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# The Fight of Faith

D. A. Sommer

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### Recommended Citation

Sommer, D. A., "The Fight of Faith" (1942). *Stone-Campbell Books*. 367.  
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# MACEDONIAN CALL

"Come over into Macedonia and help us"—(Acts 16:9)

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Vol. 17

Indianapolis, Ind., May, 1942

No. 5

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MACEDONIAN CALL, published monthly by D. A. Sommer, 918 Congress Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. Price \$1 a year. Entered as second class matter May 1, 1936, at the post office at Indianapolis, Ind., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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# The Fight of Faith

To Soldiers—FREE—How Many?

To Others—30 for \$1 bill at our risk

(To cover postage and wrapping)

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D. A. SOMMER

918 Congress Ave.

Indianapolis, Ind.

## Why Do We Have Wars?

And confusion and strife and pain and sorrow? Did God ordain all this? If it comes as a result of sin, why did not God make us so that we could not sin? Milton explains, "Not free, what proof could he [man] have given sincere of true allegiance, constant faith or love, where only what he needs must do appeared, not what he would? What praise could he receive?"

God made man to Struggle; and when he ceases to Struggle, he ceases to grow. This is true of him physically, mentally, morally, spiritually. When one neglects to take bodily exercise, his frame becomes weak, he becomes "soft". When he ceases to study, he becomes "rusty" and his intellect fails to act as it once did. When he morally gives way to the passions of the flesh, he becomes a wreck in many ways. And when he neglects to fight evils, he falls into spiritual decay and hopelessness.

God has ordained that if people as a nation refuse to Struggle against evils, they become weak and become a prey to designing and irresponsible men within, and fall into the hands of other nations which have Struggled more than they in vital things.

The great United States of America has hardly felt the world's grief yet, but God is bringing it to us, too, for it is evident we have largely ceased from Struggling for higher things. And when we all shall have been brought back from "softness" to hardness, from sleeping to Struggling, from selfishness to love of one's neighbor as one's self—then God will turn, we think, and punish him who has no regard for human rights. The effort we all put forth to destroy the arch-treaty-breaker of the ages, will help bring us back from our moral weakness to greater justice, truth, righteousness and mercy—from a love of self to a love of the Whole.

And so, our tears and the world's tears are not in vain, nor our sorrow wasted, for "by sadness of the countenance is the heart made better," and "they that sow in tears shall reap in joy."

## **"There Is No God"**

One starry night Napoleon was pacing the deck of a warship, when he heard a group of his generals discussing whether there is a God. Stopping, the great warrior pointed up to the stars and said, "Men, if there is no God, who made all these?"

And so we ask, If there is no Intelligent Being back of the universe, whence came it? Think of the earth and the order and system in all things in it. Think of the solar system, and the exactness in all the movements of the planets—such exactness that when astronomers observed an aberration they turned their telescopes to the point in the heavens where the power must be located and there found another planet.

Think of our Milky Way with its countless stars portrayed on the sensitive photographic plate. Consider the innumerable systems like ours seen only through the 100-inch glass on Mt. Wilson. "The heavens declare the glory of God," and only "the fool hath said in his heart there is no God."

You can not have design without a Designer. You can not have motion without a Mover.

When a man says there is no God, he makes a god of himself, for in order to say that he must be able to be in all the parts of the universe **at the same time**, for otherwise God might be somewhere that he is not; and if the atheist could do that, he would have to be a god himself.

## **Why Do We Say There Is ONE God?**

The deist says, "Yes, I believe in ONE God, but I do not believe the Bible is the Word of God."

But where did he get the idea of ONE God? He did not get it from nature. Nature declares the "glory" of a Supreme Being, but does not tell us how many there are. If it did, why did it not tell the Romans and Greeks and Babylonians and ancient Indians and Chinese that there is ONE God?

There are some intimations in the traditions of some of the ancient nations that at one time they

considered there was one God, and this was probably handed down from the beginning. The only explanation of the idea of ONE God in the world is that God revealed himself in the beginning to his people, and it has come from that and from following revelations. The Bible is the original Book which teaches there is ONE God; from that the belief has spread through the world.

The deist has received his knowledge of ONE God from the Bible, and yet he wishes to throw the Bible aside. He is like a man who builds a house on a foundation and then tries to knock the foundation away.



