

## THE TIME OF THE END

By Rev. R. H. Hamilton

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Many would-be prophets have had to revise much of their conclusions in the light of the fast-moving events among the nations. Mussolini and Hitler have passed away. The great empires of Germany and Japan are on their backs, and probably will never rise again. The revived Roman Empire may even prove to be mythical. However, one thing seems to be well fixed—the time of the end.

All things material seem to have an end. Every year has a December. Every day comes to a sunset. Every life reaches its finish.

"The path of glory leads but to the grave" (Gray's Elegy). Divine writ voices our title. "The end of all things is at hand." "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom of God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power."

The great cataclysmic events of the past thirty years cause us to think that we are even now in a great dispensational period, when things will never be the same again. There are some things concerning the end time that we should do well to study. Many of them could apply to the present conditions.

1. It will be a time of great trouble. "There shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that same time" (Dan. 12:1). When has the world seen millions done to death before in bake ovens, gas chambers, starvation camps, by the sword and fire of war, from the flaming bombs of the midnight skies which blasted cities from the earth, as well as from the drastic poverty and famine that have followed in the wake of war?

2. It will be a time of great spiritual decline. Jesus told us of that time when He said, "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." And again, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth." The last of the symbolic churches pictures to us the Laodecian Age of lukewarmness. Modernism has wrought its deadly poison on the masses. Refined atheism has removed the fear of God from the minds of the masses. The great falling away has hit all of our churches. Even the most sensational programs cannot compete with the world. Evangelists complain that they have only church folk to preach to.

3. It will be a time of great social activity. "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the Ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Many of the world today get married and divorced many times over. Societies, clubs, lodges, parties and cliques by the legion abound to occupy the minds of humanity.

4. It will be a time of great economic upheaval. "Go to now, ye rich man, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. \* \* \* ye have heaped treasure together for the last days" (James 5:1-3). He further indicates in following verses that the cry of the laborer is coming up before God. The whole world is in the vice of labor unrest. Communism is sweeping the nations. H. G. Wells has remarked most pessimistically and

possibly very speculatively, "It is practically all over now. There will be hell to pay east of Suez. The Red flag will advance to the Rhine—possibly to the Atlantic. Down will go Europe in one awful smash. Anarchy will seize the doomed U. S. A. Mankind will take to the caves." Some tell us that the world currency situation is at the bottom of much of the world's unrest. That is too complex for the ordinary layman to know.

5. It will be a time of great transportation facilities. "Many shall go to and fro throughout the whole earth." Recently a plane flew over 11,000 miles non-stop from Australia. Another flew non-stop nearly 10,000 miles over the pole from Honolulu to Cairo, Egypt. One day a plane took off from Toronto and took six young, pure-bred cattle by air to Havana, Cuba, arriving there that evening. Motor travel and transportation of freight fill the great highways of the nation. No city will be safe in another war, for distance means nothing.

Many other remarkable signs are given in God's Word for the information of God's children. These things do not alarm the saints, for Jesus said, "When ye shall see these things come to pass, lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh." In the great judgment periods which followed the sins of the people in the days of Noah, and in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah, and at the destruction of Jerusalem, God delivered His own who trusted in Him. Daniel also was assured that "at that time [the time of the end], thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

We have a duty, however, to perform. So long as opportunity shall afford, it is our duty to warn the wicked to flee from the wrath to come. We must be evangelists of the great salvation which has been brought to us through the mercy and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is no time to rest on our oars. We must be concerned for those about us.

Then, too, we must be watchful. We must not let sleep overcome us. "Blessed is that servant, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching." Our redemption draweth nigh.

"Let all who look for hasten  
That coming joyful day;  
By earnest consecration  
To walk the narrow way;  
By gathering in the lost ones  
For whom our Lord did die.  
For the crowning day is coming  
By-and-by."

## LOVE—THE WHOLE LAW

Samuel Chadwick

Love sums up the whole of the Christian religion. Without love nothing counts. Knowledge, beneficence and faith are nothing, without love. The greatest gifts, including prophecy and miraculous powers, are nothing, without love. It comprehends all of God's revelation of Himself, for God is love. It sums up all of man's duty. All the Commandments are comprehended in this, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." There has never been any other commandment. Love is, and always has been, the fulfilling of the Law. Mechanical obedience of the letter never could have satisfied God. There are two covenants, but they declare

one kind of righteousness, and that righteousness is the perfect love of God and our neighbor. These two great demands of the Divine Law are universal and eternal, equally binding in all worlds and in all ages.

Just as in tracing back to existence, we come to the necessity of God's being; so, in tracing back principles, we come to the necessity of God's character. The Law is not a principle of Nature, nor a matter of creation for the government of the world; it is inherent in the Divine Character, co-existent and co-eternal with the Divine Nature. The obligation to be holy is in the fact of His holiness; and the demand for love is inherent in the fact that God is love.

"Ye shall be holy: for I am holy." Love is the fulfilling of the Law; not its substitute. It keeps the commandments and sinneth not. The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation. It saves from the power and pollution of sin. This is its one grand result: "The blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin."

Into the cleansed soul there comes to abide the Spirit of God, the fruit of whose presence is the love of God permeating every part of the heart and life. Love reigns supreme. Christian perfection is this gift of love made perfect in the soul.

## IS A CHRISTIAN DIFFERENT?

R. B. Warren

Does becoming a Christian make any difference in a person's outward life? Some will answer, "It depends on what kind of life he was living before." There is some truth in that answer. But if conversion is as momentous an experience as the Bible pictures it to be then one would naturally expect some outward signs indicative of the inward transformation. Saul of Tarsus turned from his bitter persecution of the church to become, in time, its greatest leader. When Zachaeus became a follower of Jesus, he became a friend of the poor and restored fourfold to every man from whom he had taken anything by false accusation. Joining a church may or may not be accompanied by outward changes in the manner of living. But conversion does make a decided change. The new creature in Christ Jesus has new ideals and purposes. Life for him has acquired a new meaning. It may be briefly summed up in the words,

"Be like Jesus, this my song

In the home and in the throng;

Be like Jesus all day long;

I would be like Jesus."

## WEDDINGS

Lapoint-Mitchell

At the Reformed Baptist Church of Fredericton on June 7th, William Lapointe, of Marysville, and Faith Mitchell, of Fredericton, were united in marriage. Rev. H. E. Mullen performed the ceremony.

Danby-Young

At the United Baptist Church at Ripples on June 30, Thomas Danby was united in marriage to Beatrice Young. Rev. H. E. Mullen performed the ceremony.