

# ZION'S ADVOCATE

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost." 1st Nephi 3:124

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## THE LAST DAYS

It has only been a few years ago that we could hear upon every hand that there would be no more wars, and that we would have universal peace; and that prominent men subscribed to a fund known as the Noble Prize that was to be given to those who could offer the best solution for the ending of wars, yet we have only just gone through the most terrible war the world has ever known. And it was just as Paul predicted that it would be, for in speaking to the church at Thessalonia he said, "Of the times and seasons, brethren, ye have no need, that I should write to you, for yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night."

For when they shall say, **Peace and safety**; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child, and they shall not escape." And didn't that condition exist? Was it not a fact that from many pulpits we heard the divines that were claiming to teach the word of God say that there would be no more wars, "that the millenium was here, and that the world is getting better," etc. Yet, like a flash of lightning from a clear sky, in the summer of 1914, we did have war started again, and of such far-reaching effect that the humblest hut and richest palace from one side of the earth to the other felt its destructive power. And in its wake we have had pestilence, famine, and terrible toll of life and limb, many have been left maimed and blind, crippled wrecks of fine manhood, that were swept into the vortex of war; some say that the world might be made a safe place for democracy, while others say to protect the interest of Wall Street.

In the last days perilous times will be upon the earth, for the prophets have said, "Be ye not mockers, lest your bands be made strong, for I have heard from the heritage of the Lord of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth." Isa. 28:22. "For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered into the ark.

And knew not till the flood came, and took them away, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matt. 24:38, 39. And is that not the way that these things are? We see the morals of the people of the world growing lax from day to day, divorce and breaking the marriage vows, murdering, anarchy, abominations upon every hand, yet people go on and give little thought of their spiritual welfare. Lovers of pleasure more

than lovers of God, having a form of Godliness, but denying the power thereof, etc., till it is no wonder that the Saviour was made to say, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth." Luke 18:8.

As we look around us and see the fulfillment of the prophecies as above referred to we can see that they are only the signs of the second coming of Christ, for He said to His disciples upon the Mount, "Many shall come in my name and shall deceive many."

And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, see that ye be not troubled for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places.

All these are the beginning of sorrows." Matt. 24:5, 8. Just look at the history of the last eight years, every nation on the earth either directly or indirectly engaged in war with one another. During 1918 there were ninety-eight earthquakes, some of which were very disastrous, especially in China; Russia and Armenia, and other places in the grip of famine and pestilence which has caused the loss of thousands of lives. On December 29, 1918, it was reported that in the three months that the influenza raged over the world that 6,000,000 lives were lost. More than had been lost in the great world war, but Christ said that these were only the beginning of sorrows.

What do we see today? Upon every hand anarchy, disregard of law, class hatred, industrial warfare, civil war in many parts of the world. Surely a day when peace has been taken from the earth and a day when men should have their attention drawn to the necessity of serving God, and laying aside that which is detrimental to their spiritual and moral development.

The Lord has said that "it shall come to pass, among the wicked, that every man who will not take up his sword against his neighbor must flee to Zion for safety." Therefore it is necessary for all those that want to escape the calamities that are coming upon the earth to repent of their sins take upon themselves the name of Christ and keep his commandments, for it is on account of the fact that the Gentiles have rejected the everlasting gospel that was restored to the earth by the angel (Rev. 14:6, 7) that these things are coming to pass, for it is written "And in that day shall be heard of wars and rumors of wars, and the whole

earth shall be in commotion, and men's hearts shall fail them, and they shall say that Christ delayeth His coming until the end of the earth. And the love of men shall wax cold, and iniquity shall abound, and when the time of the Gentiles is come in, a light shall break forth among them that shall sit in darkness, and it shall be the fullness of my gospel; but they receive it not, for they perceive not the light, and they turn their hearts from me because of the precepts of men; and in that generation shall the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled; and there shall be men standing in that generation that shall not pass away, until they shall see an over-flowing scourge, for a desolating sickness shall come over the land; but my disciples shall stand in holy places, and shall not be moved; but among the wicked, men shall lift up their voices and curse God and die. And there shall be earthquakes also in divers places, and many desolations; yet men will harden their hearts against me, and they will take up the sword one against another, and they will kill one another."

"Wherefore the voice of the Lord is unto the ends of the earth, that all that will hear may hear; prepare ye, prepare ye for that which is to come, for the Lord is nigh; and the anger of the Lord is kindled, and His sword is bathed in heaven, and it shall fall upon the inhabitants of the earth; and the arm of the Lord shall be revealed, and the day cometh that they who will not hear the voice of the Lord, neither the voice of His servants, neither give heed to the words of the prophets and apostles shall be cut off from among the people: For they have strayed from mine ordinances, and broken the everlasting covenant; they seek not the Lord to establish His righteousness, but every man walketh in his own way, and after the image of his own god, whose image is in the likeness of the world, and whose substance is that of an idol, which waxeth old and shall perish in Babylon, even Babylon the great which shall fall." (See also Rev. 18:4, 24.)

