

# The Gospel Witness and Protestant Advocate

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF EVANGELICAL PRINCIPLES  
AND IN DEFENCE OF THE FAITH ONCE FOR ALL DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS.

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"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ."—Romans 1:16.

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## Not Ancient History

Hail, infant martyrs! new-born victims,  
hail!  
Hail, earliest flowerets of the Christian  
spring!  
O'er whom, like rosebuds scattered by  
the gale,  
The cruel sword such havoc dared to  
fling.

Oh, what availed thee, Herod, this thy  
guilt,  
This load of crime that on thy con-  
science lies?  
The Lord alone, Whose blood thou  
wouldst have spilt,  
Now mocks thy malice and thy power  
defies.

The Lord's first votive offerings of  
blood,  
First tender lambs unto the altar  
laid,  
Around in fearless innocence they  
stood,  
And sported gayly with the murderous  
blade.

Yes! He alone survived, when all the  
ground  
Drank the red torrents of that carnage  
wild:  
Though many a childless mother wailed  
around,  
The hand of murder spared the Vir-  
gin's Child!

O Jesu, virgin-born! all praise to Thee,  
And to the Father and the Holy Ghost!  
One God eternal, ever honored be  
By saints on earth and by the heavenly host!

—Prudentius, Translated by John Chandler.

## Rev. W. Gordon Brown Goes to Forward Church

Since the outbreak of the war, Rev. W. Gordon Brown has been assisting the Editor in pastoral visitation, in teaching the morning class, preaching on Sundays in the Editor's absence, and in pastoral work generally. His ministry in the pulpit and in the homes of the people has been very greatly appreciated.

The Pastor and Deacons recently received, with great regret, Mr. Brown's resignation from the position he has occupied, in order that he might accept the pastorate of Forward Baptist Church for the duration of the war; the Pastor, Rev. J. Scott, being a Chaplain in the R.C.A.F. We are sure the entire membership of the church will share the deep regret of the Pastor and Deacons at the necessity of losing the services of Mr. Brown. We recognize, on the other hand, the importance of such a work as the pastorate of Forward Church, and too that able ministers of the New Testament are scarce. We congratulate Forward Church on their good fortune; and assure them that Mr. Brown and the work of Forward will be much in the prayers of Jarvis Street people.

Mr. Brown will preach in Jarvis Street Sunday morning next on, "The Triumphant Christian".

## THE PASTOR'S COLUMN

**To Our Soldiers in Essex, England**—We have recently heard from Mr. R. V. (Reg.) Cook, who will be remembered by those who knew Jarvis Street ten or fifteen years ago. (Mrs. Cook was a sister of the late Arthur Risley, a saint if there ever was one). We regret to hear of the recent death of Mrs. Cook. Mr. Cook is now conducting a mission work at Broad Street, Dagenham, Essex, England. If any of our Jarvis Street soldier boys overseas, reading this, should be in the neighbourhood of the above mission, Mr. Cook would be especially glad to welcome them to his services. We can assure all overseas boys of a hearty welcome, and a warm spiritual atmosphere there.

It is difficult to keep an up-to-date record of the geographical location of all the boys. When this reaches some of them, they may be stationed in a comfortably warm temperature. Just for their information, we would inform them that last Sunday, December 20th, was the coldest December 20th of which Toronto has any record. We have had some colder days later in the year, but not in December. If any of our English friends feel chilly, we send this bit of information on, to warm them up: it was 16.5 below zero in Toronto last Sunday morning! And in these days of limited gasoline and shortage of tires, we really wondered whether anyone would get to church. We were happy, however, to have fine congregations both morning and evening. Of course they were reduced, but everyone present counted for many last Sunday.

**Butter Rations**—We almost selected as a text for last Sunday, "Butter and honey shall ye eat." The radio announced Sunday night that we are to be rationed in the matter of butter, with an allowance of half a pound per person per week. Some will exclaim, "How can we live on that?" But an English officer with whom we talked when going out to the Coast last summer, as we discussed some of the privations occasioned by the war, said, "And please do not forget our limitation of two ounces of butter per week!" So, as Betty Lou used to say, "There it is, Mister."

**Miss Nancie Fisher**—At a service at which an offering was to be received for the British War Victims' Fund, in Scarboro Baptist Church, Miss Nancie Fisher, daughter of Rev. Charles Fisher, of London, England, made a very interesting address on war conditions in the Old Country.

**Alton Item**—Last Wednesday Mr. Brown went to Alton at the request of the family, for the funeral of Mrs. Thomas

Hilliard, one of the charter members of the Alton Baptist Church, which Mr. Brown helped found in 1925.

**Busy Dorcas**—On Thursday, December 17th, the Senior Dorcas Society, who, in addition to their usual Red Cross programme, also continue the work of sewing for Home Missions, packed a number of very fine boxes for pastors, containing bedding, clothing for adults and children, toys, etc.—boxes that will bring joy to these homes.

