One day as Queen Victoria listened to a sermon from her chaplain on the second coming of Christ, her eyes filled with tears. The chaplain noticed her tears and after the service asked, “Why did Your Majesty weep as I spoke today?”

“Oh,” she said, “because I do hope that He will come in my day!”

“Why does Your Majesty desire that He should come in your day?” the chaplain then asked.

“Oh, sire, that I may lay my crown at His feet!”—By Walter P. McLennan, *Signs of the Times*, February 18, 1936.

Quote: “The Master is giving all of Himself out to each of us, but we get only what we take in or allow to come in.”—By S. D. Gordon, *Signs of the Times*, July 19, 1923.

The story of a Chinese convert to Christianity illustrates the power of the gospel. He was trying to tell his friend the difference between Christianity and other religions. He said that a man fell into a deep well. He tried and struggled to climb up out of the well, but again and again slipped back, until he fell exhausted and in despair. He knew that unless someone came and rescued him, he would perish.

Then Buddha came and looked down into the well. He said, “You poor man, if you will come up here where I am, I will teach you so that you will not fall into a well again.” But that really did not save the man, and he was left alone again.

Then Confucius came, and looking down said, “You poor man, if you had obeyed my teachings, you would never have fallen into the well.” But that did not save him.

Then Jesus Christ came, and springing down into the well, He lifted the man out. The gospel is the power of God. Jesus does for the man what he cannot do for himself and what no one else can do for him.

Suppose you were in a well one hundred feet deep. If someone should come and help you up ten feet or twenty feet or fifty feet, you would perish just as quickly as at the bottom. There is not help at all in any religion or in any moral system that falls the least degree short of entire salvation from sin.—By Meade MacGuire, *Signs of the Times*, June 8, 1926.

Quote: “Two men looked out through prison bars, the one saw mud but the other stars.”—Unknown, *Signs of the Times*, August 4, 1936.

NEW from Pacific Press—*Waiting and Longing* by Randy Roberts. Let’s be honest. We’re tired of waiting. With hearts broken, we long for a world where sin is a distant, quickly fading memory. It’s time to shift our focus from thinking about the when of Christ’s return, to living as people getting ready for it. In Matthew 24 and 25, Jesus looks for followers who do His will, who belong to Him regardless of when He comes. Does that describe us? Pastor Randy Roberts shows us how to live as believers preparing to meet the Savior today and always.

Read the first chapter of this book online at [http://www.adventistbookcenter.com/Detail.tpl?sku=0816325340](http://www.adventistbookcenter.com/Detail.tpl?sku=0816325340) Order online or from your local Adventist Book Center—1-800-765-6955.
It is reported that one day a mother brought her little boy to a noted evangelist, saying, “I would like to have my boy shake hands with you.” The boy reached out his left hand, and the evangelist asked him to give him his right. The boy said that he could not; and, when asked why, replied, “Because I have marbles in it.

Some people act like that little boy. They desire to serve the Lord, but at the same time they try to hold on to the world.—By N. P. Neilsen, *Signs of the Times*, September 5, 1939.

Quote: “Each man’s life is the laboratory in which he tests his own philosophy of life, and his own faith.”—Unknown, *Signs of the Times*, July 21, 1936.

In Chicago a man sat near a weighing machine and became interested in watching people step on the scales, receive the card, and look at it in lingering wonderment. He couldn’t understand the surprised look that registered on every face. Finally his curiosity was aroused to the extent that he too walked over to the machine, dropped in a coin, and received a card which read: “You are John Jones, age fifty-six. Your weight is 159 pounds. You are going to Washington, D.C. Your train leaves at 6:10.”

Mr. Jones was amazed. What sort of contraption could do this? He looked the contrivance over but could find nothing unusual about it. Another man stepped up, and together they discussed this marvelous invention. Others crowded around until the machine was doing quite a business, but no one could fathom how such a thing could operate. At last the crowd thinned out, and Mr. Jones, still puzzled, thought he’d try it again. The card, although mysterious as ever, had a different message: “You are John Jones, age fifty-six. Your weight is 159 pounds. You are not going to Washington tonight. Your train has already gone. It left at 6:10.”

So it is with most of us. We are so busy or interested in some useless pursuit that we forget where we are going until it is too late.

Our chief business in life is to prepare for the hereafter. The enticements of this little world are but straws in the wind compared to the purpose for which we live. Satan is filling the earth with silly devices and allurements to keep us occupied until that day comes and finds us unprepared for it.—By Demia Knapp Wilson, *These Times*, April 1953.

Quote: “The average person puts 25 percent of his energy and ability into his work. The world takes off its hat to those who put in more than 50 percent of their capacity, and stands on its head for those few-and-far-between souls who devote 100 percent.”—By Andrew Carnegie, *These Times*, September 1972.

FREE OFFER: *Experiencing God’s Love*, with chapters by: Dwight Nelson, Derek Morris, Jon Henderson, Randy Roberts, Karl Haffner, Elizabeth Talbot, Jose Rojas, Carlton Byrd, and Fred Kinsey provides Bible-based answers to these important questions and more. You will discover:

- that God really cares about your life,
- that you can trade anxiety for peace,
- that true forgiveness transforms lives,
- that Jesus suffered the cross for YOU, and
- that there is reason to hope for a bright tomorrow.

For a FREE copy, send your mailing address to Dalgal@pacificpress.com before June 15, 2012. Offer limited to US and Canada only.

