

The
PRESENT TRUTH
 and
Herald of Christ's Epiphany


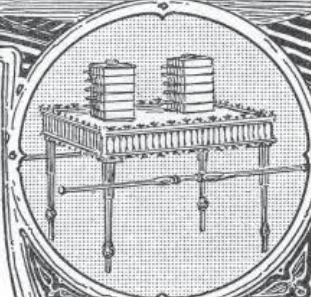
AUTUMN 2014
 A.D. 2014 — A.M. 6143
 WHOLE NO. 747

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

"The Lamb opened the seventh seal." "Ye have approached Mount Zion, and the City of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem. . . See that ye refuse not Him that speaketh . . . saying . . . 'Yet once more I shake not the earth only but also heaven' . . . Wherefore, receiving a Kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and Godly fear." "Christ being come an High Priest . . . by a greater and more perfect Tabernacle . . . obtained eternal deliverance."—Rev. 8: 1; Heb. 12: 22, 25, 26, 28; 9: 11, 12.



THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS

“The angel of the LORD encamped round about them that fear Him, and delivers them”—(Psalm 34: 7).

When we think about the great Jehovah, His character and His power and how His Word given in the Scriptures teaches the consecrated various ways of manifesting His power to His people—to the Jews during the Jewish Age and to the Christian Church during the Gospel Age and continues to teach Truth as due during the expanded Harvest time. How gracious God is by setting bounds as guide lines for His chosen people to live under; progressive Truth that we can know of His precious blessings in the understanding of the time we now live. As our title suggests we will consider some thoughts on angels or messengers.

We think it would not be an improper thought that the word “angel” may stand for any agency or power, whether animate or inanimate, that God would be pleased to use in connection with service. God could make the wind or the flaming fire His

messenger. He could make the great Archangel or an inferior angel His messenger. He could use as His messenger whatever or whomever He might choose to invest with the requisite power; just as a representative of Bible Standard Ministries in another country or an ambassador of the United States, going to another country, would be recognized, regardless of his own personal ability or standing.

The details of how the Almighty has knowledge of our prayers, our thoughts, our words, our needs, are not furnished us in the Scriptures; and evidently it is not necessary. We do not think that any finite mind could comprehend God. He is too great for our comprehension, far too mighty for us to understand fully all His powers, His ability.

Nevertheless we can apprehend some things respecting God, and are therefore invited in the Scriptures to study Him along the lines of His Revelation. To assume that God is in every place, in every niche of space throughout the Universe, seems absurd, and is not taught in the Bible; and to assume that God knows about every little tadpole, insect, microbe, or that He even takes knowledge of every act of each one of the human family, when there are millions upon millions of these, is hardly to be entertained. If we would limit God’s attention to His consecrated people, still there are many of these; and arranging to understand and deal personally with many people in an instant seems to us to be an improbability. Nor would such an arrangement be what we would expect God to have.

“ANGEL” REFERS TO SPIRIT BEINGS

In our present text, we are inclined to think that the word “angel” used by the Psalmist refers to spirit beings. Our reason for thinking so is that the revelations of the LORD in olden times previous to Pentecost were nearly all by spirit beings. These often materialized and then dematerialized, vanishing from sight. In general the Scriptures seem to indicate that God’s dealing with His people in those earlier times was through the ministry of angels.

As respects this Gospel Age, in its extended closing, we have confidence that God has shown the same great care in His dealings with Spiritual Israel as He did with Natural Israel; for Spiritual Israel comes nearer to Him as His House of Sons than did Natural Israel as a House of Servants. But God expected the House of Sons to walk by faith and not by sight, a much higher walk. His manifestations to these were not such as appeal to the natural senses. They are, nevertheless, just as real. God is now, however, through Christ dealing with us as His prospective sons (PT ’67, p. 14).

We read that “The eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the

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ISSN: 0032-7700

Published by the
Laymen's Home Missionary Movement
1156 St. Matthews Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425-2700, U.S.A.

Published regularly since December, 1918
4 issues a year
(Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter)

Annual Subscription
\$12.00 (single issue, \$3.50)

Editor
Leon J. Snyder

Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Laymen's Home Missionary Movement
1156 St. Matthews Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425-2700, U.S.A.
Periodicals Postage paid at Kutztown, PA

Other Publications
The Bible Standard

Foreign language editions
French, German, Polish, Portuguese, Tamil, Malayalam,
Kannada, Ukrainian and Lithuanian

Free from all sects, parties, organizations, and creeds of men, but bound to God as it understands His Word, this magazine stands for —

- The defense of the Parousia Truth, given by the Lord through “that Servant,” as basic for all further development of the Truth;
- The defense of the arrangements, charter and will given by the Lord through “that Servant,” as binding on controlling corporations and associations among Truth people; and for
- The exposition and defense of the unfolding Epiphany-Basilea Truth, as meat in due season for the Lord’s people, as He is pleased to provide it.

behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him”; also, “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” (2 Chron. 16: 9; Job 34: 21; Prov. 15: 3; Jer. 16: 17; 32: 19; Zech. 4: 10). But this does not give us the thought that God personally beholds every individual act of every person on earth, but that He takes cognizance of matters throughout the world by means of His power, His agencies. He is too powerful, and too wise, to allow His universe to expand without providing the means to keep in touch with it.

These “eyes” referred to are the LORD’s influence, His power of knowing, whatever the means. Whether His power is exercised and His will is executed through angels or through other forces or agencies, it makes no difference—no more than it would with us in carrying out our wishes. For example, if we wished to know about certain matters in a distant place, there are various methods we could use. We can contact someone by telephone or send mail through the post or electronically; we can communicate over the Internet; we can send a messenger; or we can go personally. So then, even in human society, there are many ways of communicating and ascertaining information.

Now if mankind has these various ways of accomplishing their designs, we can appreciate our Heavenly Father more by thinking of Him as having full ability to come into communication with His children, and as having various agents of communication. God has means, no doubt, far superior to any of ours. He has not revealed the matter clearly to us except to tell us that He is informed respecting all that concerns us, as well as respecting all the affairs of the world.

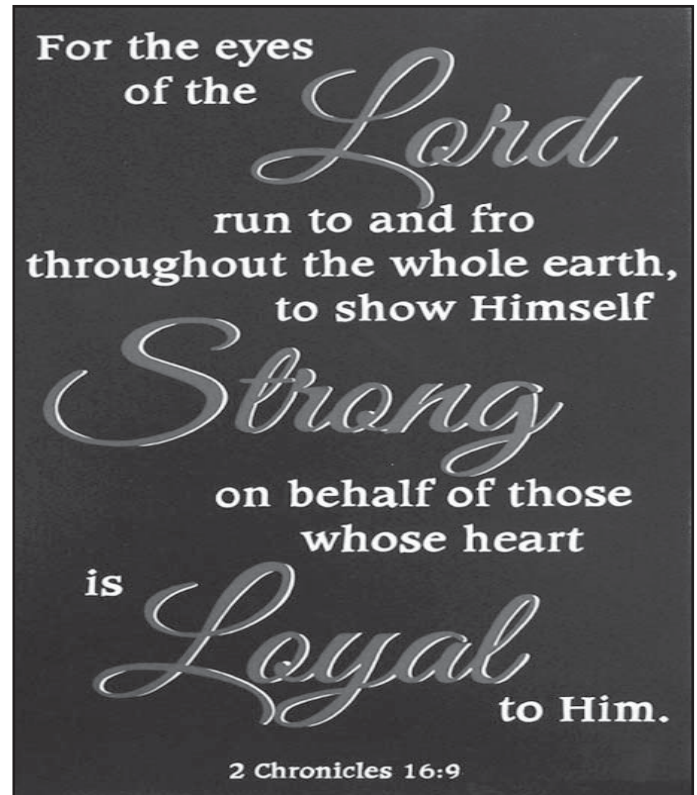
Jehovah tells us that angels are His ministers, and that these have a charge over His people. “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” (Heb. 1: 14). They do not minister in the sense of directly providing bread for us, nor in the sense of cooking our food, nor of building our houses—in none of these ways do they minister. How, then, do they serve us? We have no way of knowing positively how they serve except from the words of our Lord Jesus, that the angels of God’s “little ones” always behold the face of the Father, always have access to Him (Matt. 18: 10).

The fact that these angels represent the LORD’s “little ones” would imply that they would have immediate access to God and have immediate attention. What would be the use of the Father’s receiving the angels into His presence unless there was something to be communicated?

Luke 12: 7 “The very hairs on your head are numbered. Do not fear therefore: you are of more value than many sparrows.” Our understanding is that God’s knowledge of our affairs and interests is gained by methods with which we are not acquainted. We may assume, however, that the mediums used are largely the angelic messengers.