### The Bible Outside the Bible

Look at this picture long and carefully. There is a man and a woman and a fruit tree and they are reaching for the fruit. Behind the woman is a serpent. This picture is taken from an ancient Babylonian seal in the British Museum. Scholars tell us it could refer to nothing but the temptation and fall.

Lenormant, the great French archaeologist, said: "We find in ALL mythologies a **gigantic serpent**, personifying the nocturnal, hostile power, the evil principle, material darkness and moral wickedness."

Jastrow, "Professor of Semitic Languages in the University of Pennsylvania," and no friend to the in-

spiration of the Bible, says this, in his "Hebrew and Babylonian Traditions", p. 51: "We owe to J. C. Frazer the collection of a large number of stories among Australian tribes and elsewhere, all of which are told to account for the presence of death in the world; and **in many cases the eating of some food is introduced into these tales as the cause of death.**"

A. H. Sayce, of "Queen's College, Oxford", in his "Higher Criticism and the Verdict of the Monuments," says, pp. 74, 75: "The Sabbath-rest was a Babylonian, as well as a Hebrew institution. . . . We find notice of **the week of seven days** among them. Each day of the week was consecrated to one of the seven planets or planetary divinities."

An Assyrian tablet, in a broken condition, tells of a day of creation, and it is much like what we have in Genesis. George Smith, "formerly of the Department of Oriental Antiques, British Museum," says this regarding it, in his "Chaldean Account of Genesis", p. 67: "It would seem that the events of each of the days of Genesis were recorded on a separate tablet, and that the numbers of the tablets generally followed in the same order as the days of Creation in Genesis." He also says: "As in Genesis, so in these cuneiform tablets, the Creator is made to speak and to address the objects which he calls into existence."

One broken Babylonian tablet, dated 2170 B. C., (before the days of Abraham), tells of long-lived rulers (up to 900 and even 1200 years), with names similar to those of the long-lived patriarchs mentioned in Genesis. Of one of them it is said, "who ascended to heaven," referring it seems to Enoch.

There are several Babylonian and Assyrian tablets telling of the flood, and it is remarkable how closely some of them tally with the biblical account. Practically all nations have a tradition that at one time there was a great flood which destroyed mankind.

A broken tablet mentioned by George Smith, gives an account very similar to the story of the Tower of Babel.

The only reasonable explanation we can give of these ancient stories, and many others we should like



to adduce, is that they tell events as they had been, and have been handed down by tradition OUTSIDE the Bible.

## **The Bible Itself Is a Miracle**

It is inconceivable to me that God would make man, then leave him to flounder regarding his origin, duty and destiny, and would not reveal Himself to him. The fact that there are false religions and revelations, only proves that there must be a genuine somewhere, just as a counterfeit dollar proves there is a genuine. A great religious teacher once said that he could take Isaiah 53rd chapter and confute any infidel in the world, for it portrays in detail the life, sacrifice and death of the Savior, hundreds of years before he lived. Isaiah must have been inspired.

The Unity in the Bible shows its divine origin. In the Bible there is one great nation, one great Person, and one great thought, permeating the whole. That nation is the ancestors of Christ, that Person is Christ himself, that thought is the salvation he brings to the world. Intimations, types, and direct prophecies in the Old Testament point to a happier day, when the Messiah would come. The animal sacrifices were ordained to point to the "Lamb of God who was to take away the sin of the world." Everything in the Old Testament, directly or indirectly, points to Christ, and everything in the New Testament directly or indirectly points back to Christ.

The Bible was written by about forty different men in different ages of the world, and their writings were brought together little by little through about 1500 years. And when they are completed, they form a systematic whole, with one nation and one Person and one thought brought out pre-eminently through it. Was this a mere accident? There is nothing like it anywhere in the other religious literature.

If you were to pass by a field and throw a stone into it, and another man would come along and throw a stone into that field, and another would do the same; and after thousands had done that, if you would find

that all those stones have fallen into place and there is a stone house there—what would you think? You would say that could not be without a miracle. So it is with the Bible. It is easier to believe that there was a Divine Mind behind those men who wrote the Bible than to believe it is the work of mere man.

If we treat it as the revelation of God, we have lost nothing; but if we treat it as a mere human deception and it turns out to be Divine, we have lost everything, and that for eternity.

## War In Heaven

If Satan is only a personification of evil, then God must be also only a personification of good. We can't believe either. Note these scriptures:

"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven." (Rev. 12:7-9.)

"God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment." (2 Peter 2:4.)

"The angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." (Jude 6.)

