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PASTOR RUSSELL SERMON

Churches of All Denominations and the Civil Powers of Earth Are About to Unite in Common Cause—Powerful Influence Preparing for the Battle of Armageddon—A Reign of Anarchy Will Be the Result of the Warfare Until The Messiah Takes Control.



Brooklyn, N. Y., Nov. 3.—The Brooklyn Academy of Music was crowded to the limit today to hear Pastor Russell's discourse on the "Battle of Armageddon." His text was: "He gathered them together unto a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." (Revelation xvi, 16.) The speaker said: Armageddon in the Hebrew signifies the "Hill of Megiddo," or Mount of Destruction. It was famous as a battlefield in Old Testament times.

The Lord has seen fit to associate the name Armageddon, with the great controversy between Truth and Error, right and wrong, God and Mammon, with which this age will close, and perish, and the New Age of Messiah's glory be ushered in. He has purposely used highly symbolical figures of speech in the last book of the Bible, evidently with a view to hiding certain important truths until the due time for their revelation. But even in the due time, the Bible assures us, "None of the wicked shall understand" (Daniel xii, 9, 10)—none who are out of heart harmony with God—but only the wise of His people—the "wise virgin" class of the Master's parable.

I have long avoided presentation of my understanding of our text and its context. I take it up now by request because I believe it is due time to understand. I discern any special attraction in some particulars my ears agree with those of other Bible students, and in other respects they disagree. Each hearer must use his own judgment, do his own Bible study, and reach his own conclusions. Kindly remember that I am not responsible for the figures of speech used by the Lord. My interpretations do indeed constitute a terrible arraignment of institutions which we all have revered and which embrace good people, of good words and good works. God's saintly people in these various institutions, being comparatively few, are ignored when systems as a whole are dealt with in prophecy.

The Dragon, Beast, False Prophet. Our context tells us that three impure spirits (teachings) will go forth from the mouths of the Dragon, the

Beast and the False Prophet, and these three will be in accord, and symbolically the doctrines are represented by "frogs." These three doctrines are to have a mighty influence throughout the civilized earth. They are to gather the kings and their armies to the great Battle of Armageddon.

The ecclesiastical kings and princes, and their retinues of clergy and faithful adherents, will be gathered in solid phalanx—Protestant and Catholic. The kings and captains of industry, and as many as can be influenced by them, will be gathered to the same side. The political kings and princes, with all their henchmen and retainers, will follow in line on the same side. The financial kings and merchant princes, and all whom they can influence by the most gigantic power ever yet exercised in the world, will join the same side, according to this prophecy.

These "doctrines of demons," represented by the "frogs," will lead many noble people in this great army to assume an attitude quite contrary to their preference. For a time the wheels of liberty and progress will be turned backward and medieval restraints will be considered necessary for self-preservation—for the maintenance of the present order of things. In giving this interpretation, it is necessary for us to indicate what is symbolized by the Dragon, the Beast, and the False Prophet. Bible students of nearly all denominations agree with us that the "Dragon" of Revelation represents the purely Civil Power. Protestant interpreters generally agree that the "Beast like a leopard" (Revelation xiii, 2) represents the Papacy. But fewer still, we fear, will be ready to support our view that Protestantism is the "Image of the Beast" (Revelation xiii, 15) in our context given another name, "the False Prophet." We urge no one to accept our interpretation nor shall we think hard of any who refuse it. We will neither slander nor otherwise injure them now, nor threaten them with eternal torture. They have the same right to their views that I have, and the same right to make them known to others. And I, for one, will be very glad to consider any thing which opponents may set forth as their interpretations of our text.

"Unclean Spirits Like Frogs." The symbolism of Scripture, right if understood, are always forceful. When the Holy Spirit used a "frog" to symbolically represent certain doctrines or teachings, we may be sure the true application will fit well. A frog has a sage look, a wise look it swells itself up in an apparent endeavor to impress the beholder. Its great mouth well represents its chief power, used to croak.

Applying these symbols, we learn that an evil spirit, influence, teaching, will come from the Protestant churches federated, from the Church of Rome, and from the Civil authorities, all in full agreement. The spirit of all will be boastful; an air of superior wisdom and knowledge will be proudly assumed—all will croak in harmony. All will tell of dire results that would follow involving the interests of both the present and the future life, if their counsel be not followed. However conflicting the creeds, the differences will be ignored in the general proposition that nothing ancient must be disturbed, or looked into, or repudiated.

