

## BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Sunday, March 24th, 1918.

"THE WORLD HAS ENDED";  
MILLIONS NOW LIVING WILL NEVER DIE

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Introduction by Brother R.J.Martin:-- "This is a day of great things. First: This is a great audience; and then it is a great day. This is a great Country in which we are living. We are gathered here this afternoon to hear (discussed the "great" Bible question: "THE WORLD HAS ENDED; MILLIONS NOW LIVING WILL NEVER DIE." I heard some of the people as I was coming thru the audience remark one to the other: "Do you suppose that that subject means what it says; and can this man prove from the Bible that there are Millions of us now Living who will Never go into actual Death? We never heard a thing like that before." We have present with us this afternoon a great Bible Student who comes to us prepared with Bible convincing proof that there are millions now living that will never enter the grave.-- It gives me pleasure to introduce Hon.J.F.Rutherford: "--

For six thousand years sickness, sorrow, suffering and death have afflicted the human race. There has been just enough joy in life to increase the desire in man's heart for everlasting life in a state of perfection and happiness. Surely then, if a great, wise Creator planted that desire in the heart of man, He has made some provision to gratify that desire. It is my purpose on this occasion to prove to you that God has made such a provision and that there are millions now living who will never pass into death. This could not have been said a generation ago, but it can be said now because of the wonderful time in which we are privileged to live. I hold, my friends, that any man who lives for a selfish purpose lives in vain. In proportion as a man attempts to render good unto his fellow creatures, in that proportion he has lived to the glory of his great Creator. If he lives entirely for himself, then he has accomplished no good, except for self.

In this hour of great stress upon the human race, when sorrow fills millions of hearts, if I can call attention to some truths that will bring consolation to some sad hearts, that will enable them to get a clearer vision of God's wonderful provision for the blessing of the human race, I have accomplished my purpose. Before I begin my argument proper, I wish to state my position, that it may be so clear that no one may be in doubt as to where I stand.

I am not here for a selfish purpose. I am not here for money, nor for fame, nor honor amongst men. I am not here for the purpose of asking someone to join something. Such a course is entirely repugnant to my course in life. I never asked anyone to join an association in my life,

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and never expect to. I have been accused from the public platform and in the public press, instigated by those who speak from public platform, of being disloyal to the Government of the United States. There is not one word of truth in this charge, my friends. I am not against the Government. I recognize the Government of the United States as the best Government we have ever experienced, and I am glad that that is true. I recognize that it is the duty of every citizen to be obedient to the law. No Christian could be a wilful law breaker.

I have been accused also of proclaiming that which is "Hun propoganda", in the interests of the German people. To my mind that is entirely silly. No such thought ever entered my mind. I am not against the war. I have never uttered one sentence to the discredit of Government officials nor against the prosecution of the war by the nations. On the contrary, within three months after the war began in Europe, I delivered a public address in Washington D.C., at which time I stated that no power under heaven could keep the United States out of the war. At that time I was severely criticized for taking the position. I made the statement based upon the Divine prophecy that all the nations must be engaged in this great conflict either directly or indirectly, and, particularly the prominent ones. I made it because the Bible shows that 2500 years ago the Divine Mind, fore-knowing what would be the course and destiny of the human race, fore-told the great international conflict that is now upon the earth; for I am a Christian and for me to be against the war would be for me to be against my God. I could not do that.

I am not the slightest bit in sympathy with a class of men, or any man, who indulges in speech and criticism of our public officials. I recognize that the Government officials of America have a great load to carry, and they are doing the best they can. I recognize that it is the duty of every honest man, instead of criticizing, to do what he can conscientiously to help. Amongst all the rulers of this earth, the wisest of them all, in my opinion, the man who holds the highest ideals, the one who is striving to do the greatest amount of good for all mankind, is WOODROW WILSON, the President of the United States. (Applause)

I recognize, my friends, that in presenting the subject that I have come this afternoon to discuss I put myself in a position to receive the criticism of one class of man. Strange as it may seem, yet I expect to be criticised by them. And why? Because if the position that I take upon this question is correct, then the position that the clergymen take -- the majority of them -- is wholly untenable. I think the best man on this earth the one who holds the highest position amongst men that is not an elective office, is a true, honest, faithful preacher of God's Word of truth, the message of Christ Jesus. And yet, on the other hand, the man who poses before the people as a teacher of the Divine Word, who assumes the high office of a clergyman, and then leads the people into error, and away from the Bible, is a menace to Society. And I have the courage to say that is true, - not in vindictiveness but because I believe I should say it.

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I am for the common people. I am an enemy to no one. I have the kindest feeling to all. But I believe that, notwithstanding these gentlemen have taken occasion to take issue with me and have sought to persecute me from various standpoints, they and all people in due time will rejoice to know that the present unrighteous order will soon be supplanted by a time of blessing beyond the imagination of men. Who would not be glad to know that such a time is coming? If there are many people in this house this afternoon who could be convinced that they would live forever, in a state of happiness, live on the earth, be perfected in body and mind, live in peace and joy, what greater message of glad tidings could come to you than this? Surely there could not be any.

I propose to prove, then, if you will bear with me while I present the truth, that this is true. But before I do it I propose to prove another great question:

For nineteen hundred years Christian people of this earth have looked for the coming end of the world; they have prayed for its end to come; they have hoped that it might come; and some have hoped that they might live to see it come. But, my friends, the question has been so grossly misrepresented that the majority of people today do not want to know anything about it.

The great John Calvin, a good and wise man, taught that when the world would end the earth itself would be destroyed, being reduced to a homogenous mass of liquid fire, and keep on burning forever. I do not blame the people for wanting to hear little about that. Some clergymen still teach the same doctrine; but the majority of modern clergymen do not care to discuss the end of the world at all, because they say, it is too far distant to occupy our attention at this time. - But, my friends, when we get the real focus upon the question, when we understand it properly, the fear disappears and joy fills our hearts.

We are going to present this subject entirely from the Biblical standpoint; and, taking this as the foundation of our argument, we must come to the conclusion that the earth will never be destroyed. By the end of the world, we do not mean the end of the earth. There will never be a time when New York will cease to exist, there will never be a time when this city will be bereft of buildings; never a time when the State will be gone. But, on the contrary, the future holds blessings for us beyond the imagination of men. What, then do we mean by the end of the world? We answer that the word "world" as used in the Scriptures does not mean earth.. It means an order of society that prevails during a stated period of time. There was one world that passed away. When was that? From Adam until the great deluge. The Apostle Peter (2 Peter 3:4-7) described the world that then was; and then he described the world that existed from the Flood until this time. He said this world shall likewise pass away.

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It is not a question future, then, my friends, as to when the world shall end. That event has already taken place. We are passing now into the new order, and the great trouble that is upon the earth is but the forerunner of a better time to come. When sorrow fills the hearts of men, surely then it is a time for us to point to some blessed, some good thing for the human race, that we might cheer their hearts and make them glad.

When Jesus was upon this earth, He said, "My kingdom is not of this world." He did not say, "It is not of this earth." He taught His followers to pray, "Thy Kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven." He expected some time for the will of God to be done on earth. And when that is done, righteousness must prevail and evil must cease. Then, when He spoke of His Kingdom of the future, He meant that the order of things then prevailing must pass away and that a different power must rule. Then again He said that the God of this world, the one that rules invisible to man, yet in the hearts of men, is Satan, the great prince of the power of the air. He has blinded the minds of men lest the glorious light of the gospel of Jesus Christ should shine into their hearts; and that is why there has been for the past six thousand years, and is today, so much misunderstanding in the earth.

Your interest and my interest is identical. We all want to live. We want to know the truth; but if the great Adversary causes us to quarrel amongst ourselves we would be but little apt to understand the truth at all. I propose to enumerate fourteen different reasons why the world has ended: and, when proving this, show by the Scriptures that after the end of the world a new dispensation must come in, during which time, instead of sickness, sorrow and death afflicting the human-kind, the blessings will begin to come back until they return to life.

