



“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword”... Hebrews 4:12

## MAY/JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

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**NOTE TO THOSE WHO RECEIVE OUR NEWS LETTERS BY MAIL:** We occasionally update our newsletter mailing list to see if those receiving it are actually reading them and getting any benefit from them. If you don't read them for any reason whatever or are not being benefitted from getting them please let us know and we will simply remove your name from our mailing list, no questions asked. If we do not hear from you in this regard, we will continue to send them to you.

**Dear Friends and Family,**

The last two months went by so quickly and It is good to get back to the newsletter again.

It will be summer soon. We hope you are staying cool and enjoying the season before we get into the hotter months. This reminds me of Matthew 24:32-39.

“Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.” Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”

Message this month: True V/s False

### DAY OF MIRACLES

A true story by Dave Fairchild From 'The Guide's Greatest Miracle Stories'

Picture yourself in Africa. Not in the lush rain forests of the Congo, but on the dusty plains of Southern Africa during the dry season. The red soil puffs up from beneath your tramping feet and settles down in swirling clouds.

Some years ago a mission station was built here, along with the usual little building covered with a corrugated tin roof. Response was slow at first, but soon enough students attended to make a mission vegetable garden necessary.

Cassava and yams spread their leaves over the ground. Corn and beans stretched out in long rows. Surrounding the mission borders, the gardens of the local people stood tall and healthy.—acre upon acre of cool green shade.

Every day the villagers called their greetings to the Christian students who worked the mission garden or attended classes. Noticing the stream of people passing around noon each day, the mission director questioned one of his students.

“Megijinyelwa, where do all these people go every day? Is there another garden to the west that needs hoeing?”

The young man smiled. “No, there is no garden. They visit the shrine of an ancient god; the god of wind and rain. He is believed to be the most powerful god within many days' walk from here, and he must be prayed to every day.”

During the weeks that followed, Pastor Larsen tried to convince the villagers that the god they visted was only a superstition.

“The real God of wind and rain is the God of our mission, the one we tell our students about. Please come and spend some time here instead of at your shrine with a god who can’t hear or see you.”

But few listened, and most just shook their heads at the “crazy” missionary. Everyone knew that the god of the shrine was much more powerful than any stranger’s god could ever be. So the stream of people continued on into the long hot months of the dry season.

The days went by, and the sun continued to burn from a brilliant blue sky. No rain fell, and the sky remained cloudless week after dusty week. Villagers and students alike began to worry as the dark-green of the garden began to fade. The leaves turned brown and withered.

The crowd passing by at noon increased, each villager bearing some offering for the god at the shrine. At the mission the students and teachers joined in prayer, asking God for rain before it was too late. Neither group experienced any success.

The villagers’ friendly greetings continued, but now they were tinged with frustration and sarcasm. “If your god is the one true God, why is there no rain for your beans and corn?” Some of the newer students began to weaken, and they whispered the villagers’ questions among themselves.

Three more days of parching heat went by. Then one noon Pastor Larsen stepped out onto his porch and gazed out over the mission garden, now yellowish-brown instead of green. An old man’s call from the nearby road attracted his attention.

“Good morning, Sir Director. Has your god made any rain lately?” Before Pastor Larson could reply, the voice continued. “I see your gardens are as dry as ours. You tell us that your god is stronger than the god of my village. All right then, I challenge him!”

His last words had risen to a shout easily heard throughout the mission compound. The old man shook his fist at the missionary. We go to offer a cow and two chickens to our god so he will bring us rain. Pray to your god as you will and let us see which god will work the strongest magic!”

The grizzled warrior faded back into the crowd of villagers making their way to the distant shrine.

Pastor Larson quietly bowed his head for a minute, and then he spoke to one of the students nearby. “Abram, call the students and teachers together for a prayer meeting in the chapel.”

While they were praying, the wind began to blow. Students and missionaries dashed into the courtyard to stare at the darkening sky. In the west the sun had disappeared behind a mass of towering clouds. The stiffening wind caught those clouds, driving them eastward toward the mission and the neighboring village.

The villagers were returning from the shrine in haste, assured that their sacrifice had finally awakened the god of rain. The mission students were equally sure that their own prayer meeting had done the job. And so both groups held their breath and awaited the onrushing clouds. Whose god would work the magic?

The clouds skidded along, dark and heavy with rain. And just as they passed the mission borders the rain fell, drenching the garden. The students cheered and held their faces up to the rain, letting it wash off the ever-present dust.