Therefore, we say unto all the inhabitants of the earth even as many as shall read these words that have been declared unto you, that we bear our testimony to you that God has restored His gospel to the earth in these last days that you may be able to find a means of escape from His wrath which will be poured out upon the wicked without measure, for He is no respecter of persons and cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance, therefore, repent and turn away your hearts from all ungodliness, and every evil thought, and confess that Jesus is the Christ, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord and He shall send Jesus Christ, whose coming has been preached by those whom God has raised up in these latter days for that very purpose; and endowed them with His holy spirit and called them by His own voice into His priesthood to declare these things unto the inhabitants of the earth.

Therefore, repent and be baptized, for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the

holy ghost, even the comforter which is shed abroad that the minds of the children of men might be enlightened pertaining to those things that are coming upon the earth these last days; for it is the day of God's reckoning with those that do not serve Him, and that make a reproach of those that are righteous and humble before Him.

## THE NEW JERUSALEM

(Continued from last issue)

"Your minds in times past have been darkened because of unbelief, and because you treated lightly the things you have received, which vanity and unbelief hath brought the whole church under condemnation, and this condemnation resteth upon the children of Zion, even all; and they shall remain under this condemnation until they repent and remember the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon and the former commandments which I have given them, not only to say, but to do according to that which I have written, that they bring forth fruit meet for my father's kingdom." D. and Cov. 83:8.

Latter day saint should beware of purported revelations from God that will cause them to turn aside from the work that is before them, for it said that in the last days perilous times would come, that men would become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, and would give heed to seducing spirits and the doctrines of devils, and this does not refer so much to the sectarian world as it does to a condition that would exist right in the church for it was to the church these things were written (1 Tim. 4:1). Among those that are latter day saints we have men who are being led in just such a manner, wolves in sheep's clothing who shall seek to subvert the honestness in heart for their own selfish purposes, not having the work of the Lord at heart. Therefore let us seek for the old paths, and find the acceptable way of the Lord.

Has not the Lord said, that out of Zion the perfection of beauty, God doeth shine, and to gather his saints together that have made a covenant with him by sacrifice? (Psa. 50:1, 6) Then let us give heed to the word of the Lord, that we may not be among the foolish virgins when the time comes to go forth and meet the bride-groom.

In order that we may be prepared for participation in this great work, it is necessary for us to know why, how, and where Zion should be built up and under what condition. Because of the fact that the Lord has decreed that in the last days perilous times would come, and that his wrath would be poured out upon the wicked because of their unbelief and hardness of heart, it therefore stands to reason that there would be a place somewhere upon the earth that would be a place of refuge for them. We are told to come out of Babylon that we may not receive of her plagues, "And I heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues,

For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities." Rev. 18:4, 6.

Does it seem probable that the Lord would command his people to come out of Babylon or the world unless he had a place for them to gather too? The Lord does not do things that way, for he knew the end from the beginning, whatsoever he decrees he has power to fulfill, and he has stated where they would be gather, and that is in Zion.

"The mighty God, even the Lord has spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof.

"**Out of Zion** the perfection of Beauty, God hath shined.

"Our God shall come and shall not keep silence; a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.

He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.

Gather my saints unto me, those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." Psa. 50:3, 5. Therefore hearken all ye that have taken upon you the name of Christ, and all ye inhabitants of the earth, for the day is not far distant when the Lord shall make bare his holy arm in the eyes of all nations of the earth, that he may have a place prepared upon the earth where there will be a people who will sanctify themselves and make their garments clean before Him, that he may come too, and bring the heavenly Jerusalem with all the holy prophets, and they who have died for the testimony of Jesus to dwell upon the earth. For the Lord has said:

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord, prepare ye the supper of the Lamb; make ready for the Bridegroom; pray unto the Lord; call upon his holy name; make known his wonderful works among the people, call upon the Lord that his kingdom may go forth upon the earth; that the inhabitants thereof may receive it, and be prepared for the days to come in which the Son of man shall come down in heaven, clothed in the brightness of his glory, to meet the Kingdom of God which is set up on the earth; wherefore may the Kingdom of God go forth, that the kingdom of heaven may come." D. & Cov. 65:1

Where will he come? Why to his temple in Zion, for so it is declared by the prophets.

"Behold I will send my messenger and he shall prepare the way before me and **the Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to his temple**, even the messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in; behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

But who may abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers sope.

And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he shall purify the Sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." Mal. 3:1, 3., and again, "Many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, **to the house of the God of Jacob**,

and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for **out of ZION shall go forth the law**, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Isa. 2:3.

"Behold, I say unto you that Zion shall flourish and the Glory of the Lord shall be upon her and she shall be an ensign unto the people; and there shall come unto her out of every nation under heaven." D. & Cov. 64:8. "And it shall come to pass among the wicked that every man that will not take up his sword against his neighbor must flee to Zion for safety. And there shall be gathered unto it out of every nation under heaven, and it shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another. And it shall be said among the wicked, let us not go up to battle against Zion, for the inhabitants of Zion are terrible, wherefore we cannot stand.