The directors of every corporate or financial entity have certain laws and certain regulations, governing all the operations

of the business. Just so God has certain laws governing nature. It is not necessary that we pray to God that the earth may turn around upon its axis and that tomorrow may come. We may be sure that the Almighty, the One who represents exact Justice and infinite wisdom, has laws that govern His entire Universe; that the angels have insight into these laws; and that they are Jehovah’s deputies, just as an earthly court might deputize someone to sit in chancery and to take information.



JESUS THE CHIEF MESSENGER

If in connection with our text we also have in mind our Lord’s words before His ascension, “Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the Age” (Matt. 28: 20), we shall understand that the Lord Jesus is the Chief Messenger, or Angel, of Jehovah. He surely has been the Chief Messenger to the Gospel Church. Our thought, then, is that through the angels and other agencies God is governing the world, and especially caring for His people, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Head of all the Divine spiritual powers and has charge of all Jehovah’s affairs.

We have been brought into the School of Christ. He is our Teacher. When we go to the Father in prayer, we do not ignore this Teacher, but we go in His name; and we are not to suppose that the Father would ignore Him. He would be the Father’s Representative in dealing with us. But we are not to suppose that the Lord Jesus has every detail of the affairs of the world under His personal supervision; but rather that those angels report to Him whatever is necessary, and that there are certain principles operating. This seems to us to be the reasonable and logical arrangement of Divine operations.

In view of the fact that the Church has been put under the special guidance of the Lord Jesus, it would not be a far-fetched thought that Jehovah encamps round about His people through Jesus, and that the angels are under His direction. If Satan is the chief of his band of angels, so our Lord would have angels under His control, and He would be their Prince.

We read of what Alexander the Great accomplished, and of what Napoleon Bonaparte did, regardless of the fact that they had many thousands under them to carry out their will. So we think of all the spirit beings as under the direction and guidance of Jesus Christ. Into His hands God has committed all power in Heaven and on earth (Matt. 28: 18). All the angels of God were made subject to Him; Heb. 1: 6 "Let all the angels of the God worship Him." V. 7 "Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire." Through these angels that are under the control of our Lord; all the interests of God's people are supervised. Let us take time to examine some words in this text to help clarify our study in general—in v. 7 the word *angel* is scripturally used in a broad sense as signifying the exercise of Divine power in connection with human affairs and the word *spirit* meaning invisible power. Our understanding of *His ministers* is any agency or power that Divine power uses as a part of that care over His people.

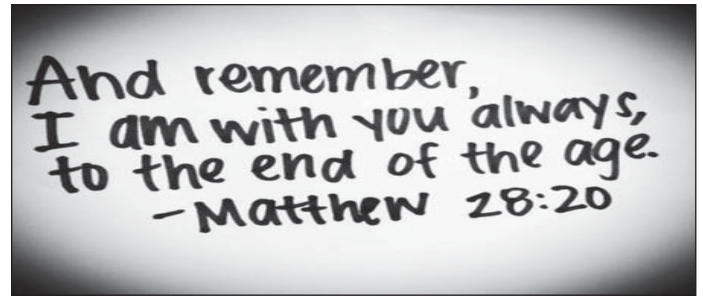
DELIVERANCE IN VARIOUS WAYS

Our text proceeds to say that the angel that encamps around the people of the LORD "delivers them." In olden times the LORD's children were sometimes delivered miraculously. Some were delivered from prison; others were not. Some were delivered from the sword; others were not. We should accept the will of God, whatever it may be. But in order to be able to do this, for our spiritual good, our ultimate good, we must realize that the terms and conditions under which we were accepted by Him were that we would give ourselves unreservedly into His hands. A proper fear, or reverence, for the LORD, would surely lead us to place ourselves fully in His keeping and under His guidance and control. Our experiences in life have shown us how unable we are to walk on the path of righteousness without faith and trust in God's Word. The LORD will deliver each of us in the way that will bring us the largest measure of blessing.

In the days of the Apostles, St. Peter was delivered from prison by an angel of the LORD, who appeared to him as a man. This was in the interest, not only of the Apostle, but of the entire Church, showing that the LORD was able fully to care for His people, giving them valuable lessons.

And although these outward manifestations are not given to us of the present time, we have other blessings that more than compensate for these outward tokens for the good of the consecrated. We are able to say with the Apostle that all things are working together for good to those who love God, to the called ones according to His purpose (Rom. 8: 28). We should be full of confidence in Him—that we are subjects of His choicest care at all times. We have every confidence that our

LORD will continue His shepherding care for His people after the Youthful Worthies have finished their course in this life and continue it through the Consecrated Epiphany Campers!



EACH SAINT HAS HIS MINISTERING ANGEL

We believe that each one of the LORD's people, in proportion as he is one of God's true consecrated children, has a ministering spirit, a person, an angel, who has charge of his affairs. This angel then makes his report to the LORD and if God sees this to be the wise, proper course, we have every confidence in His wisdom and that whatever He has arranged is fully satisfactory to us in this matter, and we are also sure that it is quite right and fully in harmony with the Divine character.

We think that this principle is illustrated in the Book of the Prophet Daniel. Daniel had been praying and after some little time his prayer was answered. The angel Gabriel, who was the LORD's messenger to Daniel, explained to him certain things. At the beginning of his supplications the LORD had purposed to send him an answer and Gabriel had been sent especially to inform him, but had been detained by certain other duties. The fact that Gabriel was detained should not give us the thought that Daniel or any of the LORD's people would ever be neglected; but that while minor affairs of Daniel were under the guidance of a lower angel, there were important matters that were entrusted to Gabriel alone as the plenipotentiary, as it were. Daniel 8: 16 "And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision." In regard to Daniel's interest and other important matters there was a delay and Gabriel mentioned what the delay was; the prince of Persia had withstood him for 21 days. Daniel 10: 13 "But, the ruler of the kingdom of Persia, withstood me twenty-one days, but lo! Michael, one of the chief rulers, came in to help me and I left him there, beside the kings of Persia."

We have elsewhere pointed out that the Gospel Age was different from the Jewish Age and preceding Ages; that after the Gospel Dispensation was ushered in, outward demonstrations, such as the gifts of the Holy Spirit—the gifts of healing, speaking in tongues, the interpretation of tongues, the discerning of spirits—and angelic visitations passed away (see our Speaking in Tongues booklet; a copy supplied free); and that during the Gospel Age it has been God's will that the Spiritual House of Israel should walk by *faith* and not by *sight*.

Jehovah has promised never to leave His children to the

wolves without leadership assuring that He still has a charge over His people today. The LORD is always interested in Spiritual Israel. These angels, then, care for us, supervise our affairs, and are God's agencies or channels of communication to us as to His will; that is, communication in the sense of *providence* for us, causing this or that *providence*, but [read carefully] not by any form of writing or sounds, such as speech, angels whispering into our ears. We think that the angels which now whisper in the ear are the same ones that give seances, table-tippings, communications through the ouija-board, the planchette, the pendulum, automatic writings, and other types of communication to spirit-mediums and such—namely evil spirits, *fallen angels*. The increasing popularity of New Age thinking has opened wide the door for these evil spirits to influence and deceive large numbers of people. Our understanding is that the holy angels would do nothing of the kind.

We strongly urge the LORD's people of the present Age to find their instruction in God's Word. There is no need of horoscopes, a book on Mormonism, Rosicrucianism, Spiritism or New Thought; for clairvoyant or clairaudient power; or for any of the paraphernalia by which so many try to determine the LORD's will on any subject. Be assured by the Word of God that these are snares of the Adversary and his demons. The LORD's people should stay away from such things.

The consecrated children of God and followers of Christ have the Bible [God's Word] and the invisible ministries of God's holy angels to provide for their interests and to providentially guard and guide their affairs. This, to us, is very real and of great comfort. We have the assurance of His Word that not a hair of our heads can fall to the ground without our Father's attention.

STIRRING UP THE NEST

[The article below is an edited transcript of a discourse given by Bro. Raymond G. Jolly (our Editor from 1950-1979) and was recorded at the Chicago Convention on Oct. 29, 1966.]

I wish to address the subject: The Royal Order of the LORD's Eagles. If anyone were to ask you, "What convention is this that you are holding here?" you could say, "It is the Royal Order of the LORD's Eagles, of which I am proud to be a member." If one of the Masonic Order happens to meet you and asks you, "Are you a member of a fraternal order?" (this is the most fraternal order of all the orders on the face of the earth), you could say, "Yes, I belong to the Royal Order of Eagles," the Fraternal Order of Eagles. They may give you a Masonic handshake. Who knows?