Just as suddenly the rain stopped, for the clouds had moved off the mission territory. The villagers gazed in amazement. One side of the road was dry, and the other side was wet and muddy.

With a sudden gust the wind changed, blowing westward this time. The rain clouds came to a halt, and then blew back across the mission. More rain fell, but only on the mission, leaving the village as dry as ever. After reaching the western border of the compound the clouds once again held their rain in check.

But the God of the mission wasn’t finished yet. Twice more the clouds make their circuit of the mission, drenching every inch with precious water. Then the clouds melted away into a once more brilliant-blue sky.

Need you be told that the village god was forgotten and that the God of the mission was accepted wholeheartedly by the villagers? The day of miracles is indeed not a thing of the past!

DECODING THE BOOK OF DANIEL AND  
REVELATION (con’t)

## REVELATION CHAPTER TEN

“And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth,” Revelation 10:1,2

**Note: He had in his hand a book open. Open books can be understood.**

“And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:

But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter”. Revelation 10:3-10

**Note: The way to eat a book is to read it. What they read thrilled their hearts but when prophecy was not fulfilled as they expected it was a bitter experience.**

**Before 1844 there was a little group of devout worshippers which came from various faiths; from their study of the time prophecies in the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation, they arrived at the conclusion the Lord was soon to return. The time prophecies**

**pointed to October 22, 1844 as the day Jesus would return for His people.**

**However, they had assumed that the “cleansing of the sanctuary” referred to in the prophecy, was referring to the earth being cleansed by fire when Christ returned. This same message of Jesus’ return, unbeknown to them, was also being preached in some of the countries of Europe and South America. The message was given and many people were awakened and accepted the Lord and wanted to be ready for His return. However, they were disappointed when the Lord did not come when they expected Him and it was a bitter experience for them.**

**When they restudied the scriptures they could see that the time prophecy was correct but their interpretation of it was incorrect. The “cleansing of the sanctuary”, did not mean the cleansing of this earth but it referred to the Sanctuary in Heaven and that Jesus entered into the Most Holy Place in 1844 to begin His judgment ministry. When the judgment is finished Jesus will stand up and cast down His scepter and say, “it is finished.**

“And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings. Revelation 10:11

**Note: We will study more about the judgment in a future study!**

“And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; **for the hour of his judgment is come:** and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. Rev. 14:6,7

**Dear friends we don’t know how long it will take for the judgment to be completed, but we do know that the signs of Jesus’ return are everywhere now. So we need to get serious about our relationship with God before it is eternally too late!**

This beloved hymn was written by a Presbyterian layman from Chicago named Horatio G. Spafford who was born in North Troy, New York on October 20, 1828. As a young man he had established a successful legal practice in Chicago. He enjoyed a close relationship with D. L. Moody and other evangelical leaders of that era. He was described by George Stebbins, a noted gospel musician, as a man of unusual intelligence and refinement, deeply spiritual, and a devoted student of the Scriptures.

Some months prior to the Chicago Fire of 1871, Spafford had invested heavily in real estate on the shore of Lake Michigan, and his holdings were wiped out by this disaster. Desiring a rest for his wife and four daughters, as well as wishing to assist Moody and Sankey in one of their campaigns in Great Britain, He planned a European trip for his family in November of 1873. Due to unexpected last minute business developments, he had to remain in Chicago, but he sent his wife and daughters on ahead as scheduled on the *S.S. Ville du Havre*. He expected to join them in a few days. On November 22 the ship was struck by the *Lochearn*, an English vessel and sank in twelve minutes. Several days later the survivors were finally landed at Cardiff, Wales and Mrs. Spafford cabled her husband, "Saved alone." Shortly after, near the area where his four daughters had drowned, he penned this text whose words so significantly describe his own personal grief—"When sorrows like sea billows roll"....It is noteworthy, however, that Spafford's hymn does not dwell on the theme of life's sorrows and trials but focuses attention in the third stanza on the redemptive work of Christ and in the fourth stanza anticipates His Glorious Second Coming. It is amazing that one could experience such personal tragedies and sorrows as he did and still be able to say with such convincing clarity, "It is well with my soul."

In 1881 the Spaffords with their two young daughters, left Chicago and settled in Jerusalem. They established the American Colony which cared for the sick and destitute. Although Horatio died just eight years later at the age of sixty, this ministry continued. The story of this special family and their ministry is told in the book, *Our*

*Jerusalem*, written by the Spafford's daughter, *Bertha Spafford Vesper*.

