

World Events And The Bible

Scientists say that this earth we live on will someday be engulfed by an explosion from the sun. Major so-called "Christian" religions teach similarly, that the earth will end in fiery holocaust.

What then, does the Bible mean when it says that the earth is standing even to time indefinite? (Eccl. 1:4) How can this be harmonized with the apostle Peter's words: "There are new heavens and a new earth that we are awaiting and in these righteousness is to dwell?" (Isa. 65:17, 2 Pet. 3:13)

To find an answer, let us turn to Jesus Christ, God's chief spokesman. Note what he indicated for the earth when he taught his disciples to pray: "Let your kingdom come. Let your will take place as in heaven, also upon earth." (Matt. 6:10) God's will being done on earth as it is done in heaven would mean peace and happiness on earth.

From this prayer of Jesus it is clear that the planet we live on is to remain, not to be burned up or destroyed. "This is just what Jehovah has said, the Creator of the heavens, He the true God, the Former of the earth and the Maker of it, He the One who firmly established it, who did not create it simply for nothing, who formed it even to be inhabited." (Isa. 45:18; compared Psalm 148:3-6.)

What then is going to be made new? Not the planet earth, though it will be renewed in the sense of being beautified. Creating of a new earth will mean a renewed society, human. The old practices, disease and death will pass away, however not all the people will pass off the scene. (1 John 2:17)

Jesus stated that things will be just as it occurred in Noah's day (Luke 17: 26,27) The earth was cleansed primarily in the sense that the corrupt violent world of people was destroyed off it. However those who turned to God and made over their minds to his way were preserved, to live on this side of that great destructive deluge. (1 Pet. 3:20.)

How will those surviving the cleansing of our earth by the destruction of the present man-made system live as a society? They will be dominated from the new heavens, for when men dominate men it only leads

to unhappiness. Dominion form the heavens will by no means to oppressive for the Creator knows man's every need and can suit and satisfy those needs. (Matt. 6:8 Ps. 145:16.)

So a rulership by the kingdom of the heavens would be in no way objectionable. As it communicates its laws and directions to men on earth, this rulership would be recognized as being superior as well as being perfect, and mankind would know that it was always acting altogether in their interests. This would motivate obedience.

The creating of a "new earth" will bring such happiness, a pattern of what will be provided is shown in the description of the land that God gave to his ancient people Israel. (Deut. 8:7-9.)

The conditions upon earth today, along with the Bible's prophecies, indicate that the time for the creating of a "new earth" is at hand. Mankind does not need to worry about losing this beautiful home, the planet earth, but can look forward to enjoying it forever under righteous conditions when it produces to the full. Of that future time, the psalmist wrote: "Jehovah for his part, will give what is good and our own land will give its yield." (Ps. 85:12) What a glorious prospect is just ahead for this planet!

If you would like more scriptures about these prospects, Jehovah Witnesses will be happy to tell you where you can turn in your Bible to read them.

Mrs. Montfort Haslam has returned from a visit with relatives at Nova Scotia.

Mrs. Cecil E. Winslow is a patient in Duke Hospital.

Mrs. W.M. Moore and grandson, David Servie, of Fayetteville were weekend guests of Mrs. Ralph Wilcox.

Mrs. Katherine Ward is a patient in Norfolk General Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Williams, Jr. and family of Durham were weekend guests of Miss Elizabeth Tucker and Miss Virginia Tucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian White have returned from a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Julian White, Jr. at Bel Aire, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Nixon spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. William Van Name in Roanoke, Va. Mrs. Nixon remained for a visit there this week.

Miss Elizabeth Tucker has returned from a visit with friends in Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Mayo of Plymouth were guests of Mrs. J.E. Morris on Saturday.

Moody Mathews, Jr. has returned home after undergoing surgery at the Albemarle Hospital.