It was just five days before Jesus' crucifixion, as He sat out on the side of the Mount of Olives, that the disciples came to Him and asked Him the question, "Master, tell us, What shall be the proof of the end of the world?" That is Jesus' question; not mine. "What shall be the proof of the end of the world?" And Jesus answered the question. The question would not have been asked, neither would the answer have been given, if the Lord had not known that the world would end; and the fact that He stated it would end is proof that some time must come when that thing will take place.

The Bible sets forth that God permitted the Gentile governments of the earth to rule for a certain period of time, and, before that, that the Jews should have sway; and after the Gentile period should pass away the Jews again should come into power. Every student of Divine prophecy knows what that is. You say, "What is Divine prophecy?" We

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answer, Divine prophecy is the history of the world written in advance. However strange that may sound, that is exactly what it is. The Divine Mind knew before we came into the world, from the very foundation of the earth, what would be the course and what would be the end of the humankind; and foreknowing this, He caused, here and there, the salient features to be recorded so that when history had been recorded man might recognize that God had foretold it.

Thru the Prophet, then He showed first, that the Gentile period should be twenty-five hundred and twenty years (2520) in duration. The beginning of that period of time was 606 years before Christ. The Students of history, both Biblical and profane, agree that is correct. That period began with the dethronement of Zedekiah, the last of the Jewish Kings, and the enthronement of Nebuchadnezzar, the first world dominion Gentile Ruler of the earth, in the Fall of the year 606 B.C. Then it follows, as a matter of simple calculation, that in the Fall of the year 1914 would end the legal lease of power of the Gentile government and nations of this earth. Suppose you have a piece of property in this city and your tenant refuses to vacate, what do you do? You get a lawyer and institute a legal proceeding to put him out; and it may require some time to do that, if he resists. What did the Lord say would take place when the Gentile times would end? I read it from His testimony. The Great Master said that then "the nations were angry and thy (God's) wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged." I need little proof to show that was fulfilled in the Fall of the year 1914. The great conflict began then and is still raging today, exactly as the Lord foretold it would.

Then Jesus answered furthermore the same question from some other standpoint. He said at that time "nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines and pestilences and earthquakes (revolutions) in diverse places. All these are the beginning of the sorrows." The New York HERALD, a paper that is given to gathering facts, and publishing them accurately, with reference to statistics, published a statement some time ago that the earth's population was 1,691,351,000; and out of all the population of the earth only about 100,000,000 are counted as neutral. I call you to witness this afternoon the simple fact that never before in the world's history have so many peoples and nations and kingdoms and powers been engaged, in conflict as at this time. When I mention this I am not discussing either side of the war. My purpose now is to prove that no power under heaven could have kept this nation out of the war, because the time had come. As to where it started, we all know. As to who is to blame for it, I will have more to say later.

Then the Lord Jesus gave another answer. (I am taking these points briefly, because I wish to devote more time to the latter part of my subject, with reference to those living who may not die.) In

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this wonderful 24th Chapter of Matthew, the Lord gave the answer, so clear and convincing, that anyone now who gives it careful attention can understand. Jesus said that the Jews shall fall by the edge of the sword; that they shall be led away captives into the nations and "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

Again, in this connection, He likened the Jewish nation unto a fig tree, which He cursed, and the tree lost its leaves and bore no fruit. Then He said to His disciples, who asked the question, "When this branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh; so likewise when ye shall see all these things, know that it (the end of the world) is near, even at the doors." Every Jew this afternoon in this presence, every orthodox Jew, who is a Student of the Divine prophecies of the Old Testament, will especially appreciate what I am now about to say; and I hope that every Christian man and woman will likewise appreciate it. The time is near at hand when all will appreciate it. Jesus pointed out, as I have just mentioned, that the Jews would be trodden down until the Gentile times ended. That has already taken place.

Mark, then, what has been done to the Jews recently. The Lord Jehovah, thru the Prophets, prior to that time, showed us that the term of the Gentile lease of power and the term of favor that would come upon the Gentile nations of the earth would be exactly parallel to that which we find amongst the Jews. In other words, the experiences of the Jewish nation and the experiences of the Gentiles would be parallel -- parallel in time, and parallel in events. Now, what do we find? When the Lord Jesus was crucified the great turning point came. Standing on the Mount of Olives just before His crucifixion, He said: "Oh, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, \* \* \* behold, your house is left unto you desolate; for I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord."

That same day Jesus stood in the Temple and cried to the Pharisees and rulers saying; "The kingdom of God (the right to rule) shall be taken from you and given to a nation (people) bringing forth the fruits thereof." That time, - five days before His crucifixion, - marked the great turning point. How do we know? The Prophets Zechariah, Isaiah and Jeremiah testified to the fact that God would render a "double" unto the Jews; and the prophecy of Zechariah was fulfilled at this time, because in the 21st chapter of Matthew (verses 1 to 9) is recorded the facts of His triumphal entry marked therein as a clear fulfillment of this great prophecy, showing that the day of His entry marked the great turning point then.

Now then, just for a moment, let us calculate: From the death of

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Jacob (the birth of the Jewish nation) until the day of Jesus' triumphal entry, the Lord's favor was with the Jewish nation, for 1845 years. If we double that period we find that 1845 years from A.D.33, the time of the crucifixion of the Master, brings us to 1878, and in that year God's favor was due to begin to return to the Jews,-- due, mark you -- and if our calculation is correct, we ought to find some event that is important. And we do find it.

If you recall, it was then that the Governments of Russia and Turkey were at war. The treaty of San Stephano had been signed. It imposed harsh terms upon the Turk; and then it was that Great Britain sent her Army and Navy; stationed her Army on the Isle of Malta and the Navy was stationed near the mouth of the Dardanelles; and then sent word to the Russian Govt. that unless she receded from her position in this treaty Great Britain would take a hand in the fight. The result was the Berlin Congress, which met in Berlin on June 13, 1878, and was in session for thirty days, Eleven nations were involved in that conference. The man who was responsible for taking the British Army and the British Navy upon the scene, the man who called the conference at Berlin, the man who stood head and shoulders above all others at that conference, the man who wrote the treaty of Berlin, was a full-blooded Israelite. His name was D'Israeli; Lord Beaconsfield his official title. What did that treaty do? That treaty gave to the Turks the possession of Palestine and other rights in Europe, and Great Britain guaranteed the Turkish side of the treaty to Russia. Why did Great Britain do that? She did it, as the record shows, upon the express condition that Turkey would grant to the orthodox Jews in Palestine certain religious and civil liberties that they had not enjoyed from the time the Romans had driven them out. The persecution of the Jews began more venomously than ever in Russia shortly thereafter.

Montefiore and Rothschild organized an expedition to take a number of Jews down into North Turkey and colonize them there. That failed. Then it was that Theodor Herzl organized the Zionist movement, and from a little handful of Jews over in Basle, Switzerland, the Zionists have grown until today in every city on earth there is an organization of Zionists. In this city there is a strong, wonderful organization of the Zionists.

When that grand old man, whom everybody in this city loves that knows him, without regard to creed, religion or politics, Mr. Nathan Strauss, made a speech in Cooper Union a short time ago, the people of the land applauded in their hearts, because they knew he was speaking the truth. He said: "We are making the fulfilment of the two-thousand-year-old promise that the Prophet of God made to the Israelites. We see Palestine coming back into our possession and I will finance all orthodox Jews of New York who return to Palestine after the war."

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A few months ago Mr. Balfour wrote a letter to Lord Rothschild at London, and in this letter he said, "The Govt. of the U.S. and the Govt. of Great Britian are committed to the policy of granting to the Jews in Palestine a free and independent Republic when the war is over." A few weeks thereafter the British Army captured the city of Jerusalem. Jerusalem has passed out of the hands of the Turks, and never again will the Turk be in possession of it. The Jews are coming into possession. I want to read to you now a press dispatch, telling of a most remarkable thing that we see now transpiring. It is from the New York EVE. SUN of March 13, headed: "Jewish State -- March 27th.

