

C. Hutchinson

BOOK 7. LECTURES 13 and 14



“God’s Great Prophecies”

- 13. THE FUTURE METROPOLIS of the WORLD’S COMMERCE
- 14. BABYLON, ROME AND DENOMINATIONALISM, or the Trend of Religion Down the Ages



The present World Unrest in the realm of Commerce, as well as the numerous Modern Day Movements, is not without its significance.

The complexity of these movements requires a careful understanding of the trend of things throughout the ages.

LECTURE No. 13

*This Book Contains TWO
LECTURES*

*Of a Series of Six upon the Prophetic
Interpretations of the Great
Movements of Today*

- 13—"THE FUTURE METROPOLIS OF THE WORLD'S
COMMERCE."
- 14—"BABYLON, ROME and DENOMINATIONALISM, or
the Trend of Religion Down the Ages."
- 15—"MODERN RELIGION vs. CHRISTIANITY, or Ancient
Customs and Traditions Brought Up-to-date."
- 16—"THE LATEST MODERN MOVEMENTS or the Growing
Craze for Bible Revision."
- 17—"CHURCH UNION IN THE LIGHT OF PROPHECY,
or the Ultimate Result of the Movement."
- 18—"REMARKABLE PROPHECIES REGARDING PALES-
TINE, or the Outcome of the Zionist Movement."

LECTURE No. 13



“The Future Metropolis of the World’s Commerce”



What is the Import of the Changing Conditions in Business Today?

Shall the Dream of Napoleon Bonaparte come true in the future?

Will the Ancient City of Babylon be Rebuilt?

Remember Joseph in Egypt, and Daniel in Babylon, had Secrets revealed to them by Almighty God.

Why Not Read This Carefully?

Frontispiece



Evidences of the approaching Friday evening of the world's long week multiply on every side; shadows of twilight begin to gather from every point of the horizon. The newspapers and magazines are becoming simply amanuenses in providence, recording presignificant signs of what God has predicted in His Inspired Word.

Of no country in the world is there so much interest today as in that situated around the Euphrates River, and between that river and the Mediterranean sea.

In addition to this there is to be found an increasing interest in religions, such as Theosophy, Spiritism, Christian Science and Buddhism, all of which strangely vary in their denial of the Christ, and the interposition of a worship that is peculiar to Demonism. Certain characteristics of the Babylonian cult have been handed down through the ages and seem in these days to be heading up their various devotees into one great Apostasy, which will establish its headquarters in the Queen City of Commerce.

This lecture will indicate to its readers the place declared by God to be the headquarters of this religion. We trust that many will free themselves from the dangerous and illogical method of spiritualizing everything in connection with the Bible.

The Future Metropolis of the World's Commerce

OR

Will the City of Babylon be Rebuilt?

It is evident to most people who come in touch with the commerce of the world of today, that there is a strange adjustment going on. Channels of trade are being entirely altered. For example: Much of the Canadian wheat that used to be shipped to Europe is now finding its market through Western and Southern routes. The Immigration Department of the Dominion Government have found it necessary to take active steps to secure immigrants of the right character to come to our Canadian farms, owing to the fact that many of our farmers have left the land and gone to American cities to find occupation in the industrial spheres. Was there ever a time when the business man felt the pinch as they do today?

While in one of our cities, a few years ago a friend pointed out two or three blocks and told me that the business men were allowed to exist there through the tolerance of their land-lords, who would have taken all they possessed if they forced a closure upon them. One must, indeed, shut his eyes if he does not know of the strange adjustment that seems to be everywhere prevalent in the commercial world today. Enterprising individuals, on very hand, are asking in what channels is commerce turning? They go here and they go there, and they find no difference. I trust you will not think me presumptuous when I open my Bible and show where the world's commerce will eventually centre.

A TASK MADE DIFFICULT.

My task in this regard is made more difficult because of the attitude of some toward the Bible. Some of you think that the Bible is merely a collection of stories, with a moral attached to each; that it is splendid for women and children, but quite uninteresting to men of affairs. You never thought the Bible had anything to say regarding wars and earthquakes and international affairs and commerce. It never dawned upon you that the Bible told the very thing you ought to know in your business life. You have, of course, heard of the great Egyptian Empire, with its mighty Pharaohs and world-wide commerce. A moment's consideration as you read the history of this Empire would show you that Joseph secured his authority, as second to none in that realm because of his knowledge of the commercial changes of his day. This knowledge he secured by a revelation from the Mighty God.

Again, you have, no doubt, read of Babylon, that great empire of gold, and its mighty emperors. Why have you not realized, in your study of this great empire that Daniel's mighty influence was secured to him through his knowledge of the secrets of the political or international affairs of his day, which knowledge he also secured by a revelation in his interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Surely, then, it will not appear extraordinary if we should attempt, with Bible in hand, to discover the ulti-

mate trend of the world's commerce, and the exact location of the future metropolis of the world.

It is not my purpose to attempt to tell you what you should do under the circumstances. My business is to show you what the Bible says regarding it.

THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY REGARDING THIS.

I ask you therefore, to turn to the 5th chapter of Zechariah, and let us discover the meaning of this prophecy. I am glad this is placed in the Old Testament, as it will, therefore, appeal to my Jewish friends as well. As you read this chapter you will find that it falls into two sections, according to the two visions that the Prophet had. The first section, dealing with the flying roll, is found in the first four verses and is followed by the vision of the ephah.

Let us note first the vision of the flying roll.

Zech. 5: 1-2

1. Then I turned and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a flying roll.
2. And he said unto me, What seest thou? And I answered, I see a flying roll: the length thereof is twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof ten cubits.

A flying roll in Scripture is generally used to indicate that a record or an account of something has been made, which will be used in the day of reckoning or judgment. The interpretation of the contents of this roll is given in the third and fourth verses.