**Late Pilot-Officer Grierson**—Mrs. Grierson, Jr., has recently been informed that her husband, who was killed in an air accident in Moncton some weeks ago, and was buried with the honours of a Warrant Officer of the first class, had really been commissioned as Pilot-Officer last August.

## Only Eight Pages

Being Christmas week, for the mutual accommodation of the printers and ourselves, we have reduced to eight pages.

## The "New" Religion

From Rev. Wilfrid Wellington in North-Western Quebec, comes the following good piece of news:

Dear Mr. Whitcombe:

I enclose the receipt for the amount being used this month in French visiting.

I was at a nearby town this week and had an interesting meeting. While returning yesterday from there, on my way to another centre, I met a French-Canadian believer, who was headed for the same place to visit his relatives. While we talked together on the train a young man on the seat across the aisle overheard us and came at once to inquire if this was the "nouvelle religion" (new religion) which we were discussing. He had heard something of it for the first time in his life the day before from an acquaintance and was eager to learn more. He, too, as it happened, was on his way to our destination to meet a brother of his, though his home is at another town. He came to the meeting that night. May God save him.

A nephew of the French-Canadian believer, a young married man, also came and brought a friend. God willing, we shall have a baptismal service early in January.

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) Wilfrid Wellington.

P.S. Could you please send Mr. Frey here to begin the first of the year. The field is very pressing—meetings opening up in many places. I should like him to stay at least a month—much longer if possible.—W.

## A Chaplain Writes

Rev. Bernard Jeffrey, beloved pastor of Long Branch and New Toronto Churches, writes a personal note to the Secretary from overseas where he is a chaplain:

"You must be busy morning, noon and night to call on all the churches in that way. Isn't the war news wonderful! Here we continue to champ at the bit waiting for action.

"I had 40 at a meeting of the men Tuesday night. One of the men with the County Town's Mission, a Mr. Thorn, who was formerly a Russian missionary, spoke for me."

## Revival at Timmins

"Over forty have come forward here in response to the Gospel invitation during the past two and a half months. Sixteen of these have been baptized.

"Although we have lost many and are still losing many because of the war yet all the services are well attended. For all this we humbly and fervently praise the Lord."

# The Jarvis Street Pulpit

"HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL"

A Sermon by the Pastor, Dr. T. T. Shields

Preached in Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto, Christmas Morning, December 25th, 1941

(Stenographically Reported)

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."—Isaiah 9:6.

## Prayer Before the Sermon

We thank Thee, O Lord, that we are specially reminded at this season of the year that Thou hast established communication between earth and heaven. We thank Thee for the ladder set up upon earth, whose top reaches to heaven. We thank Thee for Him in Whom that prophetic dream finds its realization, and for the great truth that it reveals—the angels of God ascending and descending, and that through Him the heavens are opened, and we are permitted to enjoy the privilege of direct access to God.

We thank Thee for the truth that there is but one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus. We have heard Him say: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." And this morning, O Lord, we desire to come to Thee, to come to Thee with all we are, and all we have, with all our sins, that they may be forgiven; with all our burdens and our cares, that we may be relieved of them; with all our anxieties, that in Thee we may find rest; with all our hopes for the future, that in Thee we may find grace for their realization.

We bless Thee that Thou hast come to us in such a simple way, that Thou hast translated Thy thought into human speech in such a way that we of little minds may understand them: "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth. We would turn our minds back this morning particularly to that point in history when the heavens were rent, and the Son of God came forth from the Father. We rejoice in the truth of it; and in the evidence of the unfolding centuries, in the many significant manifestations of Thy power, in the way in which, Thou hast in Thy trusting people verified Thy Word through all the ages. For this we thank Thee. But this morning we would rejoice in a living Christ, a living Saviour, a King enthroned, Whose Kingdom shall some day be completely manifested.

Help us this morning that amid much gloom, and impending darkness, our hearts may be lifted to Him Who is over all God, blessed forever. We beseech Thee to grant us in this service the presence and ministry in our own hearts of the Spirit of truth, by Whom this holy Book was inspired, by Whose illumination it is now interpreted. Help us to understand the simplicities of the gospel, and lead us into some further knowledge of the deep things of God, for though "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him", Thou dost reveal them unto us by Thy Spirit. In this confidence that Thou art, and that Thou art the Rewarder of them that diligently seek Thee, we offer to Thee our morning prayer, the adoration of our hearts, the worship of our redeemed spirits, for such Thou dost seek to worship Thee.

We pray for all the interests of every life here represented, for all the children of the families, for all the ramifications of those human centres of interest and influence, stretching as they must, this morning, around the globe, and for all of whom this congregation to-day is but the symbol and representative. We thank Thee that we have to-day so great a Saviour, so munificent a Benefactor; that we may come to Thee as our Father, Who art in heaven. May this be to every one of us a real Christmas in the sense that we are at home with God, and are conscious of His Fatherly care over us.

