to have an allegiance) and because he is sympathetic (if not a participant in) the so-called "Tongues Movement." Let us put everything on a higher plain by calling attention to the divine personality, JESUS, and what He says in His Word. The purpose of THE SWORD AND STAFF is not bickering and debate, but godly edifi-

cation in love. However, the brief "quote" from a larger article of John Book was designed to make aware that there is such a thing as compromise and false teachers. One is indeed naive, a "babe in the woods," and uninformed in the Scriptures if he does not know this. Paul told Timothy that he would be "a good minister of Jesus Christ" if he warned people about false teaching (1 Timothy 4:1-6).

Forgetting the frail personalities of men, the mention of which seems to bother our correspondent, let us call undivided attention to the SUPREME PERSONALITY, before whom men are nothing. (What really bothers me is when His Words are flouted!). Yes, the one who went to Calvary because ALL OF US ARE WRONG—"There is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10). He is the "way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by" him (John 14:6). His Word will judge us in the last day (John 12:48). This ONE who has ALL authority (Matthew 28:18), said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16a). He has ordained that repentant sinners be immersed in water (by His authority) for the remission of sins—in other words, to get ones sins washed away (forgiven) by the blood of Christ (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Romans 6; Revelation 1:5). The "rub" comes with these denominational preachers because they teach we are saved by "faith only." (Note James 2:14-26; especially verse 24). They exclude baptism from the plan of salvation, even when they practice baptism. Thus, they are keeping sincere and seeking sinners away from the actual point of spiritual contact with the blood of Christ which alone can take away their sins. It is like Jesus said of the religious leaders of his day (Was HE unkind and unchristian?), "But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in" (Matthew 23:13). (And, we get into Christ, the kingdom, when we are baptized, Galatians 3:27; John 3:5). A person may do many "good" works, but if he doesn't obey the Lord in initial things in reference to salvation, what has he accomplished for eternity? Jesus told of many religious people who would mention their good works in that day of judgment, but Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21-23). We don't need more men who will leave sinners lost!

Our critic quotes Acts 5:38-39 and calls it the Word of God. Please note: these are not the words of an inspired man, but of a non-Christian Jew! Gamaliel's words are no more the Word of God than that of the high priest seeking the crucifixion of Jesus, nor, for that matter, the words of Satan trying to get Jesus to turn stones into bread. All are found in the Bible. Great numbers of religious people, or of any others, do not prove a thing. Because something has prevailed and succeeded is not necessarily evidence of God's favor. There are more Moslems in the world than all of Catholics, Protestants, and so-called Christians put together—does that mean the Moslems are right? I think not. And, non-religious people outnumber religious people. Does that mean God is with them, and they have succeeded? Jesus said, "Broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat" (Matthew 7:13). And, contrariwise, "strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few

(Continued on Next Page)

## READERS' RESPONSE...

(Continued from Last Page)

there be that find it" (Matthew 7:14).

Like so many people, our critic is guilty of that which he accuses another. Certainly eternal judgment is in the hands of God, but there are certain ways we must judge—otherwise how would we know that we were Christians ourselves? Where would be the motivation for soul-winning? Paul wrote, "Because we thus JUDGE, that if one died for all, then were all dead" (II Corinthians 5:14). Jesus died for all because all are dead in their trespasses and sins, and they stay that way until they accept Jesus in the way Jesus said. Then Christians are to judge even to the point of disfellowshipping erring brethren (I Corinthians 5:11-13). When someone is marked as a false teacher, as the New Testament commands, some conclusions must be reached (Romans 16:17, 18; II John 9-11). The Lord Jesus himself said, "Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment" (John 7:24). But our critic is guilty of the kind of judgment which Jesus definitely taught to be wrong. The kind of judgment which Jesus said was wrong is hypocritical judgment—in other words, being guilty of that which you criticize in another. Matthew 7:1-5 tells about this. John Book has judged that people who teach "faith only" and "tongues" for today are wrong. Our critic has judged that they are right and that we need people like the ones mentioned. This matter of judging works both ways: to judge someone WRONG and to judge someone RIGHT. Our critic is very much guilty of what he accuses John Book. He has judged in the affirmative. Jesus said (and he that has ears to hear, let him hear), "Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and THEN shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye" (Matthew 7:5).