***************

Among the well-known preachers of Boston was Dr. A. J. Gordon, pastor of the famous Clarendon Street Baptist Church for twenty-five years. He was brilliant and eloquent and popular. One week he found it unusually difficult to prepare his Sunday morning sermon. It was not finished till late Saturday night. Weared with the effort, he fell asleep and had an unusual dream. He was in the pulpit and ready to begin his sermon to a congregation that filled the church, when a stranger entered and moved slowly up the aisle, looking first to one side and then to the other with an expression that silently asked someone to give him a seat. Finally a man stepped out and offered him a place in his pew.

The stranger listened attentively, and the speaker found it difficult to take his eyes off him. Dr. Gordon said to himself, “Who can this man be?” He resolved to find out at the close of the service. But the stranger did not go out the front door.

He asked the man who had shared his pew who the man was. The man answered, “Why, do you not know that man? It was Jesus of Nazareth.”

With a sense of disappointment the pastor said, “Why did you let him go without introducing Him to me?” The man replied, “Oh, do not be troubled. He has been here today; He will come again.”
Then Dr. Gordon in his dream began to think of the service, wondering whether Jesus approved of it. What did He think of the ritual, the music, the sanctuary, the order of worship, and the sermon? Had He mentioned Jesus in his sermon? Was it Christ-centered? He hoped Jesus would come back again.

Then he awoke, and it was only a dream. But was it only a dream, or was it an actual experience which takes place on every occasion of divine worship? Then he remembered some of the sayings of Jesus: “Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.” “Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” “And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever.” “I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you.” This promise was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost when Christ returned through His representative, the Holy Spirit, to abide with His people until He could return in person at His second advent.

Yes, Christ does meet His appointments with His people at the altar of worship, even when He is not recognized. To many worshipers He could say, “Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known Me?” It is the mission of the Holy Spirit to reveal Christ and make Him real to man, as real as if He were present in person. It is for this reason that He conceals Himself, even at the risk of having many believe He is not a person, or does not exist except as an influence.

Although Dr. Gordon had never before had a dream that he felt had any significance, this one was different. He found it difficult to go to sleep again. He spent hours in serious thought and decided that there would be some changes in his life and services. His sermons would be more Christ-centered and spiritual. Dignified simplicity would take the place of the elaborate ritual. His choir would be made up of converted men and women instead of the hired singers that composed his present choir, many of whom made no profession of Christianity. He would abolish the custom of renting pews, even though it would cut off one of the chief sources of income.

The experience was the beginning of a spiritual awakening and revival in his own life, followed by a gradual change in the members of his church. The next day the congregation wondered what had happened to their pastor. He was more serious and humble than usual. He preached in a spirit of quiet assurance. People began to flock to his services. He began to emphasize the mission of the Holy Spirit and the second advent of Christ. He was invited to preach in many places, at home and abroad. His writings have been an inspiration to multiple thousands down to the present day.—By Taylor G. Bunch, *These Times*, March 1954.

Quote: “To bring up a child in the way he should go—travel that way yourself once in a while.”—By Josh Billings, *These Times*, January 1964.


Dr. Joseph Parker was once at a club dinner where one of the speakers foolishly asserted that Christianity had done very little for humanity; that he, for his part, believed that gas had been a greater benefactor than Christianity. Hisses and cries of “Shame!” came from all over the house. But Dr. Parker, a guest of the evening, quietly arose and said: “Hush! Do not quarrel with our friend. He is simply stating his belief. Now I, when I am nearing the end of my earthly existence, will call for the consolations of the Christian religion. But our friend here, on his deathbed, will call for the gasman.”

For whom will you call when that hour comes?—By J. Berger Johnson, *Signs of the Times*, July 18, 1939.

Quote: A young woman asked to explain devotional reading of the Bible answered: “Yesterday morning I received a letter from one to whom I have given my heart and devoted my life. I freely confess to you that I have read that letter five times, not because I did not understand it at the first reading, nor because I expected to commend myself to the writer by frequent reading of his epistle. *I read it because I am devoted to the one who wrote it.* To read the Bible with that motive is to read it *devotionally,* and to one who reads it in that spirit it is indeed a love letter.”—Selected, *Signs of the Times*, July 21, 1936.

Read articles from previous issues of *Signs of the Times*: www.SignsTimes.org

Don’t Find Fault

Pray don’t find fault with the man who limps
Or stumbles along the road,
Unless you have worn the shoes he wears,
Or struggled beneath his load.
There may be tacks in his shoes that hurt,
Though hidden away from view;
Or the burden he bears, placed on your back,
 Might cause you to struggle, too.
Don’t sneer at the man who is down today
   Unless you have felt the blow
That caused his fall, or felt his shame
   That only the fallen know.
You may be strong, but maybe the blows
   That were his, if felt by you
In the selfsame way and the selfsame time
   Might cause you to struggle, too.

Don’t be hard with the man who sins,
   Or pelt him with words of stone,
Unless you are sure, and doubly sure,
   That you have not a sin of your own;
For, you know, perhaps, if the tempter’s voice
   Should whisper soft to you
As it did to him when he went astray,
   It would cause you to falter, too.—By John Murray, These Times, January 1965.

**********************
Compiled by Dale Galusha. Please pass this newsletter on to others. If this FREE newsletter was forwarded to you by a friend, and you would like to receive it directly on a monthly basis, email: join-signsnews@lyra.pacificpress.com

You are subscribed to signsnews as ahc@andrews.edu. To unsubscribe, send a blank email to leave-63102-26366.9a25e1349277003c72c0b7a53ca515fe@lyra.pacificpress.com

Pacific Press, 1350 N Kings Rd, Nampa, ID 83687, (208) 465-2500.

Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote