

## THE COMPANION-SAVIOUR

Rev. A. H. M. Zahn

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14.) "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying: Behold a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." (Matt. 1:21-23).

In the verses quoted above we have prophecy and fulfillment. The promised Messiah has come. The long looked-for Deliverer has arrived. The Saviour-Companion and Companion Saviour is here.

As another Yuletide draws near, it is natural to look back to Bethlehem (house of bread) and to call to mind Mary and Joseph and the Babe; and, to think of the manger and stable and all the lowly surroundings. As also the message of the angelic host to the shepherds and the shepherds' visit to Bethlehem. The star in the East, the journey of the Wise Men, and their miraculous guidance and rich reward. These are all interesting and of significance to us. All are worthy of attention and consideration. But the great purpose of them all is expressed in our title and the scriptures quoted at the beginning of this article. This purpose was given merit and divinely and permanently sealed by the sacrifice and blood that was shed on Calvary. It was brought to a glorious consummation in the marvelous resurrection from the dead; and by the ascension to heaven by the blessed Son of God. Jesus was "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead." So if we would now see Jesus we must look beyond the manger and stable and the tomb to the throne.

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him and given him a name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Mercy and truth have met together in Jesus Christ. The Father of justice and of mercy has accepted the sacrifice. The atonement is made. It is now recorded, "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Well may we sing with Isaac Watts:

"Salvation! O the joyful sound!  
What pleasure to our ears!  
A sovereign balm for every wound,  
A cordial for our fears.

"Salvation! Let the echo fly  
The spacious earth around,  
While all the armies of the sky  
Conspire to raise the sound.

"Salvation O thou bleeding Lamb!  
To thee the praise belongs:  
Salvation shall inspire our hearts,  
Salvation dwell upon our tongues."

The Master does not save us, and then leave us to fight the battles and endure the burdens and conflicts of life alone. The truth expressed to Israel of old, has a more real,

intimate and spiritual realization in the hearts and minds of God's people to day. "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, the Saviour."

In St. Luke 19:10. where we read, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost," we are told plainly, as well, as in our Scripture portion at the head of this message, what was the purpose for which Jesus came into our world. He was made flesh, born of a woman; he lived, and suffered and died; he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, that he might make a way of escape for sinful man. He left his throne on high, and made the greatest possible sacrifice, that he might provide a way of recovery for man from sin and death; that he might deliver us out of the snare of the devil; that he might break the galling yoke of bondage which sin had put upon us, and give us true liberty. He came to be your Saviour and mine. Praise God!

If we will come forsaking and confessing our sins, and believing in him we may know the true meaning of "Thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins." And then, "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." "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom." "And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Then we shall know the meaning of Immanuel. And we shall have a Saviour-Companion: One who can give us a truly Happy Christmas and New Year, a useful future and a blissful eternity. —Selected.

## ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Sages leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of Nations;  
Ye have seen His natal star.

Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord descending,  
In His temple shall appear.

Sinners, wrung with true repentance,  
Doomed for guilt to endless pains,  
Justice now revokes the sentence,  
Mercy calls you, break your chains.

Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

## CLOUDS

The clouds I feared and worried about, and concerning which I wasted so much precious strength lost their frown and revealed themselves as my friends. Other clouds never arrived—they were purely imaginary, or they melted away before they reached my threshold.—J. H. Jowett.

## HYMN FOR CHRISTMAS

Almighty Framer of the skies,  
Oh, let our pure devotion rise  
Like incense in Thy sight!  
Wrapt in impenetrable shade,  
The texture of our souls was made,  
Till Thy command gave light.

The sun of glory gleam'd, the ray  
Refined the darkness into day,  
And bid the vapours fly:  
Impelled by His eternal love,  
He left His palaces above  
To cheer our gloomy sky—

How shall we celebrate this day  
When God appeared in mortal clay;  
The mark of worldly scorn.  
When the archangel's heavenly lays  
Attempted the Redeemer's praise,  
And hail'd salvation's morn?

A humble form the Godhead wore,  
The pains of poverty He bore.  
To gaudy pomp unknown:  
Though in a human walk He trod,  
Still was the man Almighty God,  
In glory all His own.

—Thomas Chatterton

## OBITUARY

Mrs. Oliver Trites

The death of Mrs. Oliver Trites occurred at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Cora Grass, in Montreal, Dec. 23rd, 1945.

Mrs. Trites was ninety-one years of age, and had travelled to Montreal by plane in November to visit Mrs. Grass and her son, Zenas, and Mrs. Beatrice Steeves, another daughter, making her home, with Mrs. Grass in Montreal.

The deceased was a charter member of the Lutes Mountain, N. B., church and was highly respected as a Christian character.

Surviving besides the daughters already referred to are two sons, Beecham, of Berry Mills, N. B., and Everett, of Moncton; a brother, Gabriel McLean, of Bath, Maine; and a sister, Mrs. Mary O'Brien, of Salisbury, N. B.

Funeral service was held from the home Dec. 26th, conducted by Rev. B. C. Cochrane. To the sorrowing we extend our sympathy.

## CALAIS PARSONAGE FUND

Previously acknowledged .....	\$205.95
Ambrose Wiley .....	12.00
Rev. and Mrs. S. G. Hilyard.....	10.00
Mrs. Lyman McMillan.....	5.00
Lois Dow .....	4.00
Mrs. L. M. Wallace.....	2.00
Clarence Dow .....	3.50
Calais Y. P. S. S. Class.....	1.25
Ruth Dow .....	1.00
Other Sources .....	4.05

Send all contributions to Mr. Clarence Dow, 182 North Street, Milltown, Maine, treasurer. Thank you.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

There will be a special session of the Alliance at Woodstock Wednesday, January 9th, at 1.30 p. m.

REV. L. T. SABINE, President  
REV. H. C. ARCHER, Secretary