We think this morning of this troubled world. There are millions of people who enjoy no such privileges as are ours,

in whose sky, perhaps because of the shortness of their vision, there appears not even the faintest star. We pray for those who are wrapped about with a darkness which seems to have been utterly unrelieved. O Lord, speak to Thine oppressed and depressed children everywhere. Thou hast Thy witnesses in the enemy countries, who mourn because of the darkness of the day, and the wickedness of men upon the earth. Help us all that we may lift up our hearts, that we may not lose hope, but that our confidence may be in our only God.

We pray for the nations with which we are in alliance, and for our own Empire. We thank Thee for the voice of His Majesty the King. We thank Thee for the words of trust in God, spoken by the head of the British Empire, and by the head of the United States. We rejoice to believe that even China, with its hundreds of millions, is now under the leadership of one who trusts in God. And we rejoice in the significance that those who are joined together in this battle for the world's freedom, seem all to be people in whom a consciousness of God, and dependence upon God, are very real.

May this be a day of blessing, O Lord, to all who seek a reestablishment of righteousness and order upon the earth. We pray for the safety of the President of the United States, for the Prime Minister of Great Britain, and specially, O Lord, for our boys to-day. Give Thine angels charge concerning them, to keep them in all their ways. We pray for the lonely and forlorn, for the multitudes away from home; for the homes that miss them, for all the weary sons of men this morning. We pray in spite of all the clash of arms, and the thunder of the guns, that amid all there may steal upon the listening ear of faith, the music of the angels, and the assurance of an established throne.

So teach us as we come to Thy Holy Book. Give us some ray of light. Give us some word of encouragement, of hope, and strength, that will send us from this place this morning with a profound conviction that we have met with God, that so we may be the better fitted for whatever duties may devolve upon us.

Accept our thanks for all Thy goodness. Goodness and mercy have followed us all the days of our lives. If any people in all the world should be thankful, we ought to be this morning. Help us, therefore, that we may be enabled to worship Thee with thankful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder."

I suppose we all have heard, by radio, or have read in many periodicals, even at this Christmas time, some interpretations of the significance of this season. And how often, and how generally Christmas is interpreted in terms of human relationships. It is said to symbolise human brotherhood, generosity, the rights of childhood, the glories of parenthood. Well, all these are interesting and beneficial by-products of the true significance of this season. To others the coming of Christ into the world is looked upon as providing almost exclusively for individual salvation. We are disposed to interpret the Incarnation and its purpose in terms of the forgiveness of sins. Of course, that is fundamental to it all. Without that we should be hopeless indeed. And yet I think

it would not be an exaggeration to say that these are superficial and inadequate conceptions of all that is involved in the tremendous historic fact of the Incarnation by which Deity was manifested at Bethlehem, and in Bethlehem's manger. Christmas, or at least, what it represents, the birth of the God-Man, in its height and depth and length and breadth of meaning, transcends all these things put together.

I remind you then that we celebrate a birth of unique significance and purpose. All human births are interesting, and potentially influential. But after all, they are very common. "One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh," and a procession of new lives appears; and as the earth itself is renewed, so its human tide is replenished, and there is nothing at all unusual in that. A birth marks the beginning of a life that is unknown, uncertain, and to use a word now very commonly employed, a life also that is unpredictable. Who can tell what the potentialities of a human infant may be? Who knows what a child will become, an asset or a liability? Talk to parents about it, and they will tell you that that is their most serious concern, what manner of child this will become. What will it mean to society? Will its advent prove at last, when that life shall have fully unfolded to have been a benediction, or a malediction to the world, to society at large? There was a point of time when a child called Hitler was born, and his birth passed unnoticed. There were others whose names are now anything but welcome to the ears of free men. And yet on their advent to this world they came as inconspicuous and unimportant specks of humanity. No one could tell what they would be. And that is true of human life in general. We all heard, I suppose yesterday, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill in a very simple but significant and homely ceremony, in which I hope you were able to rejoice. I felt that when the switch was turned, and the tree was lighted, it was an act of defiance to all the forces of darkness. And I was not surprised to hear that the White House grounds were carefully guarded, lest some evil-disposed enemy agent should seek to destroy the life of either the President or the Prime Minister. Either of them, I think in public estimation would be reckoned to be equal to the value of millions. They said to David in the long ago, when he wanted to go to battle: "No, no! you must not go". But he insisted that he take his place with the valiant warriors; and they said, "Thou art worth ten thousand of us." I was going to say I sometimes almost laugh to myself when I have heard socialistically-inclined men declare that no man who ever lived, could be worth a million dollars. There have been men who have been worth billions to the world. And these two men represent lives of inestimable value to-day, and millions listen when they speak. But when they were born no one paid much attention to them, outside of the immediate family circle. No one knew what they would become.