"Commission on way to Palestine -- Will be there for Passover-- Zionist demands rights for Roman Jews by the close of the present month." (Mark my dear friends, the remarkable time in which we are living, the most wonderful time in the world's history since the days of the crucifixion of the Master, the great turning point, if you please -- the turning away from the sad conditions and the coming back to better. Whose heart would not respond with gladness to know that this is true?) By the close of the present month, Palestine, the ancient home of the Jew, will again, after a lapse of many centuries, be under Jewish administration. The Jewish Commission sent by the English Zionist Federation with the authority of the King of England and the British Parliament, left London a few days ago to take full charge of the reconstruction of the Holy Land and lay the foundation for a new Jewish State. This Commission is to arrive not later than MARCH 27, the eve of the Passover -- the festival commemorating the Jewish emancipation from Egyptian bondage. Because of the double significance attached to this memorable occasion there will be rejoicing amongst the Jewish people the world over. The event will mark the establishment of a Jewish government, the first since the Romans conquered the ancient race."

How many expected to live to see this time? How many Christians? My friends, to my mind, it is a most remarkable thing. Mark these dates, if you please: God's favor was withdrawn from the Jew in the Springtime of 33 A.D.; exactly 40 years from that time, in the Springtime of 73 A.D. Judea was depopulated and the Romans drove them out. Mark the parallel; in the Springtime or summer of 1878, God's favor began to be extended a little to the Jew. Exactly 40 years thereafter, in the Springtime of 1918, we behold a Jewish Commission, with the authority of the nations of the earth, going back to Palestine and establishing their own country in their own land.

What did Jesus say? If we are to believe His testimony -- and His testimony is unimpeachable -- we must believe that we have reached the end of the world, because He said, "When this thing takes place, know ye that ye have reached the end of the world." Reading His exact words, "When ye shall see all these things, know that it (the end of the



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world) is near, even at the doors." Surely we would want no proof more conclusive, more convincing, than that.

Then Jesus said, "This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then the end shall come." Now, our own clergy brethren were not willing to take Jesus at His own word. They used to teach, when I went to Sunday School with my mother and sat in the front seat -- and many of them have taught since and doubtless some are still teaching -- that the purpose of God is thru Christ Jesus to convert the whole world, and bring them into the Church; and, say they, "Our mission is to convert the world, and get them into the Church, and therefore get them into heaven. I tell you dear friends, if that job was left to them, it would never be accomplished; and if we would never get to heaven until they got us in that condition, it would be a sad day for us indeed, because we find that the Church pews are being emptied in a large measure and many a minister is leaving his pulpit and going to some other profession, and the people are turning away from what the preachers teach. So if we were to follow that course, we would never see the world converted at all. That is not what Christ Jesus said. He said the Gospel shall be preached unto all the nations as a witness and then the end shall come. That has already taken place. The Gospel of the Kingdom has been translated into every known language and carried to every country under the sun; and that was only recently accomplished. This is another proof, according to the testimony of this great Witness, that we have come to the end of the world.

Then Jesus said again, that He would send forth His messengers and that these should gather out from the various systems all who had made a covenant with the Lord by sacrifice. In His great parable in the 13th Chapter of Matthew, the Lord pointed out that during the entire Gospel Age, until the time of the harvest, the true Christian and the merely nominal would walk side by side in the various denominations. Let no one misunderstand me. I am not speaking against the Christians of any denomination. From the time that each of these denominations has been organized every one of them, Catholic and Protestant, has contained some true, loyal, faithful Christian people, and we all should rejoice in that; but no one system has contained them all. We have passed the point when anybody believes that, but we all recognize that many have come into the system for just what good they can get out of it from a selfish standpoint, and not for the purpose of serving the Lord. Those who are there for a good purpose are not responsible for the others. I merely mention this as a fact.

The Lord likened the two classes of Christians to the wheat and the tares: The true Christians to the wheat, and the false to tares; and He said the two would grow side by side in the world (in the Church

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system) until the end is reached; and when it comes down to the harvest, "I will say to my messengers, Go and gather out the wheat; gather unto me those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice; gather unto me the true and loyal of heart, without regard to creed or denomination. Has that been in progress? It has. For the past 40 years such a work has been going on in the world; and today, Students of the Bible, who have been reared Catholics or Protestants, and outside of all, who have given their hearts to the Lord, are coming together to worship the great God of the Universe and the Lord Jesus Christ, without regard to their previous condition. So we see this is another proof. What did Jesus say? He said, When that takes place we will have come to the end, because, to use His own language, "The harvest is the end of the world." We see, dear friends, that when we get the distinction between earth and world -- that the world means the order of things -- the whole subject begins to be clarified.

Let us take another point: Jesus further answering the question said, "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the son of man." As it was in the days of Noah, thus it shall be when we reach the end of the world. How was it in the days of Noah? In Noah's day what was he doing? He was preaching to the people that the world was about to come to an end. He thus preached for 120 years; and while he talked, the people scoffed and jeered and said, Noah, you are crazy; you are an old foggy; you are a fool; you do not know what you are talking about." They scoffed at him.

Jesus said the same thing would take place when we reached the end of this world. I want to read to you, then, some proof that this has been fulfilled. If we say that prophecy is history fulfilled, or history written in advance, when history has been made we ought to be able to recognize it. Within a week after the capture of Jerusalem by the British Army a delegation of clergymen (these are good clergymen, understand; they are not all bad by any means; there are some good and some bad; there are some really seeking to serve the Lord and others are seeking to blind the people) met in Jerusalem. Among them were such men as Doctor Dixon, Dr. Meyers. Dr. Campbell and others. They issued a manifesto and sent it thruout the whole world. They said:

- (1) The present crisis points towards the close of the Times of the Gentiles;
- (2) That the revelation of the Lord may be expected at any moment, when He will be manifested as evidently as to His disciples;
- (3) That the complete church will be translated;
- (4) That Israel will be restored to her own land;
- (5) That all human schemes of reconstruction must be subsidiary to the Second coming of the Lord;
- (6) That under the reign of Christ there will be a future effusion of the Holy Spirit;

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- (7) That the truths embodied in this statement are of the utmost practical value in determining Christian character of Christians all over the earth."

They sent that out. An enterprising newspaper man of Chicago-- and, by the way,-- the newspaper men are probably the most active in the land in gathering facts-- called upon every clergyman in Chicago and said to him: "Dr what do you think about this? Here are clergymen in London issuing a manifesto that the world is ending, the Lord is coming, the Kingdom of the Lord is about to be put in operation." And with practically not an exception every one of them said, "It is foolishness, it is nonsense. Who ever heard of this war having any relation to the end of the world? Anybody who talks that way is crazy." They were scoffing.

I want to read the words of one distinguished clergyman upon this point. The Rev. Dr. Ralph E. Bailey said:

"The end of the world is thousands, yea, perhaps millions, of years in the future. It will come either by the extinction of the species man, or by the cooling of the planet until life can no longer subsist upon it."

Now, had he read his Bible? What did the Bible say? Let me quote it to you. I will quote from Isaiah (45:18); "For thus saith the Lord God that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited; I am the Lord and there is none else." He also said (Ecclesiastes 1:4): "One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh; but the earth abideth forever," and there are many other like texts. - Continuing, I read from Dr. Bailey:

"The modern mind finds it impossible to believe in the ending of the world by Divine intervention in human affairs. (He does not believe what Jesus said.) An event like the rape of Belgium goes to prove that God takes no immediate personal part in the drama of human history. (Mark this phrase if you please.) Science can speak in a more confident word than religion about the ultimate culmination of society. Only those who regard the Bible as some sort of an inspired almanac expect to find in it details of time and circumstance of how this world will end."

