

## PEOPLE'S COLUMN

"PASTOR" RUSSELL'S BELIEF.  
To the Editor of THE EVENING JOURNAL:

Sir—"Pastor" Russell and his "students" are occupying a great deal of space in the newspapers and periodicals these days in an apparent attempt to convert the world to their ideas concerning the interpretation and teaching of the Word of God. This is supposed to be a free country and thought is free, or at least it is supposed to be, and one man has the same inherent right to think, act, speak and write for himself that another man has. The question of the publication of such ideas is another thing, however. That requires the consent of some publisher, or else the printing of circulars or books, etc. It would seem, however, to be fair and right for any publisher who publishes one side to allow the opposite side to publish his views, if they are such as are usually accepted for publication.

Reasoning from the above, I deduce the right to ask the publication of this communication. It is the right of the publisher to grant this request or to deny it. I wish to say now, that I am sure the publication of the ideas contained in this communication will be of advantage to any unprejudiced enquirer into the truths of the Bible and also as to the truthfulness of the doctrines taught by "Pastor" Russell and many other "pastors." I write these ideas because I am thoroughly convinced of their correctness and not because I am championing any church or denomination, or society, or school.

From the publication of a letter or communication sent out by "Pastor" Russell's "students" March 7, from New York, giving what is evidently a condensed report of a sermon by the "Pastor" from John 1:14, I quote the following: "The Pastor believes in the Heavenly Father, Jehovah God. He believes in the heavenly son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, who left the heavenly nature, took the human nature, died for our sins, and was afterwards highly exalted to the Divine nature."

This statement of the belief of the "Pastor" coincides with his doctrine, published in his books, and therefore must be considered as correct. It is what the "Pastor" teaches, and it shows such crass ignorance of some of the plainest, self-evident truths that it ought to be exposed, in the interest of truth and also of mankind.

The "Pastor" says he believes in the Heavenly Father, Jehovah God. That is correct and true. There is one Jehovah God and only one. Reasoning by the accepted rules and standards from known and accepted facts, the above will appear to be self-evident. We are commanded to use our reasoning powers. Isaiah 1:8, and Paul reasoned of righteousness, etc., before Felix, Acts 24:25.

Then the "Pastor" says that Jesus is the son of God, and that also is eminently correct. The Scriptures teach it emphatically and unequivocally.

But when the "Pastor" says "he, Jesus, left his heavenly nature," he is miserably wrong. Jesus never left His heavenly nature and it was impossible for Him to do so. The reasoning in support of this is clear and convincing and it is strictly Scriptural.

1. To be the Son of God Jesus must have been begotten of God. God can not create a son. He can beget a son. See Hebrews 1:1-8.

2. To beget a son means to bestow the essence of the begetter, so that the son begotten will be of the same essence, nature, powers and life possessed by the begetter or Father. That is axiomatic, self-evident.

3. Now then, Jehovah God's essence, nature, life and being was uncreated and self-existing. Therefore He is immortal, eternal, without beginning of days or end of time. God is all-seeing, all-knowing and all-powerful, therefore His son must be of the same nature and powers. Jesus says: "All power in heaven and on earth is given to me." The essence and nature and personality begotten by the Great Father must be essentially the same as His own; therefore Jesus was immortal, infinite and eternal, as the son of His father. He could not have been otherwise and be the "First begotten," as Heb. 1:6, puts it. If He was otherwise, then He was not begotten of God and was not of the nature and essence of God. There is no escape from this reasoning.

4. Now, if Jesus was the son of God and immortal, eternal and the same essence and nature of His Father, he could not have "left the heavenly nature" as the "Pastor" professes to believe. To have left that nature would have meant to have left that life, that power, that immortality and that sonhood, all of which is contrary to reason, common sense, and contrary to the general and particular statements of the Scripture. The "Pastor" is not a fool as to general principles and knowledge, but in attempting to teach as he does, he is certainly trying to teach a very foolish, inconsistent and utterly contradictory doctrine. He does not know what he is talking about and he is making a very senseless guess.