I was once a guest at an educational function in the United States, held under the auspices of a large educational institution. After the President had spoken, his wife was introduced. It was a time when people were, metaphorically, almost in negligee, and free to say what they could not say at other times. This lady, speaking of the growth of the institution under her husband's presidency, said that one day one of her boys, who was then just emerging from youth to manhood, said to her, "Mother, I have often wondered how you were able to take the risk of marrying father when you did." "Why?"

she said. "What makes you ask such a question?" "Well, how did you know when you married him how he would turn out?" It was a very homely and significant remark. How can anyone know how anyone else will turn out?

Ah, but when we speak of the birth of the Child Whose anniversary we celebrate—how accurately no one knows—at this season, we enter another realm. There is nothing unknown, or uncertain, or unpredictable here. This was the birth of One of Whose advent the angels had been long apprised, and of Whom the prophets in succeeding centuries had spoken: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." And will you mark the tense of the verb? It is written in the present tense, long before He had become an objective historic Fact, because here was One Who was to be unique in human history, utterly unlike anyone who came before, or anyone who should follow after Him.

So then our interest is surely challenged. A Child is born Whose birth is of such importance that He had been long, long anticipated, divinely predetermined, and, indeed, made a Subject of divine revelation and divine disclosure—a bit of news transcending by far the arrival of Churchill in Washington, or any other momentous event in all the world's long history.

Why did He come? Ah, here is an emphasis of which I suppose you have heard almost nothing by radio, or any other way this Christmas season. Some speak of Jesus as though He came to set us an Example of generosity, as though He came merely to magnify the value and importance of human infancy, of childhood. As I said at the outset, these things all have their value. But this particular text lays the emphasis somewhere else.

What is said of this Child, this Son? "The government shall be upon his shoulder." Oh, rulers in days gone by were wont to discuss, and to contend for, the divine right of kings, a principle which our modern democracy has taken pains, not only to deny, but to repudiate. We cannot admit that any man, inherent in himself, by virtue of a life derived from his antecedents, has a constitutional and endless right to rule over his fellows. He must justify it. He must see to it that he is qualified for the exercise of rulership. But I remind you that this Christmas season magnifies the divine right of one King, and tells us of one Child Who was born to a predetermined rulership. He came into the world to teach us—yes, and what a Teacher! He came to be the divine Almoner, the medium of divine benevolence, that through Him blessing might flow to all mankind. Yes; He came to be the great Exemplar of righteousness and truth, of mercy, of fidelity, of all the virtues: yes, all that. But He came to be a Saviour in the sense of giving His life a ransom instead of many. Undoubtedly that was included in the divine purpose. But this text lays emphasis upon another aspect of that great world of truth of which He was, and still is, the incarnation, and supreme and ultimate revelation. He was born to rule, to be a Governor. So this text declares, and so the wise men had somehow by divine communication been led to apprehend: "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him." I remind you of this fundamental consideration, that rulership, government, kingship, supreme, universal, everlasting authority and power are absolutely indispensable to all these lesser functions, if I may so say, exercised by the Child of Bethlehem. We need One Who is qualified to govern, upon Whose shoulders the Government may rest. I should like to

put these two texts together—I think I could preach to you for a year or so on them, if you had patience to listen to me. Listen: “The government shall be upon his shoulder”—“And when he had found it, he layeth it upon his shoulders, rejoicing.” The shoulders of Jesus could not have been the shoulders of the Shepherd of lost sheep were it not first and primarily true that the “government is upon his shoulder.”

Let us take a look now at the prophetic picture of the Child fully-grown. It is interesting to see photographs of men taken when they were children. I have one at home of myself, but I would never show it to you. You mothers have had photographs taken of your children. What about those children when they are fully grown? Would you like to have another kind of camera, with another kind of lens, so that when you have snapped the photograph of the baby, you could turn another lens that would look down the long years, and give you a photograph of your son fully grown? Oh, what a Christmas present that would be! But that is exactly what the Bible does: “Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder.” How do you know? How can you be sure? Let me give you another text: “The mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.” That is how we know.

And what sort of government is it? The absolute, universal, sovereignty of Jesus Christ is predetermined, and divinely predicted; hence His reign is inevitable and triumphant. Mr. Roosevelt spoke of victory. Mr. Churchill spoke of victory. His Majesty the King spoke this morning of victory, as though they were all confident of it. I trust we all share that confidence. And yet it must be admitted that, all such expressions are founded in that immortal spirit of hopefulness that we are enabled to cherish. I noticed a new note in Ribbentrop's speech reported yesterday. Until now they seemed to feel unquestioned confidence that they would triumph, and trample us all under their feet. But now Ribbentrop begins to give reasons why they should fight on. Before, they would fight on because they wanted to, because they would possess themselves of the world; but now they must fight because of the terrible consequences of defeat. Why, “all their women and children would be massacred if these terrible Britons and Americans should be victorious”! I like to hear the dictators beginning to philosophize a bit about their theory of government, and its probable results.