My dear friends, there are from one standpoint, we might say, three classes of people on the face of the earth: worms, butterflies and eagles. "Oh," you say, "Worms?" We wouldn't say anyone is a worm, would we? Well, let us notice what we

Let our minds rest in the fact that God accomplishes His purposes in Christ for His children effectively and perfectly through the ministry of His angels.

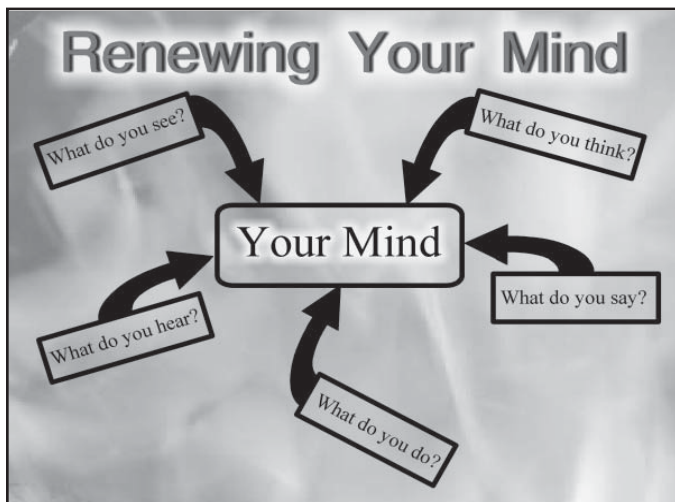


Let us stand firm in God's Word that we can resist the Devil that he will flee from us; and only as we draw nigh to God that He will draw nigh to us (James 4: 7, 8). It is only as we keep ourselves in the inner circle of God's love and care, "Be subject therefore unto God; but resist the devil, and he will flee from you"; where the wicked one cannot touch us; "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded"; that our spiritual lives are perfectly safe (1 John 5: 18). "I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust" (Psa. 91: 2).

read in Job 25: 5, 6: "Behold, even the moon and it shines not [that is, it has no light of its own; it is only a reflected mirror]. Yes, the stars are not pure in His sight. How much less man, that is a worm? And the son of man, which is a worm?" If you meet a man and his son walking down the street, do not call them worms. But that is what the Bible calls them; yet it would not be safe for you to always cite the Scriptures and make personal application. Oh yes, we have a hymn, about how "Our Lord could die for such a worm as I." We, by nature, are fallen into sin and degradation, prone to do evil as the sparks that fly upward—for there is no one righteous, no not one. How our righteousness is as but filthy rags, as the Bible tells us. Indeed, the worm well describes the low, groveling nature of the fallen human race—of which you and I, by nature, are members.

Then there is what we might call the higher class of human society, what is often called "the 400" or the "upper crust." They are just as crusty as the lower crust. This upper crust of human

society is, oh, something like the butterflies. Caterpillars, sometimes, you know, are called worms—though, technically speaking that is not correct, scientifically it is not correct—but frequently caterpillars are called worms. And the highest attainment that they could reach would be the butterfly. And, you know, that describes quite a number of the human race. They develop into a higher sphere or higher strata of Adam’s fallen race. At least they think they are in a higher strata and they flitter around and flutter around. And they go from one thing to another, seeking for amusement, and they are blown around by every wind; they go with the crowd. They are blown around by every wind, they think as they are told to think. Well, that is as high as the fallen human race could attain—in literature, in art, in music, in statesmanship or politician-ship or whatever; and they sail in the upper realms of human society.



GOD MAKES EAGLES OF HIS PEOPLE

But oh, my dear brethren, God has picked up these worms—some of them from the worm strata, some of them from the butterfly strata—and He is making eagles out of them. He gives them His Holy Spirit. He brings them near to Him through Jesus Christ, their Savior, and He transforms them by the renewing of their minds, and they become His eagles.

And the Lord calls them eagles; He speaks of them, for instance, in Luke 17: 34-37: And the Lord says, “I tell you, in that night [this night of the time of the end, this dark night of the Harvest, which in many respects is a night. We will not go into the details, but referring to it as a night, the Lord says that in that night, the Harvest of the Gospel Age] there shall be two men in one bed. The one shall be taken, and the other left. Two “women” and you notice the word “men” in the 34th verse is in italics. “Two shall be in one bed,” and then “two women shall be grinding together.” The word “women” is in italics. It is not in the Bible. It has been added here because I guess they thought the women ought to do the grinding at the mill. Anyway, they stuck the word “women” in here. Well, it is not a part of the Bible; we just leave it like it is in the Bible, “Two shall be grinding together, the one shall be taken, and the other left. And two shall be in the field, and the one shall be taken

and the other left.”

Brother Russell describes this, in Volume Four, and he tells us that the two in one bed represents the creed bed where they are resting, religiously speaking, and you remember this bed is described in Isaiah 28: 20: “For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it.” Some of us here were lying in such a bed. It was too short to stretch yourself on; if you tried to stretch out, you would be shown the door. You were not allowed to rest in that bed if you began to preach the Truth. They wanted you to stay cramped up, you know, and not stretch out. And then the covers were too narrow to wrap yourself in. If you tried to wrap yourself in the cover, well, it was either out on one side or out on the other side, and the chilly winds of eternal torment and purgatory and so forth would chill you. You could not cover yourself up and be comfortable on such a creed bed.

All right. Two would be found in such a bed. The Truth would be presented to them; one would accept the Truth and the other would not. One would be taken, and become an “eagle”; the other would remain a “worm,” or, a “butterfly.” And two would be grinding at the mill—grinding out a grist for the regimentation of people’s minds: “Here now, this is what you are to believe, this is what you are to think.” Many people, you know, like their preachers to dish out their religion for them on a platter and they just swallow it. Many theological professors grind out a grist that you’re supposed to believe; Billy Graham, for instance, he grinds out a grist and says here is what the people should believe. Eternal torture is in that bed, too! Then we have one little eagle come along and say God is dead; that is what you are to believe. And oh, what grist they grind out! And even among these that grind out error from the pulpits and the theological chair, one may accept the Truth and become an eagle; and the other one may continue to be a worm or a butterfly. And then again, two shall be in the field, in the work, maybe not a member of any religious organization or arrangement, movement. And when the Truth is presented to such, one may be taken and the other left.

WHERE WOULD THEY BE TAKEN?

Well now, brethren, put yourself in the place of those Apostles, those disciples to whom the Lord was saying this—they had never heard anything like it before. And here the Lord all of a sudden tells them two will be in one bed, one taken and the other left, two grinding at the mill, one taken and the other left, two in the field one taken and the other left—and we would ask the same question they asked: “Where, Lord? Where are you going to take them?” And He said to them, “Wheresoever the body is, there will the eagles be gathered together.” There is where the eagles are going to be taken; they are going to be taken to that body, that carcass—here, you see, the Truth is pictured as a body on which the eagles feed. And so the Lord says, well, if you want to know where these are going to be taken, they are going to be taken to the Truth. They are going to be taken to the carcass.

And wherever the meat is, there you will find the eagles. That is how I know I am addressing some eagles tonight. You see, you are right here where the carcass is. Some of you came from long distances to get here; from way over in New Jersey, way down in Florida, Georgia—and so they come, the eagles come; they say, we want to eat all that carcass a little bit up there in Chicago. Oh, that is no reflection against Chicago!

Well, dear friends, these eagles can see the Truth from afar off. They have keen vision—that is the way the eagle is, you know. They can be way, way, way lofty, way up in the upper spheres, and they can see way down on the earth, where the carcass is, and swoop to it, to have a feast. And so we read of the keen vision that these eagles have, and we read about it in Job 39: 27-30. God here is speaking to Job, showing that God arranges for these eagles and that man cannot see. God addressing Job says “Does the eagle mount up at your command? And make her nest on high?” In the song “In the Rifted Rock I’m Resting,” way up there in the crags of the rock, free from all harm, from all danger, thoroughly protected; but from that far distance we can see the Truth, if we have that spirit that the LORD gives to His eagles. “Does the eagle mount up at thy command? And make her nest on high? She dwells and abides on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, even the strong place. From there she seeks the prey, and her eyes behold afar off. Her young ones [those that are just coming into the Truth] also suck up blood [that is from the carcass, you see]; and where the slain are, there she is.” She will be at the LORD’S table; wherever that table is found, there is where she will be. It is wonderful to be of the royal order of eagles. It is a wonderful, wonderful privilege.

It is only God that brings us to Himself and transforms us from the miserable groveling worms in which He found us. “Consider the pit from which you have been dug.” Indeed God has lifted us up and made us to sit with Him in the heavens and He has borne us aloft on eagle wings.

EAGLE RENEWS HIS YOUTH

He gives to us the promise of everlasting life—and this is another wonderful privilege that the eagles have. We find also this longevity explained, this wonderful blessing that comes from the heavenly Father, who quickens us to eternal life, in many Scriptures. But I am going to refer to one, namely Psalm 103: 1-5—a wonderful singing of praise to God for these blessings that He gives to us. “Bless the LORD, oh my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name. Bless the LORD, oh my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Who forgives all your iniquities [that is one thing that transforms us from worms into eagles], who heals all your diseases; who redeems your life from destruction; who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies; who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that you are renewed like the eagles.”

He renews our youth. I was talking to one here at the convention that was talking about being so old. I said “Shame on you; you are not even a hundred yet! Wait until you are a *billion* times a *billion* times a *billion* years old, and then look

back and see how young you are now! You are just starting on eternal life, just crossing the threshold into eternal life.”

Oh, God renews our strength as the eagles. It is said of eagles that they live very, very long, that they will see several generations of humans come and pass away. The eagle is a good illustration of renewing the youth. They claim that the eagle has (physiologically speaking) a way in which the strength, the youth, is constantly renewed, and they progress into old age not nearly as quickly as human beings do. This well illustrates the wonderful renewing, the quickening, that we have as the LORD’S eagles. He quickens us, He revivifies us, He regenerates us, He renews our strength constantly. You say, “Oh yes, I came here to Chicago to the convention, and I feed on the carcass here, different ones dishing it out, you know, and I feed on this carcass and then I go away and I feel so much stronger. That is why I came to the convention—to renew my youth, to renew my strength, to be quickened.”

Well, now, how does God quicken us? Oh, let us notice Psa. 119: 25, which shows the old human nature, the old mind that wants to cleave to the things of the earth, and then will read later what God does. “My soul [that is the old man] cleaves to the dust”; and then the prayer, “Quicken me according to Your Word [the carcass on which eagles feed], according to Your Word.” Oh yes, that is how we are quickened.

Now the same Psa. 119: 50: “This is my comfort in my affliction, for Your Word has quickened me.” Some people will say, “I do not understand, then, why so many people have the Word and they do not become quickened?” Yes that is true. Many, many people have the Word, but it does not quicken them; and here it says that we are quickened by the Word, “for Your Word has quickened me.” And why is it that everyone that has the Word, then, are not quickened? Ah! It is not only to have the Truth in our hand, but we must have it in the heart. We must have the Spirit of the Truth. We often hear the expression, the Truth and the Spirit of the Truth and it is the Spirit of the Truth that is so essential; and we read, for instance, our Lord’s Words in John 6: 63, “It is the Spirit that quickens.”

“FOR THE LORD’S PORTION IS HIS PEOPLE; JACOB IS THE LOT OF HIS INHERITANCE. HE FOUND HIM IN A DESERT LAND, AND IN THE WASTE HOWLING WILDERNESS; HE LED HIM ABOUT, HE INSTRUCTED HIM, HE KEPT HIM AS THE APPLE OF HIS EYE. AS AN EAGLE STIRS UP HER NEST, FLUTTERS OVER HER YOUNG, SPREADS ABROAD HER WINGS, TAKES THEM, BEARS THEM ON HER WINGS: SO THE LORD ALONE DID LEAD HIM AND THERE WAS NO STRANGE GOD WITH HIM” (DEUT. 32: 9-12).

The Lord makes this very plain, does He not? It is not enough to have a Bible in your house. It is not enough to read the Bible. It is not enough to *understand* the Bible. You have to

have it in the heart; you need to have the Spirit of the Truth. So the Lord says, it is the spirit that quickens. The flesh profits nothing; the words that I speak to you, they are what? Spirit. And as a result, they are what? They are Life. And we must have not only the Truth, but the Spirit of the Truth, if we are going to be made into eagles, if we are going to be strong in the LORD'S strength; we have got to have the Spirit of the Truth as well as the Truth.

Praise the Lord, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits —
who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:1-5

A sister came to me not long ago, and she said, "Bro. Jolly, I read the First Volume; I was reading and studying the First Volume. I was trying to get the Truth." She was a young girl, and she says, "I was trying to get the Truth. Somehow or other I could not get it. My mother enjoyed it. She wanted me to read it, wanting me to study it, and I did it to suit her, and also to try to get the Truth." But she said, "I couldn't get it. I love to go out with the other girls; they wanted to go here, they wanted to go there; they wanted to go to the dance and go to the parties and so forth, and I just enjoyed those things." Yes I know she did, because she said of one young sister that she met at that time, "Well, she is a very nice girl even if she is not worldly." So you see, she had the worldly viewpoint.

A LIFE TRANSFORMED TO GOD

Then something took place. She consecrated her life to God. She gave herself to God. She became one of His eagles, do you see? And then she belonged to God and God began to work with her, to transform her, by the renewing of her mind and by the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Truth. And she said, "You know, Bro. Jolly, I read over now the same things that I read before in that First Volume, and now it means so much to me!" And she says, "When I come to read," she said, "My spirit is in it." She says, "I feel different, I feel as though I am in harmony with God"; and then she says, "It all opens up so nice."

I said "That's it! You have a radio at home?" She said, "yes." I said, "You turn on the radio and sometimes there are lisps and squeaks and everything, it isn't right. And then you tune it, to get it to synchronize with the broadcast. And then it comes in as clear as a bell." And I said "That is the way it is. You have got to tune your heart to receive the message." I told her, "Do you remember John on Patmos before he received the wonderful visions, the revelations of the book of Revelation? He says 'I was in the' what? 'the Spirit, on the Lord's Day.'" My dear brethren, if you're not in the Spirit on the Lord's Day you will

not hear the voice of the Lord. And so she told me, "That is my experience; I come now in the spirit to the heavenly Father, to the Word of the LORD, and it means so much to me and I just love it so much. But earlier I had read it and I did not care for it."

And she said another thing—"The girls come to me down at work and they want me to go to their parties and they want me to go to the dances and so forth." But she said, "You know, I don't care about that anymore. I do not know why, but I just do not care about it." Well, I knew why: if you're in the spirit, you are absent from the flesh. And the flesh didn't appeal to her. My dear brethren that is a caution to us also, is it not? If we find that we are at home in the body, the things of this world, its allurements, its attractions, its enticements, its ambitions, then we are absent from the LORD. Let us put that right down in our little notebook. But if we are absent from the things of this world, if we are absent from the body, then we are present with the LORD.

THE WONDER OF BEING AN EAGLE

My dear friends, it is wonderful to be one of the LORD'S eagles, and to be present with Him in the spirit—and it is the Truth and the Spirit of the Truth that quickens us. Even as the Apostle Paul tells us in Rom. 8: 11, "But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwells in you." By His Spirit. And that is what quickens our mortal bodies.

And here is another caution: if you and I are not quickened, energetic, alive for the LORD, maybe we have been quenching that spirit. We are quickened by the spirit. "Are you quickened?" "No, Bro. Jolly, I am inactive." Well then, look out! Then pray to the LORD for His Holy Spirit. Come back into tune, to harmony with the LORD. Some of the truth friends (and you have heard this statement before) are in the Truth but the Truth is not in them! There is a vast difference. Let us be sure that the Truth is in us and that we are impelled by the spirit of God, that we are constrained by the love of Christ!

Some years ago, a dear sister told me of a certain brother. She said "Bro. Jolly, we miss this brother, he does not come to the meetings anymore." I asked about him, and this is the response. I asked "Why, I don't see this brother. I miss him." "Oh, Bro. Jolly, he doesn't come to the meetings any more, he just doesn't come." And then she says, "Oh, maybe you could go and visit him, maybe you could go and see him." "Well," I said, "I am here only during the three days of the Chicago convention, but I will see if I can go." I spoke to Bro. Johnson. I was the chairman of the convention, and Bro. Johnson said, "Yes, Bro. Jolly, you go, and I will see that the afternoon session is taken care of. You go and see if you can help the brother."

I went to see the dear brother. He had become engrossed in business. Now, business is all right within a certain sphere, within a certain restriction. But his business had become

more or less his religion, I am afraid. He was glad to see me; we knew each other very well, and I was glad to see him. And so we sat down, and in our conversation I said, “brother, the reason I came out here to see you is because I miss you at the convention. And I enquired about you, and I was told that you probably will not be at the convention.” “No,” he says, “I don’t expect to be there.” I said “Why? Then I understand you are not attending the meetings anymore at the local class. Why?”