5. But this is not the end of his foolishness. He says that after Jesus left His heavenly nature and became, of course, just as all other men, and died for our sins, "He, Jesus, was highly exalted to the Divine nature." The folly of such a statement is proven in the foregoing.

6. Of course, if Jesus could not cease to be God's son and could not leave or lay aside His divine nature, he could not be "highly exalted" to that sonhood again.

7. But the error of the "Pastor's" teaching goes a good deal deeper than as above. If it was impossible for Jesus to lay aside His divine nature after being begotten of God, then it was equally impossible for Him, and for all other men, to lay aside His human nature. Jesus having once been born of woman, was and is to all eternity the son of man. There can be no dodging nor quibbling around this conclusion. It is irresistible.

8. Jesus was the "only begotten son" of God, John 3:16 and 1 John 4:9. In 1 John 4:9, it is said that God "sent His only begotten son" into the world. This could not be true unless Jesus was His son before He "sent" Him; for He says He "sent His only begotten son." To beget a son here, in the world, is not to send His son. This agrees with the statements of Jesus Himself, and also with very many other passages of Scripture. Jesus said: "Before Abraham was I am." As to when Jesus was begotten and of whom He was born we are not told and, really, it's none of our business to know. Jesus was

evidently begotten and born long before the earth was created; for it is said: "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God." And Heb. 1:2, "by whom, Jesus, also He made the worlds." However, the name of the Son of God before His human birth was not Jesus. That name was given by His human parents, by Divine command however.

9. Now, it follows, inevitably, that the person, Jesus, was and is to all eternity of Divine nature and essence; and it also follows conclusively, that after His human birth, He was also of human nature and essence. This would make Him the son of God and the son of man, and He expressly claimed to be both. Therefore, He is both now, and ever will be.

This article might stop just here, but there are some very important conclusions that flow from the foregoing which ought to be known by all, and yet, do not seem to be understood, so attention is called to the following:

As Jesus could not be the Son of God otherwise than by being begotten by the Great Father; and as being begotten means the bestowment of the nature, essence and life of the Begetter; and as the nature, essence and life of God cannot be created (for that would be to create immortality, the mere statement of which shows its absurdity), but can be begotten, then it necessarily follows that man cannot be made the child of God otherwise than by being begotten of God. And being begotten of God means the same with reference to man that it does with reference to Jesus. And the Holy Scriptures emphatically and unequivocally declare that men, in this life, are begotten of God and become the children of God. Face the facts. Face sound reasoning and the Holy Scriptures! Never mind your theories and churches and creeds! Let the Holy Scriptures be true whatever creed goes to the wall!

Not only is the foregoing true, but sound reasoning and the Holy Scriptures show that it is absolutely necessary that it must be true, in order that men may be saved from sin and sinner in this life and in the life to follow this one. Pay attention now to the following:

1. God cannot be honest and yet pardon men who die in deliberate rebellion against Him and His laws. God is no bigot; He does not damn men simply because of their ignorance, when their ignorance is not willful. Willful ignorance or willful refusal to accept the teaching of God's word is and must be the same as deliberate rebellion against God. Sin then must be the deliberate, intentional refusal to submit to the right, or to do the right as we understand the right to be. Nothing else can be sin. God cannot condemn the right and be honest and just; therefore He does not condemn the right, whatever that may be, or whatever any man honestly and truly believes the right to be. Every man must do what he believes to be right; if he fails he condemns himself, and of course God does.

2. The only man who ever lived without sin and who never failed to submit to, and to do the right, was the man Christ Jesus. But, He was more than man; He was also the Great I Am! He was the Son of God and therefore God.

3. Now if it required the God man to live without sin, and if no one except the God-man ever did live without sin how can it be expected of a "mere" man to live without sin? No mere man ever has lived without sin; "All we, like sheep, have gone astray." There is none good, not one." If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." Therefore every man needs salvation, not simply from the punishment for his sin; but salvation from sinning! Each and every one must be saved so he will cease to sin, cease his rebellion against God, cease to do evil. Keep in mind the definition of sin as stated above.