APRIL WEDDING — Mr. and Mrs. John Leon Rogers of Scotland Neck announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Marjorie Kay Rogers of Raleigh, to Arthur Mack Jenkins of Potocasi, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wilson Jenkins of Potocasi. Mr. Jenkins is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Freeland Mack Copeland of Hertford. The wedding is planned for April 3.

In The News

Miss Caroline Wright spent the weekend with her mother, Mrs. Charlie Wright, at Jarvisburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Sawyer, Mrs. James Sawyer, and Miss Sybil Skinner spent several days last week at Lenior, and attended the funeral of Julian Sawyer.

Bob Keaton is a patient in the Albemarle Hospital.

Rickey Hoskins has returned to his home in Everetts after visiting his grandmother, Mrs. Cecil C. Winslow.

Mrs. H.C. O'Sullivan of Norfolk, Va. spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. V.N. Darden.

R.C. Murphy has returned home after undergoing surgery at the Chowan Hospital.

Mrs. Nellie Stallings of Bethel is a patient in the Chowan Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy

Harrell and 2 children have returned home after spending last week in Florida.

Mrs. Frank McCloskey and sons of Norfolk, Va. were weekend guests of Mrs. R.B. Thach.

Mrs. Webb Gould and sons of Virginia Beach, Va. were guests of her father, C.L. Dail, on Sunday. They were accompanied home by Mr. Dail, who will be their guest this week.

Dr. Mabel Morrison of Raleigh was a weekend guest of Miss Elizabeth Tucker and Miss Virginia Tucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Overton and daughter of Newport News, Va. were weekend guests of Mrs. Harry Overton and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bass.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Worrell and daughter of Franklin, Va. spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Sawyer.

Sunday School Lesson

Facing Opposition (Matthew 12:1-14)

Burke once said, "He that wrestles with us, strengthens our nerves, and sharpens our skill. Our antagonist is our helper."

Our Lord encountered much opposition as He went about His work. Satan sought to divert Him from His Father's purposes. Sometimes His own followers would have hindered Him. Constant opposition came from the religious leaders of His day. This lesson will enable us to see that opposition is a reality and also see how Jesus dealt with those who opposed Him.

Insensibility, Matthew 12:1-9

Jesus was sensitive to the needs of people. He knew that His Father in heaven loved people too much to have any law that would bring hurt to any person. Wherever law came in conflict with the welfare of man, Christ knew the problem was with man's interpretation of that law.

Jesus found men insensitive to their fellowmen. This was especially true with the religious leaders. They were so busy deciding how the law must be observed that they forgot why it was given. This is well illustrated in this passage of scripture. It was the sabbath day. No work must be done on this day. The disciples of Jesus were hungry. They began to pull the heads of the grain, remove the husk and eat. The Pharisees saw in this act a breaking of the sabbath. The disciples of Jesus had violated God's law of the sabbath — or had they?

The illustration Jesus used concerning David eating bread, lawful only for the priest to eat, proves that man's needs are of greater concern to God than rules and regulations.

Inconsistency, Matthew 12:10-13

The Pharisees were opposed to Jesus. His interpretation of the law disturbed them to no end. They sought to entangle Him and turn the people against Him.

In their synagogue was a man whose hand had withered and become useless. Their question was designed to put Jesus on the spot. Jesus turned the tables on them and revealed their lack of consistency. They would rescue an animal from a pit on the sabbath day, but leave a human being to suffer. Again He declared that the worth of man was the real issue at stake. He both declared and demonstrated that it was lawful and right to do good on the sabbath day.

Dean's List Student

FARMVILLE, Va. — The following student was among 328 Longwood students, in an enrollment of 2,017 at the college, who achieved the distinction of earning an academic average of 3.5 (B+) from a possible 4.0 during the first 16 weeks of the college year. The current dean's list represents 16 per cent of the student body.

Beverly Ann Bibb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin R. Bibb, of Rt. 1, received this distinction. Longwood College, founded in 1839, is a four-year state-supported college offering majors in more than 30 areas, including professional training for teaching and social work, and pre-professional programs in the health sciences. In addition to its extensive undergraduate program, the college offers masters degrees in education and English.

