God Is Speaking

"Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it." Isaiah 34:1.

Some time ago our attention was called to a brief thought in a publication—the name of which has since slipped our memory—to the effect that instead of refraining from reading newspapers, we should do so, that we might know how that God is speaking to the earth today.

It is beyond dispute that we are living in the last days—the closing days of time. On every hand is seen, today, Bible prophecy being fulfilled, pointing to the closing of the age, and the second coming of Jesus back to the earth again.

You can hardly pick up a paper today but what it contains an account of some new and startling event—a terrible disaster; a new brand of criminal activities; a new epidemic of disease striking somewhere; a new threat of war among nations; a terrible crime having been committed; labour troubles; dire financial difficulties in the business world; extreme weather conditions prevailing in different parts of the world—droughts, devastating floods, meneaancing dust storms, etc.; terrible accidents in train, automobile, and air plane travel, taking a toll in human lives, or leaving the unfortunate in pitifully maimed conditions; the unemployment situation with its attendant poverty conditions—all these things, and other conditions daily existing which goes to make up a state of fear and unrest among people, are only connected with, and in many instances in direct line of, the fulfillment of Bible prophecies relating to the time in which we are now living—the last days. And in this all, it is truly God speaking, but is the earth hearing as it should? We feel that it is not.

**Great Danger**

Great danger lies in the fact that the world in general is receiving too lightly—giving too little consideration to these things that are transpiring today, which things are either warnings to us of the fast approaching end of the age, or in some instances, possibly, the beginning of the outpouring of the wrath or judgments of a just God, Creator of all mankind, upon a sinful world which has so long rejected His offered mercies, and who will now have to pay with a terrible price for their rebelling against Him in their money loving, quest for power, social prominence, pleasure seeking, lust satisfying, pursuits. In either event all these things are solemn warnings—finger posts—pointing us to the soon approach of the last stroke of God’s hand against a world that is steeped in sin and unbelief.

We feel that the world is so far from God, that in many instances things of Bible importance in relation to prophesy fulfillment, can transpire today, and the world will only give such a passing glance, not considering its weight from a scriptural standpoint. For instance, an earthquake, today, has to be one of disastrous proportions, indeed, to get more than possibly a mere “news” mention in the columns of the daily press, whereas some years ago, such an occurrence would have probably caused more consternation among some people, at least. So regardless of the fact that earthquakes may seem to have become common to the point where they are not so noticeably any more as a news event, except it be an unusually severe one, yet each shock, whether heavy or light, is only another prophecy fulfillment of the soon coming of Jesus, according to Matthew 24:7: “For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” And the next verse tells us, “All these are the beginning of sorrows,” or that great tribulation which just precedes the appearance (Continued on page 2.)
God is Speaking
(Continued from front page.)

of our Saviour.

General Unrest

In Luke 21:25-28, we read the following, which is a direct prophecies concerning our Lord's return:

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh."

In these words we find embodied a thought which surely applies to the troublesome days in which we are living.

The first prophecy here relates to literal conditions—disturbances—in the heavenly bodies. Scientists have been puzzled over sunspots appearing in the sun during this generation: glaring, fiery meteors flashing across the sky at night, being visible in as many as three states in a single instant, and lighting up the country for miles around in it's path, and bringing consternation, and striking terror to hundreds of the observers of such phenomena, are not altogether infrequent occurrences in these days. Just in recent months past, a meteorite was found near Fayetteville, Ark., where it had plunged to earth after having lighted up, or seen from, a portion of three states, in it's brilliant dash across the sky. The finding of this spent heavenly body attracted nationwide attention. Of course, scientists always have a way of "explaining" such incidents as to allay fear in the hearts of the people, and never do they attribute such occurrences to the proper source of their appearances—that of a Bible prophecy fulfillment!

But the uppermost thought in our mind in connection with the fulfillment of that which Luke here records of the Saviour's prophecy concerning the last days, is that part which so vividly describes the period of general unrest among nations of the world today. Truly, "men's hearts are failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Had you ever given a thought to the great death rate sweeping over the world today wherein it is a common thing anymore to hear of the individual's sudden and unexpected death, attributed merely to an "attack"? No doubt but many, many, cases of heart failure today, especially among those of the business world, (and also those of lesser financial worries, but who are, nevertheless, equally burdened with the problems of life—the care of their own loved ones, etc.), if the facts were known, have "snapped," so-to-speak, due to the excessive strain on the nervous system in trying to hold business enterprises on a safe plane, trying to keep intact their fortunes. It is beyond doubt that the business outlook during, especially, the earlier months of this great depression, has caused many an individual's heart to fail them for fear from looking at world conditions.