It is appropriate to call modern-day "TONGUES" speaking a "great tragedy." So many people getting involved in this are seeking a deeper experience and a more personal relationship with the Lord, but they have a zeal not according to knowledge. Tongues-speaking in the New Testament was not some incoherent jibber-jabber, but actually the ability to speak in a foreign language theretofore unlearned by the speaker. On the day of Pentecost we read that the people who heard the apostles were "confounded, because that every man heard them speak in their own language," and the people went on to say, "And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?" (Acts 2:6,8). Hebrews 2:3,4, speaks of the "great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him: God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts (distributions—footnote) of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will."

Those who heard Jesus (and were his official eye-witnesses) were the apostles (Acts 1:1-8, 21, 22, 26; 2:14, 32, 43; 5:29, 32; 10:39-41; I Corinthians 15:7-9; 9:1). They had great power of the Holy Spirit given to them, and they were the ones who made distributions of this to others in the form of supernatural spiritual gifts (Notice Hebrews 2:3,4, again). The apostles made distribution (or gave gifts) by the laying on of their hands (Acts 6:6,8; Acts 8:14, 15, 18; Acts 19:6). Nine of these spiritual gifts are listed in I Corinthians 12:8-10. The supernatural powers manifested in the early church served their extraordinary purpose of getting the church started and confirming the New Testament truth. The office of apostle was unique (they were

especially selected eye-witnesses of Christ), and consequently there are no apostles in the church on earth today. Since they alone made distribution of these spiritual gifts by the will of God, and apostles are no longer with us, the gifts have ceased. In fact, Paul writing in I Corinthians 13:8 declared they would cease. Listen: "Charity (love) never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall FAIL; whether there be tongues, they shall CEASE; whether there be knowledge, it shall VANISH AWAY." We will not go into this in detail (it is treated more fully in our study booklet, THE SUBJECT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT MADE SIMPLE), but the more perfect way has come and the "in part" situation has been "done away." If one of these spiritual gifts (TONGUES) is in the church today, then all of the others would have to be in the church too. Why just pick on one? (and, an inferior gift too, according to Paul). One of these gifts was that of prophecy, which involved getting God's message by inspiration directly from heaven. Those with this gift could write (and did write) Scripture (Ephesians 3:5). This would mean the Bible is not a completed and closed book. One can see the folly of such a position in all the sects and cults of our day. Nor does this question involve the power of God, as some try to make it, but it involves the will of God. A believer does not doubt God's Almighty Power.

Yes, what supposed Christians do is of "business" to every other Christian. To ignore this is to be reckless. Jesus said, "But whoso shall offend (make to stumble) one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matthew 18:6). Paul said that he wouldn't eat meat (which possibly had been offered to idols) as long as the world stood if it caused his brother to be offended or stumble (I Corinthians 9:13). Paul also said, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: Even as I pleased all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved" (I Corinthians 10:31-33).

This writer does not know where John Book stands on everything in reference to what he believes, but it is for certain he has made a good point in the little quotation we included in the last issue of THE SWORD AND STAFF.)

BELHAVEN, NORTH CAROLINA:

■ "I have been receiving your SWORD AND STAFF for the past several months, but have never subscribed. It has very strong and truthful articles concerning God's Word. You're to the point and don't leave anything out of and part I've read thus far. It's good for Christians and to help win souls for Christ..."

(EDITOR'S COMMENTS: Someone else subscribed for you, and thanks for the encouraging words.)

TENNESSEE:

■ "I am very sorry that I could not help with THE SWORD AND STAFF for the past years. I believe I received a copy of the first printed... I hope you will be able to keep this up. There is a falling away from the doctrine of Christ. Right now in the church that I attend denominational leaders have crept in. The church is being torn apart. You stand for N.T. teaching. I always pass THE SWORD AND STAFF on to others. May God bless you richly."