“Well,” he said, “Bro. Jolly, there is a certain sister that every time—well, I just do not get along with her.” And it happened to be Sister—, the very sister that longed for him and sent me to try and help him. But he just could not get along with her. I said, “Brother, the Bible tells you not to forsake the assembling of yourselves together, especially as that day draws on.” “Well, Brother, yes, but,” he said, “I have peace.” I said, “Yes, but it’s a comatose peace!” He says, “I get more peace staying at home and reading and studying than I do going to meetings.” I said, “Yes, but it’s a comatose peace. You are rocking yourself to sleep. Your old flesh is in the cradle, and you are rocking that cradle trying to put yourself to sleep and you call that peace. It is peace to the old man, not peace to the new heart, mind and will.”

“Well,” he said, “I’m a child of the King.” I said, “Yes, but you are a child of disobedience. There are two kinds of children of the King—children of obedience and children of disobedience. You are a child of the King, yes, but what kind of child are you?” I urged him to come back. “Well, brother,” he says, “I’m not deserting the Truth, I am in the Truth.” But the Truth was not in him. He was quenching the spirit. I said to him, “brother, you are going to go out of the Truth. You are going to drift farther and farther away from the LORD if you don’t come back to the fellowship with the brethren. You take a piece of coal and put it off alone, it dies out. You have two coals together, they keep each other aglow, isn’t that right? And so the book of Proverbs tells us.”

Well, he did not come back to the LORD’s people. He failed to come back to feed on the carcass, and he became a worm again. Oh, can we lose out as an eagle? Oh, yes, the Bible is full of warnings to the LORD’s eagles, that they can become castaways, that they can even become lost, that they can even go into the quenching of the spirit—and finally into the sin against the spirit, for which there is no forgiveness. Oh, how careful we should be to be quickened by God’s Holy Spirit!

GOD TEACHES US HOW TO FLY

Now, my dear friends, God is the Great Master Eagle that teaches us how to fly. And I want to take a verse along this line, He is the Great Chief Eagle. In Isa. 40: 28-31, “Have you not known? Have you not heard that the everlasting God, the LORD [Jehovah]; the Creator of the ends of the earth, faints not, neither is weary?” That Great Eagle that teaches us how to fly? He likens Himself to an eagle, and so we speak of Him that way here. He teaches us how to fly, and He never grows weary. What kind of a teacher to teach us how to fly if He would grow

weary and give up? Oh, He does not faint, neither is weary.

“There is no searching of His understanding.” We can never fathom the fullness, the depth of His wisdom. “He gives power to the faint, and to them that have no might, He increases strength.” Now, of those that do not receive their strength from Him, people in general, it says “Even the youth shall faint and be weary.” Even the men of this world, in the fullness of their strength, they will faint and become weary. “And the young men shall utterly fall”—the strong men shall utterly fall. Even the strong men of this world are trembling now for what they see coming upon this earth, and many of them give up; they say, “We can never solve the problems.”



Then the 31st verse, “But they that wait upon the LORD [Jehovah] shall renew their strength.” Oh, it is the spirit that quickens. We are going to renew our strength. “They shall mount up with wings as eagles. They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Yes, they shall renew their strength as the eagles. That is why we are here—to renew our strength. And day by day the LORD renews our strength as we stand our tests, and strength that is not tested cannot be approved. That is why God is testing our strength. That is why He gives us trials.

And that is why as eagles He gives us strength in our trials to overcome, to renew our strength as the eagles. As I told some dear ones here at this convention, the LORD is blessing you with trials. They are for your good, and they are for you to work out a victory amid those trials. You cannot come to Philadelphia and work out my trials. I can’t work out your trials, you must do that yourself in the strength that the LORD gives you. The LORD promises, “My strength is sufficient.”

I have heard an expression here at this convention, “But my trials are more than I can stand.” Then you are contradicting the LORD. Be careful; the LORD says, “My strength is sufficient.” Do not tell Him it is more than you can stand. Tell Him not that you have more trials than you can bear. I know some of you have very severe trials; some of you have been telling me something about your trials during this convention. I know you have very severe trials, some of you, and they are wonderful compliments from God. You know, God says, I will not test

you more than you are able to bear. If you have severe trials He must see that you are getting to be very strong, that you can stand some strong trials.

Like a sister wrote to me of some of the terrible trials that she had; she just thought it was awful, the trials that she had. And I wrote back a letter of congratulations. I told her that if she was a weakling the LORD would not give her such strong trials, such severe trials. He tries us according to what we need. And if we have severe trials, let us rejoice that the heavenly Father now sees that we can stand more than we did when we were just little infants and first came to Him.



STIRRING UP THE NEST

We go to our text in Deut. 32: 9-12. Here we read that “the LORD’s portion is His people.” I think that is wonderful. The great God of the universe! And He says that His portion is His people. The more I think about it the more I see how true it is. We look at the universe; we say “the great heavenly bodies, the Milky Way, with its millions of suns, and planets about them!” And then other constellations beyond the Milky Way. The Milky Way is only one out of many, many constellations (galaxies), and we are in the Milky Way. All right, there are other constellations, we see all these heavenly bodies, and we say “Oh, the glory of God!” Brethren, the glory of God right here in this room is greater than all the heavenly bodies. Why? Because they are inanimate. Inanimate suns, inanimate constellations, myriads of stars— but not one of them can praise God like you and I can. God’s heritage is His people. And that alone would be a good text for a whole sermon. It is wonderful, dear friends, that God finds His heritage in you and in me?

Oh, what honor has been bestowed upon us! And how it overwhelms us! When we read this simple little text: God’s heritage, His portion, in which He specially delights—the LORD’s portion is His people. Now it takes up fleshly Israel (which is, of course, a type of spiritual Israel) and it says, “Jacob is the lot of His inheritance.” Yes, God found His inheritance in fleshly Israel, and a greater inheritance, of course, in the antitype, spiritual Israel.

Our text tells us, “He found him in the desert land, and in
42 — PRESENT TRUTH AND HERALD OF CHRIST’S EPIPHANY

the waste howling wilderness.” He found him down in Egypt, in slavery, in bondage, beaten by the taskmasters, and kept so busy making brick without straw that they didn’t have time, hardly, to think of Jehovah as their covenant God. There is that desert condition in which God found fleshly Israel, Jacob.

Then in the waste, howling wilderness, for forty years, “He led him about”; He led him about for forty years, training him, instructing him. Yes, “He instructed him. He kept him as the apple of His eye,” protecting him from foes. Protecting him, giving him instructions, giving the wonderful Mosaic code of laws, in relation to which nothing has equaled it in the history of mankind. People today marvel at the wonderful justice that is magnified in that Law.

Well, my dear friends, God led them, and He protected them, kept them as the apple of His eye. What is meant by the apple of the eye? The pupil. And if anyone goes to put their finger into your eye, you just must brush them aside and protect your eye. You can go to the hospital and have your leg amputated, or your arm amputated. I would not advise you to, but if you have the arm amputated or the leg amputated or the stomach cut open and some of the organs taken out—but let someone put their finger in the pupil of your eye, that is different, is it not? God used the greatest physiological illustration here that I can imagine. He protected His people. And He guarded them, and He kept them as the apple of His eye.

“As an eagle stirs up her nest, and flutters over her young, and spreads out her wings, takes them and bears them on her wings, so Jehovah alone did lead him and there was no strange God with him.” That is, God alone was the one who dealt with His Israel and He kept impressing upon them the truth. “I am the LORD your God. You shall have no other gods before me.” He alone led them forth, and when Korah, Dathan and Abiram and others set up the golden image, and would have the people worship the golden calf—“these be your gods, O Israel, that led thee out of Egypt.” You remember the curse that God brought upon them. God alone was to be their covenant God, and He alone delivered them and led them and instructed them.

THE EAGLE REPRESENTS GOD’S WISDOM

And as the eagle He dealt with them. The eagle well represents God’s wisdom; as we read, for instance, in Revelation 4: 7. We find here the four attributes of God, pictured in four living creatures (translated “beasts”; should be translated “living creatures”). And the first living creature was like a lion, representing God’s great power. The second beast was like a calf—the bullock, you remember, represents God’s justice. And the third beast, or living creature, had the face of a man, representing God’s love. And the fourth beast was like a flying eagle, representing God’s wisdom. We have here His power, justice, love and wisdom, symbolized in those four living creatures.

And so, God dealt with them: as in Rev. 4: 7 it says “like a flying eagle”—an *active* eagle, not one that is perching,

roosting, sleeping, but a flying eagle. I think that word “flying” is also very significant. God alone led them.

