

Large Frostburg Audience Greeted Pastor Russell

His Sermon on "Armageddon" Was a Logical and Masterful Discourse—Signs of the Times Seem to Bear Out His Opinions.

In spite of the intensely hot weather, baseball games and other causes that keep people from religious meetings, Pastor Russell, the world-famous preacher and Bible student, proved a great attraction at the Frostburg Opera House, last Sunday afternoon, and his eloquent and logical discourse has set many people to thinking. His remarks were well received, and his discourse brought forth much favorable comment. His text was taken from Matt. 24: 21, 22: "There shall be a time of trouble such as was not since there was a nation, no, nor ever shall be." Following is a synopsis of his remarks:

"The book of Revelation tells of the horrible battle, war, or conflict of Armageddon to take place in the end of this age. By it the world is to be humbled itself, under divine supervision, until it will be war-torn and ready to pray—'Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is done in Heaven.'"

"God's relationship to earth's wars is but vaguely understood by the great majority of mankind. Some are praying divine blessings upon the Austro-Hungarian and German armies; others are beseeching the Almighty for the British, French, Russians and Servians. Still others are praying that God will stop the war altogether. Which set of petitions will God bless? Has not the Almighty a plan and purpose of His own? Will He allow His policy to be dictated by His ignorant children, or by the world? Is it not wiser for us to inquire what is God's will rather than to suppose that He has no will or purpose, or that He would accept our well-meant advice?"

"The Bible's claim is that it contains God's revelation of His plans and purposes respecting our world. Is it not our wisest plan to search the Scriptures to know God's purposes rather than in prayer 'rush in where angels fear to tread'—rather than attempt to direct the Omnipotent One?"

"Bible students all over the world are forming Bible classes, that by mutual aid they more and more may understand the teachings of the Bible, once to them a sealed book. And God is blessing their efforts."

"They are learning, too, that the Bible can be fully understood only by those begotten of the Holy Spirit. This is leading them into full consecration to God."

Finding God's Plan of the Ages.
"The finding of God's plan of the ages is like finding the architect's plan of a great building. It explains everything. The more it is studied intelligently, the better everything is understood." The pastor proceeded to open to his hearers the plans of Jehovah, of which Armageddon is a part, according to his declaration. "Earth is the only rebellious province of Jehovah's empire."

"For the everlasting instruction of all His creatures, God is permitting a reign of sin and death. He assures us it will not be permitted to thus continue forever. At the proper time God will exert His great power for the overthrow of sin and death."

"For a time God left the world almost without hope. Later He gave promises, but only to a little nation—Israel. This favored people He used as types until the due time came for beginning human salvation."

"The first step toward human rescue was the death of Christ, who died the just for the unjust to bring us back to God."

"Next, for nearly nineteen centuries God has not even begun the world's salvation—the salvation of Israel. The entire work has been for individual penitents. These are told that their tribulations will work out for them glory, honor and immortality. They are assured that all their experiences are part of a great Divine purpose. If they cannot exercise faith so as to suffer joyfully for righteousness sake, they will not be fit for the Kingdom."

God's Kingdom in Embryo.
"The Bible tells us that God has planned to forcibly set up His Kingdom of righteousness for man's deliverance from sin and death."

"He says that His Kingdom, backed by Divine authority, will hold sway for a thousand years under the leadership of Messiah, whose saintly followers will reign with Him. Then God's kingdom will not end, but merely be transferred from Messiah to the world in general, which then, brought to perfection, will be one grand republic in which every man will be a sovereign, and all serve and obey the King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

"Thus we see that God's saints of every nation and denomination are as St. Peter declares—'a holy people of priestly kings.'"

"Already they are accepted sons of God, joint heirs with Jesus Christ, our Lord. These await the fulfillment of their predestinated number, undergoing chiselings, polishings, trials of faith, loyalty, love. They are kings not yet crowned, merely anointed. They are children not yet matured. The first resurrection change will perfect and glorify these and qualify them for their Kingdom honors. In the meantime these realize the rebellious condition of the world, wait and pray—'Thy Kingdom come.'"

Kingdoms of This World.
"Few still believe the legend of the dark ages to the effect that the nations of Europe are God's or Christ's kingdoms. They merely masquerade as

Christ's sheep. They are all wolfish. Let us note their origin."

"Israel had God's promise that they might be God's kingdom, and be His channel of power and mercy to all people, if they could keep God's law. Fallen like others, they could not keep God's perfect law. In due time God discontinued the kingdom of Israel. He took no other, for none could keep His law."