**VIRGINIA:**

■ *"I have been getting your paper for a few years now and I haven't sent any money (money enclosed). I sure enjoy THE SWORD AND STAFF and I read it all and it's so true to the Bible...I wish you the best in your work."*

**KENTUCKY:**

■ *"I am writing concerning the magazine, THE SWORD AND STAFF, which we have been receiving for a year or two. Please discontinue sending me this magazine. I never ordered it, nor have I ever renewed the subscription; but I am still receiving it. I have never sent any payment for the magazine, and I don't plan to, so please do not send THE SWORD AND STAFF to me anymore. Thank you."*

(EDITOR'S COMMENTS: Someone else subscribed for you, as is the case with many of our readers. As an act of grace you have continued to receive it. If any others receiving the paper feel the same way, please let us know, and your name will be taken off the mailing list.)

**PENNSYLVANIA:**

■ *"I enjoy your publication very much. The May-June issue of 1975 was superb...Keep up the good work. As editor of the weekly Ligonier (Pa.) Echo I would like to quote some of your articles. Is this permitted?"*

(EDITOR'S COMMENTS: Thanks for your letter, renewal, and order of bound volumes. Yes, you are welcome to quote from THE SWORD AND STAFF—just as long as it's in a context to give God the glory.)

**INDIANA:**

■ *"I am about two years behind on my subscription. Sorry, if this is not right, please let me know. I do want the paper. They are few and far between that hold to the truth. God be with you and your family."*

**IOWA:**

■ *"I enjoy your paper very much. We often use your articles for lessons and discussions."*

**ARKANSAS:**

■ *"We enjoy your publication so much. I'm sorry we are so late with our check. Bless your hearts for sending it anyway. We've shared it with so many. If this isn't enough, let us know."*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**ATHENS—THE CITY THAT WAS FRUSTRATING TO PAUL** (Continued from Page 6)

we get our English word "dynamite") of God unto salvation to everyone who believes (Romans 1:16). When he preached it in Thessalonica, he blew the established religious world upside down (Acts 17:6). At Berea the same powerful truths sent shock waves throughout the entire area. Now at Athens he had carefully placed the "dynamite" of truth in a logical fashion and had lit the fuse with one of the finest pleas recorded in the book of Acts. Instead of the usual explosion for or against the gospel, the silence was deafening. The city of Athens was not affected—this time it was Paul's turn to be shaken. Even later, after an initial clash with the Jews at Corinth and excellent success with the Gentiles there, the Lord sensed Paul's need and encouraged him in a vision: "Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: for I am with

thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city" (Acts 18:9,10). The fact that the Lord gave Paul an assurance of a potential number of converts in Corinth tells us how deeply the failure at Athens had evidently disturbed him. Perhaps Satan was tempting Paul to resort to incorporating some of the "good philosophies" of the Greeks into his preaching. If Paul had these feelings, he shook them off, for he wrote to the Corinthian church, "And I brethren, when I came to you, came not with the excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God" (I Corinthians 2:1-5).

Let those of us who preach always stand with Paul. If our teaching and preaching do not produce fruit, the trouble may be with us or with the people to whom we speak, but NEVER is the fault with the message of Christ! The gospel still has the same power to change lives as it always has had. Let us not alter it, dilute it, or disguise it under the misguided notion that we are improving God's message.

Fear belongs on the side of those in ERROR, not on the side of those who possess the truth. If the "gods" of the Acropolis had been real, their granite feet would have trembled in their marble sandals! Paul was preaching about the Man before whom demons fell and trembled. His message possessed the power of the Stone that Daniel prophesied about that smashed Nebuchadnezzar's towering image of world powers, and then it went on to become a massive mountain that filled the whole earth (Daniel 2:35, 44, 45).