Zech. 5: 3-4

3. Then said he unto me, This is the curse that goeth forth over the face of the whole earth: for everyone that stealeth shall be cut off as on this side according to it; and everyone that sweareth shall be cut off as on that side according to it.
4. I will bring it forth, saith the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name; and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof.

You will note that the curse spoken of is universal and, therefore, the conditions which bring about this curse are also everywhere prevalent.

The verses before us plainly indicate the two vultures of business life, which are to be judged, viz.—graft and deception. It is evident surely, to everyone of us, that these are the universal conditions of business today, which will bring the house down upon their heads. Charging exorbitant prices for shoddy material, passed off as genuine, could not better be expressed than it is here. For example: Charging 60 cents a dozen for strictly fresh eggs, that had been in storage for two years. Business cannot last on that ground. Hence the vision of the flying roll prophetically warns us of the breaking up of the commercial relationships that have been based on such a foundation.

(b) Now let us look into the vision of the Ephah:

Zech. 5: 5-6

5. Then the angel that talked with me went forth, and said unto me, Lift up now thine eyes, and see what is this that goeth forth.
6. And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah that goeth forth. He said moreover, This is their resemblance through all the earth.

Here again we note a universal application suggested by the last phase of these verses. The ephah was a standard for measuring grain and contained about one bushel, 3 pts. As a symbol it represents something commercial that has come to the full, so that God must judge. We thus see that the second vision correlates with, and supplements, the vision of the flying roll.

Zech. 5: 7-8

7. And behold there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah.
8. And he said, This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof.

Into this ephah a woman is placed, and upon the top of the ephah a talent of lead is cast, so that the woman would be held firmly in the flight that is to take place. A woman connected with wickedness always refers to apostate religion in Scriptures. It would seem that this commercial corruption has been winked at, yea verily condoned by the religious systems of the world, so that the judgment that falls is apparently going to deal with both religion and commerce at the same time.

In another lecture we shall trace the future of this woman. Let us confine our attention, this time, to the ephah.

Zech. 5: 9

9. Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork; and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven.

The reference to the stork's wings in the verse is very significant. A **stork's wings** are so formed as to sustain its weight for long periods in the air. It is, therefore, able to fly long distances without alighting. The flight of the stork is seldom noticed. It usually starts in the night, very suddenly ascends rapidly until out of sight, and arrives as by enchantment. It, therefore, appears that the ephah is to be suddenly and mysteriously caught up, by the two women referred to in this verse, and will be, as if by magic placed a long distance away in another land. Apparently the headquarters of commerce is to be suddenly and strangely moved a long distance.

THE GREAT CHANGE THAT IS TO COME.

Were you to ask me where the metropolis of the world's commerce is today, I might have to debate for a while whether I should say New York or London. But this passage seems to indicate to us that the future metropolis of the world's commerce will be a long distance from either of these two cities. You ask at once, does the Scripture indicate where this metropolis is to be. My answer is found in verses 10 and 11.

Zech. 5: 10-11

10. Then said I to the angel that talked with me, Whither do these bear the ephah?
11. And he said unto me, To build it an house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base.

The **Land of Shinar** is in the valley of the Euphrates River, where the ancient City of Babylon used to be. The prophecy thus plainly is this: That there shall arise, suddenly and mysteriously, a great commercial city, situated in the Land of Shinar in the valley of the great Euphrates River. Here the trade from the West shall pour in and be exchanged for the goods from the East.

A WELL-KNOWN INTERNATIONAL FACT.

Now, do not go away with the idea that this is something new to the world, or to the great statesmen and governments of the nations thereof. If it is new to you it is because you have never been able to understand the various articles that have appeared from time to time in the newspapers and magazines of our land.

Have you ever wondered why Turkey was allowed to control this land for very nearly twelve centuries? Did it never strike you that the reason of this was that the great powers could not trust any other in control, for they looked upon this as the keystone position of the world's commerce? Russia and Germany could not allow Great Britain to hold it, and France and Britain could not allow Germany in possession, so it was agreed they would allow the "sick man of Europe"—Turkey—to retain possession.

In the French Department of War (Paris) are to be found elaborate plans that were made under the direction of Napoleon Bonaparte, at the beginning of the 19th century. When he thought that he was going to become the World Emperor, he decided that his capital city, the great metropolis of the world, should be situated on the banks of the Euphrates River, in the land

of Shinar. But Napoleon never became the World Emperor and his plans, therefore, only indicate to us what might have been, long ere this.

What prompted the British Government, in 1850, to spend \$150,000 in sending out a party, under a military officer to make a careful survey of this region of the land of Shinar? Why was it that the British engineer, who built the Assuan Dam in Egypt, had been commissioned to make careful plans for the irrigation of this district, and was actually on the ground when the great European war broke out? I claim the only answer to the British interest in this part of the world is, the knowledge that her statesmen and government have that some day the metropolis of the world's commerce will be situated in this district.

Tell me what idea the late Emperor of Germany had in making a secret treaty with Abdul Hamid, Sultan of Turkey, who offered a satisfactory concession when the Emperor had granted to him the right to build a railway from the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus, by way of Aleppo, to the Tigris River, and from there to Bagdad. Then from Bagdad he was to be allowed to continue the road via Babylon, to Koweit, on the Persian Gulf. This railway, the emperor knew, would connect Berlin his capital city, and the metropolis of Germany, with the great metropolis that was to be the centre of the world's trade, in the day when he should become Emperor of the World.

Surely it is evident that Germany realized in some way or other, that the land of Shinar is yet to be the location of the future metropolis of the world's commerce.

Have you not seen the account that appeared in the local papers, just after the close of the great European war, giving the world the news that the United States Government had sent a company of engineers to survey and make a definite report on the possibilities of this land of Shinar? Space will not allow us to deal more fully with this evident interest that the nations of the world have in the land that has been prophesied by the Prophet Zechariah to be the resting place of the ephah of his vision.