"The offer was merely to show all that by the deeds of the law no flesh could be justified. This was about 606 B. C., Zedekiah being the last of the Davidic line. There and then God to a certain degree recognized the Gentiles. He let them assume reins of power. He mapped out their line of power to the end of this age, to Armageddon, when Messiah will set up His kingdom on the ruins of these empires of earth."

Here the speaker detailed the prophetic dream of Nebuchadnezzar and the Prophet Daniel's explanation of it. These he traced as follows: "The golden head of the image of earthly empire was Nebuchadnezzar's own kingdom. The breast and arms of silver pictured the Medo-Persian empire, which overthrew and succeeded Babylon. The belly and thighs of brass represented the Grecian empire, which vanquished the Medes and Persians. The legs of iron represented the Roman empire, which conquered Greece. The feet of iron and clay mixed represented the present so-called Christian nations of Europe, the ten toes the present ten divisions. The iron of the feet, representing their real strength, is the remnant of the Roman civil power. The clay is the Christian make-believe, a bad imitation of God's kingdom. The stone which smote the image represented Messiah's kingdom. Its striking the feet Armageddon—a time of trouble such as never was before."

Pastor Russell declared that according to the Bible the awful war begun in Europe is the beginning of the end, the prelude to Armageddon. The Armageddon conflict in its finale and extreme form, according to the Bible, is to be anarchy.

What Will Likely Constitute Armageddon.

"The present war will merely prepare for the anarchy of Armageddon. Twenty millions of warriors in one war is a proposition so great as to stagger human conception. And armed with the deadliest weapons ever known, the results will stagger civilization. There will be no cessation of the war until the last German warship has disappeared from the high seas."

"Reverses on land fairly distributed will plique the pride of each nation, and lead on in hope of revenge. Not until these greatest, strongest, richest nations shall have done their worst to each other in the name of Christianity, Christ's kingdom, may we expect a truce. Then, bleeding, weakened, dismayed, all probably defeated, the disbandment of millions will occur. Then we believe will come the Armageddon sequel, anarchy."

"Then, the Lord says, behold what desolation the Lord hath made in the earth! He breaketh the bow and cutteth the spear asunder! Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the people, I will be exalted in the earth." (Psalm 45).

"God has purposed Armageddon and foretold it. He is bringing it upon mankind indirectly by sending the light, the intelligence of our day. Coming into unregenerate hearts, the light awakens and vitalizes the selfish instincts dormant in the ignorant. None but the holy can rightly use great knowledge and its powerful opportunities. God withheld the clearer light until our day, so that Armageddon would not come before the appointed time. Now our consolation is found in Jesus words—'Except those days were shortened, no flesh would survive; but for the elect's sake (because of the kingdom) those days will be shortened. For thirty years they voice and pen I have taught these things, and have pointed to October, 1914, as the probable close of Gentile domination, the time when Armageddon would probably be due. Let us patiently await the outcome, rejoicing that the dark cloud has a silver lining, the inauguration of the kingdom of Him who shall ultimately be known as the Prince of Peace. True and righteous are thy judgments, Lord God Almighty. Who shall not approach and homage before Thee when Thy righteous dealings shall be made manifest?'"

A PROBLEM JINGLE.
De dog, he rule de 'possum tree, de snake, he feed on frog;
De 'possum, he whips out de coon, de coon tear up de dog
Oh, believers,
What you gwine ter say?
How you gwine ter rickoncil
Dese things on Jedgmint Day?

De big fish swallow de small—des eat 'em, head an' tail,
De whale come 'long and gobble all—de man, he kill de whale.
Oh, believers,
What you gwine ter say?
How you gwine ter rickoncil
Dese things on Jedgmint Day?

De preacher preach an' pass de cup, an' seek de heathen do;
De heathen eat de preacher up, an' he don't preach no mo'!
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BROOKLYN TABERNACLE

WICKED VINE-DRESSERS.
Matthew 21:33-46—Aug. 16.
"The Stone that the builders rejected, the same is become the Head of the corner."—Matthew 21:32.

NOT only did the Redeemer teach chiefly by parables, but nearly all of those parables related to the Kingdom. The reason for this is plain. The Divine Plan calls for the setting up of the Kingdom of Righteousness by Divine Power for the overcoming of the Prince of Darkness, whose reign of six thousand years has been a Reign of Sin and Death. Today's lesson points indirectly to the Kingdom.

While the whole world lay in sin and under the Divine sentence of death, God planted in the world a root of Promise, a hope. This Promise, made to Abraham, foretold that his seed would eventually become very powerful and would cause God's blessing to fill the earth and roll away the curse. In due time this Promise came to the nation of Israel, Abraham's posterity and heirs of the Promise.