General unrest among nations is plainly evident. Threats of war is of almost daily occurrence. Predictions are made of the terrible wholesale slaughter of the people through air attacks with bombs, poisonous gases, etc., should another conflict ensue.

Internal troubles, such as labour disputes, the unemployment situation, political upheavals—men, in their craze for power, leading insurrections in governmental affairs (which is only showing how near the surface is advancing that true spirit of world dictatorship), high taxation, etc., are contributing their part towards the restlessness of today. Surely, the "sea and waves are roaring"—that is, the people are on the stir. Many are the hearts that are perplexed—puzzled—today. They know not what to do, which way to turn, nor what to look for next. Distress has assuredly been upon nations in this generation. The world is only looking for a "way out" of the situation; but God's people—those prepared for the soon coming of Jesus—are not looking for the man of the hour who can lead the world back to prosperity --the "way out" but are looking for the "way up," thank God! They are looking for the Lord from Heaven who is coming for those who have faithfully stood the trials and tests, and who have prepared themselves against the day of His coming. The man that is to arise who will "lead" the world back to temporary prosperity, will be that man of sin—the beast--of which the Bible forewarns us. And of him, all the concern he is causing saints of God is, Will we be so living before God as to be counted worthy to escape being overcome by persecution and tests in that day, and to stand before the Son of man.

(Luke 21:34-36.)

(Continued on page 3.)

Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. ...Luke 21:32.
"God Is Speaking"
(Continued from page 2.)

Yes, beloved, God is truly speaking in these last days, but very little heed is being given Him. People's hearts are being hardened, and they are going deeper and deeper in sin. While many are professing a form of godliness today—belonging to some church—yet multitudes of them are as the Bible says concerning their condition in the last days—"lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God." (See 2 Timothy 3:1-5.)

A COLOSSUS STATUE

According to reports, there is now being constructed in Italy, a giant statue of Mussolini, the Italian dictator, which, when completed, will be dedicated to the great dictator and the Fascist youth of Italy. The work of construction is being carried on secretly, and will require about three years to complete. The figure is being cast in bronze, and to give an idea of its gigantic proportions, reports are that it is planned to be 213 feet high. The head, already cast, is 30 feet high and otherwise the size of a house; the feet, 28 feet in length, and length of the legs, up the knees, about 53 feet.

In reading of this account, and taking into consideration the position held by this man—the outstanding dictator, and most powerful of all rulers today—we are made to think of the scripture in Revelation 13:11-15, wherein it refers to the construction of an image to the first beast, and the decree, so-to-speak, going forth to compel worship of the image. You will remember how, that in the days of king Nebuchadnezzar, (Daniel 3) that a very great image was set up, and the decree went forth compelling bowing down to this image, which the three Hebrew children failing to do, were cast into the burning, fiery furnace.

Whether or not the construction of this image to Mussolini has any prophetical connection with it, it easily serves one purpose—it can cause us to think on the question of what we can expect some day.

FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Bro. M. M. Loftin, of Hailey, Mo. (east of Cassville) requests that we publish a re announcement of the fellowship meeting at his place for August 16-17-18. The meeting previously given out for early part of June was greatly hindered by high water and road conditions; and on account of many having been disappointed, he feels lead to re announce the meeting.

An invitation is extended to all. Let all who can, attend. And let us hope this will be a time of blessing for the saints.

Bro. S. Crutchfield, pastor at Coweta, Okla., reports the fellowship meeting at that place on Sunday, May 25, to have been fine; that God did bless; probably about 500 people present; 28 preachers; a fine dinner; a blessed good time.

WAR CLOUDS

When the great World war burst forth in 1914, peace was taken from the earth, and never again shall we see lasting peace until the Saviour, himself, the Prince of peace, comes back to earth again.

While the major nations withdrew from the battlefield after the so called peace treaty was signed, yet there has been blood shed al- most every day since, somewhere throughout the world, as an aftermath of the World war. Though the armies ceased firing on that memorable Armistice day, yet it failed to bring peace.