But what a contrast! “The government shall be upon his shoulder.” There is no question about it. I have heard them before, some little Modernist from some Modernist Seminary, who suddenly becomes wiser than all his generation, and he lays down terms upon which we may have a continuance of Christianity. Well, we laugh at them, and we can laugh at Hitler, because these matters were determined before you and I arrived. That is for ever settled: “The government SHALL BE upon his shoulder.” All that was resident in the mind of God, and predetermined by His sovereign will before He sent His Son into the world. Oh, let us get that triumphant note into our thinking, that He came to rule, and He will accomplish that which He came to do.

What shoulders of strength! Do you remember that it is said of the high priest, who was the type and prophecy of this Child, that he should wear a breastplate of precious stones, and there were to be precious stones upon his shoulder straps? And upon the precious stones

were engraven the names of the twelve tribes of Israel, symbolic and prophetic of the event. And as he went in before God; he carried the memorial of his people upon his heart, and upon his shoulders.

I was touched, I rejoiced this morning, when I heard His Majesty say: “I am glad to think this morning that as I speak millions of *my people* are listening to me.” And I thought there was an expression of affection in that personal, possessive, pronoun. I had a feeling that he said it in somewhat the same tone as that which he used when he said, “I am speaking to you from home, where the Queen, and my children are with me.” Oh, we honour him! I think we sing with great heartiness, “Long live our noble King”. To me he is the embodiment of all human nobility. “My people”! Ah, yes! But this King speaks of “my people” with affection. Yes; He bears upon His heart our names.

How necessary it is to-day that we should conceive of a government that abides, of a throne that is established, and whose kingdom ruleth over all. Look at His many names. It is very interesting to observe how many names some celebrated men have had, and how many titles. Look up your encyclopaedia some day for your instruction and entertainment. Look up Wellington's name; and see how many names he had; and how many titles. Were they all set out, it would take several pages to afford room for the record of them all. But what names are given to this Child! It is an important matter when a name must be found for the son, is it not? But God gave His Son some names. And the angels knew. Mary and Joseph had no problem about naming Jesus, for the angels had said: “Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” But He had many other names.

We speak of men sometimes as being wonderfully versatile. Mr. Churchill has written many books. I heard him introduced on one occasion by a certain man of prominence, some years ago, who said that “our distinguished guest has written the greatest book that has been published for many years.” I said to myself, “How do you know? Have you read all the books?” Well, some men have been able to turn their hands to many different things. Mr. Churchill could join with you bricklayers and build a house, I understand. A newspaper man, a soldier, a sailor, a chancellor of the exchequer, a first lord of the admiralty, a naval and military strategist of high order, and the Prime Minister in whom the Empire trusts. That is good. But “His name shall be called Wonderful”—full of wonder, always surprising us, an inexhaustible treasury of uncreated power.

Well, you can nurse that, if you like. There is a hymn we sing, in which occur these words:

“Glory to God for all the grace  
We have not tasted yet.”

I greatly enjoy that. I remember when I used to get down, when I was a child, to the toe of my stocking on Christmas morning. I almost invariably put my hand in two or three times to make sure I had not missed anything; and at last I was forced to admit that the last secret was out.

But this last secret is not out. “His name shall be called Wonderful.” And the long history of the world has not exhausted the wonder of His potentialities. What wonders He will yet accomplish! “Counsellor”! They are having a great conference in Washington! Great

minds are collaborating—and I understand another "great mind" is to join them from Ottawa! I am by no means persuaded that it will make any contribution to the sum total of the wisdom of that conference. "Counselor"! With whom took He counsel? Who taught Him wisdom, and knowledge, and understanding? He needs no advice. Able to give counsel to all; he needs no counsel from anyone. Do not offer it to Him when you pray. Do not instruct Him. He does not need your instruction. Receive instruction from Him.

Mr. Churchill was asked, "What about a unified command?" His reply was, "The sphere of operations, the scale of conflict is so vast that no single man could be equal to it." But "His name shall be called . . . Counselor". He knows; and even now the great and most important thing for all the nations is to receive counsel from Him. In His hands all things will work together for good.

"The mighty God"! I heard someone speak of the birth of Jesus yesterday. I heard a little boy ask if He had a father, and mother, just like other boys. I held my breath as I heard the answer. "Oh, yes." I said, "What a pity to spoil so great a story." "The mighty God"! No lesser ruler than the mighty God will do.

How often have I heard our people in prayer meeting confess to God that they did not know how to pray! How often have I heard men and women roll the burden back upon God, and say, "We don't know, but it is all in the counsel of Thy wisdom. Let Thy will be done." I remind you that the mighty God has manifested Himself, and we have no less than the mighty God for our Saviour, and the everlasting Father.