AN APPARENT TROUBLE THAT HAS HINDERED.

You will pardon me for saying that I can guess where the trouble has been with many today in connection with this strange and wonderful and mysterious fact. Just think of all this information having appeared from time to time in the newspapers and magazines, and you have never caught the import of it.....

I want to tell you frankly that something has been the cause of your failure in this regard, and I venture the opinion that the trouble has been you have listened too much to those who have spiritualized everything in the Bible. They tell you that Babylon is not Babylon; that the land of Shinar cannot mean that land situated on the Euphrates River; that the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the East does not mean a mountain but a human heart, or something of that sort; that New Jerusalem, whose streets are to be of gold and gates of pearl, cannot be real, but must be spiritualized. Why, they say, if it were real it would not be long before some Christians would be out in the street with a pick trying to get the gold. I fear that they have failed to get the **real character of a true Christian**. Another says the streets of gold would be too hard on the feet. I want to tell you that there are no tender feet among the true Christians. They are not ashamed to own their Lord, and to stand out in the presence of the world and declare their allegiance to Him. Tell me if the New Jerusalem is not real, why are its dimensions, the number and character of the gates etc., stated? If Babylon is not a real city why describe the merchandise that shall flow into it from all the countries of the world?

Rev. 18: 12-13

12. The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fines linens, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron and marble.

1. And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts and sheep, and horses chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

ANOTHER OBJECTION CONSIDERED

Others have said that, no doubt, Babylon is a real city but it is not to be situated in the land of Shinar. They say probably it is Rome, or Jerusalem, or London, or New York, or some other city. Then, I ask why should the Prophet Zechariah plainly and distinctly speak of the land of Shinar? And why does the Apostle John definitely and decidedly call it by the name of Babylon? The reply I am given is that the Bible says Babylon will never be re-built.

Jeremiah 51: 24-26

24. And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the Lord.
25. Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the Lord, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain.
26. And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but thou shalt be desolate forever, saith the Lord.

Now, they say, you see that the 26th verse tells us there will not be a stone taken for building material when Babylon is once destroyed. Hence, it is evident since Babylon has been destroyed, it will never be rebuilt.

Isaiah 31: 19-20

19. And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.
20. It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there.

The words of the 20th verse, say they, distinctly proclaim that Babylon was never to be inhabited again.

Here, then, we are face to face with a difficulty, and in cases like this we must be sure to get the context of the passages quoted. Turning to Isaiah 13, I find that the 9th verse speaks of the Day of the Lord coming, and the 10th verse of the stars of heaven falling and the sun being darkened, and the 13th verse of the earth being shaken by a dreadful earthquake.

Isaiah 13: 9, 10, 13

9. Behold the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.
10. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.
13. Therefore, I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of Hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.

It is evident, therefore, that this 13th chapter of Isaiah is speaking of a day that is still future. It was apparently to this day that the Lord Jesus Christ referred when, in speaking of His return to the earth, He told of the same conditions.

Matthew 24: 29

29. Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heaven shall be shaken.

And it is further evident that the Apostle John referred to the conditions recorded by Isaiah when he spoke of the great earthquake that would destroy the City of Babylon, in the last days before Christ comes.

Rev. 16: 18-19

18. And there were voices, and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake and so great.

19. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell; and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

I therefore wish to suggest that the destruction of Babylon, spoken of in the 13th chapter of Isaiah does not refer to the Babylon of ancient days, but rather to the future Babylon, that is to be the metropolis of the world's commerce, which shall be destroyed as Sodom and Gomorrah by sinking into a lake of asphalt, burning with fire and brimstone.

Now, as to the statement that Babylon will never be inhabited again, we have but to turn to the New Testament to find that this cannot refer to the Babylon of the past. The Apostle Peter, in closing his First Epistle, refers to the Church which was at Babylon in his day.

I. Peter 5: 13

13. The Church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.

This surely shows that there were others besides owls and satyrs and doleful creatures there. My Jewish friends know that the historian Theodoret, informs us that, in the 5th century, three Jewish Universities were situated at Babylon, and they know that the Talmud was written there about that time. I turn to other histories and I find that Ibu Hankel states that Babylon was a village in the 10th century (917 A.D.). In another place we are informed that it had grown to be a fair-sized town in 1100 A.D. and had its name changed to "Two Mosques." Later the name was again changed to "Hillah." Coming down to modern times, we find that a census taken in 1898 showed 10,000 inhabitants in this place. Apparently Isaiah was referring to Babylon which was still future and, therefore, we maintain that Babylon must be re-built.

As to the statement of Jeremiah, that no building material should ever be taken from the ruins of Babylon, we are again forced to the conclusion that this prophet, also, did not refer to the Babylon of olden times. Four chief cities have arisen, and drawn material from the ruins of ancient Babylon. Seleucus, one of the great generals who succeeded Alexander the Great built as his capital city, Seleucia, and used in that operation, some of the building material from Babylon. The Parthians also used Babylonian material in the building of their city, Ctesiphon. The Persians built Al Maiden, and the Caliphs built Kufa similarly. Thus it is evident that Jeremiah's prophecy has not yet reached its fulfilment. We are told that in some of the buildings in Bagdad bricks were found stamped, "Made in Babylon." Not long ago I read how Dr. Andrew Bonar, that grand old Presbyterian Minister of Glasgow, on returning from a visit to the Holy Land, brought with him a brick stamped with the Babylonian stamp and he used it as an illustration to his congregation of the pride and the skill that the Babylonians had placed in their work to honor their king. He pointed out that the Christian should put into his work the same amount of pride and effort that these Babylonians did, in honor of the greatest King, the King of Kings.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, the City of Babylon must yet be re-built and become the great metropolis of the world's commerce. I turn to the 13th chapter of Revelation and carefully analyze the description that we find there.

