

Christ's Greetings to You

Description

Tract No. 13

Christ's Greetings to You

[PICTURE]

Tract 13

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TRACT NO. 13 Second Edition

Tract 13

A GIFT

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Christ's Greetings to You

Greetings to you, loyal friend of God's Book! — You who would cleanse yourself from the corrupting customs of the heathen. Unto you are here poured out the purging tidings of the truth of gifts!

May they make room in your heart for the blessings now waiting at your door to fill your heart, your life, your home, as the new years wait to take the place of the old.

Indeed, may every day find your life abounding with health, happiness, prosperity, and all good things for you and yours, while each of you rejoice in the glorious prospect of the soon-coming Kingdom, and make ready for a home there.

Some books are much bigger And say more, it's true; But none could WISH MORE Than this WISHES YOU — Showers of blessings At once and for long, To revive and keep you Wise, happy, and strong, Today, tomorrow — eternity through!

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CHRIST'S GREETINGS A GIFT TO GIFT GIVERS AND GIFT RECEIVERS

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights,
with Whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17.

For over nineteen centuries the institution of Christmas, the popular gift-exchanging day, has been

acclaimed throughout Christendom as one of God's good and perfect gifts. And this sentiment has been glorified and perpetuated in the face of the widely-known facts that Christmas is not the birthday of Christ, that He was not, in truth, born in December at all, that the observance of the day is simply a Christianized heathen custom perpetuated in charming Christian guise, and that it is not a gift from God.

"The Christmas Spirit was traced back in history today," says an associated press dispatch under date line of Chicago, December 23, 1935 "and identified as a one-time 'public enemy.' "

"Branded a pagan outlaw, it was banished from New England by the Puritans in 1659.

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"Yule gaiety and feasting so irked those solemn pillars of the church, declared Prof. William Warren Sweet, University of Chicago church historian, that they passed a law in the general court of the colony of Massachusetts saying:

" 'Whosoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas or the like, either by forbearing of labor, feasting, or any other way, as a festival, shall be fined five shillings.'

"Only during the last half century was the Christmas spirit generally accepted in America, even in the church, Professor Sweet asserted."

In view of these widely-known historical facts, this phase of the subject needs no further treatment beyond the Lord's simple warning involving

Christmas Observance and Christmas Gifts.

While to a multitude of Christmas-observers, Christ means scarcely more than any ordinary man of fame, to an even greater Christmas-observing multitude of "not-at-all-Christians," He is but a storied figure by which to conjure holiday revelry; although they meaninglessly lip His name in conventional acknowledgment of the supposed origin of the religious occasion of the season! Thus to many, like a light in the darkness, stands out the fact that Christmas is not, in reality, observed

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to the honor of the Saviour, but to the glorification of a heathen custom and to the gratification of the carnal heart. Consequently, "altogether-Christians" cannot therefore consistently participate in celebrating the Christmas myth. Indeed, to do so is openly to set at naught the Word of God, for "thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.

“They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not. They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.” Jer. 10:2-5.

And the traditional gift-exchanging which is part and parcel of the spirit of Christmas observance, is a jealousy-breeding custom, all too often only cankering the receiver’s heart and emptying the buyer’s pocketbook. Thus while it goads one multitude to display of pride, even luring them into revelry, debauchery, and immorality, it drives another, the multitude of poor, either to envy or discouragement, or to both, also not infrequently to despair, and sometimes to insanity — even to committing murder and suicide.

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The whole Christmas institution consequently being but a species of heathen worship that is demoralizing the nations, the Lord’s servants will invariably shun the exchanging of Christmas gifts, shun the evil attendant upon the occasion’s pretentious spirit and spurious humanitarianism. Christians cannot, indeed, take part in its unholy traffic of gift-trading and reveling, and at the same time be “altogether- Christians.”

“Who would not fear Thee, O king of nations? for to Thee doth it appertain.... They are vanity, and the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish. For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the Lord: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.” Jer. 10:7, 15, 21.

Exchanging Christmas gifts, however, is not the only evil-breeding custom: another no less evil, is the custom of exchanging

Anniversary Gifts

Though birthday gifts in honor of the newly born are in accord with the most generous and noble impulses of mankind, the practice of giving gifts to one another on birth anniversaries, is like the kindred practice of exchanging yuletide gifts, a convention which engenders pride, extravagance, hardship, dissatisfaction, jealousy, sorrow, and a host of related evils. Being

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obligatory, birthday gifts, just as with Christmas gifts, are in the last analysis not gifts at all, but merely formal exchanges which, in most cases, are useless, extravagant, and harmful. The follower of Christ who wholeheartedly cherishes His counsels, will eschew this baleful custom and habit, whether the occasion be Christmas, Easter, birthdays, or whatever. He will, in short, shun bestowing any but

Love Gifts.

If you wish to give a love gift, not a time gift, let it be something useful, never a luxury or a vanity, and not beyond your means; let it be prompted by an unselfish and generous spirit rather than by compulsion of pride, custom, or recompense. Let it, in fine, be a genuine love gift in honor of the receiver, not in honor

of a time which not only suggests a recompense but even demands it. Christians should be givers, not traders!