**III. CONSIDER PAUL'S EVENTUAL VICTORY.**

Little did the philosophers dream that day on Mars Hill that the message that Paul preached was from a living God who loved them. They listened because it was a novel message: "For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or hear some new thing" (Acts 17:21). Had Paul taken the position that many theologians today do that it doesn't make any difference what any sincere person believes, the philosophers would have welcomed him into their fellowship. But Paul was not a modern-day theologian; he was God's man for the hour, and he preached that there was just ONE way to be saved, ONE God, and ONE Man ordained to judge the whole world. Such intolerance! Yet truth should always be intolerant with error.

Athens' smug philosophers rejected Paul's "irrational" message. They would have done better had they accepted the philosophy of a Jew named Gamaliel, who said, "If this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found to fight against God" (Acts 5:38,39).

Five hundred years later the truth came marching back upon Athens and completely overwhelmed it. All remaining idols were removed from the Acropolis, and ironically the majestic Parthenon was converted into a church building! Even though the original church apostatized into the Greek Orthodox Church, idolatry is banned, immersion is still upheld as the only Scriptural form of baptism, and Dionysis was named the "patron saint" of Athens. Today the state religion is Greek Orthodox, and all other denominations are prohibited. There is one exception that we

(Continued on Next Page)

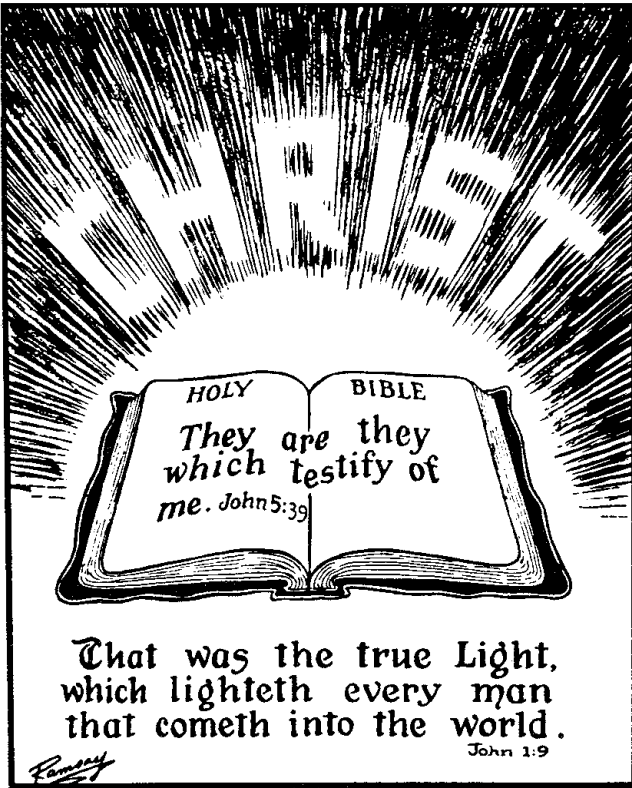
**ATHENS—THE CITY THAT WAS FRUSTRATING TO PAUL** (Continued from Page 9)

know of: an insignificant church of Christ has been established in Athens and is being tolerated by the officials. Could it be that the truth in all its clarity will once again be heard in Athens' marketplace? Paul would most certainly be pleased to have it that way!

The silent stones of the Parthenon are but a shadow of their former selves. In the battle for Athens in 1678, the Turks used it for a storehouse for all their gunpowder. The Venetians lobbed a shell into the midst of it, and the ensuing explosion blasted away the massive roof and all but the most sturdy pillars. London archaeologists hauled away tons of artifacts to their museums. Now the stars peek into the Parthenon's interior, and the Mediterranean winds moan among her scarred columns. So be it for any civilization that rejects the Word of God. □

\*\*\*\*\*

**"THY WORD IS A... LIGHT"**



**The Last Broadcast**

(Continued from Page 1)

Sound has ceased. My ears still ring! Perhaps now we can switch to our correspondent in Los Angeles, Frank Barr. Frank? Frank! Are you there, Frank! Are you..."