4. The definition of sin above; the fact that God is infinitely honest and righteous and holy and is not a bigot and therefore will not, cannot, in righteousness, condemn innocent ignorance, and must of necessity approve the right; and that right is the doing of what one honestly believes to be right, and the honest and true submission to the right and the open and honest acknowledgement of the right, as one may truly and sincerely believe the right to be; keeping these facts in mind and giving them full force and effect, then it necessarily and imperatively follows that there can be no probation after death. Not even in the millennium, unless the millennium has been in effect and force since the Ascension, which may or may not be the case.

There is no probation after death for the reason that there is no necessity for it, and God never does an unnecessary thing.

There is no probation after death for the further reason that it is contrary to sound reason and to the Holy Scriptures.

The foregoing will appear conclusively if we consider the following: That no mere man ever lived without doing what he knew, or believed to be wrong, and therefore all have sinned;

That Jesus Christ as more than man, the God-man, and because of that fact never did a wrong, he was without sin;

That if it requires a God-man to live without sinning, and that man must cease to sin before he can be pardoned—he can't be pardoned while yet in rebellion; therefore it imperatively and necessarily follows that man must be changed, made like Jesus Christ before he can be stopped from sinning. In other words, man must be "begotten of God," "born of God," "born from above," before he will cease from wrong-doing. I mean voluntary, deliberate, intentional wrong-doing. Any one may make mistakes and blunders and may involuntarily do wrong, but that is not sin.

Men have been, can be, and are begotten of God now, in this life. Ever since Jesus ascended, after His crucifixion and after His body of flesh was "changed, in the twinkling of an eye" it may have been, and made incorporeal, and He was resurrected, He, as God, and as the "second Adam," has been giving eternal life to men, women and children all over the world, even to them who never heard of Him, but yet were honest and true to their convictions, whatever they may have been. John 10:28, "And I give unto them eternal life," said Jesus.

Remember now, eternal life and immortal life, which mean the same, is the life that never had a beginning



## Menu Building

By Kate B. Vaughn

Food is necessary to build tissue, replenish waste, create heat and energy and satisfy appetite. In order to be perfect food, it must contain sufficient protein or tissue building elements to cause a continual growth and to overcome fatigue; sufficient starch and sugar to give an abundance of energy and body heat; fat in sufficient quantity to replace loss in illness or great mental or muscular exertion, and ash or mineral salts for feeding bones and tissues.

Furthermore, if one can be or is begotten of God in this life and is thereby changed, converted so that he hates sin and wrong-doing and is thereby given the power to cease from doing what he believes to be wrong, then all men can be so begotten, and changed and given power to resist wrong-doing and that too, in this life. Therefore, it is an absurdity to teach millennium probation or any other kind of probation after death. Death is final, as to man's status afterward.

That salvation from sinning, i. e., deliberate, voluntary and intentional wrong-doing, by being born of God can be and is received in this life is proven by the following: Jesus came to men, lost in this life. Jesus invited men to come to Him in this life. Jesus offers salvation to all men in this life, even to those who never heard of Him. Jesus died for men in this life, even for all men. And Jesus actually saves men, women and children in this life, so that they hate sin and wrong-doing and live up to their convictions of right and wrong. This is all done in this life. Then what is the necessity for a probation after this life has ceased? It is an absurdity in itself; it is a self-delusion.

From the foregoing we must conclude that "Pastor" Russell's teachings as to the changing of the nature of Jesus from God to man and from man back to God; and his teachings as to a millennium probation is utterly inconsistent with sound reasoning and with the Holy Scriptures.