And thus they scoff! Now, then, the Lord said that was going to happen. He spoke thru the Apostle, and mark how wonderfully the words of these distinguished men are fulfilling today the words of the Bible, written nineteen hundred years ago. The Apostle Peter says (2 Peter 3:3) "That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the Apostles of the Lord and Savior; knowing this first, that there shall come in the

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last days scoffers." (We are now in the last days, according to Jesus' testimony and according to all the facts.) "There shall come scoffers (and here are the scoffers, of whom I have just read) walking after their own desires and saying, Where is the proof of the end of the world? For since the Fathers fell asleep, all things continue from the beginning of Creation. For this cause they are willingly ignorant." He could not have put it any stronger than that. Bless your hearts, dear friends, if our good clergymen brethren, who repudiate the Bible, studied it as lawyers, for instance, are required to study before they can successfully practice law, they would know something about it themselves and be able to tell the people instead of leading them into darkness, ignorance and superstition. And because I think the time has come for people to know the truth, is why I attempt in my feeble way to call your attention to it.

Now then, Jesus gave us some proof as to what would take place. He said, "the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall fail to give her light, and the stars from heaven shall fall." Then the Lord showed us what He meant by that. In Bible symbology (much of the Bible is written in symbols); the whole book of Revelation is written in Symbols), the sun is a symbol of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and the moon is a symbol of the Mosaic law dispensation, which foreshadowed the Gospel Age; and the stars symbolize or picture high teachers, or teachers of ecclesiastical things. Jesus said the sun,- the Gospel of Jesus Christ, will be darkened, the moon will fail to give her light, and the stars will fall from Heaven, and the Heavens will be shaken. Has that been fulfilled? Absolutely so!

I am going to put a question to this great audience this afternoon. I do not want you to answer me, but I ask you to answer yourselves before God honestly tonight when you kneel to pray before retiring for the night. Ask and then answer this question: How many times in the last five years in the Churches of Greater New York or anywhere else have I heard a sermon concerning Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and the blessings that His Kingdom will bring to humankind? If you answer it honestly, I dare say you cannot say you have heard three in the last five years.

Why do I think that? Well, what is the Gospel of Jesus Christ? The Gospel of Jesus Christ is, as taught by Him and the Apostles, that the Church would be first selected out; that Jesus, by the grace of God tasted death for every man; that when the Church is taken out, when the world is completely ended, when the new order is put in operation, then restitution blessings shall be extended to all the peoples and families of the earth and a time of refreshing of men's hearts and minds and bodies and the blessings of the earth itself, shall take place. That is what the Bible teaches and every one of the Prophets talked of it. But, alas, alas,

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in our modern churches and pulpits we hear it no more. In the city of N. Y., the great city in which we live, we had a verification of this same thing; only last November. I hold in my hand a clipping from the N.Y. American, published on the 13th day of November last, reporting a meeting held at Carnegie Hall on the day of November last, reporting the proceedings on the day before. Probably some of you were there. It says that at this meeting the chief ones present were Catholic priests, Jewish rabbis and Protestant ministers. We have heard, if you please, of politics making strange bed fellows, but when the clergy get into politics they indeed make strange bed fellows. But you say, "Why is it not all right for Jews and Gentiles and Catholics and Protestants to come together for a common purpose?" - I am not finding any fault with it if they have got together for the purpose the Lord points out. But the point I make here is that in this great meeting the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the sun, as represented by the Lord, was actually darkened. What do you mean by that? The report here is: (I read it from Dr. John H. Finley, as reported by the press):

"Here are three steps which we may take:

FIRST:-- The preparation of a book of selections from the Bible by an interdenomination commission appointed by the Legislature or by the Board of Regents for the use in schools. (He didn't say 'Let us take the Bible itself,' but we must get selections from the Bible, and prepare a book.")

SECOND:-- The formulation of a plan for non-proselyting cooperation between the schools and the various denominations, to the end that every child may have its democratical and its religious instruction, (meaning by that that no one should be asked to become a Methodist, and no one should be asked to become a Baptist, and no one should be asked to become a Catholic, but every one would take his own course).

THIRD:-- The granting of Regents' credits for serious work in Bible study outside of the schools.

It is only because of our common purpose that I have come to this epochal meeting. If we, who believe in God, cannot forget our differences and our difficulties in the face of the world hatred, what hope can there be?"

You say, "What is the objection to that?" There would be no objection: that would be a splendid thing; provided they did not leave the Lord Jesus out of the whole thing; and that is what they did. Why? Because in that convention the name of Jesus Christ was not mentioned; but you can see a reason for it. They could not all be there otherwise. The Catholic and the Protestant could not be there very well and insist on Jesus as a Messiah because here is our friend, a Jewish Rabbi who would say, "No, I

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cannot accept Jesus as the Messiah. I do not believe in Him; and that is contrary to our religion." That is true. The Jews never yet recognized Jesus. The time will come, the Bible shows, when they will do that, however.

The point is this: The mere fact that clergymen, in Catholic and Protestant churches, were willing to put the Lord Jesus Christ out of their sight, in order to please a man, shows they prefer the plaudits of men rather than the approval of God, and the Lord Jesus said the time would come when they would prefer the plaudits of men rather than God's approval, when the sun, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, shall be darkened.

They tell us that the sacrifice of animals, under the Jewish dispensation was a barbaric sacrifice, whereas the great Apostle Paul tells us these sacrifices foreshadowed the great sacrifice of Jesus that takes away the sin of the world.

Now about the stars falling? The stars represent the ecclesiastical teachers, I have said that the man who teaches the Bible honestly and conscientiously, and tries to turn the people into the proper channel of that, could not be engaged in a better business anywhere. Nothing could be better than that. But when a clergyman assumes this high office, and by virtue of the influence that the office takes, plays with it, indulging in politics, and leads the people astray, it is really a great fraud upon the people. And you know it is not an uncommon thing these days for clergymen to take a hand in the active part of politics. But, you say, can not a good man be in politics? Yes, many a good man is in politics, but two men cannot carry water on both shoulders. A man cannot be in politics and preach the gospel at the same time, because if he recognized his high position of representing the Lord and the Kingdom of Glory, then he would not have any time to do the other. If he is a good man in politics, his time is occupied. A man cannot make a success while practicing law and medicine at the same time. He must make a specialty of either. And that is the point I make. Clergymen have fallen from the high exalted position of proclaiming the message of Messiah's Kingdom and have taken a position in the ordinary politics of the world. Jesus said it would be so. Whether we agree or disagree, is not material. I am citing it as a further corroborative proof of the Master's words that we have come to the end of the world.

Then Jesus said, as further evidence: "There shall be famines and pestilences." Do you see any evidence of that? Everybody in this house, I dare say, had some experience last winter with the coal famine. Everybody in this house recognizes today that we have a food administrator in the Govt; and when I mention that I say the Govt. has acted wisely, too. If anybody had told an audience in this auditorium five years ago that the United States Govt. would have a food administrator in 1918,

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you would have said he is crazy, wouldn't you? You would. But we see the necessity of it today. The necessity is apparent and if the Govt. had not had a food administrator, and if there was not food conservation then we would say that the Govt. and the people would be derelict to their duty. It does not impose very much hardship on me, because I always try to be an economist. I am glad to cooperate in the conservation of food, or anything else. What is the necessity for it? I read from THE LITERARY DIGEST of the 9th of last month. The Digest puts it in terse phrase, better than I could put it. What does it say? It prints four columns under the big headline, "THE WORLD IS STARVING TO DEATH."

"The grim spectre of famine is stalking thru the earth, and there is hardly a land in which its dread presence is not felt; or, as Mr. Anderson, an English Labor Member of Parliament expresses it, - 'A dangerous famine is creeping across Europe,' and even in this land of plenty, where we have been accustomed to regarding our supplies as inexhaustible; we have had to inaugurate meatless Tuesdays, wheatless Wednesdays and two porkless days each week, and one meatless and one wheatless meal every day to boot." (it will not be a great while, I imagine, until we have an eatless day.) "But these slight restrictions in the traditional abundance of the American dinner table are as nothing to the serious deprivations suffered by the inhabitants of all the belligerent countries of Europe. Cable dispatches tell us that the food situation in Europe is worse this winter than ever before. England, which was among the best provisioned of all European countries, except perhaps Spain and Portugal, is in difficulties over her meat supply. France has a serious shortage of both meat and cereals, while the Scandinavian countries are also suffering and looking to the United States for food supplies. A careful sifting of the information that has reached us during the past few weeks concerning the food problem in Germany establishes the fact that the harvest has brot no relief and that the prospects there for the next nine months are even more gloomy than was the prospects there last year. Milk is already so scarce that in some cities there is hardly enough for the infants and invalids. The potatoe crop has not turned out to be so satisfactory as the people have been led to expect, and the use of food substitutes is commoner than ever. An official report says, that over 10,000 substitutes are now in use; 7,000 of which are food substitutes.

The DIGEST then quotes from the leading papers of the world, showing why there is this shortage of food and threatened famine in the earth.

MUNSEY'S Magazine, in the same month, prints an article with reference to the food situation which reads in part thus: "All the time in the back of Mr. Hoover's mind is the constant apprehension of a general food panic in Europe. That same fear exists in administration quarters

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in all the countries fighting the Central Powers. It is regarded as possible that the Europe which is fighting Germany might suddenly go mad with fear and starvation and rising in mobs,- that would repeat the French Revolution,- demanding peace on such forceful grounds that no Govt. of authority could restrain."

I call attention to that, for what purpose? To prove what Jesus 1900 years ago said would follow. First The Wars amongst the Nations, as the Jews returned to Palestine. Then the preaching of the Gospel; the Darkening of the Sun, the Moon and the Stars; the scoffing of the clergy,- who should be teaching the Bible. Now, we see the coming famine settling down upon the nations. Why should we discuss these things? For this reason: That every man and woman in the land should take a hand in trying to reserve the resources for the benefit of the Govt. and for the benefit of human kind.

Now then, here is another thing I want to call your attention to in this connection. Let no one say I am advocating peace, pestilence or famine. I am making argument to prove the point that we have reached the end of the world. Here is an editorial from the Toronto World,- a paper with which many of you are well acquainted. (Mark this: I am not saying whether this is true. I am taking the evidence that worldly editors, -men of intelligence- are gathering). "Yesterday, in Toronto, officers representing military service met a group of men and women representing the citizenship of Canada, and laid before them the scientific and social facts relating to venereal diseases, their prevalence and their peril. In the name of science, in the interest of society, and for the sake of Canadian national life, they demanded that all agencies dedicated to the service of the nation and of the church, work together to combat a social evil deadlier than smallpox, more destructive than war, and smitting without respect all grades of society, all ages and both sexes.

In polite society the shroud is still on the face of the pestilence that walketh in darkness. That pestilence still walks every night, as the Military officers declared, under the electric lights of Yonge and Queen streets. And every day, in the wards of every hospital, civilian and military, the destruction that wasteth at noon day traces the steps of those pestilent feet, and the diseases that follow in their train have branded not only the guilty but the innocent, and doomed unborn children to life that is worse than death. Canadian life must be protected against the return of diseases from the front. Not otherwise can this nation be saved."

I call attention furthermore to the public press announcing a few days ago that more than 40,000 additional tuberculosis beds were required. Press dispatches announced that the pestilence of tuberculosis is laying hold of European people. What is the reason? The lack of suf-



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icient food.-The great strain upon the human race necessarily must bring these things. Why do I call attention to it? To make us feel sad? No! I call your attention to it because because Jesus said that these things shall be evidences that we have reached the end of the world, and He gave us accumulative evidence.

Then again He says: At the end of the world there would be "upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; men's hearts failing them with fear, and for looking after those things which they see coming upon the earth." Everybody knows how that men's hearts are failing them for fear; how there is perplexity in the business world; in the various walks of life. Is the Govt. to blame? Certainly not. The conditions are here. It does not lie within man's power to change the conditions now. The hand of the Lord will take charge, and, as I will show, the blessings of mankind are coming.

I read the words of Mr. Wilson in his speech before Congress which seemed to almost fit exactly what Jesus wrote 1900 years ago. Mr. Wilson, in discussing the question of the war situation before Congress used these words; (but before I read them, I quote the Master's words: "Upon the earth, distress of nations, with perplexity, men's hearts failing them for fear." And Mr. Wilson said: These are days of great perplexity, when a great cloud hangs over the greater part of the world. It seems as if great, blind material forces have been released which had for long been held in leash and restraint."

Now then, he furthermore calls our attention to the fact that Revolution would come.- Somebody says, "Are you in favor of Revolution?" No. On the contrary I always council peace, and I want to do it for this audience. I want to counsel sobriety and obedience to the law. I counsel quietude. Why should Revolution come? It has already come in Russia. We all know that Russia's Govt. has gone to pieces and what is the real reason? Because the people for generations and generations, being held in restraint, finally reached the bursting point. In the great Battle that is now raging upon the Western Front between the American forces and her Allies, when Germany was throwing her whole strength into it in her desperate effort; I am not a prophet, but if the words of the Lord mean anything let me tell you this afternoon that the Germans and her Allies will not succeed. Why not? (great applause)-- This effort will so weaken the nations that ere long the peoples,- the same element that suppressed Russia will rise and upset that Autocratic Govt. (applause) And when that time comes we will be glad. Why? Because, as Mr. Wilson said, "We are not fighting the German people. We are fighting an arrogant aristocracy that seeks to over-run the earth" (applause) And if the Lord sees fit to bring it about by the disruption, then we will be glad, because it will save more bloodshed.

Now then, the Gentile Times have ended, so says the Lord Jesus.

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And we are glad that is true, and with the ending of the Gentile Times, the kings of earth are going out of business. Six kings have already gone out of business. I do not think it will be but a few months or probably a few weeks before another king will see his downfall-- Emperor William of Germany. (applause)

The Lord Jesus called attention to another thing. (I want to dwell on this point, because I regard it as one of the greatest menaces that hang over the nations and peoples of earth at this time. Looking back to the days just preceding the end of the other world, what do we find? The Genesis account tells us that from the time Adam was driven from Eden, God permitted some of the angels of heaven to attempt to uplift the human race out of the condition of sin and sorrow; that these had the power to materialize in human form as human beings; that instead of following an honest course they looked upon the daughters of men and took unto themselves wives and reared a great progeny upon the earth and the Genesis account tells us how their thots were turned to wickedness and the whole human race became debauched and nothing on earth, except righteous Noah and his family escaped unrighteousness. In that time when Noah was proclaiming the message to the people, they were being torn away from righteousness by demons. Then came the great Deluge. And what became of them? The Apostle says (2 Peter 2:4) when the great flood swept over the earth it destroyed the people, but it did not destroy these angels. St. Peter said: "God spared not these angels but reserved them in chains of darkness until the judgment day." The Apostle Jude likewise confirms this. When Saul was King of Israel he had an experience with them. What kind? The Bible shows that while these demons from time to time appeared as men before the flood, nevertheless they were not permitted to materialize after the flood. However, they have had a power to work upon the minds of men thru the instrumentality of mediums and therefore clairvoyants and other so-called mind readers are another phase of Spiritism. Many people have been deceived. They have been told their dead relatives were alive and various other people teach this. I will be very glad if some would like to read something of what the Bible says in respect to "SPIRITISM." If you will leave your name and address with one of the ushers, we will be glad to send you this pamphlet free!

But Jesus said, in discussing the facts, with reference to the end of the world that when that time should come, -or shortly thereafter, and before the Kingdom was put into operation, that these evil spirits should be released of power. He pointed out in the 7th chapter of Revelation how they would be held back and restrained until all the Church, the trus Christians were sealed in "their foreheads" and then they would be loosed. Everybody, acquainted with facts, well knows that the public press reported it far and wide that the Czar of Russia had spiritualistic mediums in his palace to advise him on State Affairs. The Emperor of

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Germany says he hears voices. He thinks it is God, but it is the wrong God. (laughing) The testimony of Jesus says the time will come when these spirits gaining greater power, will find their habitation in the minds of those and wickedness will pervade the whole world over.

Why do I call it to your attention? To arm yourselves, to stand for truth and righteousness, to turn your minds to a solemn and prayerful study of the Word of God that we might walk in the path of righteousness and shield ourselves from such things. I warn the people not that a departure from the study of the Bible -- the words of Jesus and the Apostles and the great prophecies of the Old Bible is tearing down the greatest safeguard we have at this time.

The Lord Jesus pointed out then that a greater trouble would still come. Let no one mistake me. I am not advocating trouble, but I cannot pass without calling attention to the Master's words. First the Prophet Daniel spoke. Daniel wrote the history of the world in advance. He wrote it from the time of Nebuchadnezzar until the coming of Messiah's Kingdom. He did not know what it meant. He recorded it and then said: "O, my Lord, what shall be the end of these things." And the Lord said: "Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end--- and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand." Now mark what Daniel recorded. "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book of life." Did Jesus quote that in answer to the question with reference to the end of the world? He did. Matt. 24:21 and 22.- What did he say? I read his words. "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." We ought to be glad of that. If the great trouble afflicting the people of the earth is the last, then surely we should rejoice, but notice: the next verse: "And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved." Why are those days cut short? In order that some flesh shall be saved. Why should any human beings be saved unless the Lord intended some good to come to them afterwards? Daniel said during this great time of trouble upon the earth, the Kingdoms of the earth should be falling (Dan. 2:44) "And in the days of these things shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms and it shall stand forever." It shall stand forever for the blessings of mankind. Then what shall we do you say? If we see the trouble upon the earth now, what shall we do? I think the best vision that can be given is found in the words of the Prophet Zephaniah and I read his words; The Lord's wisdom is here expressed-- not man's -- "Before the fierce anger of the Lord come upon you, before the day of the Lord's anger come upon you, seek ye

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the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought His judgment; seek righteousness; seek meekness; it may be ye shall be HID IN THE DAY OF THE LORD'S ANGER." - It may be that you shall be hid in this time of trouble. That is always good advice- to seek righteousness; seek to do right and never wrong. No man is entitled to a reward for obeying the law. That is his duty. Only when he sacrifices is he entitled to a reward. Now, my friends, we have come to the next part of this great subject.

"MILLIONS LIVING WILL NEVER DIE."

There is not a man or woman in this house but what shall be glad to know that he might live in a state of happiness, in peace, in perfection; in joy, forever and ever. Is such a thing possible? "Why do men die at all? Why should we die? When we come around the fireside with our families that is sweet, but when death enters and takes away some loved ones, darkness settles down over the home. Why did death come? HAS DEATH always been in the world? No,- the Bible statement is that God made the first man perfect. That He created him in His own image and likeness and gave him dominion over things of the earth; that man wilfully violated God's law; then the penalty attached to this was death.- And all this progeny, which we are of a part. We were all born under legal condemnation; therefore we came into this world without any legal right to life. As the Psalmist puts it: "Behold I was shappon in sin and in iniquity did my mother conceive me." The Apostle corroborates this: "As by the disobedience of one man, sin entered the world, death by sin, so death passed upon all, for all have sinned." Well now, since all have come under this death penalty, has God made any provision for life? Yes, He sent His Beloved Son into the earth, who died to provide a price equivalent to that which Adam forfeited, viz., the right to perfect human life. And doing this He provided a way that every man in due time should live. I want to contrast here, the doctrines taught by modern clergymen with that of the Bible, and when you hear my argument you can see why I am assaulted by them. I have not an unkind feeling for them personally. There is not a man on earth that I hate. I hate iniquity. I hate sin and wrong doing, but my heart goes out in pity to any man who takes a wrongful course. Now then, we have been told from youth up (and I challenge any clergyman or anybody else to tell us that this is not true) that every man who enjoys life everlasting in the state of happiness, must go to heaven when he dies, except those, according to our Catholic friends who go to Purgatory, and if there is some way to get them out of there after they roast awhile, they may go into a better place; but that all who are not thus saved must spend eternity in fire and brimstone, roasting, stewing, broiling and burning forever. That has been the doctrine handed down to us from the 3rd century by the clergy. Do you say that that is all the hope they have to hold out? Absolutely.

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I find an illustration in an incident which occurred to me not a great while ago which I wish to relate. I was speaking in the city of Canada. (by the way Clergymen won't let me come over there now). After I had finished talking, a very distinguished looking lady made her way to the platform and said: "May I ask some questions?" I replied yes! She said: "I have three sons who, having gone to the front, two of them were killed in the war-- the third is probably dead by this time. Tell me, if you please, if there is any hope for my boys?" Her face indeed showed the tears of bitterness pouring down her cheeks and as I listened to her sad story my heart bled for her. I said to her: "Madam were your sons Christians?" She said: "No" - "I was reared a Presbyterian (and you know what the Presbyterians teach -- that a few are saved and the rest are damned; forever.) My boys would not go to church. They would not become Christians." I said: "Were they honest boys?" She answered, "Oh, yes, they were; and faithful to me, and very kind and loving." I said, "Madam suppose they were dishonest- suppose they violated the law and they were brought into the court and convicted and the judge should sentence them and this should be the sentence;- that the mother should heat an oven and roast them for ten days,- What would you do?" She said, "Sir! I am horrified that a gentleman should put such a question to a mother. Why should I do such a thing?" I said: "Why not?" She answered

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"Because I love my sons." I knew she would say that.- I said, "Yes Madam, I know you love them, but you don't love them as much as God loved them, because He is perfect, and you are imperfect.

The Lord Jesus said: "God so loved the (whole) world (including your sons of course) that He gave His only begotten Son to die that whosoever would believe on Him might have everlasting life." Now then, God's provision is this: That in due time the Lord will bring out of the tomb all those who have gone into the grave. He is going to bring "your boys", and all other boys, and they shall be restored to "You" and they shall live in happiness and peace and joy and you with them, because the Lord has thus made provision that they shall live; and when I told her the beautiful sweet story of the Bible, her tears ceased flowing and she said: "Oh thank God, I never could believe that old hell fire story anyhow!"

But my friends, so long as people would hear fire and brimstone, the clergy talked it; and when one man, duly ordained to preach the Gospel rejected the doctrine of eternity of torture,- the majority scoffed and jeered at him; and when he taught the Bible they said he was foolish, but we are glad to know,-as one good preacher down in Pittsburg said: "We are glad to know that Pastor Russell had the moral courage to turn the hose on hell and put the fire out." (applause)

Now, mark the situation that faces the American people: This is a solemn question: I call your attention to it now, that it might sink deeply into your hearts. America has called for her sons to go to the front. Thousands of them are responding. Perhaps a million of our boys have crossed the Atlantic and are facing the hordes of their enemies upon the other side. What a sad spectacle it would be if these boys, passing thru all hardship and fighting for the principles of liberty and justice,- facing the deadly fire of the enemy;- gas and other stifling and murderous instruments of the enemies. Would it not be a sad thing indeed, that after they had laid down their life and had filled the earth with their own warm blood and then go off the earth and roast and toast forever and ever? I would. But my friends, I challenge the clergymen of America to tell me another hope they have held out for America's boys. My heart goes out in great love for them every time I see a uniform upon a young man. I think "Well praise the Lord, someday, by God's grace, every man will know that there is a hope for him, and every man will be made glad and then peace and joy shall reign and the boys who fight and the boys who stay at home shall have blessings from the Lord. But the clergy have not held that out to them. Why then, am I calling attention to it? If I pass thru this world without doing some good then I have lived in vain. And I am willing to receive the jaunts and sneers of men that I might proclaim to the people while I am here, the hope God's World holds out. There has been nothing to bring home or consolation in that which the clergy have given them.

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I well remember when I represented the State as a prosecutor for four years. Time and again, when I would prosecute some man for a crime he had committed and he would say: "Well I have come to the conclusion that if I have got to go to hell and roast forever I will do all the devil I can while I am here." The teaching of the doctrine of eternal torment has never done the people any good, and now, when the world is facing this awful condition what hope does that hold out? Absolutely none! But what does the Bible hold on this point? - Thank God, it does hold out a glorious hope. - A Christian is never a coward, because a Christian knows what the Lord has in store for the people. And while death is the saddest thing we know of, we do know that God's Word holds out a hope for everybody. That is what I am going to tell about.

Death came upon the human race because of disobedience. Jesus Christ by the grace of God tasted death and by His death provided redemption so that all might live; - for all who would obey. And I hold out that the greatest obligation and privilege a man can have is to tell others at this time, of some message that will bring sweetness to millions of sad hearts. So surely then, as the Lord taught us that there is a hope for the human race, so surely he expected us to know that sometime that hope might be realized. I want to call your attention now to some Scriptures showing you that God intended for a time to come in which the peoples and generations upon the earth should stay here forever, and never pass away. I read the Prophecy of Zeph. 3:8,9; -- written 2500 years ago. The Prophet Joel likewise foretold the war 2500 years ago. Hark then, these words: "Therefore, wait ye upon me saith the Lord until the day that I rise up to the prey; for my determinations is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the Kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignations, even all my fierce anger; for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy (not literal fire, but fiery troubles). And then, I will turn to the people a pure message, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve Him with one consent." "Has the gathering of the Kingdoms been done? Yes. It had not been done until modern times. The time of the end, if you please is not one day. It embraces a period of more than one hundred years, - starting long ago. And in the past 50 years the Lord has gathered together the nations and peoples as never before. There are men in this house who can remember when the first railroad was built, and when the first telegraph cable was laid across the Atlantic, and when the steamships first plied across the seas; and Brooklyn had no such thing as street cars; and when electric lights were unknown, and subways undreamed of; and airships that impossible, - and yet we are living in a time when all these things have been brot to the attention of all, in that time, and before the war particularly, every nation was represented and every other nation represented by Ambassadors and every nation linked together by wires and now by wireless telegraph. Thus the Lord has assembled the kingdoms and the nations as never before in the history of the world.

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I remember when the hellfire preachers interpreted that to mean that the Lord was going to burn up the earth. That is not the thot. Cod's indignation will sweep away the refuge of lies. Then what? "And then will I turn to the people a pure message that they may all call upon the name of the Lord to serve Him with one consent." This pure message will not be mixed with confusion. He will turn to the people after the trouble His pure message of truth that all may see the right way and walk therein.

Now let us read a little more from the Prophet Zech. 13:8,9. "And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therean." I want you to get these words And I will bring the third part thru the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, it is my people; and they shall say the Lord is my God." I ask then, why should God bring them thru this great trouble, so many peoples and nations, and not permit them to die in the awful trouble? He expects to give them some blessings. (Acts. 3:19,24.-) "Times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." When is that going to be? After this world ends. Refreshing times shall come for God "shall send Jesus Christ which before was preached unto you: Whom the heavens must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began." All the Prophets, from Samuel to Malachi to John -- every-one of them foretold this time. What time? The "times of refreshing." The times of restitution. Restoration means to put a thing back to its original condition. Adam was created perfect in the beginning and likewise is he to be restored to that condition. We see ourselves imperfect - some bald-headed, and grayhaired and evidence of death in everybody. Why? Because of the effects of Adam's disobedience and its penalty. Then, to restore mankind, would mean to put the human race back to perfection.- Not in a day, but during a thousand year period, during the Millenial Age, (and the word Millineum means a period of 1000 years).

Now during that time, the millions shall come back;- the last shall come back first and the first last.-- The Lord Jesus said (John 5:28,29) "Marvel not, for the hour is coming in which all that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of Man and come forth." Who? "ALL." Does that mean everyone? It means exactly what it says. Then He adds: "The good." Who are they? They are not good by nature, but thru trust in the merit of Christ Jesus's sacrifice.- "To resurrection of life," and all others "to resurrection by judgment." When I used to hear the preachers say that the lawyers and newspaper men were going to hell anyhow, I felt pretty bad, but when I saw that the Lord had opened a door for everyone, my heart rejoiced. The Apostle says: "There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and of the unjust." When? A future time. "He hath appointed a day, in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof He



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hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead." (Acts 17:31) I am glad to know that! It seems to me that the most wicked and degraded man knowing that there is a chance for him to have life and peace and happiness, he will be glad and rejoice. The Apostle then says that "Christ must reign until He hath put every enemy under His feet and the last enemy to be destroyed is death. The greatest enemy we have today is death. It has brot more sorrow than anything else. The millions dying of disease, and because of war and trouble generally, has brot sadness to billions of hearts. But thanks be to God the time is coming when they will not die. How do you know? Jesus said: (John 11:23) "Whosoever liveth and believeth on me shall never die." "If a man keep my saying he shall never see death." (John 8:31) Do we expect these Scriptures to have a fulfillment? Of course; all Scriptures are not fulfilled at the same time. We read in the Bible in one place it says: "A man went out and hanged himself" and another place it says: "Go thou and do likewise." It does not mean for us to do likewise. Everything has its order and time in God's due time then the Scriptures will be fulfilled. When? We answer: Under the new order of things. The old world must pass away. It has ended, and now passing out of existence, and the new order is coming in and so surely as Jesus gave utterance to these Scriptures, so surely are they to be fulfilled -- there are millions on earth today, who will never die. Because, when man learns that by faith in the Lord Jesus, by obedience to the laws of righteousness; when he learns how to eat and exercise himself, he will gradually return to health. That time is coming. It will not come in a day or a week or even in a year. The Scriptures show that every man shall have at least one hundred years trial, and then if he absolutely refuses to obey righteousness he shall be cut off. But everyone who strives to be righteous and pure, will gradually be brought up to life,- with a little more health and strength of mind and body, until he reaches the perfect condition.

But you say: "Does it mean if a man is old when the change comes that he is going to remain old. (One man says, "I am an old man; I have lost all my hair and my teeth; my face is wrinkled; I have pains in my muscles and bones). But listen to what the Lord said about that: He points out to us that man shall become as a youth; the babe shall grow up to manhood and the old man shall become as a young man. In other words when the times of restitution begins (and they are soon bound to begin because the old order of things is ending) the man who is 70 years old, 10 years later will be 80 years old; 20 years after that he will be 50 years old; 40 years after that he will be 30 years. The age of a perfect man would be 30 years because that was the age of Jesus when He reached perfection. Hark then, "The Lord is gracious unto him and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom. His flesh shall be fresher than a child's; he shall return to the days of his youth." Is not that a sweet message. If God put it into the Bible He expected us to believe it and if the time comes for us to hear it we ought to listen to it; or if we should tell it we ought to tell it. What is going to be the

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result? And How? :

The Lord Jesus himself gave a wonderful picture of this coming time in the 21st Chapter of Rev. In symbolic language He describes the new order coming in. "I saw a new heavens and a new earth." That did not mean a new habitation for God. It did not mean a new earth, upon which we live, but the symbol here means this: The heaven is an invisible ruling power; the earth is a new order of society, the new form of Govt. for "the first heaven and earth were passed away and there was no more seas." Seas symbolize anarchy, restlessness, condition of human mind. The time will come when there will be no more anarchy and no necessity for secret service men by the way. I have not any unkind things to say about them. (looking up at the lower box where representatives of the War Intelligence Bureau were seated) There won't be any necessity for having Marshals, sheriffs, or lawyers; (laughing) no need for doctors or undertakers, etc. They will have to hunt another kind of a job. What are they going to do? They will perhaps be gardeners. They will beautify the parks. Or perhaps they will be musicians. All will live happily and enjoy that wonderful time. Are you glad to know that is coming? Now we have to have secret service men and sheriffs and doctors etc. But we will be glad when the condition changes, because if every man was contrite of heart and honest, then there would not be any necessity for these things; but men who are imperfect cannot be honest always.

