



Pastor Russell spoke recently in the Boston theater. In one of his discourses he spoke from this text: "When he ascended up on high, he led a multitude of captives..."

This grand expression respecting the glorious outcome of the Savior's work is quoted by the apostle Paul from the Psalms. (Psalm, 68:18.) The figure thus thrust before our mental eye is that of a great conqueror whose victory is being heralded.

Thus, still standing in Rome. And evidently the custom was still older than the days of the Romans, since it was so prophetically set forth by the Prophet David.

Let us permit our mental eye to feast upon the scene presented in our text. Jesus, in fulfillment of the divine program, had left the heavenly condition and descended to earth, taking a bondman's form or nature in order that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for every man.

Therefore the Redeemer counted not His life precious to Him, but freely delivered Himself up for our offences and died. "The best for the unjust, that He might bring mankind back into harmony with God."

forsook all to do the will of the Father and to attain the liberty of sons of God, as the first fruits of the triumph of the Lamb.

But during the thousand years of Christ's reign He will lead forth the "rebellious house"—the world of mankind—not all of them, we may be sure, for some the Scriptures positively declare, will die the second death, because, after realizing their deliverance, they will love sin and will therefore be destroyed as enemies of righteousness.

It is to be a distinct feature of the great triumph of humanity that every eye shall be opened and every ear unstopped, that "the knowledge of the glory of God shall fill the whole earth," during His glorious reign of righteousness.

Not Given to Convert the World. Noting carefully the apostle's argument we perceive that the master did not give these gifts for the conversion of the world.

Notice the force of the expression, "the fact is, we receive"—that is, not sufficient that believers have a little knowledge, a little faith, and a measure of sanctification or devotion to the Lord, for after they have received and attained all of these things they still need the instruction of the apostles and ministers, pastors and teachers, provided by the great head of the church for their perfection.

explain the matter and tells us what gifts are meant. He says, "And He gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers."

There is an astounding thought connected with this statement—that the apostles were not self-appointed, and that they had no successors, and that the work of evangelizing, or making known the "good tidings," and the pastoral work amongst believers and the teaching work amongst believers, are all under the supervision of the head of the church, the great Victor, who redeemed us with His blood, and who proposes, first, to lead forth a bride class, and subsequently all the willing and obedient.

It behooves us to notice that the apostle does not intimate that Jesus gave to some Methodism, to others Presbyterianism, and to others Roman Catholicism, etc. No, when we read these thoughts it was because of more or less of the best of the world failed to see first that there is but the "one church of the living God, whose names are written in heaven," and second, that that one church is not any of the various sects and parties, but includes the saints in all of these.

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the way down the age must have been along the lines here indicated. Individually, one partially developed would not be fitted for the kingdom. One not in a unit with the others would not be suitable. One not developed to the proper measure or stature as a Christian would not be suitable.

This thought is confirmed by the succeeding verses, in which the apostle tells us that by the assistance of these, the divinely provided gifts, teachers, etc., God's people need no longer, like children to be tossed to and fro, and be misled by the sleight of men and cunning craftiness of those who would deceive. On the contrary, being sincere, and speaking the truth in love, they are to grow up into membership in the anointed one in all things—coming fully and completely into fellowship and obedience, under the head, even Christ.—Verses 14, 15.

Proceeding, the apostle tells us that all who are recognized as members of the body of Christ must be properly joined to the head—by a proper bond, or covenant, intelligently made, and fully intended. This union must be compacted, and it requires the entire Gospel age to effect this development and compacting as members, that the whole body of the anointed may be one, symmetrical, beautiful, co-operative, making increase in its members and edifying itself in love—growing in grace and in knowledge and in character, likeness to the head of the church, Jesus.—Verse 16.

In conclusion, then, the captain of our salvation has gone before, He has accepted us as His joint-heirs, and we are following on, led by the gifts which He dispensed when He ascended up on high; and we, in turn, will be His gifts to the world of mankind. When as priests and kings we shall be associated with our Lord, we shall bless all the families of earth with a glorious opportunity of knowledge and obedience, that they may, if they will, attain life everlasting, "the gift of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

SOCIALIST NOTES

(Contributed.) Last Sunday the advanced class of the socialist Sunday school completed the course in social forces in American history, by A. M. Simons, which it has been studying for several months.

The leader of the class, Miss Clarissa Spencer, did not confine her students to the text book, but suggested the reading and study of other histories, biographies, poetry and fiction bearing on the subject, which lengthened the course, but rendered it more interesting and instructive. Next Sunday a series of lessons in economics will begin under the direction of Miss Spencer and Miss Edith Roffe.

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Whereas a local newspaper has made the statement that Comrade John Flanagan of Queens county is the only Irish delegate in this convention; and "Whereas, being Irish, is our opinion, the greatest honor next to being a socialist that can possibly come to any one, the undersigned hereby declare that being Irish they could not be other than socialists and be true to their race, since socialism is the greatest cause that Irishmen have had a chance to work for, as it guarantees not only freedom for Ireland, but for all humanity; and be it

"Resolved, That we request that this statement, with signatures attached, be published in the local daily press."

Charles Edward Russell is the socialist candidate for governor of New York. George Allen England is running for the same office in Maine, and William H. Wilkins in New Hampshire. Debs is speaking to audiences of tens of thousands in St. Louis, Chicago and elsewhere, and from all over the country comes the welcome information that the socialists will poll an unprecedented vote at the next election.

While the young men students of the eastern universities have displayed their grasp of industrial problems by serving as scabs in recent strikes, as members of the militia aiding in the attempt to force the half-starved operatives of Lawrence, Mass., to accept a reduction in wages—a wage which at its best could not provide the necessities of life; or as waiters to break the waiters' strike; the women students of Wellesley college have shown their sympathy for the working class by refusing to ride on cars run by scabs.

The socialists have the best of campaign material in the fact that both of the old political parties at their last convention were controlled by henchmen of Ryan. Elihu Root was chairman of the republican convention, and Alton B. Parker served in the same capacity in the democratic convention.

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