"Yes, yes I'm here, Wilbur, although I wish to God I weren't! The Sound here in Los Angeles was devastating... unearthly... I really can't describe it to you. The results have been equally terrifying, Wilbur, as colossal traffic jams on the freeways are like I've never witnessed in thirty-one years of news reporting. Hundreds, I don't know, maybe even thousands, have been killed as cars smashed into one another like stock cars in a Destruction Derby. At the Los Angeles International Airport a huge Jumbo Jet veered off its course and... Oh, no!... what's



that sound?... where is it coming from?... it's horrible but beautiful... so loud... so piercing... so..."

"We seem to have lost contact with Los Angeles. This is Wilbur Thotrite in New York City for the National Broadcasting Network. Great Scott! This new noise—it sounds like the amplified blast of a million trumpets<sup>2</sup>—is worse than the first. How long ago was that? Five seconds? Five minutes? Five hours? I seem to have lost all track of time... it's as though time has ended. On our NBN screens we can again see the worldwide effects of this trumpet-like Noise... Lisbon... Caracas... Tokyo... Beirut... Phnom Penh... all of these cities are enduring this swelling, deafening blare. And now, if you can still hear at all, we are ready to go to London and Lloyd St. John."

"This spectacular, supernatural Noise has interrupted England's cup of tea! As in America, Wilbur, the people here are scared out of their wits... absolutely petrified by this unseen, unsparing wave of sound. It has become unbear... ah!... the noise is dying away... and now in the distant background I can hear the familiar tones of Big Ben... although it sounds so small, so insignificant now... church bells are beginning to peal... it's like a scene out of World War II..."

"Once again this is Wilbur Thotrite in New York. Though the trumpet-like sound has ceased, its gigantic vibrations have interfered with our European connections. But we are now ready to switch to San Francisco for an on-the-spot report with Rodger Wilson."

"The San Francisco earthquake was nothing compared to this, Wilbur. Huge skyscrapers are actually swaying back and forth like reeds in the wind! That pulsating, throbbing trumpet tone has set up tremors in the ground that are buckling concrete sidewalks. San Francisco's once-beautiful streets are clotted with terror-stricken people... shouting... crying... praying. This building that I'm standing in front of, the Hotel Vi—oh, no!... it's reeling... it's disintegrating... IT'S FALLING... run! I... help! help! he—"

"Rodger? Rodger! Are you still there? Can you hear me? Oh, this is terrible. Our connections with the West Coast are gone. But at least the Noise is over. Thank God for that. We are still unable to explain what is going on. But our correspondent in Des Moines, Iowa, may have an idea. Go ahead, Peter Benton, go ahead!"

"What we are witnessing, if we can believe the testimony of this calm and unruffled lady standing next to me, Wilbur, is a prelude to the return of Christ. Ma'am? If I could get you to quit looking up into those clouds<sup>3</sup> for a moment? Yes. Thank you. Look right at the camera. Now, Mrs. Roberts, what makes you think that these awesome noises we've heard here in Des Moines—and that the whole world has heard for that matter—have anything to

do with the return of Christ?"

"Well, you see, Mr. Benton, the apostle Paul once wrote—let's see if I can find it in my Bible—yes, here it is: 'For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God and...' "4

"Yes? Go on, continue please."

"OH! There he is! There HE is! THERE HE IS!"

"Wha-a-a-t? Who? Where? Where? Oh, now I see. OH, NOW I SEE! Clouds... beautiful... brilliant... angel-like beings... and, there! It... must... be... Him. JESUS!! I... wait, lady, please wait. Grab her somebody! HOW CAN THIS BE? She's... she's floating away... up... this is unreal... I can't believe it. Lady, wait! Here's your Bible..."

"We interrupt this fascinating, incredible scene to show you an even more astonishing event! Moments ago we received this mind-shattering report from Riley Philips in Rome. Here is the video tape of that fantastic occurrence."