Finally, the same unselfish spirit which moved Mary to break the “alabaster box,” and to pour out the precious ointment in honor of Him whose matchless blood was spilled to cleanse all should prompt both the giver and the receiver and the gift should have the same effect now as the ointment had before the burial, and as the blood had before the resurrection.

Not only ought Christians be wise and unselfish givers at the right time, but also

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wise and appreciative receivers. Indeed, they should rejoice in the glorious gifts of God more than in the perishable gifts of men. Such Christians are happy in giving love gifts, but their greatest joy and blessing will be in the observance of

The Commemorative Holy and Eternal Rest Gift.

The largest tangible gift ever bestowed upon mankind is the beautiful earth and the “fullness thereof,” crowned with the Eternal Day of Rest — the Rest which establishes its observer in the truth that the Lord created all things in six days and “rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.” Accordingly, of all the days of the week, it alone is holy. Therefore, “remember the Sabbath day, to keep it” such. “Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day.” Ex.20:8- 11.

By faithful Sabbath observance now, every true Christian will show his appreciation of this all-wise and loving provision for the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of mankind, and thereby

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his faith in his Creator, so that he may be granted the privilege of

Keeping the Sabbath Gift Forever.

“For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in

the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts.” Mal. 4:1-3.

“Remember ye [all who shall witness the destruction of the wicked described above] the law of Moses My servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.” Mal. 4:4.

This command to keep the law which Moses received in Horeb, is, according to the Scriptures, to all who are to be living in the great and dreadful day of the Lord — living when God sends to the world His last prophet, the antitypical Elijah: “Behold,” He says, “I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.” Mal. 4:5.

Plain it is that we are to remember His

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Holy Gift, the law of Moses, not only before the promised prophet arrives and while he is proclaiming the great and dreadful day of the Lord but even forever: “For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before Me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the Lord. And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the

men that have transgressed against Me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be abhorring unto all flesh.” Isa. 66:22-24.

“Pray ye,” bids the Lord, looking forward to the time of the “great tribulation,” “that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the Sabbath day.” Matt. 24:20. So not only should we cherish the Sabbath Gift, but also should we earnestly pray that circumstances so shape themselves as not to bring upon us a Sabbath- breaking plight from which there could be no escape. For, the Sabbath being made for man, not man for the Sabbath, it obviously is for a blessing to him, not him for a blessing to it.

Christians know experientially that Satan tries harder to rob men of the Sabbath Gift than he does to rob them of any other gift of God, even to inspiring the beast to

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speak for him against the Most High God, and to attempt to change “times and laws.” Dan. 7:25. So be ye not a follower of the beast, but be ye a follower of Christ, and by your good behavior “establish the law.” Rom. 3:31. And remember this Holy Gift, the Sabbath, is a Gift, not alone to the children of Jacob, but

A Gift to “All Flesh.”

“Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

“Neither let the son of the stranger [him who is not an Israelite], that hath joined himself to the

Lord, speak, saying, The Lord hath utterly separated me from His people: neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I am a dry tree.

“For thus saith the Lord unto the eunuchs that keep My Sabbaths and choose the things that please Me, and take hold of My covenant; even unto them will I give in Mine house and within My walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.

“Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants, every one that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of My covenant; even them will I bring to My

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holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon Mine altar; for Mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.” Isa. 56:2-7.

Right evaluation of this Eternal Rest Gift will insure right evaluation of

Other Precious Gifts.

A true Sabbath-keeper will be no ingrate. Rather, he will be grateful in all things, giving thanks to the Lord for the gift of abundance as well as for the gift of want; and whether in weal or in woe, will from the heart say with Paul: “Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry both to abound and to suffer need.” Philip. 4:11, 12.

So every true Christian will, in foul weather or in fair, learn to lead others to Christ, remembering that “to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to

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mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a

time to cast away; a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.” Eccles. 3:1-8.

True to his faith, the faithful follower of Christ will, in reverent appreciation and gratitude, give thanks for the gift of every time and season for the gift of abundance and for the gift of want, also for the gift of a home and for the gift of loved ones — a husband, a wife, and children; a father and a mother; relatives and friends. And he will gratefully honor the Lord's command:

"HUSBANDS, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: for we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. For this cause shall a man

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leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." Eph. 5 :25-31.

"WIVES, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing." Eph. 5:22-24. "For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband." Rom. 7:2.

"I SAY THEREFORE TO THE UNMARRIED AND WIDOWS, It is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn.

"AND UNTO THE MARRIED I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: but and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife. But to the rest speak I, not the Lord:

"IF ANY BROTHER HATH A WIFE THAT BELIEVETH NOT, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. For the

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unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace. For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

"LET EVERY MAN ABIDE IN THE SAME CALLING wherein he was called. Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather. For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's

servant. Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.

“NOW CONCERNING VIRGINS I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be.

