



GUEST EDITORIAL

Rev. F. A. Dunlop

"WHAT IS MAN, THAT THOU ART MINDFUL OF HIM?"

Psalm 8:4

This is a question any man might ask. Since the "fall" man's record has not been too enviable. One man was heard to say, "the more I get to know people, the more I admire my dog." We have down-graded the race pretty much, and when we, like the Psalmist, "consider the heavens, the moon and the stars, which God has made", we too are caused to wonder.

Our question, however, has to do with man in a different circumstance. Man as God made him. "Thou hast made him little lower than the angels" is the follow up. The Revised Version gives it: "Thou hast made him but little lower than God." The Hebrew Epistle, dealing with the same question, seems to understand it thus. Chapter 1, and verse 14 speaks of Angels as being "ministering spirits - servants, if you please, for them who shall be "heirs of salvation."

The Inspired Scriptures have some fine things to say of man. Genesis 1: 27, "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him." Those who see nothing in this statement more important than physical likeness should have some difficulty with the words, "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He them, male and female." "Male" and "female" suggests two quite different images, and by no stretch of the imagination could God be identical with both, and yet both of them comprising man were made in the image of God.

Thomas Aquinas said, "It is not in re-

ious achievement. He could have taken the spect of the body that man is said to be the image of God., because he excels the other animals. Thus, after saying, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness," Genesis 1:26 adds, "and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over all the earth. For man excels all animals in reason and understanding, and is made in the image of God in respect of them. But these are incorporeal."

No, the image is not physical - that is but dust. The image is spiritual - mind and will. A mind to reason, a will to act. Given these, man is all but Infinite. He splits an atom and reduces a City to ashes; he projects himself into your home and mine, by no visible means; he leaves the Earth at a given point, rendezvous in outer space at a speed of 17,000 miles per hour, radios back to Earth when we may look for his return and where we can find him. I'm trying to say that we have some built-in properties that should prevent us from acting like animals and thinking like fools.

But we are not getting anywhere. Have you ever thought of the following friends, when considering the question: What is man? When God was making ready to do the greatest and grandest thing ever to raise fallen man to the highest stature for which he is capacitated, He found our human nature to be the perfect vehicle through which to make possible this glor-

nature of Angels, but He did not. He could have called together some other properties and made something surpassingly mighty. but He did not. God - Omnipotent, God - Omniscient, God - Eternal took up our human nature and made it His, finding it no embarrassment. By it He slept in a manger, He worked in a carpenter shop, He ate and drank with publicans. In it, He encompassed all the fulness of the Godhead, and showed the World what God is like. He spoke, and Heaven said, "Hear Him!" He entered the Wilderness and Satan acclaimed Him Victor. In Gethsemane He drank the Cup, at Calvary He poured its contents out in blood. While this incomparable Divine-human Person entered the Spirit world to force a surrender from our "last enemy", His body awaited in the Tomb last return of its Tenant, ready to respond to His Lordship and with new and finer decorations provide for Him the temple He will occupy eternally. A copy of our own.

Because Jesus found what He needed in human nature and made it His own He exalted man immeasurably, and when man arises to meet their Lord in the Air, the One who receives them will be of the same order, and "not ashamed to call them brethren."

Why should I give myself to sin and death when I possess properties so precious to Jesus Christ? Why should I lose my soul in Hell, when I possess basic possibilities of "seeing Jesus, and being like Him?"

the King's highway

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