"If our cameras weren't here you would never believe it, Wilbur, never in a million years! But they are. And what we are witnessing with our very eyes is a resurrection of the dead at the ancient Catacombs! A shoe-shine boy reportedly saw the first band of bodies come up out of the earth. His customer toppled over—dead of a heart attack, or fright—only to spring back to life again! The boy couldn't describe what the bodies looked like. I can't either. They look half-human and half-angelic.<sup>5</sup> It's hard to describe them. But there they are! Hundreds and thousands of them being caught up in the air... going up... up... up... shining faces aloft... arms outflung in ecstasy... I can hear snatches of music as they continue to climb higher and higher... what a breath-taking sight! This is an overwhelmed Riley Philips in Rome."

"And this is Wilbur Thotrite in New York. All of this has happened so quickly.<sup>6</sup> Like a bolt of lightning from the blue.<sup>7</sup> And every eye is beholding all of it.<sup>8</sup> From Boise to Buenos Aires; from Minneapolis to Madrid. Reliable sources say that near Denver thousands of people are crying for the mountains to fall on them.<sup>9</sup> An unconfirmed report from Springfield, Illinois, says that the body of President Abraham Lincoln was seen leaving the grave, rising to meet this heavenly host in the air. All over the world, it seems, cemeteries are vomiting forth their contents, almost as if they were happy at last to rid themselves of their ghastly burdens that have been consigned to their care for eternity. Many of the dead, or the *former* dead, however, are not ascending at all but are either standing quietly—as if awaiting something even more eventful—or leaping wildly, futilely into the air, trying to catch their mates or perhaps join them in their escape from earth. But all to no avail. They only fall to the ground where they moan, curse, or pray.<sup>10</sup> Moments ago we were forced to interrupt Peter Benson in Des Moines. Since then he has finished reading the Bible verse that his interviewee was reading to him when she left the earth's atmosphere. A thoroughly shaken Benson reports that 'the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.'<sup>11</sup> What we are witnessing then—and it is of no comfort to many—is the return of

Jesus Christ for his followers. It has become quite apparent that not everyone who claimed to be Christians, or a follower of Jesus, has joined him in the air.<sup>12</sup> It is painfully plain to me. All over the world shocked people are slowly realizing this. We now take you live and direct—and hurriedly—to Jerusalem with John Kertzer."

"There is a feeling of great disappointment here in the Holy City, Wilbur, as vast throngs of people—native Jews and visiting tourists alike—stand in stunned silence, necks craned, watching the last few bodies of the living and the dead join the now receding heavenly host.<sup>13</sup> When the Sound first engulfed Jerusalem, many immediately headed for the Eastern Gate. Others to the Mt. of Olives. They seemed to expect something very wonderful to happen there. But now, as the great host is becoming little more than a speck in the sky, there is only a sense of gloom. Some are walking slowly to the Wailing Wall. Others just stand rooted to the spot, wherever they are. For them, the event of all time and history is over."

"Thank you for that moving report, John. Once again this is Wilbur Thotrite for NBN. Howard H. White has now joined me here in the newsroom. Howard, it's good to have you with us during this hour—perhaps the last hour."

"There's no doubt about it, Wilbur. I'm now convinced that we have very little time left to us. Hardly enough for my usual commentary. As I fought my way through Times Square to get to the studio I heard enough to make my blood run cold. Those in the know indicated that there are at least two more things to happen. This world is about ready to go up in a ball of smoke.<sup>14</sup> And all of humanity is to appear somewhere—I don't know where—for a Judgment. Everyone is to be there, even the dead."<sup>15</sup>

"If I might interrupt, Howard, we have already received reports of the oceans, both the Atlantic and the Pacific—which are now furiously boiling back and forth creating huge tidal waves—belching forth thousands of those who had been resting in their watery graves for centuries.<sup>16</sup> Both the Coast Guard and the U.S. Navy confirm this happening. We are now trying to raise Moscow, Berlin, Mexico City—someone—anyone—on our lines. But the lines seem to be dead. It seems that we are no longer in contact with the world. NBN, number one in live coverage of world events, has nothing left to cover. I... what in the!... blinding light... another great noise... intense heat... it seems that..."