*It Is Well With My Soul*

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

*Refrain:*

It is well with my soul,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!—  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:  
If Jordan above me shall roll,  
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life  
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,  
The sky, not the grave, is our goal  
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!  
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
Even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

This is a beautiful hymn!

In future newsletters we will learn about other hymns. It is so good to learn about the men and women who wrote the beautiful hymns that we love to sing in church. Hymns that inspire us so much and bring us closer to our Lord.

## CANCER - WHAT IS IT?

### WHAT IS CANCER?

New tissue cells that lack a controlled growth pattern.

### SYMPTOMS

The most common symptoms of cancer:

1. Any sore that does not heal on the skin, mouth, tongue, or lips.
2. Any irregular or unusual bleeding or discharge from any body opening.
3. A persistent change from normal in action of the bowels or bladder.
4. Any persistent lump or thickening in breast or anywhere on the body.
5. Hoarseness or nagging cough. Difficulty in swallowing,
6. Persistent indigestion or loss of appetite, especially if accompanied by loss of weight.
7. Sudden or rapid changes in the form, appearance, or rate of growth of a mole or wart or if it bleeds.
8. Fatigue.

To the basic eight cancer signs, listed above, we are adding three others which are important:

1. Any condition which does not respond to treatment,
2. inflammation from blood clotting (thrombophlebitis),
3. putrid intestinal gas...

### CAUSES:

Cancer is now the second most common killer in the United States and is increasing. One in every three people will die from some form of it. Over 1,400 Americans die each day with it.

Cancer cells are wild, irregular and different from other body cells. They grow rapidly and gradually invade and fill surrounding areas. They rob neighboring cells of nutrition, resulting in a gradual wasting away of the patient. They can migrate to new locations and multiply. Wherever they go, there are abnormal growths and tumors.

Cancer cells are classified by the organs they initially invade (liver, breast, colon, lung, lip, etc.) There are more than 100 different varieties of cancer. Each varies in its symptoms and how fast it spreads.

There are four main types of cancer:

1. *Carcinomas* affect the skin, mucous membranes, glands, and other organs.
2. *Leukemias* are blood cancers.
3. *Sarcomas* affect muscles, connective tissue and bones.
4. *Lymphomas* affect the lymphatic system.

Early detection and treatment is vital. One person dies every 3 minutes from cancer.

When a cancer becomes noticed, it is already far advanced. At this stage, it is important that the one with it place himself under the care of a competent physician who understands and uses nutritional therapy. However, the patient needs to understand, for himself, what is required and what he must do. There are situations in which a cancer victim has no one to help him, and he must carry out such a program entirely on His own.

But whether helped by others or going it alone, unless the individual fully cooperates with right principles, he cannot be successfully helped. He must cease his violations of the natural laws, given by God to mankind, and live fully in accordance with them.

The type of food we eat, the way we live, and environmental factors gradually build up or weaken the body. If the organs of elimination cannot keep up with the amount of toxic waste we are producing, in desperation the body eventually turns to the formation of tumors and cancers. Soft cancers are cells gone wild because of the excess waste in the system. Hard tumors are garbage cans prepared to hold the toxic waste.

Cancer generally has a lengthy incubation period of years. Nourishing the body, building up the immune system, and avoiding excess and debilitating substances enables the body to resist cancer.

Because of intemperate living, eating, sleeping, combined with stress, the body is weakened over the years. This produces a chronic autointoxication – poisons have accumulated in the body. Vital organs, whose job it is to purify and eliminate wastes (such as the skin, lungs, liver, kidneys, and bowels), become less active and efficient. The system becomes poisoned. These poisons accumulate around the weakest organs or where the

body has been injured by a bruise, fall, or blow. The accumulated poisons from years of tea, coffee, tobacco, cola, meats, liquor, fried food, etc., especially accumulate in such an area. Then the body either tries to build garbage cans (tumors), to hold the waste products or the cells in that area go wild from the irritation; so cancer cells form and spread. It is well-known that irritation, such as always picking at a certain spot, can cause cancer.

Unfortunately, there are also toxic substances in the air, water, and soil. This makes it the more crucial that we live as carefully as we can.

Prevention of cancer requires effort; yet many people give more attention to caring for their prize dogs or their new cars. The human body requires careful attention also.