"A bishop then must be . . . not a novice, lest being lifted up with **pride** he fall into the condemnation of the devil." (1 Timothy 3:6.)

"Then shall he say also unto them on his left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, **prepared for the devil and his angels.**" (Jesus in Matthew 25:41.)

From these scriptures it is evident that God placed Beelzebub and the angels under him on trial, they were lifted with pride, would not stay where God placed them, wished more authority, and raised rebellion in heaven, and were then cast out.



## Treachery of the Enemy

"I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his **subtilty** [craftiness] so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." "Satan himself is **transformed into an angel of light.**" (2 Cor. 11:3, 14.)

"Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the **wiles** of the devil." (Eph. 6:11.)

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed . . . even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and **lying wonders**, and with all **deceivableness** of unrighteousness." (2 Thess. 2:8-10.)

"Ye are of your father, the devil . . . He is a **liar** and the father of it." (John 8:44.)

"The devil that **deceived** them [the nations] was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone . . . and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." (Rev. 20:10.)

## No Neutrality—We Must Enlist

This fight is between God and Satan, Good and Bad, Sin and Righteousness. The earth is the Lord's but Satan through lies and deception has conquered most of it. He is called "the prince of this world", and the "god of this world".

"**Choose you this day whom you will serve.** . . . As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15.)

"How long halt ye between two opinions? **If the Lord be God, follow him;** but if Baal, then follow him." (1 Kings 18:21.)

"**He that is not with me is against me.**" (Matt. 12:30.)

"**Except** a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he **cannot** enter into the kingdom of heaven." (John 3:5.)

"Sure I must fight if I would reign,  
Increase my courage, Lord."

## The War in Three Different Ages of Religion

Listen, reader. Much confusion is in the Christian world because teachers have not clearly shown the difference in these Ages.

The Patriarchal Age of Religion began with Adam and continued to the Law of Moses—that is, so far as the Jews were concerned, but with the Gentiles it continued. In it there was a Family Religion, in which the father (pater) was chief (arch), and was priest to offer the sacrifice.

The Jewish Age of Religion began with the giving of the law through Moses, and was a national Religion. No longer could a father offer his own sacrifice—he must take it to the priest at the tabernacle, and later to the temple, and have the priests of the tribe of Levi offer it for him. Once when King Saul went ahead and offered a sacrifice as Abraham did back in the Patriarchal Age of Religion, he was rejected from being king. (See 1 Samuel 13:11-14.) Whatever there was in the Patriarchal system which God wished the Jewish people to keep, he put it into the Jewish system.

The Christian Age of Religion did not begin its separate existence when John the Baptist began to preach. Christ was born under and lived under the Jewish law. He said to Peter, "Upon this rock I WILL build my Church." (Matt. 16:18.) Colossians 2:14 says of the Jewish system, Christ "took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." The Church was established on the day of Pentecost." (Acts 2.)

Whatever there was in the Jewish system which God wished us to keep, he put it into the Christian system. There are many moral truths which are the same in all Ages, yet our manner of worship must be dictated by the Age in which we live. The plan of salvation to the Gentile is not in the Old Testament. They offered sacrifices, practiced polygamy and did many things we can't do, because we are under the Christian system, not the Jewish. When Christians tried to justify themselves by the law, Paul said: "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." (Galatians 5:4.)

## Our Captain Is a King

God made Christ a King to retake this world for Him. Before he ascended to heaven, Jesus said, "All power [authority] is given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and **teach** all nations." (Matt. 28:18, 19.) Jesus "is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him." (1 Peter 3:22.)

He sent the apostles the Holy Spirit to "guide them into all the truth." Later Peter could say: "His divine power hath given unto us **all** things that pertain unto life and godliness." (2 Peter 1:3.) So the writings of these inspired men constitute a complete system. So much so, that John could say of Revelation, and the same would apply to the writings of other apostles: "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." (Rev. 22:18, 19.)

## How to Enlist

To enlist in the army of the U. S. A., we must **not only believe** in the Constitution, but we must be examined and swear loyalty to it, etc. And so to enlist in the Army of the Lord, we must **not only believe** in Christ as the Son of God, but must repent of our sins, confess Him as God's Son, and be baptized. To take **less** than what God says on Enlistment, is to bring the Woe of God upon us.

"And he said unto them, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that **believeth and is baptized** shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:15, 16.)

"**Repent and be baptized**, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." (Acts 2:38.)

"John also was baptizing in Aenon, near to Salim, because there was **much water** there." (John 3:23.)

"We are **buried** with him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness** of life." (Rom. 6:4.)

"A man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority . . . was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. . . . Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, if thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.** And he commanded the chariot to stand still; and they both **went down into** the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were **come up out of** the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more. And he went on his way **rejoicing.**" (Acts 8:26-40.)

Am I a soldier of the Cross,  
A follower of the Lamb?

## **No Fraternizing with the Enemy**

This is God's earth but the devil through treachery and deception has conquered most of it and has become "the prince of this world," "the god of this world." Christians are only "strangers and pilgrims on the earth," with their citizenship in heaven. Christian soldiers must fight "the flesh".

"The works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness [lustfulness], idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wraths, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and **such like**; of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**" (Galatians 5:19-21.)

"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 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.**" (1 John 2:15, 16.)

"Know ye not that the **friendship of the world** is enmity with God? **Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**" (James 4:4.)

It is dangerous to fraternize with the world: "For this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie, that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but **had pleasure in unrighteousness.**" (2 Thess. 2:11, 12.)

I'm but a stranger here,  
Heaven is my home.



## Talking to the Commander-in-Chief

Boys, girls, these are your old father's hands, praying for you as you go out into the world. They represent, too, your old mother's hands in petition for you at the throne of grace. Our Captain often withdrew from the multitudes and prayed to his Father, and



Christian soldiers are commanded to "pray for one another," and to "pray without ceasing." Daniel prayed three times a day, though he risked his life in doing it.

Jesus said: "Men ought always to pray and not to faint," and "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation."

When the alien sinner wishes to know what to do to receive the forgiveness of sins, he is commanded to "repent and be baptized for the remission of sins," (Acts 2:38); and when the erring Christian wishes to receive remission, he is commanded, "**Repent** therefore of this thy wickedness, and **pray God**, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee." (Acts 8:22.)

By reading the Scriptures, God talks to us; and by praying we talk to God. Day by day there should be this communion with our Maker.

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

### "Make Me a Captain"

"And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying: Master . . . Grant unto us that we may sit, one on the right hand, and the other on the left, in thy glory." (Mark 10:35, 37.)

This love of pre-eminence is one of the causes of the world's woes. Hitler is filled with it, Mussolini is obsessed with it, Diotrefes loved it, and in all ranks of society millions are dominated by it. It crushes nations, separates peoples, divides families, disrupts societies, and rends churches to pieces.

But Christian soldiers are commanded always to be "disciples", learners, submitting "one to another in the fear of God," "in honor preferring one another."

Jesus showed James and John that greatness in the kingdom was not in position but in **service**.



"But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But **so shall it NOT be among you**; but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister; and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, **shall be servant of all**. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:38-45.)

Dear Lord, help us to crucify ourselves and our personal ambitions and to live only to glorify Thee and to serve our fellowmen.

### **Christian Soldiers Must Endure**

"Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." (2 Tim. 2:3.)

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus. . . .

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal." (2 Cor. 4:8-18.)

"Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matt. 10:28.)

"Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven, for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." (Matt. 5:12, 12.)

"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28.)

Must I be carried to the skies  
On flowery beds of ease?  
While others fought to win the prize,  
And sailed through bloody seas?

## What Are We Fighting For?

Not for the religion of our fathers, nor of our mothers, nor of this great man, nor of that good woman, unless their religion happens to be that one taught in the New Testament.

Not for the doctrines and commandments of men, for Jesus said, "In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Matt. 15:9.)

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should **earnestly contend for the faith which was once** [Revised—**once for all**] delivered unto the saints." (Jude 3.)

"I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." (Romans 1:16.)

"I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety [craftiness] so your minds should be corrupted from **the simplicity that is in Christ.**" (2 Cor. 11:3.)

"Fight **the good fight of faith**, lay hold on eternal life." (1 Tim. 6:12.)

## Organization of the Army

Jesus Christ is Captain and King in the Army. All authority was given to him in heaven and earth. When he ascended, he went "into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him." (1 Peter 3:

22.) From his throne he sent the Holy Spirit upon the apostles to guide them into all truth, and their writings are still guiding the Army.

When the inspired men died, the officers left to carry the Army through the ages are the Elders, called also Bishops, and the Deacons. Evangelists worked here and there making converts and setting things in order, but they were not officers, and were evidently under the bishops of the flock where they were members.

In 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, we have the qualifications of these Bishops and Deacons given. Each local church with scriptural Bishops and Deacons was complete in itself to do all the work of the Lord and take care of itself, and no other person or church had any jurisdiction over it.

In England they are now developing soldiers to meet any emergency. These men are named "commandos", and make raids on the enemy, and obtain information, and possibly establish outposts against the enemy. Every Christian soldier should be a Christian "commando", developing himself to answer all questions the enemy may put, teach him the right way of the Lord, take his confession if he believes that Christ is the Son of God, and baptizing him if he wishes to enlist. Our faith in the Captain should stir all of us to train ourselves for this service for Him, in his conquest of the world.

God knew the love of man for power and so he curbed that all he could in his Army. In Acts 20:17, 18, Paul calls "elders" "overseers" (bishops, in Revised); and in Acts 14:23, it shows there was a plurality of these "bishops" in every church, when they had the qualified men. In apostolic days, there were **several** bishops for **each** church, but in these modern days there are **several** churches for **each** bishop. Thus has man turned the divine system upside down in order to gain power. The highest position one can occupy in the Church of Christ of the New Testament pattern is to be one of **several** bishops in **one** local church. Thus does God try to curb man's ambition.

**Every** Christian should be a worker for Christ, and every faithful man has as much right as any one else to preach, baptize, wait on the Lord's table, etc.

To establish **human organizations** to do missionary work, or aid work, or Bible teaching work, or any other work of the divine organization, the church, is to go contrary to the scriptures which says "there is **one** Body," the Church. (Eph. 4:4; Col. 1:18); and, "Unto him [God] be glory **in the Church** by Jesus Christ throughout all ages, world without end." (Eph. 3:21.)

### **Discipline in the Army**

"**Correction** is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way, and he that hateth reproof shall die." (Prov. 15:10.)

"He that **spareth his rod** hateth his son, but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." (Prov. 13:24.)

"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child, but the **rod of correction** shall drive it far from him." (Prov. 22:15.)

"Chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and **despise government**. Presumptuous are they, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries." (2 Peter 2:10.) "Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, **despise dominion** [government] and speak evil of dignities." (Jude 8.)

"Children **obey your parents in the Lord**, for this is right. Honor thy father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long on the earth. And ye, fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but **bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**"

"**Submitting yourselves one to another in love. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands**, as unto the Lord. . . . **Husbands, love your wives**, even as Christ loved the church, and gave himself for it. . . . **Servants, [workers] be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh. . . . And ye masters [employers] do the same things unto them,**

forbearing threatening, knowing that your Master also is in heaven, neither is there respect of persons with him." (Eph 5:21-6:9.)

"Let every soul be **subject unto the higher powers** [civil governments]. For there is no power but of God. The powers that be are ordained of God." (Rom. 13:1-7.)

"**Obey** them [elders] that have the rule over you, and **submit yourselves**, for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief, for that is unprofitable for you." (Heb. 13:17.)

"Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye **withdraw yourselves** from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which ye have received from us." (2 Thess. 3:6.)

"It is reported commonly that there is **fornication** among you. . . . In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of the Lord Jesus, to deliver such an one unto Satan **for the destruction of the flesh**, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. . . . **Therefore put away from among yourselves** that wicked person." (1 Cor. 5.)

"A man that is an **heretic** after the first and second admonition **reject**." (Titus 3:10.)

"Likewise, ye **younger, submit yourselves** unto the elder [older ones]. Yea, **all of you be subject one to another**, and be clothed with humility; for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." (1 Peter 5:5.)

"**Submit yourselves therefore to God**." (James 4:7.)

### **Captain Paul's Charge to Timothy**

"I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead, at his appearing and his kingdom, preach the word. Be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. For the



time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears. And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." (2 Tim. 4:1-8.)

### **The Enemy Shall be "Cut Down."**

**"Fret not thyself** because of evil doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be **cut down** like the grass, and wither as the green herb. **Trust in the Lord** and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. **Delight thyself** also in the Lord; and he shall give the desires of thine heart. . . .

**"Rest in the Lord** and wait patiently for him; **fret not thyself** because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; **fret not thyself** in any wise to do evil. **For evil doers shall be cut off;** but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

**"For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be;** yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. . . .

**"A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.** For **the arms of the wicked shall be broken,** but the Lord upholdeth the righteous.

**"I have been young and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. . . .**



"I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet **he passed away**, and lo, he was not; yea, I sought him, but he could not be found. Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace." (Psalm 37.)

