



In Shanghai, China, Pastor Russell spoke to a vast throng. China's hundreds of millions of patient, incessant workers have had my sympathy from childhood, he said. The philosophies of childhood are often as correct as those of mature years—sometimes more so. Well do I remember as a child inquiring what would be the fate of the heathen, and the answer that I got, namely, that only through faith in Jesus, the Redeemer, is there any salvation. Then I queried, "What is the penalty of ignorance of the Only Name given under heaven or amongst men whereby we must be saved?" The answer was the usual one of all of our "Orthodox creeds," that they would spend eternity in a hell of unutterable anguish. How my heart went out sympathetically toward every missionary movement on behalf of the heathen!

Then came mature thinking and I said, "Like others I am imperfect in every way; my sympathy and love, therefore, cannot be as great as that of our Creator. How is it possible that God, with all the force of the universe at His command, could look calmly on and see the operation of His own laws carrying thousands of millions to eternal misery and yet refrain from giving those creatures the necessary information?" I said there is something wrong with the Bible and with our creeds which we have built upon it.

I threw all away and began to reason—but, thank God, not along irrelevant lines. I reasoned that He who made the universe also made man; that whatever noble qualities I could find in humanity were the work of the Creator. I said man's noblest qualities are justice and love, hence the Creator must possess these unlimitedly. I bowed in worship before God, infinite in wisdom, justice, love and power.

He That Seeketh Findeth.

I said, Oh, great, Almighty God, although unknown to me, I worship Thee! I adore Thee! My whole being cries out for the pleasure of more intimate acquaintance with Thee, that I might know Thy will regarding me and Thy purposes respecting humanity. I said, assuredly, as God is all-wise, He must have an all-wise purpose, of which I need not be ashamed. So surely as life is just and loving, all of His plans and purposes must accord with these qualities; and having made man capable of appreciating these qualities, He will surely be willing to bestow the information which I desire—information as to how I can best please and serve Him and as to what His purposes and intentions are respecting mankind.

My prayers convinced me the more that there must be a Divine Revelation somewhere in the world. I thought that I had searched the Bible faithfully and proved it unreasonable and contrary to every conception I could have of a Divine Creator and His purposes; hence, my eyes turned toward this eastern land and your sacred books. I studied them for a time, only to find them far less satisfactory to my intellect than the Bible I had already cast aside.

I returned to the Bible; I asked myself, Might you have been prejudiced when you examined it before? Although I thought not, I made a fresh investigation, because I felt there must be a revelation from the true God somewhere, and because the Bible thus far gave the best testimony. It, indeed, told of a God of Love, as no other religious books do, yet its teachings respecting the future of the non-elect staggered me, for I was sure that they were not Godlike, but the reverse.

Proving the Bible Reasonable.

Disregarding the Old Testament Scriptures entirely, I began with the New. I said, Was not Jesus a most wonderful character? Is it not true that "never man spoke like this man?" Both heart and head answered, Yes! His teachings are the noblest found on earth! His example fully commends with His teachings! I asked, Can I rely upon the evidence? My mind replied, Yes. If just such men today told you their observations you would believe them implicitly. These men confessed that they were ignorant and unlearned men, telling of their own weaknesses in a way that impostors would not do. Their message abounds in "good tidings of great joy for all people," and not merely for their own nationality. My heart began to take courage. I began to feel that I had found a footing for my faith and that the Bible indeed differed considerably from the various and conflicting creeds which claimed it as their support and authority.

However, I suddenly remembered that much of the New Testament is composed of passages from the Old Testament and comments thereon.

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we heard such a gracious message it would have attracted our hearts long ago, for our gods are non-sympathetic—they are great, powerful and vicious! But we thought as we heard the missionaries' message that the Christian God must be even more ferocious than ours, for the awful burning hell of which we have heard through Christians is terrible beyond anything we heathens had ever heard of before or conjectured for ourselves!

Satan the God of This World.

Alas! my dear friends, I know this very well and the Bible explains the whole matter. It tells us that we have been believing "doctrines of demons" (I Timothy iv, 1). These vicious doctrines in the past, when more literally believed than today, led some noble Christian people into most atrocious conduct.

We are all awakening from this sad blindness, thank God! We are emerging slowly from the darkness of the past. We are in the very dawning of the morning of Messiah's kingdom, which is to bless the world. The rising of the sun of righteousness is to bring the new day of emancipation from ignorance, superstition and death. The more awake we become the more clearly do we see the beauty of God's word and the ridiculous inconsistency of things we once believed.