Continuing the Revelator said: "And I (John) saw the Holy City" (Symbolic of Govt.-- Jehovah's Govt. and the Lord's Kingdom -- the Kingdom the Lord taught His disciples to pray for; "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is done in Heaven." "And I saw the New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven prepared and adorned as a Bride for her Husband and I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying 'behold the dwelling place of God is with men.'" Where? On earth, of course! "And He will dwell with them."-- Not visible to them, but dwell in their hearts just as the Great Adversary rules the children of disobedience now.-- "And they shall be His people and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more death." When? Under the new order of things. And if the old is passing away and the new is beginning and if a third of the people of the earth are going to pass thru, everyone shall never die. "Neither shall there be any more sorrow or crying; neither pain, for the former things have passed away and He that sat upon the Throne said: "Behold I have made all things new."

Well you say: "Why don't the clergy tell us about it? Because they got started off on the wrong foot. They were in the old rut long ago-- teaching hellfire and brimstone and when they found the sensible people did not believe that they said "we have to start something else" and so they said: "We will teach higher Criticism, "which repudiates the Bible altogether; also "Evolution" and if evolution is true the Bible then is false." - and I make this statement without hope of contradiction! I quote it from the Literary Digest; that "90 percent of all schools and

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colleges and Universities of the country are headed by infidels.

A few years ago I was asked to give a course of lectures in Colleges and Universities and without a single exception, when I cornered the preachers they did not believe the Bible was God's inspired truth. They have taught that a man sprang from protoplasm,- which is the nearest definition to nothing you ever heard of. And this evolved until it became a tadpole, and an evolution process continued and after a while it got legs and then kept on for a few more centuries until it became a man. First the baboon, and then it wiggled off its tail and stood up on its hind legs and put on a long coat and high silk hat and said: "I am Dr. Darwin D.D. That is their idea of evolution. Therefore they do not need a Savior. What does the Lord say about that? He said this: "The Prophet said it would come to pass, for among my people are found wickedness. They wait and set snares to catch the people. Their cages are full of birds; their houses full of deceit." Is there anything more deceitful than for one to pose as a clergyman and repudiate that God's plan provided that the blood of Jesus which bought the race, by teaching evolution. I do not know of any greater fraud. "They are wax and fat." They shine and say, we know the whole thing,- what do you know about it anyhow? - How dare a lawyer speak on the Bible. (laughing) Thus saith the Lord, "Shall I not visit them for such things? "Yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge. Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land: The Prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?" You say, is that in the Bible? Yes.- Jer. 5:28 to 30. - Look at it when you go home.

Now friends, if the Scriptures that I have cited now this afternoon showing the world has ended and that a time of blessing is due to mankind,-in a few years it shall be ushered in-- if these things are not true then I call upon the clergymen thruout the world to come forward and tell the people that they are not so. I am not hunting trouble, but I challenge any preacher in the greater city of N.Y. or in the U.S. to take this platform or any other platform in the city (and I will pay half of the expenses) - I challenge them to prove these things are not true. If they are not, I will quit, and if they are true, let us join hands and tell the people that the time of blessing has come, because we owe a duty to our fellowmen to uplift them out of degradation, out of sorrow and sin. Will they do it? How do I know? The Prophet says they won't. Let me read: "The mighty men of Babylon." (The Lord clearly defines that Babylon is the great ecclesiastical system of systems in the world) "have foreborne to fight; they have remained in their holds (secluded places); their might hath failed them; they became as women." (Jer. 51:30) That is some reflection on the women. Why? Because they know that there is no answer to these things. They know that the people are

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sick and tired of the hellfire doctrine. They know that there is no other explanation put on these Scriptures. It is because (if you please) that I raise my voice in defense of the Bible; because I call attention to the hope set before mankind; because I call attention to restitution blessings coming to mankind,- for this cause I am called in question and denounced as a traitor of the U.S. and a circulator of "Hun propaganda." Shame upon the clergy who will stand before the people and get it published into newspapers, such things as this. I challenge them to come upon the platform and tell the people that the things I say are not true. I recognize the fact that I occupy an unpopular position. So long as I have my liberty and God gives me strength to use the quality of speech, I will proclaim to my fellow-creatures the message of Messiah's Kingdom. (Great applause)

I claim no credit for these things dear friends, but I recognize we stand in a great and transitory period today and I am nothing more than a mere voice in the wilderness condition crying to the people the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand and the time for man's deliverance from the power of sin, ignorance and degradation is here and because of this cause and because we have dared spend our money and our time and our energy and strength to proclaim this message to the people; because we put out the book called the Finished Mystery that the Clergy take the position that we are pro-German. I denounce it as an outrage upon American Liberties (applause) Who would ever that of calling attention to these things except the men about which it speaks. The prophecies of Ezekiel and Revelation explain to the people for the first time (because they could not be understood until the time came) how these men as a system have gradually crept in upon the people and how they were led under ignorance and superstition. My dear friends it is not a political question. It is a religious question and the action of the clergy throughout the country in the last few weeks is equalled only by the dark ages. I warn the people against the enthronement of the clergy in politics; either Catholic or Protestant. Our forefathers braved the Atlantic storm in open boats and came to America to fight the battles of liberty and to here establish an institution for religious liberty and I call attention to American people today of the intolerative position of the people to throttle a few Christian people who have the moral courage to tell the people that the present order is passing away and the kingdom is at hand. (applause) I would rather be right; I would rather have the approval of my God than the plaudits of all men on the earth. (applause).

Now friends, I leave it to you as to whether I am or am not disloyal to American Institutions;- born and bred upon her soil; loved her institutions from my youth up; spent a good portion of my time in politics; heading a campaign twice for William J. Bryan, because I thought he would bring blessing to the people; because I had confidence in his honesty; and during the past few years I have been trying to devote my life to the interest of my fellow-creatures. When I learned of the

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clergy I stayed away from the church. I have the old book down in my desk now that shows that for several years while practicing law 10 percent of my entire income went to support the denominations, but when I found no hope held out for mankind, I said away with the whole Bible. I threw myself into politics. One day there came into my office (when I was giving all my time to the practicing of law) a lady selling some books; I thought she was a poor woman, trying to make a living. She approached my Senior Partner in his office. I heard the conversation. He turned her down; and when I saw her I arose and advanced;- pulled out a handful of money and asked: "Madam how much are your books. I want all you have." I did not know what they were. I bought them and took them home. Sometime afterwards my wife called attention to them, and said: "These books explain all those mooted questions we have often discussed on the Bible. I want you to read them." I am not very much given to do what women ask me to do, but when my wife asked me this, I said I will. The Bible to me became a new book, an open book. I saw that it contains a wonderful plan of salvation; that God has provided for mankind; that all this night of sin and sorrow and darkness afflicted the human race for centuries past, but shall soon pass away. When I saw it, I said, "Why am I here? Why am I practicing law merely for money." I had considerable money at that time in stocks and Bonds, farms and city property. I said from this time on, by the grace of God, I will tell the people this message, because it means a hope for human kind. It has been my privilege to travel in practically every country of the world in the past 10 years to proclaim to larger audiences by far than this, to speak of this splendid hope for the human kind. I have been giving my time and strength and energy and money and to this day no man has ever paid me one penny for it, and by God's grace never shall do it. (great applause) I regard not this life dear unto me. I have given it over to the Lord. I fear neither man nor devil. I fear only to displease my God. But so long as He gives me power of mind and strength of body; so long as He gives me an opportunity, I shall minister in the spirit of the Master, in love, in kindness and gentleness the message of Messiah's kingdom that shall bring hope and blessings to the poor groaning creation. (applause)

Now my friends, these books that made such a change in my life, that brought such a blessing to me; these books are the ones that the clergy would keep you from reading if they could. (applause) I leave the matter with you! I thank God for the opportunity of telling the people of Brooklyn, something about these things. No man has been persecuted more, at any time, than Pastor Russell. I stood firmly by him, spent my money to fight for him. If the persecution shall increase against me, God's will be done. I know that my work will continue until the Lord says stop. No instrument shaped against me can prosper without his permission. I know that if I am immortal until his time, and until then, by his grace I shall raise my voice against wrong doing and evil and in the interest of the common people and mankind; in the interest of religious liberty and in announcing the Kingdom of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ;-the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." (great applause)

Transcribed by  
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