“ART THOU BOUND UNTO A WIFE? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife. But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless

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such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you.

“But this I say, brethren, the time is short [the kingdom soon cometh]: it remaineth, that both they that have wives [now] be as though they had none; and they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; and they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away [and there cometh the Kingdom of God wherein all shall be alike]. But I would have you without carefulness [let not the things of this world trouble you; they are for but a season; whereas the kingdom is forever].

“HE THAT IS UNMARRIED careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: but he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife. There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.” 1 Cor. 7:8-16, 20-34. The unmarried, therefore, are less encumbered.

“IF A MAN DESIRE THE OFFICE OF A BISHOP, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife vigilant, sober, of good

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behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that ruleth well his own house having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

“LIKEWISE MUST THE DEACONS be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a

deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

“These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God,

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the pillar and ground of the truth.” 1 Tim. 3:1-15.

“HE THAT SAITH HE IS IN THE LIGHT, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

“I WRITE UNTO YOU, LITTLE CHILDREN, because your sins are forgiven you for His name’s sake. “I WRITE UNTO YOU, FATHERS, because ye have known Him that is from the beginning.

“I WRITE UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN, because ye have overcome the wicked one.

“I WRITE UNTO YOU, LITTLE CHILDREN, because ye have known the Father.

“I HAVE WRITTEN UNTO YOU, FATHERS, because ye have known Him that is from the beginning.

“I HAVE WRITTEN UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN, because ye are strong, and the Word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one. Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.

“IF ANY MAN LOVE THE WORLD, the love of the Father is not in him. For

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all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of

God abideth for ever. Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time” (the end of the world). 1 John 2:9-18.

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin.” 1 John 3:1-5.

Finally, beloved, “give the more earnest heed” to

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I

THE GIFT OF HOLY SCRIPT ON TABLES OF STONE. I

Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.

II

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments.

III

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.

IV

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

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V

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI Thou shalt not kill.

VII

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII

Thou shalt not steal.

IX

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. Ex.

20:3- 17.

These “He gave unto Moses, when He had made an end of communing with him upon Mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.” Ex. 31:18

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This supreme and universal law, the decalogue, originally written by God Himself on two tables of stone, is given to the willing for the preservation of their precious gifts: their religion, their homes and their very lives, the homes and lives of their families, their properties, their cities, their nations; and peace and goodwill to all mankind.

Thus Jesus decreed: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments [one on each table of stone] hang all the law and the prophets.” Matt. 22:37-40.

“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For He that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.” James 2:10-12. “He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” 1 John 2:4.

Moreover, “give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.” Matt. 7:6.

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And you who have no pearls to cast, do not attempt to cause those who have, to lose theirs, but rather jealously cherish and safeguard

The Gift of Religious Liberty.

“Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations.” Rom. 14:1. Be charitable .

“For one believeth that he may eat all things,” good or bad; “another, who is weak, eateth herbs,” for in them he findeth strength for his body. “Let not,” therefore, “him that eateth,” even if to his own hurt, “despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him. Who art thou that judgest another man’s servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand” (Rom. 14:2-4), but no man can make anyone stand .

“One man,” moreover, “esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind [not in the mind of another]. He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it.” What is that, therefore, unto thee? “He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks.” —

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Rom. 14:5, 6. Be not troubled henceforth with these concerns.

Both he who believes and he who believes not should not meddle with each other's business. They should control their tongues, and should be charitable each to the other. Let each keep peace with all men. Especially should the believers do so with those who are of the household of faith.

Forbid not marriage, and command not any "to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good,

and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." 1 Tim. 4:3-5.

You who know the Truth, may eat every day of everything for which you can with enlightened conscience give thanks, for only such things are "sanctified by the word of God and prayer."

"If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. But refuse profane and old wives' fables and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that

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which is to come. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance." 1 Tim. 4:6-9.

Be not like "Diotrephes, who," loving "to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not,...and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church." 3 John 1:9, 10.

If you are cast out for the Truth's sake, do not become angry or discouraged, but rejoice in the divine consolation: "Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at His word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for My name's sake said, Let the Lord be glorified: but He shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed." Isa. 66:5.

Neither force upon one anything which he does not want, nor withhold from him anything which might be his. And never stand between him and his God, to Whom alone he is answerable, and Who alone is to resolve all issues: "...the Lord will come with fire, and with His chariots like a whirlwind, to render His anger with fury, and His rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by His sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many. They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord." Isa. 66:15-17.

Restrain or deter none from an investigation

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of purported truth, but help them to “prove all things,” and to “hold fast that which is good.” 1 Thess. 5:21. Do not try to make invalids of them or a fool of yourself by expecting them to accept your say-so. Urge them to see for themselves and to bear their own responsibility.

