

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S.  
P. O. Berbice,  
Via Piet Retief,  
Transvaal,  
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Dear Highway Friends:

Just a few lines this time—it has been some time since I have written.

For the last six weeks we have been having an outbreak of malaria fever and grippe, as well. This meant extra busy days, as many came for medicine daily and some stayed here for treatment; among them was a little boy, who was very ill with pneumonia. This, of course, meant night work as well.

My sister and I had each a touch of grippe, but very light, for which we thank the Lord. The people are still coming for medicine, but we think the worst is now over. Isaya was laid by for two weeks and Talida, one of the women workers, has been sick for four weeks. Two people died at Kipanyawo and eight at Entungwini we hear. The school children have seemed to escape the sickness quite well so far, as only two have been sick. We have a real good attendance at the school.

I want to thank the Lord for answering prayer for today we are surrounded by beautiful green fields of grass and a fair amount of green corn and other green foods. This was almost more than we expected this year, but the Lord in mercy heard and answered prayer. Although this is going to be a hard year for the natives, they are really thankful for the green food they get, for it seemed at one time as if their gardens would be a total failure.

The last union meeting was held on March 30th. A very sweet spirit was felt. Some of the people want them continued later on, after the harvesting is done. The Lord is working in the hearts of people. Our cry is for a real outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our midst. We had a real good service on Good Friday and Easter Sunday even though so many were sick at that time.

In last Sunday's service here one woman gave herself to the Lord. She really had given herself in her heart long ago, but had to wait for her husband's consent to do so publicly. At last the glad day came for her. We rejoiced with her.

Last Sunday at Klip Vaal we had a very encouraging service. It is so nice to see some of their shining faces and to hear their testimonies. Dear ones, please continue to pray for us and the work here. We thank the Lord for what He is doing. And we long to see much more.

Yours, glad to be in Africa,  
HELEN M. STERRITT

Of Demosthenes, the greatest of Greek orators, it was said that his speeches could "lift the souls of his hearers from their hinges."

It was said of Eldo Knapp, the Baptist, that he preached one night against Universalism in a manner so tremendous that a Universalist present said that he "took away every shingle and clapboard of the building—left nothing but the falling rafters exposing my naked soul to the peltings of the pitiless storm."

Oh, for preachers not afraid to preach the old gospel and the whole of the gospel! Oh, for moving, melting, fiery preaching that brings things to pass!—*The Christian Witness*.

## "THE WORD OF GOD"

## A RADIO MESSAGE

By Rev. P. Wiseman, D.D.  
(N. B.—Will the reader please read this message carefully and prayerfully, also the P. S.)

The text of Scripture for this afternoon is found in the Gospel recorded by Mark, chapter seven, verse thirteen, "The Word of God."

There are seven aspects of the Holy Bible to which we invite your prayerful attention for about twenty minutes.

## FIRST THE TRUTHFULNESS OF THE BIBLE

Jesus, when addressing the Father in prayer said, "Thy Word is truth."

There are four grand arguments for the truth of the Bible:—

The miracles it records; the prophecies it contains; the goodness of the doctrine; the moral character of the penman.

The miracles flow from Divine power, the prophecies from Divine understanding, the excellency of the doctrine from Divine goodness, and the moral character of the penman from Divine purity. Thus Christianity is built upon these four immovable pillars, the power, the understanding, the goodness, and the purity of God. (See "In and About the Bible" by the author).

The Bible must be the invention of good men or angels, bad men or devils, or of God, suggests the Rev. John Wesley, though not in these exact words.

It could not be the invention of good men or angels, for they neither would nor could make a book and tell lies all the time they were writing, saying, "Thus saith the Lord," when it was their own invention.

It could not be the invention of bad men or devils, for they could not make a book which commands all duty, forbids all sin, and condemns their souls to all eternity. We, therefore, draw this conclusion—the Bible must have been given by Divine inspiration.

## SECOND, THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

The Bible is Divinely inspired. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be perfect." (2 Tim. 3:16, 17). "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Peter 1:21).

There are many proofs of the inspiration of the precious Word of God, the Bible. There are six indirect proofs:—

1. There is the declaration already quoted, namely, that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God," that is, all scripture is God-breathed.

2. "Thus saith the Lord" is found about 2000 times in the Bible.

3. The way Old Testament quotations are introduced into the New Testament (see Matt. 1:32, Acts 2:16, 17; Heb. 3:7)

4. The way Christ and His apostles treat the Old Testament Scriptures (see Matt. 4:4; 8:16, 17; John 10:33).

5. The claims of both the Old and New Testament writers. They claimed to be inspired of God.

There are direct proofs equally emphatic:—

1. The supernatural character of the Bible.

2. The supernatural character of Christ.

3. The unity and harmony of Scripture.

4. The wonderful knowledge of the Scripture.

5. The wonderful preservation of the Scripture.

The Bible has come to us through fire and blood, and it is here to stay.

Dr. Arthur T. Pierson says: "There are, with regard to this question of verbal inspiration, or the oversight of the very words of Scripture, five important significant passages in the Word of God; Hebrews 12:27; Galatians 4:9; John 8:57; John 10:34, 36; Galatians 3:16. If these passages are examined it will be seen that in the first instance the argument turns on one phrase, 'yet once more.' In the second, on the passive voice rather than the active voice of the verb. In the third one, the present rather than the past tense. In the fourth, on the inviolability of a single word; and in the fifth, on the retention of the singular number of a noun rather than the plural. Taking the five passages together, they teach us that, to alter or omit a phrase, change the voice or mood or tense of a verb, change a single word or even the number of a noun, is to break the Scriptures; and if this does not come close to verbal inspiration, then I am no judge."

Paul says, "Words which the Holy Ghost teacheth," and in another passage of Scripture we see the emphasis or argument on the singular, not plural; "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ."

## THIRD, THE SUPERNATURALNESS OF THE BIBLE

There are seven reasons why I believe the Bible to be a supernatural Book:—

1. The wonderful prophecies of the Scriptures. Who but the Omniscient One could look down the ages thousands of years, and tell what should come to pass? This is the record of prophecy. Many prophecies uttered thousands of years ago have been fulfilled. Many are being fulfilled. God knew what would be, and he has told us. "And the Scripture was fulfilled."

2. The miracles of the Bible give a similar testimony. Who but the Omnipotent One could make possible the record of the miraculous that we have in Scripture? God is almighty. He simply did things by his own power. The miracles of the Bible, especially those of Christ, prove beyond doubt the work of God. By these two, namely, prophecies and miracles, one could prove the Bible to be the Word of God; but there are others.

3. The record of the Bible. The translations circulation, yea, the very history of the Book itself, is an unanswerable argument for its divine origin. As to its translations, it has been printed in more languages than any other book. It is today translated into almost every language known. Regarding its circulation, the history of the London Religious Tract Society, organized in 1904; the American Bible Society, organized in 1904; the American Tract Society, organized in 1825; the American Bible Society, organized in 1816; these societies and their accomplishment tell a wonderful story. Of course, there is a wonderful history leading up to the organization of these societies; all centering in a miraculous accomplishment, till today the Bible has gone through more editions than any other book. It keeps the lead.

4. The universality of the Bible. The Bible is truly the Book universal. Blackstone holds