Drs. Hans Nieper and Dean Burk stated that, by the time the tumor is present, a patient's malignancy is already far advanced. A tumor is something of a strange parasite, which has as little as 2% of normal blood circulation. Its cells are living on sugar fermentation instead of oxygen as normal cells do. It is more like a plant or fungus.

Statistics reveal that patients who do not take officially authorized cancer treatment (chemotherapy, surgery, or radiation) will, as a group, survive longer than those who do.

A problem with the cut, burn, and poison routes is their deadly nature. Chemotherapy, for example, produces hair loss, extreme nausea, vomiting, fatigue, weakness, sterility, damage to the liver, kidneys, and heart. What should you do? That is your decision. You can either take the officially recommended remedies at your local hospital or you can try natural remedies. Your choice.

We will talk more about natural treatment and remedies for cancer in our next issue...

## FROM KATIE'S COOKBOOKS

### SWEET POTATO and CHICKPEA BURGERS

15 oz. Chickpeas, 1 can, drained and rinsed  
 1 sweet potato, medium size, cooked  
 1 clove garlic, minced  
 1 teaspoon chili powder  
 ½ teaspoon salt

¼ cup BBQ sauce  
 ¼ cup cornmeal  
 ¼ cup scallions, chopped

### BBQ SAUCE

6 oz. tomato paste  
 ¼ cup water  
 2 Tablespoons pure maple syrup  
 2 Tablespoons apple cider vinegar  
 ½ teaspoon chili powder  
 ½ teaspoon garlic powder  
 ¼ teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place chickpeas in large bowl. Peel the cooked sweet potato, and add it to the bowl of chickpeas, along with the garlic, chili powder, and salt. Mash until chickpeas are finely mashed. Add cornmeal and scallions, and set aside. Add BBQ sauce to the mashed chickpea mixture and mix until thoroughly combined. Using a ½ cup measuring cup, portion 5 patties from the mixture. Place onto a lightly greased parchment-lined sheet pan. Bake for 40 minutes, or until firm and browned, flipping over halfway through. Serve with the remaining BBQ sauce and favorite fixins. Enjoy!

(This recipe submitted from a very dear cousin of mine) –Melodee and her husband Jay have not been total vegetarians very long. She is a great cook and they are enjoying this new life-style immensely. I am so proud of these two very special people in my life! I know God will bless them both and give them a longer healthier life as a result of their life-style changes!

See you all next time.

Remember God loves you and so do we!

Katie and Rodney

### True v/s False

“The World's Greatest Need—The greatest want of the world is the want of men,—men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.—Education, 57 (1903). { CM 54.4 }

“But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: Matthew 3: 7, These are the words of John the Baptist and we are told that our sermons need to be more pointed than his in these last days.

Jesus did not mince words when speaking to the Pharisees when rebuking their sins and it caused His death. Ministers today are afraid of losing church members or being fired from their position if they preach a straight message not realizing they will lose their position in heaven and at the same time cause their members to be lost as well.

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables”. 2 Timothy 4:3

Many take the name of Christ in vain and do Christianity a dis-service and it is no wonder that the lost will say, “ if that is Christianity I will have no part of it”. Those that do this are Satan’s most productive workers.

Brothers and sisters in Christ we have a work to do in showing the world what true Christianity really is because so called Christianity today in no way resembles the Christianity of Christ’s and the apostles day. “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 1 John 2: 15

Christians are supposed to be peculiar, different from worldlings, but today who can tell the difference? They dress the same way, they eat the same way, they go to the same amusements, talk and act the same way. We should dress modestly not showing our body parts as people of the world do.

“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” 1 Corinthians 10: 31

How can we give God glory when we eat things we know will harm our bodies? God has given us instructions in the books of Genesis and Leviticus as how and what we are to eat.

Our speech is to be pure not using vile or vain words.

“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring

forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them”. Matthew 7: 16-20

We are saved to serve God and our fellow men and women. If we are idle and doing nothing to help lost humanity it is a sign that we ourselves are one of them.