You have all passed through the stages I did. Once I had a father who knew everything. There was not anything he did not know. His word was the last expression of wisdom. Then I grew up till I was about eighteen years of age, and then I imagined that I had a father who did not know quite so much. And then after I grew a little older I was sure that I had a father who knew everything. But he is gone. What experience he had! I am amused sometimes when I see roundabout, at this time, advertisements that "So-and-So solicits your votes, because of his 'experience'." Someone said to me about the membership of this church some years ago: "Have you no disappointments in anyone who comes here?" I said, "Yes; sometimes someone comes into the membership of this church on his experience, and goes out on ours. That experience works both ways."

"The everlasting Father"! What a blessing to have Someone Who never leaves us, and Whose accumulated experience is at our command.

"The Prince of Peace"! The Pope has made a pronouncement, I understand. I heard it several times by radio, but not the particulars, and I was not specially interested, as a matter of fact. A sinner who has connived at every iniquity, perpetrated in the last decade, who has blessed murderers wholesale! And now he talks of peace! Be assured, dear friends, that the real Prince of Peace is no less than that, even in this war time.

And "of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." There will be an end of the government of the dictators. There may come an end of the government of the British Empire, and of the United States. There will, indeed, when the larger kingdom, which is over all, blessed forever, shall be manifested. But "of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." Impossible!

We talk about Mr. Churchill's jaw, of the evidence of strength in the physiognomy of the President of the United States. We talk sometimes of men of dynamic will, a man who says, "I will," and gets things done, not merely a head, but a will to do what the head plans.

What is our guarantee: The zeal of the Lord of hosts shall do this. "There is My programme," saith the Lord, and behind it is the zeal of the Lord of hosts. It is ever true that:

"His every word of grace is strong  
As that which built the skies,  
The voice that rolls the stars along,  
Speaks all the promises."

Let us rest in Him, let us rejoice in Him today and for ever.

### British Columbia

Rev. E. V. Apps who has served the Marpole Church, Vancouver, for some years, has accepted the call of the Vernon-Enderby field to take up the work there. Mr. Apps was one of the earliest graduates of the Toronto Baptist Seminary and has been active in the affairs of the Regular Baptist Convention work in British Columbia.

### Miss Peacock

We share the following letter with the churches which responded so readily to our letters requesting speaking engagements for Miss Peacock, the missionary of the British Columbia Convention who spent six months in a Japanese internment camp.

Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 4, 1942.

"Dear Mr. Whitcombe:

The Women's Missionary Society of Regular Baptists of British Columbia have requested me to convey to you and to the Union of Regular Baptists of Ontario and Quebec their heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation for the courtesies and kindnesses extended to our missionary, Miss Esther Peacock, on her arrival in Eastern Canada, from the SS. *Gripsholm*.

"We also would like to take this opportunity of expressing our grateful thanks to you personally for arranging meetings for her, and to the churches of the Union which gave Miss Peacock the opportunity to tell forth, not only of our work in Manchuria but how the Lord wonderfully worked in her behalf and opened the way for her to return home after being interned in Manchuria and Japan for upwards of six months. Will you convey our gratitude to the churches of the Union which so generously contributed toward her expenses, and for the hospitality extended to her during her visit in Ontario and in Winnipeg?"

"Miss Peacock delivered in the vicinity of fifty messages during her trip across Canada, and arrived in Vancouver somewhat fatigued. However, she was able to deliver a soul-stirring message at the missionary and homecoming rally which had been arranged for October 23rd when the auditorium and Sunday School room of the Ruth Morton Memorial Church were crowded to capacity. Our people were overjoyed to see our dear sister face to face again and as we listened to her story our hearts were filled with praise and thanksgiving to the Lord.

"Miss Peacock at present is convalescing from an operation which she has undergone since her return home. However, we hope in a short while she may be able to visit all our own churches which are eagerly but patiently waiting to see and hear her.

"With personal greetings and warmest thanks for all you did for Miss Peacock, I remain, on behalf of the Women's Missionary Society of Regular Baptists of British Columbia,

Sincerely in Christ,

(Signed). Mrs. H. J. Witter,

Cor. Sec'y.



## Bible School Lesson Outline

Vol. 7 First Quarter Lesson 1 January 3, 1943

OLIVE L. CLARK, Ph.D. (Tor.)

### SOLOMON ANOINTED KING

Lesson Text: 1 Kings 1:28-53.

Golden Text: "And all the people said, God save king Solomon"—1 Kings 1:39.

Reading: 1 Kings 1:1-27.

#### I. The Counsel of Solomon's Father—verses 28 to 31.

King David had clearly announced his choice of Solomon his son as his successor (1 Chron. 22:9, 10). The wise leader will make provision for the future, lest his work be brought to naught by an unworthy successor (Eccl. 2:19; 2 Tim. 2:2).