The Divine authority of the Church, and the Divine right of kings, aside from the Church, will not be allowed to conflict. Any persons or teachings in conflict with these boastful and unscriptural claims will be branded as "frogs" speaking from pulpits and platforms and through the religious and secular press. The nobler sentiments of some will be strangled by the philosophy of the same evil spirit which spoke through the prophets, the high priest, respecting Jesus. As Catholics declared it expedient to commit a crime in violation of justice, human and Divine, to be rid of Jesus and His teachings, so this "frog" spirit will approve of every violation of principle necessary to their self-protection.

The croaking of these "frog" spirits or doctrines will gather the kings and princes, financial, political, religious and industrial into one great army. The spirit of fear, inspired by the croakings of these "frogs," will scourge reasonable men to fury, desperation, in their blind following of these evil spirits, evil doctrines, they will be ready to sacrifice life and everything on the altar of what they mistakenly

suppose is justice, truth and righteousness, under a Divine arrangement.

For a brief time, as we understand the Scriptures, these combined forces of Armageddon will triumph. Free speech, free mail, and other liberties which have come to be the very breath of the masses in our day, will be ruthlessly shut out under the plea of necessity, the glory of God, the commands of the Church, etc. All will seem to be serene, until the great social explosion in our context described as the "great Earthquake." An "earthquake," in symbolic language, signifies social revolution, and the declaration of the context is that none like unto it ever before occurred. (Revelation xvi, 18, 19.) Jesus described it as a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation.—Matthew xxiii, 21.

The Lord Will Gather Them. The false, frog-like teachings will gather together into one host the great, the rich, the wise, the learned and the kings of the earth, to battle. At this juncture the Divine Power will step forward, and our text tells us that He shall gather the marshaled hosts to Armageddon—to the Mountain of Destruction. The very thing which they sought to avert by their union, federation, etc., will be the very thing they will hasten. Other Scriptures tell us that God will be represented by the Great Messiah, and that He will be on the side of the masses. Thus we read in Daniel xii, 1: "At that time shall Michael [the Godlike One—Messiah] stand up"—assume authority. He will take possession of His Kingdom in a manner little looked for by many of those who erroneously have been claiming that they were His Kingdom, and authorized by Him to reign in His name and in His stead.

Jesus declared, "His servants ye are unto whom ye render service." Some may be rendering service to Satan and to error, who claim to be rendering service to God and to righteousness; and some of these may be serving ignorantly, as did Saul of Tarsus, who vainly thought that he did God a service in persecuting the Church. The same principle holds true reversely. As an earthly king does not hold himself responsible for the moral character of each soldier who fights in his battles, so the Lord does not vouch for the moral character of all who will enlist and fight on His side of any question. "His servants they are to whom they render service," whatever the motive or object prompting them.

The same principles will apply in the coming Battle of Armageddon. God's side of that battle will be the people's side, and the very nondescript host, the people, will be pitted at the beginning of the battle. Anarchists, Socialists, and hot-headed radicals of every school of reason and unreason, will be in the forefront of that battle. The majority of the poor and the middle class prefer peace at almost any price. A comparatively small number, God's consecrated people, will at heart be longing for Messiah's Kingdom. These will bide the Lord's time and wait patiently for it; they will be of good courage, knowing the outcome outlined in the "more sure word of prophecy," to which they have done well to take heed, "as unto a light shining in a dark place, until the Day dawn."—1 Peter i, 19.

The masses will be restless of their restraints, but will be conscious of their own weakness as compared to the kings and princes, financial, religious and political, which will then hold sway. Besides, the masses have no sympathy with anarchy. They realize truly that the worst form of government is better than none. The masses will seek relief through the ballot and peaceful re-adjustment of earth's affairs for the elimination of evil, for the placing of monopolies and unreason and the supplies of nature in the hands of the people for the public good. The crisis will be reached when the bitter-ness of upholders of law shall become violent in the law and resistance of the will of the majority as expressed by the ballot. Fear for the future will lead the well-meaning masses to desperation; and anarchy will result when Socialism fails.