Babylon, the Great will be an immense city; the greatest in every sense that the world has ever seen. It will be a typical city—the Paris, the London, the New York of its day. It will be the greatest commercial city of the world. Its merchandise will be of gold and silver, and precious stones, and pearls; of purple, and silk and scarlet, and costly wools. Its fashionable society will be clothed in the most costly raiment and decked with the most priceless jewels.

Their homes will be filled with the most expensive furniture of precious woods, brass, iron and marble, and with the richest of draperies, mats and rugs. They will use the most costly of perfumes cinnamon, fragrant odours, frankincense, ointment and cosmetics. Their banquets will be supplied with

the rarest of wines, the richest of pastry, the most delicious of meats. They will have horses and chariots, and the swiftest of fast-moving vehicles on the earth and in the air. They will have their slaves, and they will traffic in the souls of men. That is, women will sell their bodies and men their souls to gratify their lust. It will be a veritable Sodom.

The market will be crowded with cattle and sheep, and horses, and the wharves will be piled with goods from all climes. The manufactories will turn out the richest of fabrics, and all that genius can invent for the comfort and convenience of men will be found on the market. It will be a city given over to pleasure and business. Business men and promoters will spend their days and nights scheming how to make money fast, and the pleasure-loving will be constantly planning new pleasures. The blood will run hot in their veins. Money will be their god, pleasure their high priest, and unbridled passion the ritual of their worship. It will be a city of music. Amid the noise and bustle of its commercial life will be heard the music of its pleasure resorts and theatres. The world's best singers and players will be there. Its theatres and places of amusement will be going night and day. In fact there will be no night, for the electrical illuminations of the city will make the night as bright and shadowless as the day.

The city will be the seat of the most imposing occultism. In that day demons and disembodied and unclean spirits will find at Babylon, the opportunity of their lives to materialize themselves in human bodies. Babylon will be full of demon-possessed men and women. Such is the picture that Scripture gives us of this wonderful city of riches and wickedness.

But God shall suddenly bring judgment upon it. In the midst of a dreadful storm, the whole atmosphere trembling with volley after volley of rolling thunder, the heavens flashing with streaks of furious lightning, the whole earth shall quiver in throes of its last tremendous earthquake. The tall office buildings and great towers will fall. The bituminous crust of the earth will crack open, and the whole city, with its inhabitants, will sink, like a millstone into a lake of burning asphalt.

Rev. 18: 21

21. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

The horrors of the scene will be intensified by vast clouds of steam generated by the waters of the Euphrates River, pouring into the lake of molten asphalt. Dense clouds of black smoke, illuminated from time to time by fierce tongues of livid flame, will reflect the light of the burning city for miles. Babylon will be no more. Never shall she be inhabited again, and no more shall building material of any kind be taken from her ruins. She will have been destroyed as Sodom and Gomorrah, in an hour's time.

Rev. 18: 15-19

15. The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing.
16. And saying, Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, and purple and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls.
17. For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every ship-master, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off.
18. And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city?
19. And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness—for in one hour is she made desolate.

Were you ever at a fire when some big building gets really ablaze? Have you ever felt the terror that shocks your whole being in the presence of such destruction? Think of a whole city, ten times, yes one hundred times larger than our average city, being overwhelmed with sudden destruction, and you will have some idea of the feelings of the sailors and ship-

masters, and the great leaders of commerce as they see their capital city being completely destroyed.

Thank God those who have trusted in Christ will have been taken out of the world before these horrible things occur. May I tell you once again, that before all this, there shall occur the appearing of Christ when He shall call unto Himself all those who have surrendered their lives to Him and are trusting in the blood, shed on Calvary's Cross, for their salvation, and shall take them up to meet Him in the air, and so shall they ever be with the Lord.

Mr. Business Man, the present slump in business, the peculiar adjustment that is now going on in the commercial sphere, should make you waken up and be warned by the prophetic utterances of Gods' Holy Word.

Questions

FOR EARNEST STUDENTS WHO DESIRE TO CAREFULLY STUDY THIS LECTURE

- 1 What present-day conditions force every serious thinking person to the discussion of the topic of this lecture?
- 2 Why is the task made more difficult to the ordinary reader?
- 3 Show, from Biblical history that God has revealed the secrets of political and commercial progress.
- 4 (a) What is the Scriptural significance of a "Flying Roll"?
(b) What business conditions are condemned in this vision—
(Zech. 5: 3-4)
(c) What phrase in this passage indicates the universal character of these conditions?
(d) What prophetic warning is given to the business world in this passage?
- 5 (a) What Scriptural significance has the ephah as a symbol?
(b) Explain the allusion to the stork's wings in this passage.
(c) What prophetic message is given us in this vision of the Ephah?
(d) Where is the headquarters of the world's commerce to be finally placed.
- 6 Is this fact well-known to the statesmen and governments of the nations? Give proof.
- 7 (a) Why has the ordinary reader not comprehended the greater part of this important information?
(b) Is the City of New Jerusalem to be a real city? And is the City of Babylon also to be real?
- 8 (a) What objection is sometimes offered to the statement that Babylon will be re-built in the land of Shinar?
(b) What passages of Scripture are quoted in support of this objection?
- 9 Give your reply to this objection.
10. Give a description of the future City of Babylon, taking your information from the 18th Chapter of Revelation.
- 11 Describe the destruction of the city, giving Scripture proof for each of your statements.
- 12 What rapturous event will take place before this terrible destruction?

LECTURE No. 14

“Babylon, Rome AND Denominationalism”

OR

*The Trend of Religion Down
the Ages.*



Have You Wondered where All the Present
Day Religions Came From?

Do You Know the Two Great Character-
istics Distinguishing the TRUE from the
FALSE?

Have You Read of the First Great Religious
Union in the World?