And it shall come to pass that the righteous shall be gathered out from among all nations, and shall come to Zion singing, with songs of everlasting joy." Doc. & Cov. 45:13, 14.

"And Enoch beheld the Son of Man ascend up unto the Father, and he called unto the Lord saying, Will you not come again upon the earth, for inasmuch as you are God, and I know you, and you have sworn unto me, and commanded me that I should ask in the name of your only Begotten, you have made me, and given unto me a right to thy throne, and not of myself, but through your own grace; wherefore I ask you if you will not come again on the earth? And the Lord said unto Enoch, as I live, even so will I come in the last days—in the days of wickedness and vengeance, to fulfill the oath which I made unto you concerning the children of Noah, and the day shall come that the earth shall rest, but before that day, shall the heavens be darkened, and a veil of darkness shall cover the earth; and the heavens shall shake, and also the earth, and great tribulations shall be among the children of men, but my people will I preserve, and righteousness will I send down out of heaven; and truth will I send forth out of the earth, to bear testimony of my Only Begotten; his resurrection from the dead; yea, and also the resurrection of all men; and righteousness and truth will I cause to sweep the earth as with a flood, to gather out my own elect from the four quarters of the earth unto a place which I shall prepare; a holy city, that my people may gird up their loins, and be looking forth for the time of my coming; for there shall be my tabernacle, and it shall be called Zion, a New Jerusalem." D. & C. 36:12.

This is in fulfillment of the scripture that points to the fact that in the last days God would do a "marvelous work and a wonder" (Isa. 29:14, 20) that would cause the poor among men to rejoice in the holy one of Israel, and the meek to increase their joy in the Lord, for when the children of Israel shall send their messengers and the nations of the earth also to inquire the way to Zion (Jer. 50:5) those who are in Zion shall

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**NOTICE**

Zion's Advocate will go to press each issue in time to be put in the mail by the 15th of the month. All letters and articles for publication must be in the hands of the editor not later than the 1st of month preceding the above date, or they will not be printed, if accepted, until following issue. This is necessary that the Board of Publication may have time to pass upon and prepare the copy for the printers.

answer that "the Lord hath founded Zion, and the poor of his people shall trust in it." Isa. 14: 32. So it is therefore essential that the children of Zion shall "be prepared for the days to come, in which the Son of Man shall come down in heaven, clothed in the brightness of his glory, to meet the Kingdom of God, which is set up on the earth." (D. & C. 65:1.) For when this **Kingdom of God** or the visible Zion has been established upon the earth we will see "the power of heaven come down among them; and I (Christ) also will be in the midst" of Zion (3rd Nephi 10: 4) and we will undoubtedly hear him say, "And now the year of my redeemer is come, and they shall mention the loving kindness of their Lord, and all that he has bestowed upon them, according to his goodness, and according to his loving kindness, for ever and ever. In all their afflictions he was afflicted. And the angel of his presence saved them; and in his love, and in his pity, he redeemed them, and bare them, and carried them all the days of old; yea, and Enoch's also, and they who were with him; the prophets who were before him, and Noah also, and they who were before him; and Moses also, and they who were before him, and from Moses to Elijah, and from Elijah to John, who were with Christ in his resurrection, and the holy apostles, with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, shall be in the presence of the Lamb. And the graves of the saints shall be opened, and they shall come forth and stand on the right hand of the Lamb, when he shall stand upon Mount Zion, and upon the holy city, New Jerusalem, and they shall sing the song of the Lamb day and night for ever and ever." D. & C. 108:10.

And when we shall see these things come to

pass upon the earth, then will we see the fulfillment of John's vision wherein he said, "And I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, come down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."

**LOCAL ITEMS**

Received a very encouraging letter from Sister Fay Beardon at Rains, Utah, an extract of which will be found elsewhere in the paper. We invite the saints to write to her.

Sister Malone is recovered from her recent sickness and is able to attend church again, for which we are thankful.

It has been necessary for Sister Almeda Himes, the wife of Elder A. Himes, to go to the hospital for treatment, and we ask the prayers of the Saints in her behalf.

We are glad to see that Sister Gertrude Himes is back with us again, as she is one of the workers for Zion that is appreciated.

Sister Silvia Bressie has left for a week's visit with Brother and Sister F. E. Denham at Douglas, Kansas.

We hope that Sister May Namur will soon be able to be with us again, after her sickness.

Those who were unable to hear the last two sermons of Elder T. J. Sheldon missed a good opportunity of hearing that which would have benefited and encouraged them spiritually.

Would like to see greater interest taken in the next Sacrament Service, which will be the first Sunday in August.

Rains, Utah, June 30, 1922.

Dear Brother Wheaton:

We received the Advocates the church sent us, and I think they are the most wonderful thing a person could read.

They are real interesting to me because I can't be there to go to church, or to know anything of what our church is doing.—

Fay Beardon.