For “precious light is to shine forth from the Word of God, and let no one presume to dictate what shall or what shall not be brought before the people in the messages of enlightenment that He shall send, and so quench the Spirit of God. Whatever may be his position of authority, no one has a right to shut away the light from the people. When a message comes in the name of the Lord to His people, no one may excuse himself from an investigation of its claims. No one can afford to stand back in an attitude of indifference and self-confidence and say: ‘I know what is truth. I am satisfied with my position. I have set my stakes, and I will not be moved away from my position, whatever may come, I will not listen to the message of this messenger; for I know that it cannot be truth.’ It was from pursuing this very course that the popular churches were left in partial darkness, and that is why the messages of heaven have not reached them.” — Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work, p. 65; Counsels on Sabbath-School Work, p. 28.

Remember that everyone has the right

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to believe as he will, and that he must give an account of himself to the Lord only, not to you. Grant to all the freedom of religion that you would have them grant to you. And though a Christian will never sacrifice principle, yet he will ever be as courteous to those who disagree with him as to those who agree.

“All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.” Matt. 7:12. Yea, thus is the teaching of both. And so to receive all these holy gifts, you must

Forsake Egotism, Self-Confidence, Pride of Opinion, Prejudices.

“God calls upon those who hold responsible positions in Sabbath school work to put away all egotism, all self-confidence, and pride of opinion; if a message comes that you do not understand, take pains that you may hear the reasons the messenger may give, comparing scripture with scripture, that you may know whether or not it is sustained by the Word of God. If you believe that the positions taken have not the Word of God for their foundation, if the position you hold on the subject cannot be controverted, then produce your strong reasons; for your position will not be shaken by coming in contact with error. There is no virtue or manliness in keeping up a continual warfare in the dark, closing your eyes lest you may see,

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closing your ears lest you may hear, hardening your heart in ignorance and unbelief lest you may

have to humble yourselves and acknowledge that you have received light on some points of truth.

“To hold yourselves aloof from an investigation of truth is not the way to carry out the Saviour’s injunction to ‘search the Scriptures.’ Is it digging for hidden treasures to call the results of some one’s labor a mass of rubbish, and make no critical examination to see whether or not there are precious jewels of truth in the collection of thought which you condemn? Will those who have almost everything to learn keep themselves away from every meeting where there is an opportunity to investigate the messages that come to the people, simply because they imagine the views held by the teachers of the truth may be out of harmony with what they have conceived as truth? Thus it was that the Jews did in the days of Christ, and we are warned not to do as they did and be led to choose darkness rather than light because there was in them an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God. No one of those who imagine that they know it all is too old or too intelligent to learn from the humblest of the messengers of the living God.” — Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work, pp. 65, 66; Counsels on Sabbath-School Work, pp. 28-30.

The Lord alone, moreover, is responsible for your salvation, and to Him alone are

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you accountable for your sins. “Cease ye” hereafter “from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?” Isa. 2:22. Do not become an invalid by letting others think for you, but

Make Use of the Gift of Mind and Reason.

“All should be careful about presenting new views of Scripture before they have given these points thorough study, and are fully prepared to sustain them from the Bible. Introduce nothing that will cause dissension, without clear evidence that in it God is giving a special message for this time.

“But beware of rejecting that which is truth. The great danger with our people has been that of depending upon men, and making flesh their arm. Those who have not been in the habit of searching the Bible for themselves, or weighing evidence, have confidence in the leading men, and accept the decisions they make; and thus many will reject the very messages God sends to His people, if these leading brethren do not accept them.

“No one should claim that he has all the light there is for God’s people. The Lord will not tolerate this. He has said, ‘I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it.’ Even if all our leading men should refuse light and truth, that door will still remain open. The Lord will raise up men who will give the people the message

Tract 13 31

for this time.” — Testimonies to Ministers, pp. 106, 107. A truth-seeking Christian will not only treasure all the aforementioned gifts of God but also equally respect

The Gift of Government.

Wherefore “let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the

ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.” Rom. 13:1, 2.

God’s authority being supreme and absolute, “altogether-Christians” will ever prefer homage to the King of heaven and earth, while faithfully seeking to render “unto Caesar the things which be Caesar’s, and unto God the things which be God’s.” Luke 20:25. “...to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.” Rom. 13:7.

Such will “owe no man anything” so long as their debtor’s demands or requirements conflict not with God’s laws and statutes. As “altogether-Christians” they will be as true to God and to man as was Daniel and as was Joseph.

When “the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom;...they could find none occasion nor fault.” Dan. 6:4. Finding him thus faultless, his enemies “consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to

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make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, “save of” the king, should “be cast into the den of lions.” Dan. 6:7.

By securing the king’s signature on the decree, they sought to create a situation that must necessarily involve Daniel in an act of rebellion against the king. They knew that though he purposed to render unfaltering allegiance to the king, he would not do so at the price of showing disloyalty to his God. And so as he continued to petition his God as he was wont to do, he was cast into the “den of lions.” But the One to whom he prayed saved his life from the ravenous beasts.

And amid the slaves of ancient Egypt looms the majestic stature of Joseph, the greatest provisioner the world has ever seen. Behold him in steadfast loyalty to his government, rising in honor till he is given to share the very throne of Pharaoh himself!