Today, the world is looking to, and expecting to see, Italy, under the leadership of Mussolini, open hostilities against Abyssinia. Just what effect such would have upon the rest of the world, might be a question of grave concern. Although other countries may pledge neutrality in the beginning of imminent conflict, yet let us remember that in these days of truce breaking (2 Tim. 3:3), that peace treaties between nations so easily become just mere scraps of paper so far as one country’s regarding another’s rights are concerned.

With Mussolini amassing his troops and war supplies on the Ethiopian border in Africa, and also the threatening Japanese trouble over Chinese territory, it surely looks as if another terrible conflict could take place, which, if it should, might be without parallel in the annals of history. Yet it seems that we are hoping against hope. that another terrible time of slaughter will not occur, or, if it does, that our own country will not be entangled. And there is a very slight wonderment with us, that in the face of another impending world disaster, if it will not possibly be an opportune time for the great world dictator—the beast—to come on the scene with peace proposals, and be acclaimed by the people. Daniel speaks of this vile person as coming in peaceably, and obtaining the kingdom by flatteries. (Dan. 11:21.)

A home founded on prayer, obedience toward God, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, is truly what a home should be.

There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked. —Isaiah 57:21.
THE PUBLISHED FAITH MESSANGER.

O. H. BOND, Editor & Publisher.
Mrs. O. H. BOND, Assistant.

Devoted to the interests of the Church of God, of the Apostolic faith.

16:17; 1:15-20; Acts 15:5-6, and at Ephesians [Acts 19:6]—that of speaking in other tongues [or languages], as the Spirit gives utterance. Note also Mark 16:17; 1 Cor. 14:22, 22.

HEALING FOR THE BODY—The Bible teaches divine healing for our physical bodies, just as it teaches salvation for our souls. Divine healing was purchased for us in the Atonement. Psalms 103:3; Isa. 53:4, 5; Matt. 8:17; 9:22.


THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS—The return of Jesus will be just as literal as when He went to Heaven Acts 1:9. John 14:3. Preparation for His return was the message He stressed to His disciples Matthew 24:44 and such event was that which Paul looked forward to, and points us to. 1 Cor. 15:51-53. 1 Thess. 4:15-18.


WASHING THE DISCIPLES FEET—Jesus said, “If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.” John 13:14, 15. Teaching us humility.

THE TLIBULATION—Jesus prophesied a great tribulation period, such as was not from the beginning of the world. Matt. 24:21, 22, 29. Rev. 16th. and 16th. chapters. Also note Daniel 7:25; 8:15-25; 9:20-27; 11:20-45, and 12:1; Isaiah 26:20, 21.

Upon authority of Matt. 24:6-8, by word of Cornelius Acts 10:1, Peter 2:13, 14, as long as it does not violate our conscience, for “We ought to obey God rather than men.” Acts 5:29. We hold the unalienable right of God to dictate of our own conscience.

THE MILLENIUM—The Bible teaches a 1,000 years peaceful reign with Jesus upon earth. During this time Satan will be bound. Rev. 20:1-6.


THE GREAT WHITE THrone JUDGMENT—All nations shall be gathered before the great white throne of God to render account for their deeds. Here both small and great among men will be judged according to their works. Daniel 12:2; Matthew 25:31-46. Rev. 20:11-15.

NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH—The Bible teaches that this earth, which is polluted with sin, shall pass away, and that shall be new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. 2 Peter 3:12, 13; 2 Pet. 3:13, 14, 15.

AN ETERNAL HEAVEN AND AN ETERNAL HELL—The Bible teaches that hell is as eternal as heaven, Matthew 25:41-46. The wicked shall be cast into a burning hell—a lake of fire burning day and night forever and ever. Rev. 14:10, 11. Luke 16:24. Mark 9:43, 44.


RESTITUTION—The Blood of Jesus will never stve for any sin that we can make right. We must have a conscience void of offense toward both God and man. Restitution means making the thing right wherein we have wronged our fellow man. We have, or paid for, stolen articles, settling for goods obtained by fraud, etc.; paying up old debts, returning things borrowed, etc. Ezekiel 34:14-16. Luke 19:11, 12.

Other confessions sometimes have to be made.

WAR—It is our firm conviction, supported by the Word of God, our conscience bearing us witness, that we cannot take up arms against our fellow men, however great the provocation or however just the cause might seem: it being the teaching of the spirit of the Gospel presented by Christ in His Sermon on the Mount. Matthew 5:38-48. Also Rev. 13:10. Luke 18:19-20. Heb. 12:14.

