

DEAD AWAIT SECOND COMING OF THE LORD

"No Man Has Ascended Up to
Heaven but Son of Man."

Pastor Russell Shows From Scripture
That the Thief on the Cross Did Not
Reach Paradise at Death, as Many Er-
roneously Believe—Pastor on Atlantic
on Way to Conventions in Britain.



July 21.—Pastor Russell is on his way to attend General Conventions of Bible Students to be held in Europe. He will be absent from America about two months, speaking twice a day in many of the principal cities. His text for today was: "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am there ye may be also."—John xiv, 16.

The error of supposing that men are alive when they are dead lies close to the foundation of every theological error the world over. We have all erred in taking the guess of Plato instead of the Word of God, and we can get rid of our difficulties and theological entanglements only by retracing our steps.

The Bible alone, of all religious books, teaches that a dead man is dead, and knows nothing, and that his only hope is in the Divine arrangement through Christ, by a resurrection of the dead—"both of the just and of the unjust."—Acts xxiv, 15.

"No Man Hath Ascended to Heaven." Here note our text. In it the Master says not a word about our going to Him at death, but quite to the contrary—that He would come again and receive us unto Himself. And are we not told that this will be an instantaneous change? Is it not styled an awakening from the sleep of death?

But, says one, does not the second coming of Christ take place whenever His holy ones die? Does He not immediately come to receive them unto Himself? Surely only a very lame theory could seek to bolster itself up by such a perversion of the Scriptures. If Christ were to come every time one of His saintly ones died, would it not mean many comings instead of merely a second coming? And even if His faithful were very few indeed, would it not seem that this would keep the Redeemer busy coming and departing every few minutes?

Hearken again to Jesus' words, "No man hath ascended up to heaven." (John iii, 13.) Only the Son of Man had ever been in heaven. He has ascended up where He was before, with additional glory and honor.

The Case of the Dying Thief.

But, says some one, did not the dying thief go with Jesus to Paradise the very day in which they both died? No, we have made a stupid blunder and misinterpretation of our Redeemer's dying words to the thief. The wrong thought being in our minds we misinterpreted in harmony therewith. And our interpretation has done an immense amount of harm. Thousands of people have been encouraged to continue a life of sin, trusting that with their dying breath they may have the opportunity of saying, "God be merciful to me," and then be immediately ushered into glory, honor and immortality.

Let us see what Jesus really said. Note the circumstances. Jesus hung between two thieves; one of better heart than the other honestly admitted his own guilt and that of his comrade. We paraphrase His words, "Lord, I have defended you against an unjust attack. Remember this poor thief if you ever have an opportunity to do a kindness to me in return. I heard you before Pilate say that you have a Kingdom, but not of this Age; some heavenly Kingdom I therefore presume. My request is, 'Remember me when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom.'"—

To this Jesus replied, "Verily, verily (or, so be it, so be it, as you have asked)—Verily I say unto thee this day"—this dark day, in which it would appear that I have not a friend in Heaven or on earth—this dark day in which I am crucified as a malefactor, a falsifier and a blasphemer—"I say unto thee this day, Thou shalt be with Me in Paradise."

Paradise has not yet come. Messiah's Kingdom has not yet been established; and it must come first before Paradise Lost can be restored and the whole earth be made God's glorious footstool, as He has promised. But when the time shall come, when the Kingdom shall be established, when Paradise conditions shall be introduced, the resurrection of that thief will be in order, "for all that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of Man and come forth."—John v, 28, 29, R. V.

But Jesus arose from *sheol*, from *hades*, from the tomb, from the state of death, on the third day. He had not been to Paradise, for Paradise was not yet in existence. He had not been to heaven, for He had been dead. Let us hear His own words to Mary on the morning of His resurrection: "I have not yet ascended . . . to My Father, and your Father, to My God, and your God." (John xx, 17.) Could anything be plainer, simpler, more harmonious?

A MILE OF PARADE GLORIES

The Gay, Glittering, Spectacular Pageant of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Shows Coming Soon.