St. Paul explains to us why Satan strives to put darkness for light and light for darkness. He explains why Satan represents himself as an angel of light and endeavors to besmirch the divine character and to make God the very personification of wickedness and injustice! It is a part of his general endeavor to thwart the divine plan, to mislead those who are seeking to know God. Harkens to the Apostle's words: "The God of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the glorious light of God's glory, as it shines in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord, should shine into their hearts." (II Corinthians iv, 4.)

In proportion as humanity misconceives God's character and His word, in that same proportion they will shun the Bible and its God, and thus get away from the faith and hope revealed in the Bible. As I have told you, I had my own bitter experiences along this line. How I thank God for the "eye-salve" and for the glorious vision of the divine character and plan which now stands out so distinctly before the eyes of my understanding!

The gospel of the Bible, the message of the great God, infinite in justice, wisdom, love and power, is a message of grace, of mercy, as has emanated from no other quarter—such as no other religious book in the world presents. And what else should we expect than that the great Supreme Being would be a fountain of grace, of blessing to His dependent creatures. It should not surprise us, then, to find the Bible clearly teaching that the God of all grace has in store for humanity great blessings—"times of restitution of all things spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets since the world began." (Acts iii, 19-21.)

Another message should not surprise us; it is the message that was sung by the angels on the night of Jesus' birth, "Behold, we bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be unto all people"—the thousands of millions of the Chinese included! It is a joy to me to be permitted to tell this glorious message to such as have the ear to hear it. It is a further joy to me that in the divine arrangement the time is coming when "all the deaf ears shall be unstopped" and when the clear knowledge of God's goodness shall fill the earth as the waters cover the deep.

God first told this message of His benevolent designs toward humanity about thirty-six hundred years ago, when He declared to His friend Abraham, "I intend to bless the families of the earth and this shall be done through your posterity."—In thee and in thy seed shall the families of the earth be blessed! The natural seed of Abraham was first developed and instructed, and consequently uplifted, under a law covenant. This arrangement prepared the natural seed of Abraham more than others of the world's peoples to receive Jesus; hence, when He presented Himself, and when afterward His message was proclaimed by His 12 apostles, approximately 16,000 Jews became His footstep followers, were begotten of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and after, and thus became the Spiritual seed of Abraham.

Number in the First Resurrection.

This number was short of the Divine intention—"a hundred and forty-four thousand." (Revelation xiv.) Hence, in due time, the message of grace and the privilege of becoming members of the Spiritual seed of Abraham was extended to one nation after another—to the Jew first, but also to as many as the Lord our God has called of every nation, people, kindred and tongue. This "elect" number of Spirit-begotten followers of Jesus will very soon be completely changed by the glorious first resurrection, when this mortal and corruptible shall put on immortality. All those found faithful will be made partakers of the Divine nature, far above angels, principalities and powers—associates with the Redeemer (Ephesians i, 21). Then the seed of Abraham will be completed and qualified for its great work of blessing the race.

St. Paul declares, "Know ye not that the saints shall judge the world?" (I Corinthians vi, 2). The judging will be in the nature of a trial or testing to determine how many of humanity can be helped up to human perfection and harmony with God and everlasting life, and how many unworthy will be destroyed in the second death. God, who has elected these kings, priests and judges, has appointed a day in which they shall rule, bless, instruct, judge mankind in general. It will be the thousand years of Messiah's kingdom, for "a day with the Lord is as a thousand years." (II Peter iii, 7-8.)

It affords me great pleasure to have the opportunity of delivering this message of the grace of God in this, the Chinese Empire. May the Lord bless it, not only to the Chinese, but to all who have hearing ears and hearts appreciative of the Divine character. May it assist some in making their "calling and election sure" to membership in the "little flock" to whom the kingdom is soon to be given. May it favorably influence others that they may walk nobly, reasonably, and be the better prepared to receive the kingdom blessings and earthly restitution.

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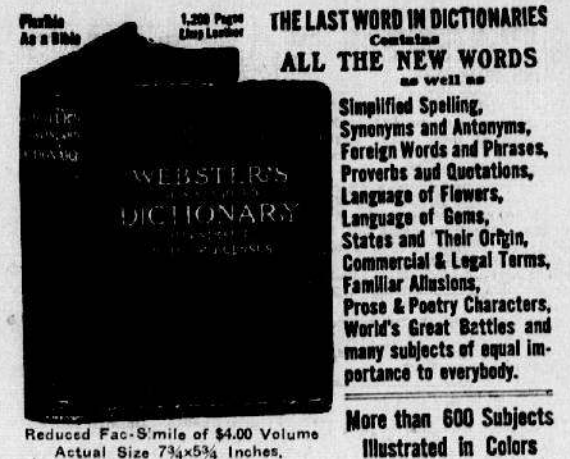
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NOTES OF MINING