## Divisions in the Army

Christ prayed for his disciples that "they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us, **that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.**" (John 17:20, 21.) And yet we are divided. Why?

The Bible is not composed of classified laws, but God's teaching is scattered through biography, history, epistles, prophecy. Here are two reasons why we are divided:

1. **Professed Christians are divided because when studying the Scriptures, they sometimes take LESS than what God says.** For instance, many people say that we are saved by **faith alone**, inasmuch as Paul commanded the Philippian jailor, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." (Acts 16:31.) The first thing, of course, which this heathen must do was to believe. But they never quote the rest of the connection which says, "They spake unto him **the word of the Lord**, and to all that were in his house. And he [the jailor] took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and **was baptized**, he and all his, **straightway.**" Take all of Acts of Apostles, and bringing all the cases of conversion together we find that they not only believed, but repented, confessed Christ, and were baptized. Division is caused by taking **less** than what God says.

2. **But most divisions are caused by taking MORE than what God says; that is, by bringing in things not mentioned in the Bible.** Conventions of uninspired men making laws, infant baptism, sprinkling or pouring for baptism, societies to do work of the Church, instrumental music in worship, entertainments to raise money, one preacher as pastor of a local church instead of elders, etc., etc.—these things are causing division

among professed Christians, and none of them was practiced by apostolic Christians.

How blessed and joyous will be the glad day  
When all of God's people are one.

## All Soldiers to Talk War

"Go ye therefore and **teach all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; **teaching them** to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded, you." (Matt. 28:19, 20.)

"They that were scattered abroad went everywhere **preaching** the Word." (Acts 8:4.)

"And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but **bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**" (Eph. 6:4.)

"When for [by reason of] the time ye [brethren in general] **ought to be teachers** ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God." (Heb. 5:12.)

"The aged women likewise . . . that **they may teach the young women.**" (Titus 2:3, 4.)

"Be ready always to **give answer to every man that asketh you, a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.**" (1 Peter 3:15.)

"The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, **the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also.**" (2 Tim. 2:2.)

We can never accomplish much by mere defensive warfare—we **must engage in strong OFFENSIVE warfare if we would win the world for Christ.**

There's a call comes ringing o'er the restless wave,  
There are souls to rescue, there are souls to save,  
Send the light, send the light.

## "Gathered Together in My Name"

The wise new prudence from the wise acquire,  
And one brave hero fans another's fire.

Soldiers should encourage each other. We should find others of "like precious faith with us," (2 Peter

1:1), and meet with them and pray and sing together, and edify one another. We can reason together, though should not "argue". "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matt. 18:20.)

Yes, two or three can have the worship of God without any so-called preacher. The worship is simple: "They continued steadfastly in the apostles' **doctrine** [teaching] and **fellowship** [partnership, contribution], and in **breaking of bread and prayers.**" (Acts 2:42.) "Speaking to yourselves in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, **singing** and making melody in your heart to the Lord." (Eph. 5:19.) "Upon the first day of the week **let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him.**" (1 Cor. 16:1, 2.) "Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto [discoursed with—Revised] them." (Acts 20:7.) "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is." (Heb. 10:25.)

From these scriptures it is evident that the worship on the first day of the week consisted of Teaching, Praying, Singing, Giving, and Observing of the Lord's Supper. When a group of disciples is permanently located and elders have been appointed, these officers can look after this worship, the brethren working with him. According to 1 Corinthians 14:26, several brethren took part in the worship. They had no one-man preacher-pastor in the New Testament times to do the whole thing for them.

Safely through another week.

God has brought us on our way.

## **All Christians Are First Aid-ers**

### **Physically—**

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (James 2:8.)

"Do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." (Gal. 6:10.)

"And a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was; and when he saw him, he had compas-

sion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him." (Luke 10:30-37.)

"Dorcas . . . full of good works and almsdeeds which she did." (Acts 9:36.)

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1:27.)

"Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me." (Matt. 25:45.)

### **Spiritually—**

"We that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. . . . For even Christ pleased not himself." (Rom. 15:1, 3.)

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:1, 2.)

"Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins" [of the sinner]. (James 5:20.)

"They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." (Daniel 12:3.)

Some poor fainting, struggling seaman,  
You may rescue, you may save.

## **Our Captain Sympathizes with Us**

"In that **he himself hath suffered** being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted." (Heb. 2:17, 18.)