But my dear friends, in spite of all of God’s leading, they murmured and rebelled. Let us notice the purpose of God’s dealing with them. We read in Exodus 19: 3-5, “And Moses went up to God and the LORD [Jehovah], called unto Him out of the mountain, saying ‘You shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel [now you can take that as applying to fleshly Israel, but you can also understand this as referring to fleshly Israel *and* spiritual Israel, for it applies also to spiritual Israel]. You shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the children of Israel, you have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to myself.’” That is what God wants. He wants you and me to come back to Himself.

There was a lady down in New Jersey, not long ago, that was considering baptism, but she didn’t know where she could symbolize her consecration. She did not want to go to the Baptists. She did not want to go to the Methodists. She did not want to join any of those organizations, and she was afraid to join the Laymen’s Home Missionary Movement. She didn’t want to get involved with the LHMM. She didn’t know where to be baptized. I explained to her, “You don’t join the LHMM when you consecrate, you join the LORD. And I don’t care where you’re immersed before a congregation of the LORD’s people, that immersion should picture what took place in your heart between you and God.”

GOD STIRRED UP BOTH ISRAELS

God has led *fleshly* Israel, all during the reign of the Judges and the Kings and Israel had experiences time and again, and the nest was stirred up time and again.

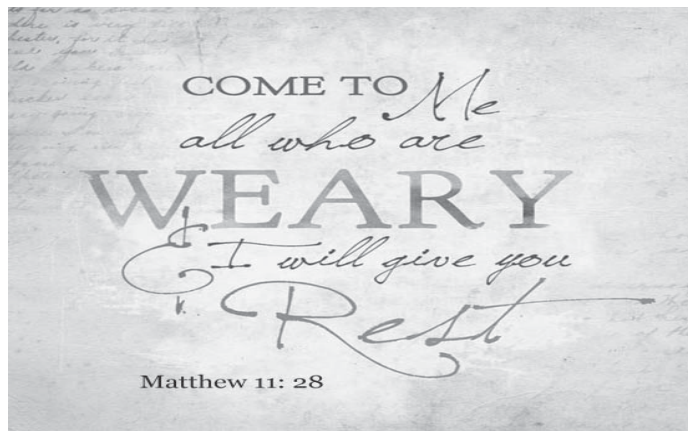
One time for seventy years they went into captivity in Babylon, and then the Great Eagle bore them up again, brought them back (and they rebuilt the temple and so forth). Then finally the Lord came and again gave them experiences of teaching, but they were not found worthy to come into the Church—except in the case of the small remnant.

This little remnant that the Lord dealt with in the Harvest of the Jewish Age, He dealt with very gently, until they could learn and gain enough strength whereby they could be tested in their flight. And then the Lord was taken away from them. After Pentecost, they had stirring experiences. They were persecuted; and there was a man by the name of Saul of Tarsus, that got papers and authority from the chief priests, from the priests and the Sanhedrin, to persecute them and even to put them to death, and to lead them off in bondage in prison. Oh, what a terrible stirring up of the nest that was! And then what happened? That same man that persecuted them so terribly, became one of their greatest Apostles—the greatest of all of their Apostles. Oh, how the Lord turned their trial into a blessing! And that trial brought to them the greatest of all the Apostles, and the one that wrote most of the New Testament. Oh, what a wonderful help the Lord gave them through the

very one through whom they had such trials!

The old house of fleshly Israel was found unworthy, and the kingdom was to be given to those who were more worthy. And so after the old nest of Jewry was torn up and finally destroyed, so that the fledglings could not go back into that nest any more, in AD 70 it was completely overthrown, through AD 73. And then the little fledglings were scattered into various countries in Europe—into Italy, into Greece, into Spain, into England. They began to become comfortable again—built another nest, you see, and they were quite comfortable again in that nest.

And then after a while the LORD tore up *that* nest, that Papal nest, and gave them the wings of an eagle. Oh yes, we read about it in Rev. 12: 14: “And to the woman [the Church] were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and a half a time [the 1260 years, as you know, are pictured here] from the face of the serpent.” Here she had the wings of an eagle. The eagle, as we have already seen, represents God’s wisdom.



OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT WINGS BEAR US UP

And where do we find God’s wisdom? Oh, in His two wings that bear us up. “And she was given the wings of a great eagle.” And those wings were the Old Testament (the left wing) and the New Testament (the right wing), and here is where we find the wisdom of God, in these two testaments of His Holy Word. Here are the wings that bear us up.

How foolish some are to try to be borne up by other means than the two wings of the Word of God. And so, in the case of many who have taught error, who teach contrary to the Word of God—they try to get up by broken props, and they fail. Many, many theories have been developed; many sifting errors have been developed, contrary to the Word of God. Broken props, they can never mount to the heights except by the Word of God. How careful we must be then to have God’s Holy Word.

And so during the time of the Gospel Age, until the Time of the End, the Church was protected by the wings, the two wings, of the Great Eagle that bore her away. The Reformation was another stirring up of the nest. Many of them began to be quite comfortable in the Roman Catholic nest. It was a nice

place to lodge, but, along came Luther, along came Zwingli, Hubmaier, and others; and how the LORD stirred up that old nest, and set the little fledglings out to fly into new realms, new spheres, and to greater heights.

And then, skipping many of them, we come down to our dear Brother Miller, who stirred up the nest, and who brought forth the chronology in connection with our Lord's Second Coming. He did not understand it fully, but he activated many minds along that line. And he raised them to heights, and then what happened? Oh, just about the time they were nicely nested in the Miller movement and were finding much comfort in the warmth of the feathers of God's love and the beautiful arrangements of the nest, Bro. Miller died, and then the nest was stirred up.

What to do now? The little fledglings had to fly into new spheres; and many failed. Various denominations were formed out of the Miller movement, but the fledglings that the LORD bore up on His eagle wings came into another beautiful sphere of Truth, the Harvest-Reaping Truth. And that Faithful and Wise Servant provided for the young fledglings most beautifully. Many babes in Christ were brought into the Truth. And we all began to find a very comfortable nest in the Parousia Truth. And I remember some would say, "We will just hold onto Brother Russell's coat-tails, we will get into the Kingdom!" And the LORD took Brother Russell away, and He stirred up the nest. And we little fledglings were thrown out; we were thrown out of the nest. I will never forget my feeling when the LORD took Bro. Russell away—I thought, Oh, where can I go now? The LORD says, "I stirred up the nest, I brought you forth, I brought you to *Me*."

ARE WE COMING TO GOD?

So in all the stirrings-up of the nest, the question is, are you coming to God? Are you being borne up with the eagle wings of the Old and the New Testament truths, or are you drifting off into various lines of error? Oh, after Miller, there came siftings that led the friends away in different directions, those who were not holding to the Word of Truth. After the death of that Faithful and Wise Servant, many drifted away, and were not holding to— What says the LORD? They went away from God; they failed to mount to greater elevations on the strength of the wings that God provided for them.

We had the Epiphany Messenger, and he rallied some of the eaglets together, in the strength of the LORD, not his own strength, and they mounted to still greater heights. And we all began to feel pretty comfortable under the Epiphany Messenger, did we not? Then the LORD took *him* away. Where shall we go now? What shall we do? Brother Johnson's gone. Brethren, it is the same two wings that carry us to greater heights but if you do not hold to a "What says the LORD?" you will flounder. If you fail to let the mother eagle get under you and bear you up on the everlasting arms, you are going to lose your position as eagles. You can be undone, and you can crash on the rocks below. After the death of the Parousia Messenger,

though he gave the Scriptures in the second and third volumes which you have heard from this platform, many now repudiate them. I was at one of their conventions, some few years ago, where I was privileged to debate a certain question with one of their leaders. And what did I see? I saw sifting booklets, M. L. McPhail's booklets, side by side with Bro. Russell's Scripture Studies, on their table for sale. I was horrified! I heard one of the speakers stand up, a brother that was faithful in the Truth under Bro. Russell for a while. I heard him stand up and say, "My dear brethren, I have kicked Bro. Russell out of the window and I am going straight to the Word of God!" For my own ideas, don't forget. (He didn't put that on it, but that was it.) For his own ideas, he was trying to dig things out for himself; he was not trusting in the mother's eagle wings. He says, I will do my own flying. Not in the strength of the LORD but in my own strength, and *everyone* that does that, is sure to fail.