From these and other Bible examples, it is clear that one’s loyalty to his government is his pledge of allegiance to it — a salute to its flag. Altogether, therefore, we see that while on the one hand a man’s disloyalty to the divine government is a sin against God, on the other hand his disloyalty to his nation’s government is a sin against it, also indirectly against God, for disloyalty to one’s government is disobedience to God’s express command: “Put them in mind to be subject to principalities

Tract 13 33

and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work.” Tit. 3:1. “Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.” 1 Pet. 2:13, 14.

As the flag of a nation is not an idol or a fetish but a symbol, a standard, so the salute to it is not idol- worship, as some think, but rather public confession of one’s loyalty to the government of his

nation, just as baptism is one's confession of loyalty to the government of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

At divine behest, the Israelites made standards (flags) according to their tribes, for purposes both of identification and emblemification of their loyalty to that for which the standards stood. (See Numbers 2.)

Clearly, then, to attribute idolatry to one for saluting his nation's flag, would be to accuse God of forcing idolatry not only upon His ancient people but, by their example, also upon the faithful of all time since!

So every Christian who would be obedient to God's commands, must be loyal to the country in which he lives. Wherefore as Christians in America, devoted to God, and consequently loyal to the just principles of this free "government under

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God," we pledge our hearts, our minds, our hands, our all, first to the flag of God's eternal kingdom, and to the Theocracy for which it stands, one people made up of all nations, and bound by the cords of everlasting love, liberty, purity, justice, peace, happiness, light and life for all; and second, as Americans, to the flag "of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation,

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indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

And so long as Old Glory unfurls itself as the emblem of the inviolate principles of the Constitution of this land of freemen, so long is our pledge of allegiance to it an inviolate thing.

And now let us hear

The Sum of the Whole Matter.

To each one who truly cherishes these precious gifts, who earnestly holds fast that which he has that no man take his crown (Rev. 3:11), rings out the joyous tidings: "Behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Rev. 22:12.

"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

"He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death....be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it."

"And he that overcometh, and keepeth My works unto the end, to him will I give power over the

nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers:

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even as I received of My Father. And I will give him the morning star.”

“He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life, but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels.”

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from My God: and I will write upon him My new name.”

“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.”

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.”

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” Rev. 2:7, 11, 10, 17, 26-28; 3:5, 12, 21, 20, 22.

And finally, if you feel your need of Him, and are eager to receive all the gifts through Him, even the gift of the Spirit to lead you into all Truth (John 14:17; 16:13), then may you in the realization that only the prayer of a righteous man availeth much, solemnly bow down while

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reading, and let the All-righteous One bring to you heaven’s blessing in

His Prayer.

“Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.” Matt. 6:9-13.

FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE

The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters, 773,693 words, 31,102 verses, 1,189 chapters, and 66 books. The longest chapter is the 119th Psalm; the shortest and middle chapter is the 117th Psalm. The middle verse is the 8th of the 118th Psalm. The longest name is in the 8th chapter of Isaiah. The word “and” occurs 46,277 times; the word “Lord” 7,698 times. The 37th chapter of Isaiah and the 19th chapter of 2 Kings are alike. The longest verse is the 9th of the 8th chapter of Esther, and the shortest verse is the 35th of the 11th chapter of John. Every letter of the alphabet except “j,” will be found in the 21st verse of Ezra 7. “God” is not mentioned in the book of Esther.

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“The Bible is an anvil that has worn out many hammers.”

Tract 13 38

NEW YORK CITY AND THE NEW JERUSALEM

View for a moment New York City, the peer of Western metropolises! —

Its present population is 7,454,995 and total area is 327 1/2 square miles, including Water surface; while land surface alone is 285 square miles.

Its highest structure is the Empire State Building, the tallest in the world. It stands a marvel for the sight of men, and a challenge to their awe. Its majestic tower rises in simple beauty to heights never before reached by mortal builders — 103 stories, or 1,250 feet, nearly a quarter of a mile of vertical distance! This loftiest of all human structures is half as high again as the Woolworth Building, and overtops the tip of the Chrysler Building by 204 feet, and shades the Eiffel Tower by 266 feet!

But see this great city’s pinnacled skyline and the structural splendor of its proudest edifice dwarf and fade away, as the eye beholds the New Jerusalem, the city of God, spreading and rising outward and upward beyond human ken, in unexpressible, prodigious, staggering proportions and magnificence, in wordless glory! —

“And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth:...twelve thousand furlongs.” Rev. 21:16.

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The city is 375 miles on each side, making a perfect square. Its area, therefore, is 140,625 square miles, or 90,000,000 acres, or 3,920,400,000,000 square feet — approximately 430 times greater than the area of New York City! Allowing 100 square feet to each person, or a space 10 feet square, the city would hold 39,204,000,000 persons, or nearly 20 times the population of the earth.

And “the length and the breadth and the height of it are equal” (Rev. 21:16) — 375 miles on each side, and 375 miles high, its soaring majesty rising to heights undreamt of by mortal mind!