The new feature street parade which has been the talk of the circus world and the delight of the public who have witnessed this wonderful moving morning carnival of the Hagenbeck-Wallace shows, which exhibit here Saturday, August 10th, has been proclaimed the most pompous and striking innovation in pageantry offerings. It is a regally mastodontic and rich display. There are to be seen characters representing princes, potentates and notables, displaying ostentatious and lavish display of priceless jewels and costumes. Elephants, camels, dromedaries, zebus, sacred cattle, zebras and ponies draped in the richest housings of cloth of gold and silver will be driven and ridden by natives of their respective countries. Magnificent new tableau cars will bear nobles and their retinue of retainers, proudly riding on superb horses whose coats can scarcely be distinguished beneath their richly embroidered coverings. This blending together of rich vestments, this clanging of swords and jingling of trinkets, these plumes, lances and other paraphernalia present a most brilliant spectacle. All of the men, women and children connected with the great Hagenbeck-Wallace shows take some part in the parade and the four hundred of the world's finest horses will be in the line caparisoned with a richness that will be a revelation. Scores of tableau cars, dens, lairs, tanks, musical vehicles, fashionable park traps, carts, chariots and floats will scintillate with brilliancy. There will be the greatest liberality displayed in the free exhibition of the animals and beasts, nearly every cage being opened except in a few instances where climatic conditions are prohibitory. Numerous bands of musicians and a colony of clowns will add to the gaiety of the nations. The entire pageant will be characterized by exclusiveness, novelty and brilliancy and expensive-ness of feature which separates it from all others and marks it as the grandest exhibition of the kind ever conceived or presented. This wonderful street parade will start promptly at 10 o'clock in the morning. The afternoon performance will begin at 2 o'clock and the night performance at 8 o'clock. The doors will be opened one hour earlier for inspection of the menagerie and oriental exposition. Excursion trains will be run into the city on all lines of transportation.

Sunday School Notes

Side Lights on Next Sunday's Lesson for Teachers and Pupils.

Edited by CHAS. K. MEYERS.

Aug. 4.—The Worth of the Kingdom. Matt. 13, 44-53.

We consider today the last of the great groups of parables given by Jesus setting forth what His kingdom truly is. We have learned as to the four soils or four kinds of hearts in which the seed can be sown, and had it impressed that a heart which will receive and grow a godly life is the best. We have seen that the growth of God's kingdom is as mysterious as the growth of the seed, the working of the yeast in the dough. In the lesson of last Sunday the growth of the weeds and tares, with the good wheat, was brought to mind and the fearful truth told that while both may seem to flourish, yet the end of one is destruction and of the other care and further usefulness. The remarkable promise is made that Christian people, who are set forth by Jesus as good wheat, shall in the end "shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their heavenly Father." I sincerely hope these most important lessons have had due effect on the lives of all readers and those who have studied them.

We come this week to the parables which show the worth of the kingdom of God. First, it is said that the worth of the possession of Christ in the heart and life can be likened unto a treasure hidden in a field, which a man knowing was there, sold all he had to gain it; that again Christ and His kingdom can be likened to a pearl of great price which one understanding its value, sold all that he had and bought it.

Of course the practical question presents itself to every person, whether he or she is willing to "Pay the price" and gain Christ and blessed eternal life. To aid in deciding this comes the question of Jesus, "What shall it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul, or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" The "price" differs to some extent with each person. Some of the things could be named as follows: Being truly honest in business; ceasing from anger and swearing, leading lives free from nasty immoral practices; being ready to experience pov-

erty for Christ's sake; willingness to stop liquor drinking or the doing of anything which will cause others to get in bad ways; willingness to live for the service of others; to even lose one's life on earth to gain the immortal life with God. The price means to will and try to make the life full of kindness, gentleness, love, self sacrifice. The golden text of the lesson can well be given here because in a brief way it covers the whole ground. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