STUDY ABOUT THE FOUR GREAT STAGES IN
THE DOWN-GRADE MOVEMENT AND BE WARNED

"Without shedding of blood is no remission."

—Heb. 9: 22



*Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain,
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.*

*But Christ, the heavenly Lamb,
Takes all our guilt away;
A sacrifice of nobler name,
A richer blood than they.*



*"The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son,
Cleanseth us from all sin."*

—I. John 1: 7

Babylon, Rome and Denominationalism

OR

The Trend of Religion Throughout the Ages

The great movements of the present day can only be appraised, and properly understood as we get a broad perspective view of the trend of the world's progress throughout the ages. In other words, all matters of complex interest (and you will readily understand that present day movements are complex in their character) are best understood by the analytical method: proceeding from the whole to the part; from the general to the particular; from the broad outline to the definite detail. Few minds can appreciate, or properly understand, present day movements apart from a fair knowledge of the great, broad perspective of the world movements of the ages.

In this lecture, and the next three, it is my desire to consider, with you, the great religious movements of the present day from a prophetic standpoint. I care not whether your interest has been aroused through the union movements affecting the Anglican Church, or in that relating to the Methodist-Presbyterian-Congregational bodies. I trust you will be patient with me as I deal with these movements in the following order.

1. On this occasion I wish to examine the trend of religion throughout the ages of the past.

2. Next, I wish to note modern religion in order to get beneath, and strip off some of the ecclesiastical cloakings of custom and tradition.

3. Following this I want to view with alarm the trend of modernism of the present day.

4.—Finally I wish to allow prophecy to throw some light on the future outcome of these great Church Union movements.

One thing you will surely note, as you scan in broad perspective, the great trend of religion down the ages, and that is, the world has passed, and is passing through a similar process in its four stages of apostasy, to that which the individual does in his downward grade. This, you would naturally expect. Suppose I want to discover the properties and chemical characteristics of the ocean. How shall I do it? Observe it? Yes, but I shall find the same properties and chemical characteristics in the drop of water from the ocean that I shall find in the ocean itself. So it is with the trend of religion down the ages. If I examine the individual experience in its downward grade, I shall then know the great world movement.

Logically then, you must now demand from me two premises before you will allow me to proceed.

(a) You will, first of all, require proof of the world's ultimate apostasy.

No doubt you have heard it stated again and again that this old world is gradually evolving itself, and becoming better and better. This is the modernist line of thought, and if you turn to your Bible you will find it absolutely contradictory to the attitude and preaching of the great Apostle Paul.

Acts 20: 28-30

28. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.
29. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter among you, not sparing the flock.
30. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

Here the Apostle is addressing one of the most spiritual churches of the early days, and he warns them definitely that, first: they shall find attack from without, by men who will hope to destroy their faith; and following this, in their midst there shall arise others, who shall teach and lead away men and women in by-paths of heresy and infidelity. I ask you if the Apostle Paul did not anticipate, in his preaching, the actual facts of history? Do you not realize that one hundred years ago infidelity was outside the Church, attacking from without, but today it has found its place inside; yes, even in some of the pulpits?

But the Apostle Paul was not alone in his predictions of this character. I find his fellow-worker, the Apostle Peter, also gives us this information.

I. Peter 4: 17-18

17. For the time is come that **judgment must begin** at the house of God: and if it **first begin at us**, what shall the end be that obey not the Gospel of God?
18. And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

Furthermore, I find that, not only did these two great leaders of the early Church warn us concerning this, but the Lord Jesus Christ Himself plainly declares in perfect harmony with this. Let it be known here and now, that there is no contradiction, nor lack of harmony between the statements of Christ and those of His Apostles

Luke 23: 27-31

27. And there followed him a great company of people, and of women which also bewailed and lamented him.
28. But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.
29. For behold, the days are coming, in which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bear, and the paps which never gave suck.
30. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us.
31. For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?

On this occasion the things that were being done **in the green tree**, were the cruelties, indecencies and crucifixion of the best man that ever walked on this earth. He had healed their people. He had restored sight to the blind. He had cleansed the leper. He had raised the dead and given them back to their loved ones. He had blessed their children, and had spoken words of forgiveness to the unfortunate ones, who had fallen by the way-side. And yet they did spit in His face, and mock Him, and crown Him with a crown of thorns, and finally nailed Him to a cross between two thieves. His question is: If they have done these things in a green tree, **what will be done in the dry?** You will bear in mind that these things were done by the religious leaders of the day. I claim, therefore, that the Bible plainly states that the trend of the world's religion is downward. When I have made this statement I wish you to clearly understand that I am speaking of religion, and not true Christianity. Prophecy tells us that the religion of

the last days shall contain in it strange customs and doctrines of devils.

I. Timothy 4: 1-3

1. Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, **giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.**
2. Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.
3. Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

Abstaining from meat, and giving heed to seducing spirits, is surely a form of religion that denies the Christ of Calvary.

(b) The second premise you will require is a definite explanation of the four stages in the individual's down grade. I feel there may be many who read this who can fully corroborate the four stages that have marked their religious experience.

I call the first the germination stage, the sleepy stage of indifference. Some of you may have been active Christian workers in your day, back in the East, or across the sea. You have come West. You have found very little time for Bible study. Gradually you have neglected church attendance. You have forgotten about prayer meeting. And then you have become indifferent to the claims of Christ. You have said you did not see any difference in the various doctrines of the day. You have made no distinctions with regard to Bible truth. That is the first stage downward. The call of God comes to everyone in this condition, and we do well to give it heed.

II. Timthy 2: 15

15. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed **rightly dividing the word of Truth.**

If one desires to overcome the natural tendency of the carnal nature to drift away into spiritual darkness, he must carefully and conscientiously study and rightly distinguish the statements of God's Word.