And its walls (“an hundred and forty and four cubits,” or 216 feet high) are made of jasper, and “the city” of “pure gold, like unto clear glass.” Its twelve gates are “twelve pearls: every several gate... of one pearl.” And on them is written the names of the twelve tribes of the children of

Israel. And the street of the city is “pure gold, as it were transparent glass.”

The foundation of the wall of the city is “garnished with all manner of precious stones.”

Indeed is language beggared to describe the Holy City. Truly, “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.” 1 Cor. 2:9.

Tract 13 40

REPRESENTATIVE ACTIONS AND EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE ADVENT MOVEMENT

1831 First Sunday in August, William Miller preached his first sermon on the coming of Christ.

1840 March, William Miller gave his first course of lectures in Portland, Maine. They were attended by Ellen G. Harmon, later Mrs. E. G. White.

1844 Seventh-day Sabbath first brought to the attention of the Adventist people at Washington, New Hampshire, by Mrs. Rachel D. Preston, a Seventh-day Baptist, from the State of New York.

1845 Ellen G. Harmon given her first vision, on “The Travels of the Advent People to the Holy City.”

1846 James White married to Ellen Gould Harmon, August 30. Two-page leaflet by Mrs. E. G. White, entitled, “To the Remnant Scattered Abroad,” published.

1848 First general meeting of Sabbath keepers held at Rocky Hill, Connecticut, April 20, 21. Mrs. E. G. White had vision concerning the beginning of the publishing work.

1849 First four numbers of the publication entitled, Present Truth, printed at Middletown, Connecticut.

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First Testimony for the Church, addressed “To Those Who Are Receiving the Seal of the Living God.” Signed “E. G. White.”

1852 First number of the Advent Review and Sabbath Herald published at Rochester, New York. James White equipped the first printing office with money received in donations. Donations amounted to \$655.84. The cost of equipment was \$652.95. The first press bought was a Washington hand press. First number of the Youth’s Instructor appeared in August.

1853 First regular Sabbath Schools organized in Rochester and Buck’s Bridge, New York.

1854 First tent-meeting conducted by J. N. Loughborough and M. E. Cornell at Battle Creek, Michigan, June 10-12.

1860 The name Seventh-day Adventist adopted for the denomination October 1.

1861 Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association (now Review and Herald Publishing

Association) incorporated May 1. Churches first formally organized.

1863 General Conference organized at a meeting held in Battle Creek, Michigan, May 20-23. John Byington elected first president of the General Conference.

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1865 First health publication, "How to Live," published. Written and compiled by Mrs. E. G. White.

1866 Health Reform Institute (Battle Creek Sanitarium) opened for patients, September 5.

1872 First denominational school opened, June 3, at Battle Creek, Michigan. G. H. Bell in charge.

1874 The Seventh-day Adventist Educational Society incorporated on March 11. First number of the Signs of the Times issued. J. N. Andrews, first foreign missionary sailed from Boston, September 15.

1881 James White died at Battle Creek Michigan, August 6. (Born August 4, 1821.)

1888 The message of "Righteousness by Faith" presented to the Minneapolis Conference and rejected. 1889 National Religious Liberty Association organized July 21.

1900 The message of "Righteousness by Faith" finally rejected by both leadership and laity.

1903 Headquarters of the General Conference moved to Washington, D. C., August 10.

1915 Mrs. Ellen G. White died July 16, at St. Helena, California. (Born November 26, 1827.)

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CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE DAVIDIAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

1929 First Present Truth study given (Isa. 54) January 6.

1930 The truth of the 144,000 revealed February 1. The Shepherd's Rod, Vol. 1, manuscript, 33 copies, delivered to leading brethren of the S.D.A. denomination, in June. The Shepherd's Rod, Vol. 1, 5,000 copies, published December 4.

1931 First Shepherd's Rod, adherent excommunicated from S.D.A. church. First S.D.A. medical doctor accepted message in July. First tithe remittance received September 9.

1932 First trip made in interest of message, October. The Shepherd's Rod, Vol. 2, 5,000 copies, published October 2. First meeting held in public hall November 12.

1933 First believer to desert message. First worker sent into field February 14. Tract No. 1, First Edition, 3,000 copies, published August 24. First S.D.A. minister accepted message December 15.

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Tract No. 2, First Edition, 3,000 copies published December 29.

1934 Conference investigating committee met with V.T. Houteff February, 25. First convention held February 25 to March 12. Tract No. 3, First Edition, 5,000 copies published May 24. First issue of The Symbolic Code, published July 15. Tract No. 4, First Edition, 6,000 copies, published August 28.

1935 Tract No. 5, First Edition, 6,000 copies published May 16. Headquarters removed to Waco, Texas, May 24.

1936 Waco, Texas, S.D.A. church closed to Shepherd's Rod adherents in March. Tract No. 6, First Edition, 6,000 copies, published June 8. Tract No. 7, First Edition 6,000 copies, published June 8.

1937 Constitution and By-Laws of The Shepherd's Rod Seventh-day Adventists written. Tract No. 8, First Edition, 6,000 copies, published November 15.