"We have not an high priest which can not be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but **was in all points tempted like as we**, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace,

that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Heb. 4:15, 16.)

"At my first answer [defense] no man stood with me, but all men forsook me; I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge. Notwithstanding **the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me . . .** and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion." (2 Tim. 4:16, 17.)

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come; nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us **from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**" (Rom. 8:35-39.)

Does Jesus care? I know he cares,  
His heart is touched with my grief.

## A Fight With Self

"God resisteth the **proud**, but giveth grace unto the humble." (James 4:6). "I keep under my body, and **bring it into subjection**; lest that by any means when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." (1 Cor. 9:27.) "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath." (Eph. 4:26.)

"The good that I would I do not; but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. . . . O wretched man that I am! **who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord.**" (Rom. 7:19-24.)

"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**, 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." "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." (Rev. 2:7; 3:5, 21.)

"This is the victory that **overcometh** the world, even **our faith**." (1 John 5:4.) "**Faith** cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Rom. 10:17.)

Yield not to temptation,  
For yielding is sin.

## Religious "Brass Hats"—The Clergy

Religiously, the "brass hats", or clergy, of India, is what has given that ancient people the most long-continued system of slavery, in the caste system, the world has ever seen. The clergy kept the people under through the Dark Ages, and are largely responsible for the ignorance of that period. Stagnation has been brought into Protestantism by the religious "brass hats". Young men are sent to the theological seminaries, Bible schools and colleges, and molded into the clergy for that group, and come out expecting to partake freely of the milk of the flock; and if they don't get as much milk as they wish, they flee from that needy flock to one which offers them a bigger salary. They never develop talent in the church for the eldership and for the mutual edification of the members, though in the Word brethren in general are commanded to "edify one another". They are afraid they might push themselves out of a feathered nest. In other words, they are hirelings.

Read closely this passage concerning the worship when "the whole church be come together into one place,"—"How is it then, brethren, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine [teaching], hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying." (1 Cor. 14:26.)

This shows that in what is evidently the most important meeting of the church (not some little side meeting), **several** brethren took public part, and that



they did not have the one-man preacher-pastor system which is almost universal today. Though these were inspired men, it shows God did not intend to center his worship entirely into the hands of one man.

Commenting on this passage Robert Young, whose Analytical Greek and Hebrew Concordance to the Bible is so highly prized in the Christian world, and who is the author of 30 or 40 standard works in the religious world, says this on the passage above, in his Concise Commentary of the Bible:

"From this and other passages it is clear that **the upbuilding of the Church was not confined then, as now, to one, or at most two, of the congregation, but WAS THE PRIVILEGE OF ALL THE MEMBERS,** and though such a practice is liable to abuse (James 3:2), it is possible that **its entire disuse now has led to still greater evils** obvious to all—'quenching the Spirit.' "

John Milton, perhaps the most famous Puritan of all time, wrote a tract against the whole clergy business, and says this on the passage quoted from Paul above (Christian Doctrine, Chapter 23):

"The custom of holding assemblies is to be maintained, not after the present mode, but according to the apostolic institution, which did not ordain that an individual, and he a stipendiary, [hireling], should have the sole right of speaking from a higher place, but that **each believer in turn should be authorized to speak, or prophesy, or teach, or exhort, according to his gifts;** insomuch that even the weakest among the brethren had the privilege of asking questions, and consulting the elders and more experienced members of the congregation. 1 Cor. 14:26, etc., 'when ye come together, every one of you,' " etc.

The Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia, an old standard work in the Christian world, says this under the heading "Clergy":

"It may be considered settled that there is no order of clergy, in the modern sense of the term, in the New Testament, i. e., there is no class of men mentioned to whom spiritual functions **exclusively** belonged. **Every believer is a priest unto God. Every believer has as much right as anybody else to pray, to preach, to**

**baptize, to administer communion.** (Rom 5:2; Eph. 2:19-22; 3:12; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 John 2:27; Rev. 1:6; 5:10, etc.)."

All of this is in harmony with Paul's command to a preacher, quoted above, (2 Tim. 2:2)—to develop "faithful men who shall be able to teach others." The greatest evil in the religious world is the Clergy, the religious "brass hats". We should make every Christian a "commando" soldier, qualified to meet any emergency in the great fight against Satan, and a failure to do this has had much to do with the stagnation now in Christendom.