Thus God planted a vineyard in the world, the Jewish nation, bound to Him by their Law Covenant. He set a hedge about them—the Divine promise that as long as they were faithful and loyal to God, they would be thoroughly protected against their enemies. Jehovah Himself was their Watch-tower. He placed as watchmen the Prophets, who warned the people in respect to every breaking down of the wall; for this protection could be broken down only by disobedience, carelessness, sin, on Israel's part.

The Original Vine-Dressers.

While the entire nation of Israel is represented by the vineyard, the husbandmen were the religious leaders. These vine-dressers became conceited and acted as if they were the owners, and not merely the Owner's servants. Even in their speech they became accustomed to call the people "our people," "my people," etc. Thus they failed to glorify God properly, and fell themselves to be more than the servants of God, honored in being permitted to be vine-dressers in His vineyard.

In due time the Owner, Jehovah, sent His servants, the Prophets, to Israel. These servants and their messages became tests of the loyalty of the vine-dressers and of the character-development of the people. But alas! the vine-dressers' pride and desire to show off before the people prompted the mistreatment of the Prophets. Some of the servants they beat, others they stoned, others they killed.

Finally the Owner sent His Son. The Bible informs us that God foreknew that Israel's rulers would reject His Son. But the parable sidesteps the matter as though the Owner had said, "They will reverence My Son." Surely the Jewish rulers should have recognized Him of whom people declared, "Never man spake like this Man." Surely they should have hearkened to His Message, should have repented of their sins and come back through Him into harmony with God.

However, the spirit of selfishness and self-conceit often leads its possessors to monstrous acts which afterward even themselves. The Jewish Doctors, clergy of that time, perceived that Jesus, the Son of God, Representative of the Owner of the vineyard, exerted a mighty influence over the people. They reasoned that to whatever extent His cause should prevail, their power, their influence, their titles, their honors of men, would fade.

In their exasperation against Jesus, the vine-dressers determined that His death was necessary for the success of their theories and plans. They did not realize that their course was the very one which would lead to the destruction of that typical kingdom of God, that typical vineyard. The parable was fulfilled. God's judgment came upon the Jew- ish nation. In A. D. 70 it was overthrown, and has never since been restored, nor will it be until Messiah shall establish His Kingdom.

The New Vine-Dressers.
The Lord said that they were wicked vine-dressers. He appointed new ones—the twelve Apostles, St. Paul taking the place of Judas. Moreover, He started a new vineyard, putting into it only the true Vine. Of this vineyard our Lord said, "I am the Vine; ye are the branches." Century after century these true branches of the true Vine have been planted by baptism into death with their Master and have been bringing forth the peaceable fruits of righteousness. Ere long, we believe, this fruitage will all be gathered and, by the resurrection "change," be transplanted into Heavenly conditions.

The Scriptures also represent the Church by a pyramid, which has five corner-stones, the chief one of which, the top-stone, is itself a perfect pyramid. Jesus, rejected by the Jews, crucified, is the Chief Corner-Stone of this great Temple of God, the Church. Already He is glorified, and His Church will soon be united to Him.

Generous Impulses.
"Why do women want to take a hand in politics?"
"I suspect," replied Miss Cayenne, "that some of them are generously sympathetic with the predicament their husbands have gotten into while trying to run the country and want to come to the rescue."

Self-Sacrifice.
"I see where a judge refused to allow an actress to wear tights in court, for the purpose of proving that her figure was not imitation."
"Yes."
"Umph! That judge could deny himself anything."

A GOOD LETTER FROM HOME
—That's what The Spirit is each week to the absent friend or boy or girl away at school and receiving the home paper.

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PILGRIM JOI

He Spends a Few Days in the Town of Tinker's Dam

TO LIVE AS A MAN OF FACE.

But Discovers That Is Impossible Without a Personal Encounter—Israel J. Jones Comes to Grief, and Hypocrisy of Integrity Is Once More Vindicated.

By M. QUAD.
[Copyright, 1914, by Associated Literary Press.]

AS I was calmly resting in the night in the town of Tinker's Dam I was suddenly and rudely awakened from sweet slumber by a small but choice band of strikers. They were patriots who live in the town and had its best interests at heart, and they were headed by the mayor. When I had been haled out of bed by the hair of the head and a rope tied around my neck I honor wanted to know if I had anything to say for the benefit of posterity.

"I hev," says I. "I wish to observe that in the midst of life war is in



death and that a hog who wouldn't root won't grow fat."

"Are you going to confess before you die what you did with the boss you stole?" he asks.

Then I realize that a mistake has been made and pursued to orate as follows: "Feller Ben's—It is with sorrier that I hev to inform you that no hangin' won't take place here tonight. The reason for it is that the boss thief has got fur, far away, while I am a humble and bow backed pilgrim without guile in his heart. I arrived in this town this afternoon with a grasshopper in a bottle, sympathy fur my feller ben's in my heart and the possessor of an old boss and wagon for the takin' of thynesses—10 cents a take."