1938 First European trip made, May 21.

1940 Tract No. 9, First Edition, 15,000 copies, published January 31. Tract No. 10, First Edition, 6,000 copies, published August 24.

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Tract No. 11, First Edition, 6,000 copies, published August 23.

1941 First Senior Sabbath School Lessons mailed. Flag of Christ's Kingdom designed in November. Tract No. 13, First Edition, 25,000 copies published December 10.

1942 Bible Teachers' (Correspondence) Course begun. Catalog-Syllabus and Rules-Manual, 5,070 copies, published November 28.

1943 Organization named "The General Association of Davidian Seventh-day Adventists." The Leviticus (Constitution and By-laws) of the Davidian Seventh-day Adventists 5,075 copies, published February 12. First Children's Davidian Sabbath School Lessons mailed (Kindergarten & Primary and Intermediate Divisions). Fundamental Beliefs and Directory of the Davidian Seventh-day Adventists, 5,100 copies, published March 4. Tract No. 14, First Edition, 35,095 copies published April 30. First Fellowship Certificates issued, along with Ministerial Credentials, June.

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Bequeathment Certificates first provided, September. 1944 The Answerer, Book One, 29,760 copies published in May. The Answerer, Book Two, 29,564 copies published in June. The Answerer, Book Three, 29,815 copies, published in July. The Answerer, Book Four, 30,000 copies, published in August. The Answerer, Book Five, 30,000 copies, published in December.

MT. CARMEL'S PROGRESS

1935 Site purchased, March 15. Removal of Office from Los Angeles, May 17. Arrival of first

newcomers, May 24. First building occupied in September. First death, December 2. First Office Building erected. First dormitory erected (Building No. 4).

1936 International Mercantile Assn. organized, March. Telephone system installed June. Mt. Carmel Academy opened, September. Dam No. 1 built.

1937 First marriage solemnized, January 1. Foundation laid for dam of Lake Meribah (Dam No. 2), April 7. Peach Orchard No. 1 planted, February and March.

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Water storage tank completed, November. Water pump and windmill installed.

1938 Bank of Palestina organized January 1. City electric power delivered Sept. 10. Mt. Carmel script put into circulation, February . First double wedding ceremony performed May 27. King's Highway cut through.

1939 First commemoration of annual history review, October 25 — The Day of Days. First child born, October 26.

1940 Administration building completed and Office removed there, January 21. Sound system installed. Cafeteria service inaugurated, April 10.

1941 Public Lavatories and showers erected.

1942 Roads cut through hills of Mt. Carmel.

1943 The name Davidic-Levitical Institute adopted. Domestic Science Building begun.

1944 First Sanitarium Unit built. Filling Station installed. First issue of internal organ, The Trumpeter, distributed April 7.

Tract 13 48

COINING DAYLIGHT INTO DOLLARS

PICTURE

Just think what it means to turn the hands of time forward for an hour across a whole continent! That is exactly what Uncle Sam did at 2 A.M. on the second Monday in February, 1942. And presto! As if by magic, our whole great nation of approximately 132,000,000 people changed the order of their lives. Perhaps you have found it a little hard sometimes to get up an hour earlier than usual, but just think of getting a large proportion of 132,000,000 people out of bed an hour earlier, beginning on a certain day. This is just what our Government did with its Daylight Saving Law in 1918, and again in 1942. Without a hitch, without the slightest confusion or disturbance, the whole machinery of life and business began moving on the new schedule and literally, "coining daylight into dollars." It had previously been found that the restriction by government order of the use of electrical display signs to certain hours amounted to a saving of 8,000 tons of coal per month, or over 400,000 tons per year. Under the Daylight Saving Law the decreased use of

artificial light in homes and public places meant an annual saving in coal alone of several million tons: while the total economy, including the saving of oil used in lamps and the manufacture of gas in 1918 was estimated by the President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at \$25,000,000. The law covered the six months from March to October. Opposition of the farmers who found it impractical in connection with farm help caused its repeal in 1919.— Adapted from The New Student's Reference Work.

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COINING DAYLIGHT INTO DOLLARS (Cont'd)

Here is seen what national organization and economy can do for the nation collectively and individually. Equally careful domestic organization and economy will do the same for the home and for every member of

it. Organize, and stop every leak! Waste not God's gifts — your time, your energy, your means: Let "every unforgiving moment" give "sixty seconds worth of distance run"; every movement, fullest accomplishment; and every cent, fullest good.

Make the very most of your every privilege and opportunity, and remember that the scattered crumbs when gathered make "basketfulls."

"He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough." Prov. 28:19.

"Go to the ant,...consider her ways, and be wise: which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest...a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep" (Prov. 6:6-11), brings poverty and want.

Tract 13 50

UNCLE SAM AND HIS STANDARD TIME

PICTURE

This picture shows how the Government helps people keep their clocks and watches uniform all over our country and on the ships at sea. The official clocks at Washington are regulated from observations taken every clear night of the position of certain stars, and on the following day at noon the time by these clocks is sent out .— The New Student's Reference Work.