Spokane, March 9.—Nine mines are active in the Murray district of the Coeur d'Alenes. Six are shipping ore direct to the smelters and three are turning out lead concentrates. Much development work is under way and it is predicted that several properties will enter the list of shippers before the close of the year. The shipping mines are the Monarch, the Paragon, the Black Horse, the Jack Walte, the Terrible Edith and the Bear Top. The Granite and the Allie will ship this year, and the Cedar Creek will send its ore forward in May. A raise from the lower tunnel to the No. 2 is being run on the Black Horse to ventilate the mine. The Bear Top and the Orofino Consolidated are operating a mill. The new ore body opened on this property has widened to 56 inches of high grade galena. The Jack Walte is developing its upper ore deposits. No. 2 tunnel is in 170 feet and will take the ledge at 470 feet. The Terrible Edith, a lead-zinc property, is under option for \$150,000. The management of the Granite plans to install a 100-ton mill.

The American Tungsten Consolidated corporation, recently organized, has taken over the Germania mines and other important tungsten properties in the Cedar canyon district of Stevens county, Wash., and will work them as a group under one management. The Germania is equipped with modern machinery, in addition to

which the new owners will complete the mill and enlarge the power and mining facilities. This includes the installation of an aerial tramway to convey ore to the mill. The corporation plans to open the three lower ledges east of the Germania, where there has been little or no development at depth. Rich and strong underground float is indicated in the first ledge, which, when opened by cuts, shows high grade mineralization of more than five feet in width.

E. W. Shively and other stockholders in the Republic Gold Coin Mining company have instituted an action in the Spokane county superior court against J. E. Ballor, Mrs. J. L. Ballor, Mrs. A. E. Schwager and F. C. Ballor and the company to restrain them from selling any more stock and for the cancellation of certain stock issued to the defendants. Mr. Ballor and Mrs. Schwager are said to have possession of the books. It is contended by the applicants that stock was sold by the defendants and the amount was not spent for work on the mines of the property, as had been agreed. The present suit is one of several involving the affairs of the company.

O. B. Hollis of Spokane, who has just completed an inspection of the Princess Republic property at Republic, Wash., reports the discovery of a good showing ore shoot on the 600-foot level, 400 feet below the tunnel level. Good shipping ore has been found on all levels. Plans have been completed for the resumption of work in the near future, and it is expected that the

property will begin shipping this season. There is a good wagon road from the portal of the property to the Great Northern tracks.

Walter Mack has started an action in the Spokane county superior court to compel J. W. Turner and R. A. Koontz, officers of the Trade Dollar Mining company, to issue to him 8,000 shares of the stock. It is alleged in the complaint that Mr. Mack contracted with Messrs. Turner and Koontz to sell \$10,000 worth of stock for the company in consideration of the receipt of 25,000 shares for himself. He received 17,000 shares. The Trade Dollar company was later absorbed by the San Pol Mining company, and the petitioner alleges he has been unable to compel the assignment of the 8,000 shares.

William James, president of the St. James Mining company, operating on Sunset Peak, north of Burke, Idaho, says that development work is being pushed. The company is running a crosscut, which will give 75 feet depth on the vein. It is expected to tap the ore in 15 feet. The property, which consists of one claim and a traction, adjoins the W. A. Clark property on the south and east.

Reindeer Mining company is planning to erect a mill, to be in operation next fall, on its property in the Wallace district of the Coeur d'Alenes. The work in hand consists of drifting and cross-cutting on the vein from the shaft level. Two large bodies of good milling ore have been developed. The

first shoot was 75 feet in length and 15 feet in width and the second shoot has been drifted on for 125 feet. Crosscut has shown this to be 22 feet in width.

Conrad Wolfe and W. G. Collins of Spokane, have closed negotiations for a bond for \$50,000, extending over a period of two years, on the Copper Queen group of seven claims lying just north of the United Copper company's property in eastern Washington. Four of the claims are patented. The property will be operated in connection with the United mine.

Levis P. Larson, president of the Lead Zinc company, has awarded a contract for development work by diamond drilling on the property at Metairie Falls, Wash. J. H. Weedic, an eastern mining engineer, and Charles Schwartz, formerly of the Larsen Lead company, are directing the work.

William S. Thying, a graduate of the Columbia School of Mines, has been elected secretary of the Northwestern Bureau of Mines, which was organized in Spokane on February 28. William A. Nicholls is president, the secretary-treasurer being Ross Bratton. The bureau has permanent headquarters at 105 South Howard street.

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