But the parable sidesteps the matter as though the Owner had said, "They will reverence My Son." Surely the Jewish rulers should have recognized Him of whom people declared, "Never man spake like this Man." Surely they should have hearkened to His Message, should have repented of their sins and come back through Him into harmony with God.

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The KITCHEN CUPBOARD

SEASONABLE JELLIES.
THESE may be prepared by the addition of gelatin, which will reduce their cost.

Rhubarb Jelly.—Take a quart of rhubarb after it has been cut up, a quarter of a pint of water, the juice of one lemon, the grated rind of a lemon, two tablespoonsful of water, a pound of sugar, a half an ounce of gelatin and a few drops of cochineal. Wash, skin and cut into one inch lengths sufficient rhubarb to fill a quart basin. Put into a stewpan with the sugar, the juice and grated rind of lemon and a quarter of a pint of water. Simmer very gently until the rhubarb is thoroughly cooked. Dissolve the gelatin in two tablespoonsful of water, strain and add it to the rhubarb. Beat the mixture for a few minutes, color it with a few drops of cochineal and pour it into a wet mold. When set turn it out and pour a little boiled custard round it.

A Nutritious Dish.

Egg Jelly.—Take half a pint of water, six ounces of loaf sugar, two lemons two eggs, a half ounce of gelatin. Wipe and peel the lemons thinly, squeeze and strain the juice. Put the gelatin in a saucepan, add to the sugar, lemon peel, lemon juice and water. Beat up the eggs, add them to the other ingredients and stir over a moderate fire till the gelatin is melted, but be careful not to let it boil. Rinse some small molds with cold water, fill with the mixture and leave them to set. When firm turn out the jellies, arrange them in a glass dish, reserving one for chopping. Sprinkle a piece of paper with cold water, drop the jelly on it and sprinkle the chopped jelly in the bottom of the dish.

Prune Jelly.—Take six ounces of prunes, a half pint of water, an inch stick of cinnamon, an ounce and a half of powdered sugar, an ounce of gelatin, two tablespoonsful of water and two cloves. Wash the prunes and put them into a saucepan with half a pint of water, the sugar, cinnamon and cloves. Simmer gently till the prunes are quite tender, then remove the cinnamon and cloves and beat the prunes briskly with a fork. Dissolve the gelatin in two tablespoonsful of water, strain and add to the other ingredients. Color with a few drops of cochineal and pour into a wetted mold. When set serve with whipped cream.

Made With Gelatin.

Orange Jelly.—Take half a pint of orange juice, the juice of two lemons, two ounces of powdered sugar, a half pint of water, the rind of three oranges and three-quarters of an ounce of gelatin. Wipe and peel the oranges thinly, put the rind in a stewpan with the sugar, water and gelatin. Stir over the fire till the gelatin is dissolved, cover the pan, stand on one side and leave it for ten minutes. Strain the mixture, add the orange and lemon juice previously strained, mix well and pour into a wetted mold. When firm turn out and serve.

Anita Thompson W.

THE GOLDEN AGE AT HAND.

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MESSIAH'S KINGDOM.

The Glorious Day of Divine Favor Is Nearing.

The period in which sin is permitted has been a dark night to humanity, never to be forgotten; but the glorious day of righteousness and divine favor is soon to be ushered in by Messiah. He, as the SUN OF RIGHT- EOUSNESS, shall arise and shine fully and clearly into and upon all, bringing healing and blessing, which will more than counterbalance the dreadful night of weeping, sighing, pain, sickness and death, in which the groaning creation has been so long. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the MORNING."

For further LIGHT on the coming Kingdom send thirty-five cents for the Helping Hand for Bible Students, entitled, "THEY KINGDOM COME."

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The above letter should convince you more than anything we could say in behalf of Mayr's Wonderful Stomach Remedy. Sufferers should try one dose of this Remedy—one dose should convince them that they can be restored to health. Nearly all Stomach Ailments are caused by the clogging of the intestinal tract with mucus and catarrhal secretions allowing poisonous fluids into the stomach and otherwise deranging the digestive system. Mayr's Wonderful Stomach Remedy painlessly removes these accretions without a surgical operation and puts an end to Colic, Attacks, Gases in the Stomach and Intestines and all of the usual symptoms of Stomach, Liver and Intestinal Ailments. Ask your druggist about Mayr's Wonderful Stomach Remedy or send to H. Mayr, Mfg. Chemist, 154 Whiting St., Chicago, Ill., for free booklet on Stomach Ailments and many grateful letters from people who have been restored.

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