The person who acts in this world on the theory that there will not be a judgment and an accounting for deeds done here on earth does not read the bible with an understanding mind. Jesus was most clear as to this matter not once, but many, many times. In the lesson of today Jesus calls to mind the scene of fishermen who cast their net into the sea, and gain a haul of fishes, and then sit down to destroy such of the catch as is useless and bad, and gathering the good for use. Jesus says this scene sets forth the action of angels at the end of the world, who will make a distinction as to place of reward between those who have been wicked and those who have tried to serve God. The great apostle Paul let few occasions pass without talking of a judgment to come. There may be some uncertainty as to just what will happen to the willfully bad, and some make light of the subject along that line, but there is no doubt as to fact of an accounting and that is the important thing in the matter.

"That I might know Him and the power of His resurrection." (Phil. 3, 10) is set forth by Saint Paul as the highest aim for his life and for ours also. We want that pearl of great price, we want Jesus for our very own. We should decide that "nothing shall separate us from the love of Christ." Come trials, temptations or anything else, we will never let up our hold on the bible, Christ and blessed eternal life. Would that every reader take this stand.

Albert Schroeder, living south of Denison, says that he has lived in this county many years, but that he has never before seen so many shocks of grain to the acre as this year. Speaks mighty good for old Iowa.

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Notice of Filing of Plat and Schedule. Notice is hereby given that there is now on file for public inspection in the office of the city clerk a plat and schedule, marked "Plat A," of the following streets and parts of streets, to-wit:

That part of Benefit street from the center of the intersection of Benefit and Wall street to a line produced intersecting the center of the alley running east and west through block sixty-seven (67), thence due west to the bank of the Boyer river, all in Denison, Iowa, whereon sanitary sewer, constructed under a contract with William Fitch, dated the 19th day of February, 1912, has been completed.

Said plat and schedule shows the separate lots or parcels of ground or specified portions thereof, subject to assessment for such sanitary sewer, the names of the owners as far as practicable, and the amount to be assessed against each lot or parcel of ground, and against any railway or street railway.

Notice is further given that within twenty days after the first publication of this notice all objections to said plat and schedule or to the prior proceedings, on account of errors, irregularities, or inequalities, must be made in writing and filed with the city clerk; and the city council after the expiration of said twenty days at the first regular meeting held thereafter or at a special meeting called for that purpose, having heard such objections and made the necessary corrections, will then make the special assessment as shown in said plat and schedule as corrected and approved.

Dated this 15th day of July, 1912.
E. F. TUCKER,
City Clerk of Denison, Iowa.

Notice of Filing of Plat and Schedule. Notice is hereby given that there is now on file for public inspection in the office of the city clerk a plat and schedule marked "Plat B," of the following streets and parts of streets, to-wit:

That part of Benefit street beginning at a point midway between Pine and Park streets and running west on Benefit street to a point of intersection with a line produced intersecting the center of Wall street;

That part of St. Louis street from the center of Benefit street to the center of West Prospect street;

That part of West Prospect street from the center of St. Louis street to a point ninety-five (95) feet west of the west line of Main street;

That part of Court street from the center of the intersection of Benefit and Court streets to the north line of Tremont street;

That part of Wall street from the center of the intersection of Benefit and Wall streets to the south lot line of lot twenty-four (24), block 69;

That part of Nassau street from the center of the intersection of Benefit and Nassau street to the center of the alley running east and west through block 68;

That part of Broadway street from the center of Washington avenue to a point midway between Arnold street and Seagrave avenue;

That part of Chestnut street from the center of Howard street to a point

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one hundred and twenty (120) feet west of the west line of Anthony street; all in Denison, Iowa, whereon sanitary sewer, constructed under a contract with William Fitch, dated the 19th day of December, 1911, has been completed.

Said plat and schedule shows the separate lots or parcels of ground, or specified portion thereof, subject to assessment for such sanitary sewer, the names of the owners so far as practicable, and the amount to be assessed against each lot or parcel of ground, and against any railway or street railway.

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