The Cloud's Silver Lining. Horrible would be this outlook for the future did we not have the infallible Word of God assuring us of a glorious outcome! Divine Wisdom has withheld until our day the great knowledge and skill which is at the same time breeding millionaires and discontents. Had God lifted the veil a thousand years sooner, the world would have lined up for its Armageddon a thousand years sooner. But that would have been too soon for the Divine purpose, because Messiah's Kingdom is to be the greatest of the Year-Sabbath of the world's history. God in kindness veiled our eyes until the time when the gathering to Armageddon would immediately precede Messiah's taking to Himself His great power, and beginning His reign.—Revelation xl, 17, 18.

"Send Them Strong Delusions." St. Paul wrote prophetically of our time, that it would be one of serious trial and testing to many professing to be Christians. The reason for this he states—they received not the Truth in the love of it (1 Thessalonians ii, 10, 11). They preferred their own erroneous theories, the Apostle explains, and therefore God will give them over to a "strong delusion," and let them believe the lie which they preferred, and let them suffer for mistaking the Truth which they did not love. Thus they will be in the condemned host, "fighting against God," because of their lack of love for the Truth.

It is sad to say that we all as Christians have been laboring under a thorough delusion respecting God's Plan. We have claimed that Christ set up His Church in Kingdom power, and that the Church has been reigning on the earth as His representative. On the strength of this delusion, Jews and heretics have been persecuted to death as opponents to Christ's Kingdom. All the while we thoughtlessly repeated the Lord's prayer: "Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as in Heaven." We knew that the Redeemer said that He would come again to make us His Bride and joint-heirs; but we ignored the Scriptures. We were drunk, as the Scriptures symbolically say, "all nations were drunk" with the false doctrine. It is this false doctrine that will constitute the "frog" spirit which soon will begin to croak and to

prepare for Armageddon.

The Bible presentation is that the world is a section of the universe in rebellion against Divine authority, under the captaincy of Satan and his associated fallen angels. By Divine grace every man, and the merit of that sacrifice must, eventually, grant Adam and his posterity a full, fair opportunity for the attainment of everlasting life. All who thus seek the Divine program and are walking in the light may know something at least respecting the "times and seasons." These brethren "are not in darkness, that that day [and that battle of Armageddon] should overtake" them "as a thief"—unaware.

Armageddon Not Yet but Soon. For forty years the Armageddon forces have been mustering for both sides of the conflict. Strikes, lockouts and riots, great and small, have been merely incidental skirmishes as the belligerent parties crossed each other's path. Court and Army scandals in Europe, Insurance, Trust and Court scandals in America, have shaken public confidence. Dynamite plots, charged by turns on employees and on employers, have further shaken confidence and tended to make each distrustful of the other. Bitter and angry feelings on both sides are more and more manifest. The lines of battle are daily becoming more distinctly marked. Nevertheless, Armageddon cannot yet be fought. Other matters intervene, according to prophecy.

Gentle times have still two years to run. The "Image of the Beast" of our context must yet receive life-power. The Image must be transformed from a mere mechanism to a living force. Protestant Federation realizes that its organization will still be futile unless it receive vitalization—unless its clergy directly or indirectly shall be recognized as possessed of apostolic ordination and authority to teach. This the prophecy indicates will come from the two horned beast, which, we believe, symbolically represents the Church of England. High-handed activities of Protestantism and Catholicism, operating in conjunction for the suppression of human liberties, await this vivifying of the Image. This may come soon, but Armageddon cannot precede it, but must follow—perhaps a year after it, according to our view of the Prophecy.

Still another thing intervenes: Although the Jews are gradually flowing into Palestine, gradually obtaining control of the land of Canaan, and although reports say that already nineteen millionaires are there, nevertheless prophecy requires an evidently larger number of wealthy Hebrews to be there before the Armageddon crisis be reached. Indeed we understand that "Jacob's trouble" in the Holy Land will come at the very close of Armageddon. Then Messiah's Kingdom will begin to be manifested. Thenceforth Israel in the land of promise will gradually rise from the ashes of the past to the grandeur of prophecy. Through its Divinely appointed princes Messiah's Kingdom, all-powerful but invisible, will begin to roll away the curse and to lift up mankind.