Taking advantage of King David's old age and weakness, Adonijah, the fourth son of David (2 Sam. 3:2-5), had exalted himself to the position of leadership. Had the king rebuked his son's unlawful ambition when first manifested (verse 6), the plot might not have come to maturity. Sin which is tolerated will run its course, and the moral disease will break out at some time (Rom. 6:23). Adonijah had made careful preparations for a retinue, and he had won to his side the general of the army, Joab, the King's nephew (2 Sam. 8:16; 20:23). Abiathar the priest also supported him (2 Sam. 20:25).

Nathan, the prophet of God, had revealed the true state of affairs to David (2 Sam. 12:1). Nathan, whose name means "a gift", was God's gift to the King. Such men, who know God and have courage to declare God's will, regardless of consequences, are a means of blessing to their king and country (2 Sam. 12:7). The Lord's people are the salt of the earth (Matt. 5:13).

King David proclaimed his intention of performing that which he had formerly promised. Our God will fulfil every word which He has promised (Psa. 119:106); He is ever faithful. Again, the Christian also should be swift to do that which he knows to be the will of the Lord (Neh. 10:29; John 13:17); he must be a doer, as well as a hearer, of the Word (Matt. 7:21; Jas. 1:22).

#### II. The Coronation of Solomon—verses 32 to 42.

King David summoned the priest, the prophet, a prince and the people to take part in the crowning of the new King. The priest represented the people before God; the prophet represented God among the people. Solomon was anointed with oil (1 Chron. 29:22), signifying that the Holy Spirit rested upon him to equip him for his exalted task (1 Sam. 10:1).

The retinue, the procession, the royal beast, the flare of the trumpets (2 Kings 9:13; 11:14) and the shouts of the people—all these features made the coronation of King Solomon a memorable occasion. The ceremonies by which a King is set apart to rule over the people in God's behalf are of great significance. We should give thanks to God for the gift of a Christian King and Queen. Most heartily do we honour them and pray for them (Matt. 22:21; Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Tim. 2:1, 2; 1 Pet. 2:13-17). All of us may join heartily in the Scriptural prayer, "God save the King!" (1 Sam. 10:24).

Benaiah pronounced a benediction upon the new King. Happy the monarch who is surrounded by counsellors who desire God's blessing to rest upon him!

Great was the rejoicing in Israel that day. There is joy when an earthly monarch is crowned, and there is joy when Christ is crowned King in the hearts of men (Lk. 15:10). There will be joy, joy that is unspeakable and full of glory when we behold Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords (1 Pet. 1:6-9; Rev. 5:12-14).

#### III. The Consternation of Solomon's Rival—verses 43 to 53.

Adonijah and his friends were holding a feast of their own; they had no share in the joy of the King's coronation. Many there are who refuse to come to the King's banqueting house, but who attempt to satisfy themselves with the pleasures of the world (Song of Sol. 2:4; Lk. 14:16-20;

15:23-28). The only true blessedness is that which is found in the presence of the Lord (Psa. 16:11).

Adonijah's friends left him when his cause did not prosper. A true friend will stand by when adversity arises, but a false friend will not be faithful at such a time (Prov. 17:17).

Adonijah had exalted himself, but was now abased (Lk. 14:11; 18:14). He had the humiliation of seeing his ambitions defeated, and another honoured in his stead. He feared punishment at the hands of Solomon, but we do not read that he repented of his sin, or that he asked forgiveness. He showed remorse, but not repentance (Heb. 12:16, 17).

Solomon gave Adonijah another chance. While there is no Scripture to indicate that men will be given another chance to accept Christ after death, we do know that our God is merciful in giving them many opportunities in this life. He desires that they should repent and come to Him (Ezek. 18:23, 32; Dan. 9:9; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9).

#### Edmonton

Rev. Geo. R. Dawe is now pastor of the Norwood Church, Edmonton, succeeding Rev. J. Pickford who is suffering from ill health. We have just received a copy of the *Evangel of Hope*, an attractive little paper distributed by Mr. Dawe as a silent missionary to the residents of his districts. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dawe are former students of Toronto Baptist Seminary.

#### The Norland Field

Rev. Frank Vaughan writes of the blessing enjoyed at his ordination and since then. He recently presided at a baptismal service in the Fenelon Falls Church when two of his people followed the Lord in His appointed way. Mr. Vaughan writes:

"Dear Brother Whitcombe:

I have been desirous of writing you for several weeks, but it seems that I have just been unable to get at it. For a few weeks before and after the ordination I felt completely exhausted and came to the place where I felt I would just have to pick up and leave for a few weeks. This, of course, was impossible for many reasons, so I am trying to take it a little easier and I feel much better again. The extra work at Kinmount makes a very full day on Sunday, but I enjoy ministering to the people there very much.