We maintain the highest regard for our flag and teach absolute respect for the laws and officials of our country according to Romans 13:1-7, and 1 Peter 2:13, 14, as long as it does not violate our conscience, for “We ought to obey God rather than men.” Acts 5:29. We hold the unalienable right of God to dictate of our own conscience.

Take heed unto yourself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. —1 Timothy 4:16.
Editorially

Bringing Reproof

Again has reproach been brought upon God’s good cause by a so-called Holiness preacher in Virginia, in allowing a copperhead snake to bite him, in a reported demonstration of the power of faith. His arm became discolored, and swelled to almost twice its normal size, the paper stated. He refused medical aid, and insisted the Lord would heal him in four days.

We believe in divine healing, and trust the Lord for the same. We have felt His divine touch, praise His good name! But we DO NOT believe in trying to exploit a degree of faith in such a manner as this. Such is not Bible. We take the liberty to say, doing so in defense of the Gospel, that any such tactics are not of the true cause of holiness. We, of the genuine Apostolic faith, do not endorse any such demonstrations, nor have any fellowship with the perpetrator of such. Such fanaticism only makes against the true cause of Christ.

We read in Acts 28:1-6, wherein Paul, unknowingly, picked up a very poisonous reptile in gathering wood for a fire, and the same bit him on the hand, and he shook the beast off into the fire, and felt NO harm, thank God! NO swelling occurred; and the natives standing by, were astonished that he was neither swollen, nor didn’t fall dead as a result of the bite. Here was a REAL demonstration of the power of God! and a manifestation of Mark 16:18 – “And they shall take up serpents” – in it’s true and intended Biblical meaning—a promise for protection in imminent danger, and in a manner that really glorifies God.

If the enemy can’t turn people from the faith in one manner, he will try something else.

WON’T HAVE THE BIBLE KIND

The modern church is becoming theatrical along with it’s other forms of worldliness.

Interpretative dancing is now beginning to be introduced into church services of some of the possibly “more fashionable” congregations. At any rate, we have before us the account of where an actress from the stage was greeted by a crowded auditorium in the Park Avenue Presbyterian church, in New York city, where she did a “rhythmic interpretation of the Psalms.”

Another report states that ten “pretty girls,” of Christian college, in Columbia, Mo., were to dance their interpretation of hymns at the First Christian church on a Sunday night.

The pastor said that dance may be a regular part of the church services, but at that time they were only in the “experimental stage.”

This “interpretation,” mind you, was not to be in the church proper, but in the educational hall!

Rot!

People who endorse such Paganism as this, are also, possibly, among those who would brand as fanaticism, a real manifestation in the Spirit by some true child of God, who, becoming so filled and thrilled by the Spirit of God—such a blessing in their soul—as to begin to do as did David, of old, leap and dance before the Lord with all their might! (2 Samuel 6: 12 23.) And the prophecy of such joyous manifestations is made to be with us during the days of the restoration of Israel, which days are now upon us. (Jeremiah 31:4, 13.) See also Psalms 149:3; 150:4; Ecclesiastes 3:4. But this, the Bible kind— the kind that comes from an overflow of real joy in the soul— the modern church (and lots of her children) won’t have. They can stand shouting at a ball game; but at church—never! Amen.

AND WE’RE CALLED A CHRISTIAN NATION!

Governmental reports for 1934 indicates the highest amount ever paid into the U. S. treasury in any year in the way of taxes on cigarettes, cigars, snuff, and manufactured tobacco. The amount totaled $452,366,438,– with cigarettes contributing the most, which was $877,478,601. Think of it—over four hundred and fifty two MILLION dollars just in taxes on the foul stuff, alone! What would the identical tobacco bill, itself, have been? And without doubt, a big percent of this was paid by people professing Christianity!

Then we might add to this, the millions spent for other things in the way of cosmetics (beauty aids), trashy literature, the movies, ungodly dressing, ornaments, etc., and the figure would reach an appalling sum, indeed! Then think of the hunger, misery, and woe, suffered by men, women, and little children, right in our midst, and this sinful waste—a sacrifice to the gods of lust, appetites, and pride—being made by a nation of high-steepled, and gorgeously equipped church edifices, whose pastors are supposed to be men of learning!

Honestly, does such present a picture of Christianity! What part in such a program do you think the Saviour would play?

And we call ourselves a Christian nation!

For Shame!