If he does not do this, it will not be long before he finds himself in the next stage—the stage of error or religiousness. Some error attracts his attention and arouses him. It seems to be the real light; it makes him feel religious. That is the second stage. Two courses, only, are open here. The first is, to renounce the error, put it from him, and follow the Scripture truth. This was what Apollo did. We are told that he was a mighty man in the Scriptures, but he had one error; he knew only the baptism of John. Aquilla and Priscilla took him and expounded unto him the way of truth more perfectly and Apollo renounced his error and accepted the truth.

Acts 18: 25-26

25. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, **knowing only the baptism of John.**
26. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

The other course is to cherish the error, and refuse the exhortation to turn from it. The stories of Samson and King Saul are very appropriate here. The horrible consequences in each of these cases should make one hesitate to follow their examples. Those who persist in this second stage will soon find themselves logically forced to the third—the heresy, or ecclesiastical stage. In this condition they deny some fundamental truth. Apostle Paul calls our attention to Hymenaeus and Philetus, as examples of this. These two men had drifted so far away from the truth of God that they declared the resurrection past already. He admonished them lovingly, but upon their refusal to give heed, he was forced to leave them to their

error. The unfortunate part of the whole matter was that they were able to overthrow the faith of many.

II. Timothy 2: 17-18

17. And their word will eat as doth a canker of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;
18. Whom concerning the truth have erred, saying that the **resurrection is past already**; and overthrow the faith of some.

The Apostle Peter also speaks of "some who shall come in the last days with heresy," denying the atoning work of Christ and the efficacy of the blood.

II. Peter 2: 1-2

1. But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, **even denying the Lord that bought them**, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.
2. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

You will note here again that many are not able to distinguish these damnable heresies and so they are led into these pernicious doctrines. If one still persists in his downfall, it will not be long before he will have reached that apostate or reprobate stage, in which he will refuse the Bible altogether as authority, and attempt to worship God apart from Christ.

Let us make sure of this point once and for all: that there can be no true worship of God if we do not acknowledge the full Deity, Authority and Infallibility of Christ, the Son of God.

I. John 2: 22-23

22. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is Anti-Christ that denieth the Father and Son.
23. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.

Be at once undeceived, men and women, you cannot worship God and deny the claims of the Lord Jesus Christ, and when you have come to the stage where you attempt to worship, without accepting and acknowledging your Saviour you may be at once sure that you are dangerously near the last stage of apostasy in religion.

The more I study my Bible, the more I agree with the Christian gentleman, who was travelling in France some few years ago. He came into a certain city there, and passing down the street, he asked a lady to direct him to the post office. She kindly indicated its location, and then said that, as she was going that way, she would show him the place. As they walked along she discovered that he had, at one time lived in France, and had been descended from one of the great French families, whereupon the following conversation occurred: "So you are descended from that grand old family?" said she: "I suppose, then, you are a Roman Catholic?" "Far better than that," said he. "A Protestant then?" she continued. "Far better than that," he still replied. "What then?" she asked in surprise. "A Christian, Madam, and that is far better, is it not?"

Many Protestants and many Roman Catholics will never see heaven, and do not and cannot worship God, but there is not one single Christian who will ever fail to be with the one whose name they bear, and whose person they admire.

Now, tracing out the great trend of religion down the ages we find:

1. Four great periods corresponding to these four of the individual. Beginning in the Garden of Eden, and continuing down to the flood, is the first, or germination stage, in which indifference and carelessness of distinction of truth are shown. Then, beginning with the time of Noah, and continuing down to the fall of Babylon, we have the second period—the stage in which religious error arises. Then again, beginning with the fall

of Babylon and continuing down to the dark ages of the 13th and 14th centuries, we have the third stage, when heresy and ecclesiasticism established itself, with all its forms and ceremonies. Finally, beginning with the Renaissance movement and continuing down through the present day, to the return of the Lord, we have the great age, which I shall call the Babel of Denominationalism, which will finally end in religious apostasy. Thus the heading of this lecture points to the three final stages in the world's religious history—Babylon, Rome and Denominationalism.

2. Still more striking is the fact that each one of these four great periods readily falls into four sections along similar lines. It would seem that the trend of the world's religion is built up on a basis of four's; the universal number of the world. I have found that it is most interesting to follow this out, for it brings us face to face with the workings of the great principles of religious destruction, commonly called in the Bible, **Leaven**.

Let us take the beginning, or germination stage, when the virus of apostasy is being sown in the human race. Here we have man, starting in innocence, in Eden. Time rushes on, and ere long man has become careless and indifferent. For some reason or other, Adam and Eve become separated. Whether it was because of the work that demanded Adam's attention, or whether it was through Eve's curiosity to behold this wonderful tree of good and evil, matters not. Suffice it is to note that carelessness and indifference had come into the first home, and that home was wrecked. Need I call your attention to the fact that many a home today is being wrecked for the same reason as this one. The demands of business and professional life are so great today upon the husband's time; or the innate curiosity of woman leads her away from her own fireside, and before we know it, sin has entered and wrecked all.

The first stage having occurred, instantly error is flashed into the mind of Eve. An appeal is made to self, and self-improvement. "Ye shall be as gods," are the stirring words that are poured into her ears. They gripped her soul. The desire to exalt herself by her own effort is thoroughly aroused. She is impressed with what might be the result of her own effort. O Eve, trust God, and lean not on thine own understanding. But note error has been placed in her soul, and she and Adam fall, and are driven from Eden.

Then comes the heresy stage. Even in the midst of the fall she finds it difficult to get away from that evolutionary self-improvement idea. Cain is born, and in giving him his name she declares, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

Gen. 4: 1.