And so, they denied many truths of that Parousia Messenger. After the Epiphany Messenger left our midst, some began to go. For awhile they taught that he was the final priest, as he himself had shown *from the Scriptures*, for it was from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zacharias and not a few more added on. From the blood of Abel to the blood of Zacharias, and as Bro. Russell explained, all those that had a part in the Sin-offering. And some—for a while preaching and teaching that he was the last priest—said later on, "Oh, I am going to do my own flying, I am not going to stand on the eagle wings anymore, I am going to do my own flying. I do not believe that the priests are all gone

yet, I find that I can get a lot of followers if I just preach that the priests are still here.” And he did get some followers. Those that wanted to be in Christ’s Bride whether Christ wanted to marry them or not, *that* kind of followers he got. Oh my dear brethren, many have the spirit of Lucifer that says, “I’m going to be like the most High, I am not going to wait for Him to invite me. Even if He says that the High Calling is closed, I am in it! If He says that it is to the blood of Zacharias, well I don’t believe it, I am going to have some more priests still in the earth.”

CLEANSING OF LEVITICUS 12

When He shows that at the end of the 80 days (in Lev. 12), that after 1954 (as you read in E Vol. 10, page 114), no more Youthful Worthies after 1954, and that now the Attestatorial work will be in building up the camp instead of the court, “Well,” they say, “we are going to build up the court, we are going to have more Youthful Worthies, the Y. W. call is not closed. Come on in, come on in, follow me, and you will be Youthful Worthies.”

Brethren, the rocks are sure to catch such eagles; they are not on the eagle wings that bear them to loftier heights. So the mother eagle (God likening Himself to a mother eagle) swoops under the eaglets that trust in Him, and bears them to higher heights, until they learn to fly in *His* strength. Well, now, my dear friends, the same thing applies to the individuals. Now we come to you as an individual. The LORD finds you in a desert and in a waste and howling wilderness. That is where he found me, in the darkness of the Presbyterian bed that was too short to stretch myself on, covers too narrow to wrap myself in. He found me in that creed-bed, and He picked me up. He found you in the waste and howling wilderness and the desert of the things of this world that are empty and perish with the using. And He brought us to Himself. Maybe with some of us individually He stirred up the eagle nest, and *pushed us out!*

He pushed me out of Babylon. I was preaching in the Presbyterian Church; but when I began to preach the Truth to them, oh, my, you know what happened. And I was spread out on the front page of our county newspaper in no complimentary terms. I remember standing outside of the Presbyterian church in the little town where I was born and raised, and I had learned all that I had learned in that little nest—where I had come to Jesus, where I had accepted Him as my Savior, where I was sprinkled (I thought it was baptism, of course, but I was sprinkled), where I consecrated my life to God, where I was instructed and taught and prepared for the Presbyterian ministry; still as a member of that little congregation. And when I was rejected and cast out of the nest, by the Heavenly Father and the Truth that He gave to me and the stand that I

took in favor of it—I remember standing and looking at that church, the only church that I had ever known. And tears ran down my cheeks. I said, “Oh, I’m on the outside.”

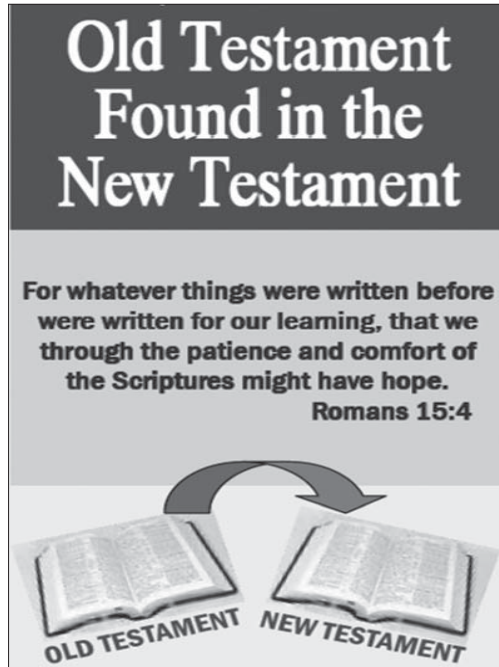
Did you ever get pushed out of a nest? Oh, I’m sure you have in various ways. About the time you felt at ease in some circumstance, some relationship—something came along and brushed you off, and you felt like crashing on the rocks below. Maybe you got into a certain bad habit, and you were enjoying yourself in that fleshly habit. And maybe the LORD gave you some kind of an experience that pushed you out of it. You know, we get into a rut, sometimes; we get into a rut, doing a thing just a certain way and maybe that is not the right way. And you know what a rut is—a rut is a graveyard [grave] with both ends knocked out. And you’re in that rut, and the LORD wants you to get out of that rut, and maybe something takes place that is more or less, as you would feel, disastrous. But the LORD is delivering you from that which is not to your advantage.

INCREASED TIME FOR STUDY

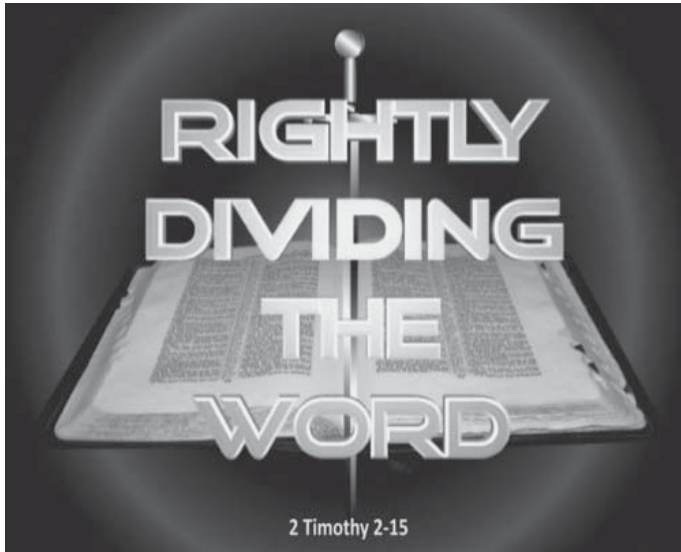
It could even be a spell of sickness. I remember a dear brother in Easton, Pennsylvania, years ago that told me he was a farmer. And he broke his leg. He fell down from the hay mow, onto the main floor and broke his leg. And I called at his bedside after he had been in bed for about two weeks when I was where I could call on him, I went to see him. I sat by his bedside trying to comfort him. And he said, “Brother Jolly, you may think that I need comfort. Well, maybe I do.” But he said “I want to tell you I am having one of the most blessed experiences that I have ever had since I consecrated my life to God.” Why, I said, “How?” “Well,” he said, “You know, I’ve been so busy making hay, that I didn’t have time to read the volumes. I consecrated, I came to the LORD, I read maybe the First Volume, and then a few sketches here and there, and I was too busy making hay.

“Now,” he says, “from way up on the hayloft the LORD let me slip and I came down and broke my leg, and it laid me up here in bed for several weeks.” He had been there already for two weeks. And he said “You know what I’m doing? I now have time to read the Studies in the Scriptures! And I am just feasting in the LORD!” Best thing that could have happened to him!—and I told him I was glad he broke his leg. And he was, too! He rejoiced also! He says, “You know, I just was negligent, too busy with the things of this world, and the LORD just laid me up for a while, and He was willing to help me where I was just too weak to do it for myself.”

I have known cases where a death came into a family; and that was the means that the LORD took to stir up the nest. I’m



thinking now of a sister out in the Middle West. “Oh, this is the Middle West, isn’t it? Well, it isn’t right in Illinois, anyway. This dear sister out here in the Middle West—for years it was “mother’s religion,” she rested in that little nest with her mother. It was mother’s religion and whatever mother said was true and any time she had a question she could go to mother and mother was right there to help her.



God took mother away. And now it is becoming not Mother’s religion but *her* religion, for now she is stirred up to study to see what mother really believed, and she is beginning to believe it herself. Oh, is that not wonderful? It is good for her that her mother was taken. And I am glad her mother died. You say Brother Jolly, that is harsh. No! We should be glad for what the LORD does for us, should we not? And if the little eaglet is pushed off, and goes out of the nest, the little eaglet should say, “I know this is for my good. It is a very hard, severe experience. But I know it is for my good and I rejoice in it and I thank you, LORD, and I am going to trust on your wings”; and God will always come to your rescue, He will never let you crash below. He will never let you be tried more than what you’re able to bear.

I know of another case where there was a brother, and everybody looked up to this brother who was an elder in the class. They looked up to this brother for their instruction, for their guidance. And the LORD finally removed the brother, when he was ready to be taken, and now the class cannot look up to him anymore and so they are all getting busy and studying for themselves. Well, that is a good thing, yes?

EARLY CHURCH MOURNED JAMES

The LORD took James (one of the three: Peter, James and John) away, allowed him to be beheaded by Herod Agrippa; and the early Church must have greatly mourned the loss of James. But it was for their good. They began not to lean on the arm of flesh, but to lean more upon the arm of God. Yes, as we read in Deut. 33: 27, “The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.” And so, my dear friends,

God is our support. God is our refuge, He is our strength, He is our support. And He will bear us up.