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. —Ecclesiastes 3:4.
Mrs. Carrie Lou Gott

Carrie Lou Mattox was born in the state of Georgia, on August 21, 1865; passed from this life, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, on April 10, 1935. Age at death, 69 years, 7 months, and 19 days.

She removed with her parents in an early day to near Stilwell, Oklahoma.

In 1879, she was united in marriage to Joseph M. Gott. To this union was born eleven children, of whom nine remain. They are: George, Claud, Walter, Moses, Joe, John, Ruth, Mrs. Mamie Barker, and Mrs. Pearl Windham.

Besides her children, she leaves her aged, and devoted husband; two sisters: Mrs. Maggie Hill, and Mrs. Clem Thompson, both of Stilwell, Oklahoma; fifteen grandchildren; and a host of friends, to mourn her passing.

She was converted early in life, and lived a devoted Christian to the end. Was a kind, loving mother, and was loved and respected by all who knew her.

All of the immediate family, and both sisters, were present for the funeral services, conducted by Bro. P. A. Henegar, of near Ramona, Oklahoma, (her request) on Sunday, April 14, at Oglesby, Oklahoma, in the presence of an enormous congregation — so great the crowd the two-roomed school building could not accommodate all. Bro. Henegar used for the sermon, the 23rd Psalm — her previous selection for the occasion.

Friends from various places, and saints of God from Coffeyville, Kansas, Bartlesville, and Webb City, Oklahoma, were present.

Pall bearers were her six sons.

Interment was in the Oglesby cemetery.

Mrs. Minnie E. Nading McAfee

Mrs. Minnie E. Nading McAfee was born in Labette county, Kansas, on February 22, 1886. and passed away in Mt. Carmel Hospital, in Pittsburg, Kansas, on March 27, 1935. Age, 49 years, 1 month, and 5 days.

She was united in marriage to Thomas D. McAfee, on October 20, 1901, to which union was born eleven children — five sons, and six daughters, all of whom remain, together with her husband, to mourn the passing of a dear wife and mother. The children are: Fred, Jim, Marvin, Nora, Elma, and Evelyn, of the home: Hubert, of Excelsior Springs, Missouri; Arthur, of Chicago, Illinois; Mrs. Nello Ammon, of Excelsior Springs, Missouri; Mrs. Ed. Cumnins, of Mulberry, Kansas; and Mrs. Joe Nuccio, of Kansas City, Missouri.

Besides those of her immediate family, she also leaves to mourn her departure, her mother, Mrs. Mary McAfee, of Isabel, Kansas; two sisters: Mrs. Arthur Moore, of Desdemona, Texas, and Mrs. Loren Cronin, Pierceville, Kansas; eleven grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends.

She was a dear sister in the Lord, and will be sadly missed.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro Bert Utter, of Kersey, Colorado, and Bro. Eli Lakey, of Mulberry, Kansas.

May the dear Lord bless the sorrowing ones of each of these two families who have suffered the loss of a dear wife and mother. And to the unsaved of each family who are yet blessed, we ask that God's mercy may be with them, and that they may know His love. Amen.

Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. — John 14:1.
SAPULPA, OKLA.,

June 4, 1935.

Dear Bro. and Sr. Bond, and readers of the paper:

We are so glad this morning to report victory over sin and the devil, thank God. God has been good to us. Bless His name. Have been having some good meetings of late—here, and at Kelleyville. Our souls have been lifted.

This morning we feel like going on. Thank God. We've already travelled too far, now. I feel the end is nearing. Truly, Jesus is coming soon—much sooner. I fear, than some of His children are expecting. I pray God that they will awake from their slumber and see to it that the oil hasn't leaked out, for the Bride must be without spot, or blemish. In Hebrews 12: 1 and 2, we read, "let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." God has blessed me through the radio to see that the end is very near, and gave me a hunger to live closer to Him. The antichrist is very near, I truly believe. My advice to the saints of God is not to lay up for ourselves treasures on earth, but send up material for our mansion over there. Glory to God.

I'm determined this morning, by His help, to go through, and try to take others with me. I feel encouraged, thank God. We may think we are having trials now, but wait—the testing time is just ahead of us. Who will be able to stand? If we can't stand these petty trials now, what, then, can we stand? Seems I can see the way through this morning—just keep our eyes on Jesus. What we have consecrated to get the blessing, the same it's going to take to keep it. Thank God.

I just feel good in my soul. Ask the prayers of each of God's children that I may prove faithful unto the end.