1. And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

She apparently has the idea that Cain is the seed of the woman who shall bruise the serpent's head; that this child, her first-born, will, by his mighty effort, remove the curse from the ground. So Cain became a tiller of the soil. Error is gradually progressing into heresy. In time the sin offering must be brought by the children, and Cain, in spite of God's great law, offered a bloodless sacrifice. God had shown by example, in the slaying of the lamb in the garden, that his great law of sin offering had been established.

Heb. 9: 22—And without shedding of blood is no remission.

The wheels of time turn rapidly, and ere long apostasy has gripped the race, and the inspired writer tells us that the thoughts and imaginations of man's heart are evil continually.

Gen. 6: 5-7

5. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
6. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

7. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth: both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

This concludes the beginning or germination stage. The virus of apostasy has been planted, and its dreadful fruits will be reaped in the next three periods.

Beginning with Noah and his family, we soon see the indifference and carelessness again growing out. Noah is found in a drunken state, and his home again reaps the sad result. Time rushes on, and soon we find man again attempting, by his own effort, to make the world a safe place for democracy. They will build the Tower of Babel, so that in case of another flood they will have protection. Satan, as it were, challenges God. He may destroy the human race, or leave them in their folly, or scatter them upon the face of the earth. The latter was the judgment pronounced. The languages were confused, and man was scattered throughout the whole world.

We pass over a few more centuries, and ere long we find heresy entrenched itself in such centres as Sodom and Gomorrah, where Lot's righteous soul is vexed from day to day with the unlawful deeds of the inhabitants.—(II. Peter 2:8.)

Later, heresy has developed into a great apostate system and Babylon, the mighty Babylon, is established, with all its apostate claims. The Babylonian religion claimed the highest wisdom. They could reveal secrets by charms, seances and the consulting of familiar spirits. Their worship was conducted by a great organization of priests and pontiffs, who instituted the confessional, as a means of securing control over the devotees of their religion. Their worship was very formal, and consisted of many religious rites and festivities; for example, at the vernal equinox, the great Festival of Ishtar, was celebrated in honor of the Queen of Heaven. They also worshipped idols with great ceremony. One of these, Tammuz, was the greatest. In their approaching unto this idol, the worshipper drew the letter "T" (Tau) upon his breast.

Then the second period reached its most degraded stage. God, as it were, side-tracked and scattered this great system by allowing the Medo-Persian Empire to conquer and over-throw the Babylonian Empire. Many of the inhabitants of Babylon travelled east, and established branches of their religion in India, China, Japan, etc. Thus we see the source of Buddhism Confucianism, Mahomedanism and Shintoism.

Once again a new age is begun in the religious trend, in which heresy will become still more established in its ecclesiastical formalism. In this age the self-improvement idea demanded that, to protect religion from further side-tracking, the church must control the state. After the fall of the Medo-Persian Empire, the headquarters of the Babylonian religion moved to Pergamos in Asia Minor. Then Greece fell, and Rome became supreme. Once more, in B.C. 133, King Attalus, of Pergamos, at his death, ordered that the headquarters of the Babylonian religion should be moved to Rome. In B.C. 63 the scheme was accomplished and Julius Caesar became Supreme Pontiff and Emperor of the State. This continued, and the Babylonian religion existed side by side, and intermingling with the Christian religion until 376 A.D., when the Emperor Gratian refused the high office of Supreme Pontiff, for Christian reasons, and the first Pope holding authority over the so-called Christian and Babylonian religions was elected two years later.

Damasus, the Bishop of the Church of Rome, thus was the chosen leader of the first great church union that ever occurred. The creed of this new religion was a compromise of the creeds of the two who were united. It claimed wisdom above the Bible. The Church or Pope was infallible, not the Word of God. It adopted the Babylonian system of priest-craft and the confessional. It accepted the idolatrous worship of Ishtar, but altered it to that of the Virgin Mary in 381 A.D. It changed the Tau, used in the worship of Tammuz to that of the sign of the cross. It recognized the sacred

festivities and feasts, such as Christmas, Easter, etc. So the age rushed on, until finally it ended in the dark ages, when heresy, underhand scheming, rapine, persecution and murder were practised in the name of Christian religion.

Then comes the 4th and final stage—the one that is to end in terrible apostasy. The Renaissance, the birth of reading and thinking, broke upon the earth and swept across Europe in the westerly direction. A light shone in the dark ages. The age of reformation began. From the caves and mountains of Switzerland came those old veterans with the truth, holding the torch of life aloft. There were Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, Huss, Savonarola the Waldenses and the Albigenses. Thence sprang the Baptists in Holland and England, the Lutherans in Germany, the Presbyterians in Scotland. A new movement was on. Persecution became the order of the day.

Then error grappled with each, and Denominationalism was the result. Each branch exalted some one doctrine above all the others, and made it so fundamental that they could not have fellowship with the others. For example, the Baptists emphasized immersion so much that they became hard-shell Baptists, who could not have fellowship with those who had not been immersed. Then Lutherans emphasized justification by faith so much that they heeded not Bible Baptism, but followed the teaching of the church out of which Luther had been forced to come. The Presbyterians made so much of predestination that they too carried with them certain forms and ceremonies, and would not allow for man's free will. Then God sent Charles and John Wesley to arouse them to the need of man making his individual choice.

The reaction was wholesome. The Presbyterian Church needed it. Our Philadelphia colored preacher, who asserted that "Ebery woman am possessed ob seben debbils, because dere was only one who ever had them cast out of her," decided to preach a strong doctrinal sermon. He laid himself out on it, but when he came from the pulpit a number of his people gathered around him, and asked, "Brudder pastor, what am de meaning ob dat word 'Procras'nashun' you dun use so many times today?" "Doan you all know?" "No, we doan un'stand it nohow." "Bredren, I sho'ly am s'prised; why, Bredren, dat am de fundamental doctrine ob de Presbyterun Chu'ch." **The Denominations all became possessed of error. What followed then?**

During the last half of the 18th century, and most of the 19th the stage of heresy set in, under the guise of higher criticism. Men generally questioned the reliability of the Scriptures, and scoffing began at the preaching of the blood. A new proposal was made by them to solve the world's troubles. They claimed that social evolution and reformation would gradually and finally create conditions in which the human race would find their Utopia. We are now in the midst of other movements, that we shall discuss in a future lecture. The final stage of apostasy, into which the world is fast rushing, is yet before us.