However, as eaglets we are to learn how to fly and in each one of these experiences we are to gain strength. Your faith and your hope, in harmony with God’s Word, will bear you up, as your two individual wings, in harmony with God’s Word. Have strong faith, have strong hope that holds as an anchor, have faith that is the victory—for “this is the victory that overcomes the world, even your faith.”

When it comes to hope, for instance, hope is made up of desire and expectation. If you want to fly strong with your hope, you have the two wings of desire and expectation. If you lack desire you do not have any hope; if you have desire and no expectation, then you don’t have any hope. You have a desire but no hope because you have no expectation. Now, dear brethren, hope is made up of desire and expectation; you must have strong desire and strong expectation. But if you have a strong desire and a very weak expectation, you can’t fly very far. It reminds me of the flock of white geese that I saw on a farm some time ago. And the geese could not fly. I said to the farmer, “How do you keep the geese from flying off?” “Oh,” he says, “I clip one wing. And then the geese can’t fly.”

Don’t let either wing get clipped. Keep both of those wings, my dear brethren, so that you can fly. If it is hope: desire and expectation. Or if it is faith and hope, let them both fly in harmony with God’s Word. If it is the Old Testament and New Testament as God’s wings that you are relying on (which you should), let it be both testaments.

Some people don’t like to quote from the Old Testament. I met a preacher down in Trinidad when I was speaking down there at a public lecture; this preacher came to me after the lecture with several of his congregation, he took me to task at the door. He said, “You quote so much from the Old Testament, do not you know we have the New Testament?” He wanted me to fly with one wing. I said “Yes, I know we have the New Testament.” Well, then he says, “Why don’t you quote from the New Testament?” I said, “I did, and I quoted also from the Old Testament.” “Yeah, but you quoted largely from the Old Testament and we have the New Testament and we don’t need the Old Testament anymore.” I said, “Listen, brother. Did Jesus ever quote Scripture?” “Yes.” “Did the Apostle Paul ever quote Scripture?” “Oh, yes.” “Which testament did they quote from?” “Well, the Old Testament.” “Well, I’m following in their footsteps”—using both wings.

And in the Epiphany Truth, how much of the Old Testament wing has been brought to our attention—even as in the Parousia Truth the New Testament wing was especially emphasized.

APOSTLE PAUL’S TESTIMONY

I want to read the testimony of one of the greatest of the LORD’s eagles (of which you and I belong to the fraternal order). I want to read his testimony, the Apostle Paul’s testimony, in Romans 8: 35-39. We are all acquainted with it

of course. “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress?” Have you got any tribulation, have you got any distress? Oh, yes, I guess we all have some distress, have we not? Any persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword—anything that your flesh may lack? In other words, as it is written, “For your sake we are killed all the day long. We are counted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors *through Him*.” Forget not, it is 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.” In closing, I wish to read a little poem.

“EAGLE FREE”

An eaglet in a downy nest
 Looked down on the scenes below,
 And asked with animated zest,
 “Oh, Mother, I would know —
 Will I someday begin to fly
 As high and far as you?”
 “Of course you will fly,” the answer came,
 “For that is what eagles do.
 “High-born you are, and high you will stay,
 And higher still you will go,
 And never know an earthbound day,
 Nor crawling to and fro [like the worms do].
 No, now dashing down, now soaring high,
 Now floating on the air,
 Now flying where you would will to fly,
 So free to do and dare.
 “Your eyes will view a vast domain,
 And you will know no fear.
 Lions will admit your reign
 When your great wings appear.
 Your strength will flay the strongest foe;
 You’ll sing the victor’s song.
 The greatest heights will be your home,
 And yours the earliest dawn.
 “I will take the down from out your nest,
 And let the thorns protrude.
 I will let the thorns disturb your rest
 And halt your nesting mood.
 Then, soon you will climb up on the edge
 and stretch your wings out;
 You will totter on the eerie ledge
 And ponder space, and doubt.
 “Then with a wing I will knock you off
 To flounder, flap and fly —
 And, with a swoop I will pick you up,

And bear you up on high.
 I will put you on the perch again,
 To give you needed rest.
 And then I will push you off again,
 To stand another test.
 “You will go from strength to strength, my dear,
 And conquer gravity.
 You will learn to stem the roughest wind
 And fly in ecstasy.
 My eagle son, this word I give:
 Keep looking to the sky,
 For though an eagle flies to live,
 An eagle lives to fly.”

May God grant to us the privilege of being strong-flying eagles in the LORD’S strength. Amen

**ARE YOU HOLDING TO THE
 WORD OF TRUTH?
 IF YOU DO NOT HOLD TO A
 “WHAT SAYS THE LORD?”
 YOU WILL FLOUNDER.**



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HAVE YOU MOVED OR
ARE YOU GOING TO BE MOVING?
RENEW TODAY!

TO:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OBITUARIES

Bro. Calvin Hall, Jamaica representative of Bible Standard Ministries [LHMM USA], finished his course June 8, 2014. He was a devoted man of God and faithful follower of Christ. In 1967 at the age of 39 he dedicated his life to the Lord and symbolized his consecration by water immersion. Since then he continued in his Christian walk and made the light of God's Truth brightly shine so that others could see God's good work and glorify Him.

As a young man Bro. Hall was employed by Bro. Frankson, a former [LHMM] representative, for some years. Bro. Frankson had introduced him to the Truth during his employment. In search for a better opportunity for a prosperous life he moved to England. He quickly realized that what he was looking for was not in England and he returned to Jamaica. Still in search for a better life he went to Canada and America but ended up returning to Jamaica, this time permanently.

His former association with Truth brethren in his employment with Bro. Frankson served him well and resulted in a tremendous blessing that he previously didn't recognize. Their witnessing to him about the Truth had worked in his mind so that he saw the benefit of leaning on the Lord instead of the folly of chasing the world's elusive dreams. Bro. Hall continued to grow in faith and knowledge throughout his consecrated life, serving God faithfully and encouraging the brethren in various ways until his death.

Bro. Jolly appointed him as an evangelist in the 1970's and in September of 1984 he was appointed acting representative in Jamaica. The appointment was made permanent in February of 1991. Bro. Hedman appointed him as an Auxiliary Pilgrim and in 2006 Bro. Herzig appointed him as a Pilgrim.

We at the Bible House sincerely appreciate Bro. Hall's many years of service as our representative and the devoted service to him by his surviving, lovely wife, Sr. Mary Hall and his devoted special friend and helper, Bro. Victor Lipscombe and his daughter Louise Hall Wright. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Bro. Metraux, 92 of Switzerland, one of God's servants died Monday, March 24, 2014. He was a loyal and loving Truth brother who served diligently. When visiting the USA, he was given a part in the 1978 Pottstown Convention. He will be remembered by all for his sweet character.

Sr. Laverne McMaster, 76, of Lancaster, Ohio passed away on Wednesday July 9, 2014. She was born on October 13, 1937 in Shreveport, LA. She was preceded in death by her husband Bro. Ivan McMaster. She enjoyed bible study and fellowship with the Layman's Home Missionary Movement. The message of restitution was given by Pastor's John Hanning and Robert Steenrod.

2014 CONVENTIONS

England

Barlborough October 25, 26

France — *all conventions in Barlin*

Fall November 1, 2

Germany

Wittenberg October 3, 4, 5

India

Nazareth October 10, 11, 12

Kerala November 16

Nigeria

National Convention (Surulere Class)

Surulere, Lagos State November 28, 29, 30

Poland

Mietne August 29, 30, 31

United States

Cincinnati, OH September 5, 6, 7

USA FALL CONVENTION

Cincinnati, OH September 5, 6 & 7

Site: Embassy Suites Cincinnati — Northeast (Blue Ash), 4554 Lake Forest Dr., Blue Ash, OH 45242. Register online at biblestandard.com/events.html or call 513-733-8900; Rates: \$99.00, King Suite (with pull out bed), \$109.00 for double (2 Queens with pull out bed). Hot breakfast included. Check-in 4:00 pm, check-out 12:00 pm. Make reservations by **AUGUST 15th** to receive these rates. Mention you are attending the Bible Standard Ministries Convention for the special rate. A luncheon buffet will be served Friday and Saturday. For more information contact: Sr. Jennifer Williams (513-312-2341) or Sr. Linda Williams (937-837-3961).

ERRATA: Please change the cover wording on PT#746 to say SUMMER 2014. It now says SPRING 2014, the inside pages are correct. We are sorry for the mistake.