TO MEET IN GREENVILLE

The convener group of Health Service Area Six which was appointed by Governor Holshouser will hold a public meeting on Thursday, Jan. 29. The meeting will be held at the Willis Building, ECU Campus in Greenville at 7:30 p.m. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Aiding suffering humanity would not be in conflict with the will of God.

Intolerance, Matthew 12:14

The religious leaders went out and plotted the destruction of Jesus. Why? They could not tolerate anyone who so cut across their traditions. They were not prepared to reexamine and rearrange their interpretations of the law.

The world which God made and Christ died for is terribly divided today because of intolerance. It is my way or you count me out. Nations cannot tolerate differences, nor can the churches and individuals. The tragic truth of this is that the large and important matters do not separate us. As it was in the days of His earthly ministry, the insignificant issues turned their hearts away from the only One who could solve the greatest problems of life and eternity.

Is it not time to ask ourselves what we are standing for and what we are in opposition to? Or better still let us ask for Whom do we stand?

BIBLE QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

"Explain John 1:3 'All things were made by him (the Word)' Word means Jesus. Did not God the Father create all things?"

ANSWER

God was the creator of all things, but Jesus was the intermediate agent of creation. God made all things through Him. (See Colossians 1:16).

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The Sunday School Lesson is sent in each week by Clear Creek Baptist, Pineville, Ky, 40977 and is written by Professor Earl Clark.

Obituaries

GEORGE (POP) PRAZIELU ANDERSON

George (Pop) Prazielu Anderson, 96, of W. Grubb St. Hertford died in Chowan Hospital Saturday evening. He was a native of Turkey and the son of the late Andrew and Sophie Anderson and the widower of Mrs. Polixoni Kizikou Anderson. He was retired from the Hertford Cafe and a member of the Greek Orthodox Church.

Surviving are two sons, Steve and Jack Anderson of Turkey; two daughters, Mrs. Victoria Nigdelis of Belle Ville, N.Y.; and Mrs. Lena Hourmouzis of Hertford; two sisters, Mrs. Penelope Anatiades and Mrs. Mary Panaoutes; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Swindell Funeral Home by the Rev. Ben Wolverton. "My Faith Looks Up To Thee" was played by the organist, Mrs. Preston Morgan.

The pall was made of red carnations and white chrysanthemums and fern. The pallbearers were John Beers, Talmadge Rose, Jarvis Ward, Willie Ainsley, Eris Haste and Charles Johnson.

Burial was in Cedarwood Cemetery.

LEROY PARSON

Willie Parson who preceded him in death by a number of years.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Hazel Parson, one grandson, Bill Parson, two brothers, George and Lonnie Parson of Newark, New Jersey; two sisters, Mrs. Roxaner Harvey of Hertford, N.C. and Mrs. Eula Parson of Brooklyn, New York, many relatives and friends.

At an early age he became a member of New Haven Baptist Church.

He was married to Mrs. Hazel Parson and to the union was born one son.

Dear Friends,

Many home gardeners are now planning their new gardens. Psychologists tell us that human beings need this physical contact with the earth, the soil, with growing things — need the wholesome physical exercise of all body muscles that gardening gives. There is the added joy of fresh, nourishing vegetables and berries for the family's health.

Respectfully,

Marion Swindell

SWINDELL FUNERAL HOME

FALL QUARTER ENROLLMENT

RALEIGH — More than 94,000 students were enrolled in the technical institute-community college system's curriculum programs during the fall quarter of 1975.

According to Julian Wingfield, director of Operations Research and Information, Department of Community Colleges, 94,327 men and women were enrolled in curriculum programs in the state's 57 technical institutes and community colleges during this period. This is a 30.2 increase over the fall quarter of 1974.

Included in the 94,000 plus figure were 33,163 veterans.

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