THE TWO GREAT CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DOWN-GRADE

In conclusion, may I be allowed to emphasize for you the two great characteristics that have marked the religious down-grade movement throughout the ages?

The first and earliest in its attack upon men, is the evolutionary self-improvement idea, that declares that there is a divinity in man, that only needs development. Even some of our hymns contain such expressions as this:

"Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter,
Feelings lie buried that grace can restore;
Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness,
Chords that were broken will vibrate once more."

God tells us plainly in His Word that this doctrine is not true.

Jeremiah 17: 9

9. The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: Who can know it?

The Lord Jesus, while upon earth constantly warned His hearers that the natural heart was impure.

Matt. 15: 19

19. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornication, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

The inspired Apostle, in writing to the Church of Ephesus, declared that the natural state was a death state.

Eph. 2: 1

1. And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.

The person who, therefore, imagines that by any effort on his part he can remove his sin or improve his state, is gathering his information from religious theory rather than from divine inspiration. Which reminds one of the farmer who had just recently purchased a farm and was proceeding to pump from a well thereon some water for his own use. A neighbor came up and said, "You are not going to use that water, are you? Why the man that lived here before you lost his wife and boy through the poisonous germs that are in the water." "Oh," said the farmer, "is that so? I will soon fix that." So saying, he hurried into the shed and soon re-appeared with a pot of paint and a brush and proceeded to paint the pump on the outside. Painting a pump on the outside will never cleanse the spring. Reformation or social evolution can never make the heart of man pure.

"YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN!"

This leads us to the second great downward tendency, viz.—the denial of the efficacy of the blood of Christ. Far too many today scoff at this and say, We will not have a slaughter-house religion; so they trample underfoot the blood of Christ. You can follow that gang, if you like, my friend, but let me tell you the Scripture plainly declares:

Heb. 9: 22

22. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood. And without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins.

I. John 1: 7

7. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

I. Peter 1: 18-19

18. For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
19. But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Rev. 1: 5

5. And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his blood.

Rev. 5: 9

9. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.

So many splendid fellows, the world over, imagine that if they do the best they can, live a fairly honest life and finally ask God to forgive them for the debt they owe that it will be all right with them.

A Christian lady in New York found this characteristic in her family physician. Time after time she spoke to him about the matter, and showed him the Scripture, which told her that works could not save a man.

Titus 3: 5

5. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

But the doctor always smiled and told her that he thought that if he confessed his debt to God at last, that he would be freely forgiven. A few weeks later it so happened that the lady took very ill, and after a month's serious illness, through the doctor's careful and patient work, she found herself convalescent and fast gaining her strength. A week or two after this she invited the doctor to her home for dinner. After dinner they were seated in the drawingroom, when she proceeded to tell him how much she appreciated his great work and skill in her behalf. "Now doctor," she said, "I am sure you have been very good to me, and I am quite satisfied that money can never re-pay you for what you have done. My debt to you is very great indeed." Then, turning to him, with a sparkle in her eye, and a smile upon her face, she said, "Since I have confessed the debt so willingly to you, doctor I am quite sure you will let me off, and not require me to pay the bill." The doctor looked at her with a startled look for a moment. Then his eye flashed, and he said, "Madam, that may be all right in theology, but it does not work in medicine."

No, my friend, it does not work in theology nor medicine. When I die I want to die like that man in Edinburgh. His brother had come all the way from England on hearing of his illness, and upon arrival, he said, "Is it all right with you, Jim?" "Yes," said he raising himself, "I am depending on the blood."

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfil Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul I to the fountain fly:
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

Questions

FOR EARNEST STUDENTS WHO DESIRE TO CAREFULLY STUDY THIS LECTURE

- 1 Explain the analytical method of study, and show how it must be applied to the great movements of the present day.
- 2 Prove that the world is gradually sinking into a state of religious apostasy.
- 3 Trace the four stages in the individual's downward grade as a backslider.
- 4 (a) Give an illustration from the Scriptures of one who fell into error, and threw it off.
(b) Mention two who fell into error and succumbed to it.
- 5 (a) Point out, from the Scriptures, two men who drifted into heresy and denied some fundamental truth.
(b) What heresy prophesied by Peter, is to come in the last days?
- 6 Can a man worship the Father who denies the Son? Give Scripture proof.
- 7 Mention the four great periods in the religious trend of the world.
- 8 Trace through, each of these stages, showing their four-fold development.
- 9 What are the two chief characteristics of the virus of apostasy, that was planted in the world in the days of Cain?
- 10 Give the chief points in the Babylonian creed.
- 11 Show the source of the various religions of the East.
- 12 Why was the headquarters of the Babylonian religion moved west to Rome?
13. What important religious event took place in 376 A.D.?
14. Show how the creed of this great religious union was a compromise of the two.
- 15 Give Scripture to show that the two great characteristics of the down-grade movement of the ages, which are prevalent today, are contrary to the truth.



Are You Interested?



Any reader who cares to write the answers to any set of Questions in these Lectures, carefully and on one side of the paper only, and mail them to the Lecturer—

WILLIAM ABERHART, B.A.,
1216 Thirteenth Avenue West
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

will receive his personal supervision of the same and correction, if One Dollar is enclosed to cover return postage, etc. This will also extend the opportunity of asking any three other Bible question that you may desire.

WE RECOMMEND our LOOSE-LEAF CONTAINER to be used to preserve the Lecture Copies—60¢.