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PICTURE

As you see from the diagram, noon or 12 o'clock, is immediately below the Sun, according to Sun Time, but if it were left to people's individual judgments, east or west of these points, as to the time of the day, there would be much confusion, which would often lead to disaster, as in the running of railroad trains. So Uncle Sam divides the country into four sections and arbitrarily fixes

how far on either side of given meridians the time indicated by the Sun at those meridians shall extend. For example, the section on the West Coast takes its time from the 120th meridian; the section of the Rocky Mountain States from the 90th meridian; the Eastern States from the 75th meridian. This is called Standard Time, and differs from Sun Times at all points east and west of these established meridians.

Tract 13 52

U.S. STANDARD TIME DIVISIONS PICTURE

Tract 13 53
PICTURE

Tract 13 54

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

The LONGEST RIVER in the world, the Mississippi-Missouri, is 4,200 miles long. The River Nile is second — 4,000 miles long.

Mount Everest, the HIGHEST PEAK in the world, rises to a height of 29,000 feet above sea level, a distance of approximately five and a half miles. It is located in the Himalaya range on the frontiers of Tibet and Nepal, north of British India.

LIGHT travels at the rate of 186,000 miles a second.

SOUND varies, traveling faster in liquids than in gases, and still faster in solids. Air transmits sound at a rate of about 1,100 feet per second, but varies slightly with the temperature of the atmosphere. Sound

transmitted through warm water travels between 4,700 and 4,800 feet per second. Through the medium of glass, steel or iron, sound travels at about 16,500 feet per second.

At the equator, the RADIUS of the earth is 3,963,399 miles; at the poles 3,949,992 miles, a difference of 13,407 miles.

The mean distance from the earth to the SUN is 92,900,000 miles. The mean distance from the earth to the MOON is 238,854 miles.

Tract 13 55

At the beginning of World War II, there were 30 SOVEREIGN RULERS reigning in their own countries. In May, 1944, only 18 remained in actual reign in their own countries, not in exile or in subjection to another nation. (See Tract No. 12, The World Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, p. 66.)

WORLD WAR I began on July 28, 1914, and ended with an armistice November 11, 1918, lasting 1567 days.

WORLD WAR II, began September 1, 1939, passed its 1567th day on December 15, 1943, and

entered its 1889th day on November 1, 1944. So World War II has become the longest in history, and it has already cost more in blood and human misery and national wealth than the catastrophe of 1914-1918.

BUSINESS LAWS

PRINCIPALS are responsible for the acts of their agents.

WRITTEN CONTRACTS CONCERNING LAND must be under seal.

NOTES do not bear INTEREST unless it is so stated.

IF A NOTE IS LOST OR STOLEN, the maker is not released if the consideration and amount can be proved.

DEMAND NOTES are payable when presented without grace, and bear legal interest after a demand, if not so written.

Tract 13 56

AN ENDORSER ON A DEMAND NOTE can be held only for a limited time, variable in different States .

TO BE NEGOTIABLE A NOTE must either be made payable to bearer or be properly endorsed by the person to whose order it is made.

IF THE ENDORSER desires to avoid responsibility, he can endorse "without recourse."

NOTES BECOMING DUE ON SUNDAY or a legal holiday are, as a rule, payable on the day following. IF A NOTE IS ALTERED in any way by the holder it becomes void.

A NOTE MADE BY A MINOR is void in some States and is voidable on judicial decision in others.

A CONTRACT WITH A MINOR OR A LUNATIC is void.

IF A NOTE IS NOT PAID WHEN DUE, the endorsers, if any, should be legally notified to be holden. A NOTE OBTAINED BY FRAUD or given by an intoxicated person cannot be collected.

IT IS A FRAUD to conceal a fraud.

SIGNATURES WITH A LEAD PENCIL are legal in law.

THE ACTS OF ONE PARTNER bind the others.

Each individual in a PARTNERSHIP is responsible for all the debts of the firm except in the case of a special partnership.

Tract 13 57

The word "LIMITED" in connection with firm names indicates a limitation of responsibility for each member.

AN AGREEMENT without consideration of the value is void.

"VALUE RECEIVED" should be written in a note, but it is not necessary. When not written, it is

presumed by law or may be shown by proof.

A CONSIDERATION is not sufficient in law if it is illegal in its nature.

AN ENDORSER OF A NOTE is exempt from liability if not served with a notice of its dishonor within 24 hours of its non-payment.

A RECEIPT FOR MONEY is not legally conclusive.

THAT YOUR JOY BE FULL

And now, if you have enjoyed, appreciated, and profited by this Gift, and if you desire to keep pace with the progress of the Truth, the publishers of this booklet will as a Christian service send, upon request, an additional GIFT — a series of Present Truth publications, consisting of twenty-one booklets, and aggregating 1,682 pages, fully illustrated. It levies but one exaction — the soul's obligation to itself to prove all things and hold fast that which is good.

Tract 13 58