THE END

References:

- <sup>1</sup> I Thessalonians 4:16
- <sup>2</sup> I Corinthians 15:52
- <sup>3</sup> Acts 1:9-11
- <sup>4</sup> I Thessalonians 4:16
- <sup>5</sup> I Corinthians 15:50, 53
- <sup>6</sup> Revelation 22:20
- <sup>7</sup> Luke 17:24
- <sup>8</sup> Revelation 1:7
- <sup>9</sup> Revelation 6:15, 16
- <sup>10</sup> John 5:28, 29
- <sup>11</sup> I Thessalonians 4:17
- <sup>12</sup> Matthew 7:21
- <sup>13</sup> John 14:2, 3
- <sup>14</sup> II Peter 3:10
- <sup>15</sup> II Corinthians 5:10
- <sup>16</sup> Revelation 20:13

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# BOUND VOLUMES *Ready*

SOME have asked about them. They are now ready to be ordered—all the issues published during 1973 and 1974 in one book. Here is a book full of vital material which will be a handy reference source to you (full of material for sermons, lessons, illustrations, and inspiration—all indexed). We are selling more and more of these bound volumes. Why don't you order your 1973-74 book today, containing volumes 11 and 12? The price is only \$2.95. Get the other back volumes of timeless material too, if you don't have them. Those available and price listed below.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MATERIALS AVAILABLE FROM US

The materials, booklets, and tracts listed below may be ordered from us.

- ☐ *The Subject of the Holy Spirit Made Simple*—25¢ each; 5 for \$1.00.
- ☐ *The Meaning of Suffering in the Life of the Christian*—10¢ each; 100 for \$8.00.
- ☐ *Objections to the Necessity of Baptism Answered*—8¢ each.
- ☐ *Salvation and Church Membership Chart*—8¢ each; 15 for \$1.00.
- ☐ *Are Visions, Dreams, and Religious Experiences Proof of Salvation?*—6¢

# Booklet Needed

## Are Visions, Dreams, and Religious Experiences



## Proof of Salvation?

By James E. Gibbons

# in Our Times!

The contents of this tract-booklet are much needed to be read and understood in such a day in which we live. The price is 6¢ a copy. Order a supply from THE SWORD AND STAFF today.

- ☐ *His Church is Marching On* (Song on sheet with glue on back to stick in back of your hymnbook)—5¢ each.
- ☐ *The Letter That Was Never Answered*—5¢ each.
- ☐ *The Origin of Religious Misunderstanding and False Teaching*—5¢ each; 100 for \$4.00.
- ☐ *Once in Grace, Always in Grace?*—5¢ each; 100 for \$4.00.
- ☐ *Every Sunday?* (Scriptural need for weekly observance of Lord's Supper)—3¢ each.
- ☐ *Lessons in Happiness from the Garden of Eden*—3¢ each.
- ☐ *A Question About the Sabbath*—2¢

## FREE

- ☐ *Are You Sanctified?*
- ☐ *I Saw Him Standing There* (or *The Old Gospel Preacher*)
- ☐ *Dedication* (Poem Plaque)
- ☐ *A New Day* (Plaque)
- ☐ *Drinking* (leaflet with a punch about strong drink)

The SWORD AND STAFF  
Post Office Box 147  
Mt. Airy, N. C. 27030  
U. S. A.

Gentlemen:  
I wish to take advantage of your special introductory subscription offer of only \$1.00 for the first year.

Name.....

Address.....

Zip Code.....

Also I would like to have the following bound volumes of back issues (Check if wanted and enclose the extra money).

- ☐ 1967-68 bound volumes of *The Sword and Staff* (one book)—\$3.25.
- ☐ 1969-70 bound volumes of *The Sword and Staff* (one book)—\$3.25.
- ☐ 1971-72 bound volumes of *The Sword and Staff* (one book)—\$3.25.