Enclosed you will find some of the Lord's tithes to help send out the paper—helping to spread the Gospel.

Your Bro. and Sr. in Jesus,
Burch and Jeannetta Bell,
Sapulpa, Okla.

While many will admit that the Bible is the best piece of literature we have, yet few, comparatively speaking, are willing to accept it's teachings as applied to their everyday life.

ALL WE NEED TO KNOW

"... believe in God, believe also in me." (John 14:1.)

A traveler in Switzerland, uncertain of his way, asked a small lad by the wayside where Kandersteg was, and received, so he remarks, the most significant answer ever given him.

"I don't know sir," said the boy, "where Kandersteg is, but there is the road to it."

There are a great many things I cannot tell about the life to come, but I know where lies the road. As I know Christ, the hope of glory, I have the certain assurance of immortality.—Herald and Presbyter. (Sel.)

CAMP MEETING

(The Church of God, of the Apostolic Faith)

Beginning Thursday, AUGUST 1, 1935, and continuing for TEN days, or longer, as the Lord leads.

Location: 5 1-2 miles west of Anderson, Mo., on Highway 44; 1-4 mi. north, and 1-2 mi. west, of Lone Star school house; 4 miles east of Tiff City, Mo., and 1 mile east of "Y" on this route (44), on the John Johnson farm. A good grove of timber, and plenty of water.

Tables Supported by Free-Will Offerings

Bring Bedding, and Tents if Possible; also, any one having a gasoline lantern, please bring.

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Meeting in charge of Bro. J. F. Archley, Route 2, La Salle, Colo., and Bro. P. A. Henegar, Route 1, Ramona, Okla.

COMMITTEE: Bros. F. A. Armstrong, W. T. Castel, and Pete Tarshier, of Route 2, Anderson, Mo
Sr. Emily Castel, Sec., Route 2
Anderson, Mo.

But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. —Luke 11:28.
ROME IN POWER

Time was, in centuries gone by, when the Roman empire ruled the entire known world. A revival of that same spirit is in evidence today. Premier Mussolini, the Italian dictator, has expressed himself to the effect of being desirous of seeing Rome attain to her former glory. The influence of Rome, so to-speak, has, since the World War, gone far beyond her borders. Other countries are following the example of dictatorial power of government first advanced in these latter days by Mussolini, until but very few countries remain that are governed by a monarchical, or a democratic form of government. Every step taken towards paving the way for rule by dictatorship, is only a link in the chain of events leading up to the final assumption of all governing power by that man of sin—the beast—(Rev. 13), who is to rule the world with relentless authority for a period of three years and six months, during which time real Christianity is going to suffer persecution as never before. The ballot box will never stop the advance of this great dictatorial empire. Our own country is now fighting in the last ditch, so-to-speak, trying to ward off the encroachment of this power, it seems. The supreme court of the United States has just recently handed down a decision against the N. R. A. program, declaring it to be unconstitutional. The next move now by the backers of this program, which is headed by our president, will be, possibly, as has been intimated, a legislative attempt to change the constitution of our nation in a manner that will give the government authority in commercial affairs. To this end, the skeleton form of the N. R. A. is being carried over—though shorn of its power—until the attempt is made. And it is highly probable the attempt will be successful. Sooner or later, at any rate, and in some manner, will our own nation fall in line with other countries in this respect. We expressed ourselves some time ago, when it seemed the N. R. A. experienced a weakening within its ranks, that we wouldn't be surprised if it didn't come back, and maybe have "teeth" in it. So if it is revived under constitutional authority, we can then begin to prepare ourselves to face something in reality!

Yes, beloved, we believe Rome is coming back into power. No doubt but what such things as the attempted N. R. A. set-up is only the effect of the influence of the original dictatorial program which was launched by Mussolini, and emanating from Rome.

KNOWING THE BIBLE

Knowing the Bible is fine, beloved; but the great question is—Do you KNOW God? Many there are who may know the Bible from a literary standpoint—may be able to quote it, passage after passage, so-to-speak; but unless they know God, their spiritual understanding of it is darkened, and their chances for Heaven are none the better than all the rest of the great throng of the unsaved.

And since the Bible is an inspired book—spiritually given—one cannot, in the real sense of the meaning, KNOW it—that is, as they should—except they know the Lord. They may be able to quote lengthy portions of it, but without a spiritual understanding, which comes through a knowledge of salvation, only, the mind is darkened as to it's real meaning. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Cor. 2:14.)