



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 our "Orthodox creeds;" that they would spend eternity in a hell of unbearable 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 irreverent 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 He 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 God-like, 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 spake like this man?" Both heart and head answered, "Yes!" Its teachings are the noblest found on earth! His example fully compels 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! I said, for I cannot accept the Old Testament Scriptures. But the more I studied the matter the more convinced I was that if Jesus and the apostles were at all what they claimed to be, the Old Testament must be as true as the New—as St. Peter declared, "Holy men of old spoke and wrote as they are moved by the Holy spirit."

Then I began a more critical study of the Old Testament and to my joy, as I sought, I found, as I knocked the door of Truth opened for me. I found the Bible teaching very different from what I had supposed it to be, very contrary to that of all creeds. The latter, indeed, each and all, contain truths taken from the Bible, but truths intermixed with various human credulities and misconceptions—the Bible message as a whole divided amongst many creeds and made to contradict itself.

#### The Bible Hell is the Key.

To my surprise I found the presentations of the Bible not only more logical than anything else in the world, but absolutely the only logical presentation on earth. As interpreted by itself, and not by the creeds and theories of the dark ages, the Bible tells one beautiful, reasonable, harmonious story, from Genesis to Revelation. It tells nothing of a fiery hell manned by fire-proof demons, and supplied with fuel for all eternity, to which Adam and his race were sentenced on account of sin. On the contrary it teaches that "the wages of sin is death."

It tells that "the soul that sinneth, it shall die," and tells that Adam sinned and came under this death penalty and that all of his race by the laws of heredity are subject to frailty, weakness, mental, moral and physical—and that these have triumphed in a reign of sin and death for now six thousand years. It tells that this death is the death into which Adam and all of his race go—sheol, the hell of the Bible; for all mankind, good and bad. It tells that there is no pain or suffering there, no knowledge, no work of any kind.

It tells that all, both good and bad, sleep, awaiting the resurrection of the dead. It tells that man's death would have been an extinction as complete as that of the brute beast had God in His wisdom and love not arranged for human redemption and a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. It tells that the divine arrangement whereby God could be just and not repudiate the rulership of His own court and yet recover man from the death sentence, was arranged for. The arrangement was that Jesus, "by the grace of God, should taste death for every man;" that "as by a man came death, by a Man also should come the resurrection of the dead; for as all in Adam die even so all in Christ shall be made alive, every man in his own order."—Hebrews 2:9; 1 Cor. xv. 21, 22.

#### First, the Elect Bride.

With God "a thousand years are as one day" (II Peter iii. 8). He has therefore arranged that six of these great days shall constitute man's period of battling with sin and death and that the seventh of these great days shall be the day of Messiah, the Sabbath or rest day to the world, in which Messiah, as the divine representative, shall lift up all the willing and obedient, opening their blind eyes, unstopping their deaf ears and causing all to know the Lord, from the least to the greatest.

As a result, some will refuse and die the "second death"—utter destruction. No more than a century of trial will be granted, because we read, "The sinner 100 years old shall be cut off"—a child a century old in sin shall be accused—to the second death. (Isaiah ix. 20.) But all who will accept divine favor may then be brought to full human perfection, similar to that which Adam enjoyed at the beginning, plus the knowledge of good and evil, which he lacked.

#### Number in the First Resurrection.

But 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 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 a knowledge of God and with a full opportunity for restitution to all that was lost in Adam—all that was redeemed at Calvary.—Acts iii. 19-21.

Do you say to me, this news is too good to be true? Do you say, no missionary ever told us of such a gracious God and such a mighty Savior? Had

St. Paul declared, "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. 8-9.)

It affords me great pleasure to have the opportunity of delivering this message of the grace of God in this, the Chinese Paris. 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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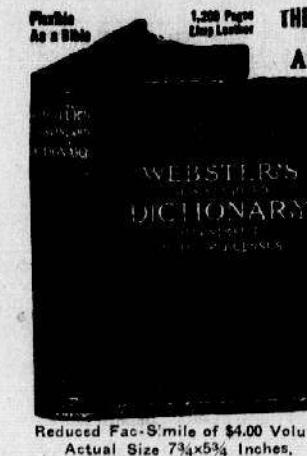
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### NOTES OF MINING

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 Patagon, the Black Horse, the Jack Waite, the Terrible Edith and the Bear Top. The Granite and the Aline 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 Waite is developing its upper ore deposits. No. 2 tunnel is in 170 feet and will take the ledge of 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.

E. W. Shively and other stockholders in the Republic Gold Col 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 Poil 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 tract, 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. Cross-cut has shown this to be 32 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.

Levi P. Larson, president of the Lead Zinc company, has awarded a contract for development work by diamond drilling on the property at Metline Falls, Wash. J. H. Weede, 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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