"You will be glad to hear, Brother Whitcombe, that I managed to get another car. I felt that I ought to make it a matter of much prayer, knowing that the Lord had led in other things. I was led to a private party who had a suitable Model A Ford in splendid condition. It has been well cared for and I am finding it very economical to operate. Again I wish to voice my thanks for the help which came from the Union making it possible for us to purchase this much needed car. (Editor's Note: Mr. Vaughan's last car was purchased by him for \$25 or thereabouts some years ago and was almost patriarchal in appearances and action).

"I wish to thank you too, for the kind things you said about us in this week's GOSPEL WITNESS. As one example of what your articles have done for us, I received a further gift from a church in the United States. Accompanying this gift was a letter from the pastor. He said he heard of our work through THE GOSPEL WITNESS and that being a Canadian by birth he wished to have a part in carrying on the Lord's work in his own country."

#### The Dime Banks

The Secretary has received the following encouraging word from a Church which heard from him of our French-Canadian work last summer:

"Once more it is our happy privilege to send to you a sum of money which we have been privileged to give through the dime banks in support of your work among the French-Canadians in Ontario and Quebec. We are enclosing Twenty-two Dollars. We do trust that the Lord will see fit to bless the money to the salvation of some who sit in the fear of man and are therefore under the yoke of bondage. The children of our Sunday School have been greatly interested in your work and one class of girls have already contributed \$9.00 through the banks. We think this is very remarkable because none of that class of girls work. It has meant a real sacrifice to them, but they have done it as unto the Lord."

**BEHIND THE DICTATORS—By L. H. Lehmann.**

This is the title of a book by Dr. L. H. Lehmann, an ex-Roman Catholic priest, who is Editor of *The Converted Catholic*, New York City. Dr. Lehmann was born in Ireland, received his early education there, and his theological training in Rome, where he was ordained a priest. He was priest of one of the Roman Catholic churches in Rome, and later went to South Africa, returning again to Rome for a while, and then was transferred to the United States.

Dr. Lehmann knows Roman Catholicism from the inside, and is able to write on the subject with authority. In this book he shows what a large place the Roman Catholic Church has behind the dictators, in fomenting and carrying on the present war. No one who would be informed on the Roman Catholic question throughout the world, and especially as it relates to this conflict, can afford to be without this book. It is a book of sixty-six pages, and is packed full of information which it would be very difficult to obtain elsewhere.

We have published the book at the expense of THE GOSPEL WITNESS, and we offer it to our readers at the very low price of 50c, in order to help defray the cost of publication. Order from THE GOSPEL WITNESS, 130 Gerrard St. E., Toronto.

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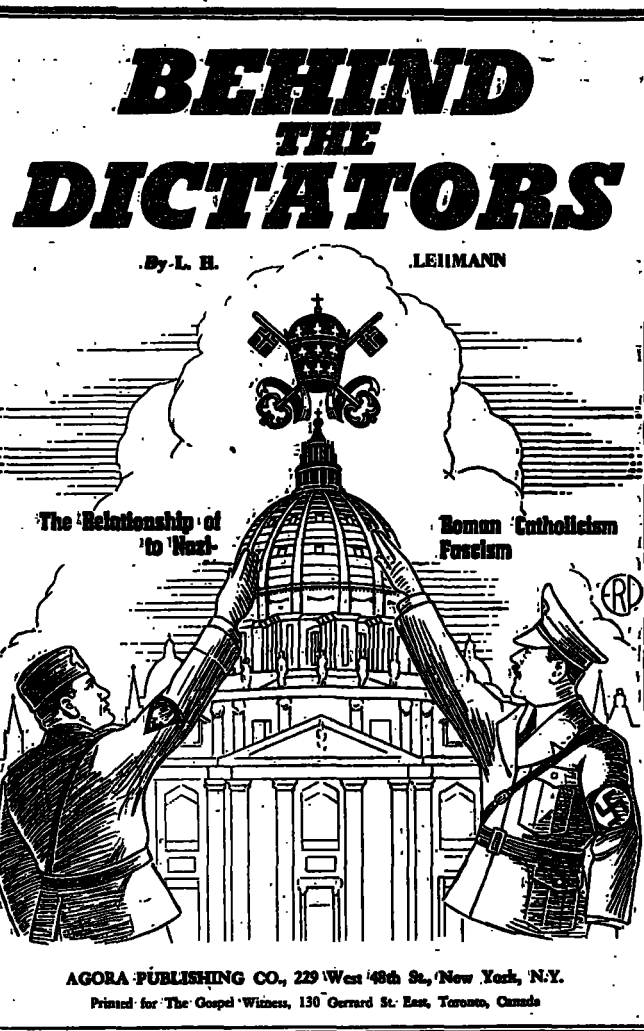
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