

land about Mount Seir, to Esau, because of his memorable transaction with Jacob when he sold his birthright for a mess of pottage, and to the land because of the red cliffs of Seir. And so the descendants of Esau were known as Edomites. "To the northeast of Edom lived the Ammonites and Moabites, descendants of Lot. The larger part of northern Arabia however, was inhabited by the Ishmaelites and their allies. The southern portion of Edom was inhabited by the Temanites and Kadmonites, descendants of Ishmael. The Midianites, half-brothers of the Ishmaelites, through the second marriage of Abraham, settled near the Ishmaelites, mingled, intermarried, and merged their interests with the Ishmaelites until others came to use their names inter-changeably. The merging and intermingling of these and other tribes brought to formation what is now known as the Arab nation."

Meanwhile, in the household of Jacob, envy and jealousy led to the selling of the youthful and beloved Joseph into the hands of Midianite, or Ishmaelite merchantmen, who carried him into Egypt. Turning evil into good, and a curse into a blessing, God linked together a chain of circumstances which brought the exiled Joseph to a position of prominence and power in Egypt second only to King Pharaoh himself.

Events providentially directed finally brought Jacob and his household, nucleus of the Jewish nation, into Egypt, where, in spite of severe hardship and cruel oppression, the descendants of the Hebrew patriarch multiplied and grew to a nation a million strong. Hearing the cry of His afflicted people, and remembering His promise to their forefathers, God sends Moses, a chosen man, to lead the Israelites out of bondage, with the command to the arrogant Pharaoh, "Let my people go!" The miracle-working God brings the stubborn king to his knees, and leads His chosen people out of Egypt, via the Red Sea, across the barren wastes of the wilderness, and through the Jordan into Canaan, about 500 years after Abraham left Ur, of the Chaldees.

THE BIBLE

R. Barclay Warren

These days are too eventful for us to calmly think upon great theological truths unless they vitally relate to our present need. We are living at a high tension. But the truths of Scripture do touch our lives.

This week a paper carried this item in its "Fifty Years Ago" column, "The phonograph is a marvel that should be heard by everybody." What changes have taken place since then! But there are some things which have not changed. The spiritual needs of man have not changed. Neither has God changed. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The means by which He ministers to man's soul needs have not changed. The great truths contained in the Scriptures are reliable and eternal.

A recent Gallup Poll indicates a revival of interest in the Bible. That is good. The Bible is the only book which justifies its claim to having been written by Divine inspiration. Well may we turn to it.

In addition to reading it we ought, by the grace of God, to incorporate it into our living. Jesus said, "Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock; and the rain descended, and the floods

came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock" (Matt. 7:24-25).

Let us build on the Rock!

JESUS GIVES ALL A CHANCE

R. B. Warren

Jesus Christ never wrote a book, but innumerable books have been written about Him. Why is it that He has challenged the literary genius of the centuries? A survey of the incident occurring the only time in which we have record of His writing, offers a key to the answer.

When the woman taken in adultery was brought before Jesus, he said, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." John 8:7. At His presence and His word the men, convicted by their own conscience, went out. Somehow, when we look at Jesus, we behold the sin of our own life. We must either slink away or face up to it.

* * * *

To the woman Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn thee." Jesus was not making light of her sin. But He saw her heart. Rather than stoning her to death He extended forgiveness. No one has ever possessed this power to forgive sin save Jesus Christ.

But Jesus Christ does more than forgive. He gives power to go out and live a new life. To the woman He said, "Go thy way and sin no more." He gave the woman power to fulfill the command.

Jesus convicts of sin, forgives and empowers. No wonder that so many are devoting their lives to telling and writing about Jesus.

"There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus!
No, not one! No, not one!
None else can heal all our souls' diseases,
No, not one! No, not one!"

CONSCIENCE MONEY'S TWO-FOLD EFFECT

By R. Barclay Warren

Considerable sums of conscience money are received each year by governments, business firms and individuals. Much more should be received.

Conscience money has a two-fold effect. It blesseth him that gives and him that receives. The man who gives is acting in accord with divine instruction. Restitution was taught by the law of Moses (Exodus 22). Zachaeus had this in mind when he said, "If I have taken from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold." (Luke 19:8). By restitution one quiets the accusing voice of conscience and thereby finds relief. He who receives is blessed by this exhibition of honor and reminded that he, too, must give an account of himself to God.

Making restitution for wrong, whether it be in word or in money does not become easier with the passing of time. Indeed, postponement only tends to involve one more deeply. Take care of the matter speedily.

If the wrong is known by the other party then he expects that if you ever become deeply concerned about Christian living, you will make it right in so far as lies in your power. He will never have confidence in your profession of faith until you do.

Jesus said, "If thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way; first be re-

conciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."

Wherefore we owe it to God, to our fellowmen and to ourselves to make restitution.

PURGING OF PRIDE

Do You Hold Your Head so High that You Cannot See Where You are Going?

How may pride be purged? Instead of being constantly with inferiors, let the proud seek the company of their superiors and learn that there are things in the world better than they have known. In the presence of lofty mountains tall men appear to be of less than ordinary stature, and in the contemplation of noble human character one readily loses self-esteem.

Is there anyone who can stand before the portrait of Jesus Christ, as drawn in the Gospels, without feeling ashamed of himself? Milton says the angels, as soon as they enter the presence of God, shrink to half their natural size. Men who once see God fall on their faces before Him.

Pride puts far away from anyone the chances of Salvation. Never, to their thinking, in the wrong, they do not seek the right path. The word of advice or warning is unheeded because they imagine that what they do not know is not worth knowing. They are altogether too superior to be sad-hearted concerning their sins. The truth concerning Salvation, they say, was not intended for persons of their quality. The consequence is they put from themselves eternal life. They hold their heads so high that they cannot see where they are going, and at length they stumble into hidden pitfalls at their feet. They who exalt themselves to heaven are cast down to hell. For the law is, "He that exalteth himself shall be abased, but he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."—Sel.

AT THE PLACE OF THE SEA

By Annie Johnson Flint

Have you come to the Red Sea place in your life,

Where, in spite of all you can do,
There is no way out, there is no way back,
There is no other way but through?
Then wait on the Lord, with a trust serene,
Till the night of your fear is gone;
He will send the winds, He will heap the floods,
When He says to your soul, "Go on!"

No wave can touch you, no foe can smite,
Ere the watery walls roll down;
And His hand shall lead you through,
No mightiest sea can drown.
The tossing billows may rear their crests,
Their foam at your feet may break,
But over their bed you shall walk dry-shod
In the path that your Lord shall make.

In the morning watch, 'neath the lifted cloud,
You shall see but the Lord alone,
When He leads you forth from the place of the sea,
To a land that you have not known;
And your fears shall pass as your foes have passed,
You shall no more be afraid;
You shall sing His praise in a better place,
In a place that His hand hath made.