All of this is in harmony, too, with what Jesus says: "Be **not** ye called Rabbi; for one is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren. And call **no man** your father upon the earth; for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called Masters, for one is your Master, even Christ. But he that is greatest among you shall be your **servant**. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." (Matt. 23:8-12.)

What would Jesus say now of the titles, "Reverend," "Father," "Doctor of Divinity," etc.?

## Danger in Delay

"Death bed repentance" is very doubtful, to say the least. The thief on the cross confessed Christ the first opportunity he had, it seems. The man who went into the vineyard the 11th hour, did work an hour before the day was done.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but **he that doeth** the will of my Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 7:21).

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a **living** sacrifice [not a dead one], holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Rom. 12:1.)

"It is appointed unto man **once to die**, but after this the judgment." (Heb. 9:27.) No second chance.

"And beside all this," said Abraham to the rich man after his death, "between us and you there is a great gulf **fixed**; so that they which would pass from hence to you **cannot, neither can they pass to us**, that would come from thence." (Luke 16:26.)

"He that is unjust, let him be unjust **still**; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy **still**; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous **still**; and he that is holy, let him be holy **still**." (Rev. 22:11.)

Life is the time to serve the Lord,  
The time t' insure the great reward.

### **Fifth Columnists, Deserters, and Their Fate**

"Beware of **false prophets** which come unto you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." (Matt. 7:15.)

"Whosoever shall **deny me** before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 10:33.)

"After my departing shall **grievous wolves** enter in among you, not sparing the flock." (Acts 20:29.)

"In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud . . . having a **form of godliness** but denying the power thereof." (2 Tim. 3:1-5.)

"If any man **draw back**, my soul shall have no pleasure in him." (Heb. 10:38.)

"He that despised Moses' law, died without mercy under two or three witnesses. Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God? . . . **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.**" (Heb. 10:28-31.)

"It is better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, **after they have known it, to turn** from the holy commandment delivered unto them." (2 Peter 2:21.)

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers and sorcerers, and idolators, and all liars, **shall have their part**

in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death." (Rev. 21:8.)

## Women Fifth Columnists

"At the window of my house I looked through the casement, and beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding, passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house. In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night; and behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart. . . .

"So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him . . . I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt. I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon. Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning. . . . With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, and with the flattering of her lips she forced him.

"He goeth after her straightway, **as an ox goeth to the slaughter**, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; **till a dart strike through his liver**; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life. . . .

"She hath cast down many wounded; yea, **many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to HELL, going down to the chambers of death.**" (Proverbs 7:6-27.)

## There Is No Defeat

"He that shall endure **unto the end, the same** shall be saved." (Matt. 24:13.)

"Be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as **ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.**" (1 Cor. 15:58.)

"**I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.**" (2 Tim. 1:12.)

"He must reign **till he hath put all enemies under his feet.** The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." (1 Cor. 15:25, 26.)

Thy saints in all this glorious war,  
Shall conquer, though they die.

## **Paul, the Greatest Soldier of the Cross**

"And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons. Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: \* \* \* And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. **But none of these things move me,** neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

"And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. \* \* \*

"I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20: 17-35.)

"Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have



been in the deep. In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren. In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Besides those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended and I burn not?" (2 Cor. 11:24-33.)

**"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."** (2 Tim. 4:7.)

## **Our Captain Is Coming Back**

"This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11.)

"The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the arch-angel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (1 Thess. 4:15-17.)

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. . . . Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." (2 Peter 3:10, 13.)

Don't be discouraged, fellow-soldier. Our Captain is coming back with power. Dictators may trample down many nations of the world, for the present. They may throw into concentration camps those who would worship God. They may crush political freedom, rob conquered nations of their life-sustaining bread, and may murder innocent hostages. They may



**They  
died  
to  
make  
men's  
spirits  
free**

trample in the dust all sacred treaties. But when God will have punished us for our sins, their day of reckoning will come in this world and the next.

Kingdoms may rise and fall. Republics may come into existence and pass out again. Peoples, once mighty, may be overcome and lost in the stream of humanity. But the Church of God goes on and will go on. Christ will reign till he puts all enemies under his feet, and then he will deliver up the Kingdom to the Father.

Crowns and thrones may perish,  
Kingdoms rise and wane,  
But the Church of Jesus,  
Constant doth remain.

Gates of hell can never,  
'Gainst that Church prevail,  
We have Christ's own promise,  
And that can not fail.

Onward, Christian soldiers!  
Marching as to war,  
With the Cross of Jesus,  
Going on before.