J. E. SLIGH.  
Everson, Wash., June 5, 1915.

## PRAISE FROM A

## FIRST SUBSCRIBER.

To the Editor of THE EVENING JOURNAL:

Sir—I noticed in the editorial columns of last Saturday's issue the announcement of another anniversary of your paper. It brought to me the thought that a right start accompanied with a good, stiff, back-bone, an overflow of energy, unquestionable integrity, honest methods and a square deal to all will inevitably bring success to any venture in life.

TO THE EVENING JOURNAL is due the congratulations of all lovers of a clean, concise and authentic newspaper, which has measured to these attainments and merited its twenty-eight years of continued success.

Twenty-eight years ago I was approached by a young man seeking monthly subscribers to a newspaper that had not as yet set the first line of type for the first issue. The proposition advanced was if enough subscribers could be secured to meet the outlay necessary to publish a new, up-to-date evening paper for one month, it would be accepted by the promoters as an evidence that the people of Wilmington wanted something in the form of an evening newspaper that would be superior to all things in that line they had ever possessed. These subscriptions were payable in advance, but not collectable until the paper made its initial bow to the people of Wilmington and vicinity.

Evidently the needful number of subscribers was secured. At least THE EVENING JOURNAL was born into the newspaper world, and immediately began to grow. It has been growing ever since and today possesses the proud distinction of being the only newspaper in the State of Delaware.

It is only when we begin to love other people, and become rooted and grounded in love to them, that we learn to know what Christ's love is to us. You must love a woman that you may understand what Christ feels for his church; you must love a child to know what God feels to his children; you must love a friend to know how Christ feels to his friend. Every time you do an unselfish, gentle, tender thing it is another window into the love of God. You must go lengths to understand the length of

his love, which is everlasting; you must go depths to the infamy and degradation of such as you would help if you would understand the depth of the love of Christ; you must go breadths outside the narrow limits of your charity to understand his broad expanse of love; and you must climb to heights bearing up those languid, fainting soul, if you will understand something of the upbringing of Christ's love that bears us in his ascension climb. Love men if you want to know the love of Christ.—F. B. Meyer.

The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.—Rom. v. 5.

Perfect sympathy with every most delicate line of good implies exquisite antipathy to every shadow of a shade of evil.—Well-Springs of Wisdom.

Mrs. F. P. Phelan and Daughter, Wilmington, Del., June 14, 1915.

## AN APPRECIATION.

To the Editor of THE EVENING JOURNAL:

Sir—We wish to extend our sincere thanks to you for kindness received from you in our late bereavement.

Very truly yours,  
H. Carver McLean.  
Wilmington, Del., June 14, 1915.

EDEN LODGE ACTIVITIES.

Eden Lodge, No. 34, I. O. O. F. will confer the third degree on a class of four candidates on Thursday evening. This will be the last degree work of the season at Eden Lodge.

The degree staff of Eden Lodge will hold its monthly meeting this evening in the lodge room. This meeting will be of special importance, as several items that have been before the association will be finally transacted at this meeting.

On Thursday, July 1, the lodge will give its annual excursion to Augustine Beach on the steamer Thomas Clyde, which will leave Fourth street wharf at 8 o'clock. Upon arrival at the grounds there will be numerous sporting events including a ball game. The prizes for these events have been donated by members of Eden Lodge. At the present time the committee in charge has thirty prizes.

## The Coffee Drug

Do you  
know  
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it is?

It's caffeine—a poisonous and powerful nerve irritant—about 2 1/2 grains to the cup of coffee.

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"Coffee and tea are poisonous drugs. The caffeine they contain is of the same nature as uric acid. They impair digestion and produce various disorders of the nerves."

If you haven't suspected coffee as the cause of headaches, biliousness, heart-flutter or sleeplessness, suppose you test the matter by a change to the pure food-drink, INSTANT POSTUM.

There's no caffeine nor any harmful substance in this delicious beverage—just the nourishing elements of wheat, roasted with a bit of wholesome molasses—with a snappy flavor similar to that of mild, high-grade Java.

The sure, easy way out of coffee troubles is to shift to

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Build your surplus and your credit at this bank.

THE