“It is the love of self that brings unrest. When we are born from above, the same mind will be in us that was in Jesus, the mind that led Him to humble Himself that we might be saved. Then we shall not be seeking the highest place. We shall desire to sit at the feet of Jesus, and learn of Him. We shall understand that the value of our work does not consist in making a show and noise in the world, and in being active and zealous in our own strength. The value of our work is in proportion to the impartation of the Holy Spirit. Trust in God brings holier qualities of mind, so that in patience we may possess our souls.” { DA 330.4}

#### FAKE CHRISTIANCY / APOSTACY

“Alas, to what a fearful extent is that friendship of the world which is “enmity with God,” now cherished among the professed followers of Christ! How widely have the popular churches throughout Christendom departed from the Bible standard of humility, self-denial, simplicity, and godliness! Said John Wesley, in speaking of the right use of money: “Do not waste any part of so precious a talent, merely in gratifying the desire of the eye, by superfluous and expensive apparel, or by needless ornaments. Waste no part of it in curiously adorning your houses; in superfluous or expensive furniture; in costly pictures, painting, gilding.” “Lay out nothing to gratify the pride of life, to gain the admiration or praise of men.” “So long as thou doest well unto thyself, men will speak good of thee.’ So long as thou art ‘clothed in purple and fine linen, and farest sumptuously every day,’ no doubt many will applaud thine elegance of taste, thy generosity and hospitality. But do not buy their applause so dear. Rather be content with the honor that cometh from God.” But in many churches of our time, such teaching is disregarded. A profession of religion has become popular with the world. Rulers, politicians, lawyers, doctors, merchants, join the church as a means of securing the respect and confidence of society, and advancing their own worldly interests. Thus they seek to cover all their unrighteous transactions under a profession of Christianity. The various religious bodies, re-enforced by the wealth and influence of these baptized worldlings, make a still higher bid for popularity and patronage. Splendid churches,

embellished in the most extravagant manner, are erected on popular avenues. The worshipers array themselves in costly and fashionable attire. A high salary is paid for a talented minister to entertain and attract the people. His sermons must not touch popular sins, but be made smooth and pleasing for fashionable ears. Thus fashionable sinners are enrolled on the church-records, and fashionable sins are concealed under a pretense of godliness. Commenting on the present attitude of professed Christians toward the world, a leading secular journal says: "Insensibly the church has yielded to the spirit of the age, and adapted its forms of worship to modern wants." "All things, indeed, that help to make religion attractive, the church now employs as its instruments."

And a writer in the New York Independent speaks thus concerning Methodism as it is: "The line of separation between the godly and the irreligious fades out into a kind of penumbra, and zealous men on both sides are toiling to obliterate all difference between their modes of action and enjoyment." "The popularity of religion tends vastly to increase the number of those who would secure its benefits without squarely meeting its duties."

Says Howard Crosby: "The church of God is today courting the world. Its members are trying to bring it down to the level of the ungodly. The ball, the theater, nude and lewd art, social luxuries with all their loose moralities, are making inroads into the sacred inclosure of the church; and as a satisfaction for all this worldliness, Christians are making a great deal of Lent and Easter and church ornamentation. It is the old trick of Satan. The Jewish church struck on that rock; the Romish church was wrecked on the same; and the Protestant is fast reaching the same doom."

In this tide of worldliness and pleasure-seeking, self-denial and self-sacrifice for Christ's sake are almost wholly lost. "Some of the men and women now in active life in our churches were educated, when children, to make sacrifices in order to be able to give or to do something for Christ." But "if funds are wanted now, ... nobody must be called on to give. Oh, no! have a fair, tableaux, a mock trial, an antiquarian supper, or something to eat, anything to amuse the people."

Washburn, of Wisconsin, in his annual message declared "that church fairs, charitable raffle concert lotteries for charitable and other purposes, prize packages, 'grabbags,' Sabbath-school and other religious chances by ticket, are nurseries of crime, inasmuch as they promise something for nothing, are games of chance, and are really gambling. He says that the pernicious spirit of gambling is fostered, encouraged, and

kept alive by these agencies to a degree little known by good citizens; and that, but for them, the ordinary laws against gambling would be much less violated and much more easily enforced. These practices, he declares, ought not to be permitted any longer to debauch the morals of the young."

The spirit of worldly conformity is invading the churches throughout Christendom.

Robert Atkins, in a sermon preached in London, draws a dark picture of the spiritual declension that prevails in England: "The truly righteous are diminished from the earth, and no man layeth it to heart. The professors of religion of the present day, in every church, are lovers of the world, conformers to the world, lovers of creature-comfort, and aspirers after respectability. They are called to suffer with Christ, but they shrink from even reproach. Apostasy, apostasy, apostasy, is engraven on the very front of every church; and did they know it, and did they feel it, there might be hope; but, alas! they cry, 'We are rich, and increased in goods, and have need of nothing.'" { GC88