Gems In Verse

SAYS SHE.
My granny she often says to me,
Says she: "You're terrible bold.
It's your ways
Before you'll ever grow old."
Says she,
"Before you'll ever grow old,
For it's steadfast now that you ought to be.
An' you going on sixteen," says she,
"What'll you do when you're old like me?
What'll you do?" says she.
"What will I do when I'm old?" says I.
"Och Masha! I'll say my prayers;
I'll wear a net at a black lace cap
To cover my silver hairs."
Says I,
"To cover my silver hairs,
When I am as old as Kate Kearney's cat
I'll sell my dress and feathered hat
An' buy an old bedgown the like o' that,
The very like o' that."
My granny she sighs and says to me:
"The years fly terrible fast,
The girls they laugh an' talk with the boys,
But they'll all grow old at last,"
Says she,
"They all grow old at last,
At Epiphany cocks a snip," says she,
"But kilt by Easter they're like to be,
By the hokey, you'll grow as old as me,
As weak an' old!" says she.
"Maybe you tell me no lie," says I,
"But I've time before me yet,
There's time to dance, an' there's time to sing,
So why would I need to fret?"
Says I,
"So why would I need to fret?
Old age may lie at the foot of the hill,
'Twixt hoppin' an' trottin' we'll get there still,
Why wouldn't we dance while we have the will,
Dance while we have the will!"
—W. M. Letts.

DEMOCRATS WILL CONTROL CONGRESS

Returns Indicate Democratic Majorities in Both House and Senate.

Chicago.—The next United States Senate will be Democratic by a majority of at least four. According to returns from all sections of the country there will be 46 Democrats in the upper house of congress to 42 Republicans. This leaves eight seats in the doubtful column, with every prospect of their being swung into the Democratic ranks.

Senator Borah Wins in Idaho. Senator Borah, of Idaho, Progressive and Republican candidate, will probably be returned to the senate. In Colorado, where a successor to Senator Guggenheim is being chosen, early returns show the race to be close between the Democrats and Republicans.

Senator Joseph M. Dixon of Montana, Colonel Roosevelt's campaign manager, is having a hard time being returned. In Massachusetts it was still within the realm of possibility that Senator Crane would have to give place to either Mayor Fitzgerald, of Boston, or Governor Foss.

Democrats Win Illinois Legislature. With returns from practically every section of the state showing a steady increase in Wilson's plurality, it was claimed at Democratic headquarters that Illinois will send two Democrats to the United States senate. Colonel James Hamilton Lewis, the regular Democratic candidate for the senate, who was endorsed at the last primaries, will be elected in all probability to the six-year term to fill the place of Shelby M. Cullom.

Kansas in Doubtful Column. In Kansas, where Governor Stubbs, Progressive, is battling with Senator Curtis, standpat Republican, it was indicated at a late hour that both might be defeated and the state go



DR. HARRY LANE

Probable Successful Candidate for Senator From Oregon.

that Taft will maintain a slight lead Roosevelt's plurality over Taft in Multnomah county of 2000 to 3000 indicates, however, that Roosevelt will gain second place in the complete count. If the present ratios shown in the early returns are maintained, Wilson will have a plurality over Roosevelt in Oregon, complete, of about 8000.

In many counties no returns were available on initiative measures, but those that reported on woman's suffrage were almost invariably favorable. It is indicated by the meager returns that the measure will have an affirmative majority of about 8000. Single tax has been snuffed under the returns uniformly show a decisive majority against the graduated tax amendment and the probabilities are that it has been defeated by 50,000.

WASHINGTON FOR T. R.

Bull Moose Carry State by 30,000, But Governorship in Doubt. Seattle.—Roosevelt has carried Washington by probably 30,000 plurality over Wilson. The Progressive state chairman claims 45,000; the Democratic chairman concedes 20,000. Roosevelt has carried with him to victory the two Progressive candidates for representatives in congress at large, J. A. Falconer and J. W. Bryan.

Robert T. Hodge, Progressive candidate for governor, may have been beaten in the race for governor. It is believed that all the other candidates on the Progressive ticket have been elected. In the race for governor, Lister, Democrat; Hodges, Progressive and Hay, Republican, are running almost together and the result is in doubt. Roosevelt carried King county by a plurality of not less than 6000, on the face of incomplete returns with probably one-fifth of the vote in. The feature of the election, aside from the unexpectedly strong run of the National Progressive ticket, was the slashing of Robert T. Hodge, the Progressive candidate for governor.

At Democratic headquarters Lister's election is claimed by a plurality of 10,000.

HIS ALIBI.



THE PLANTED LETTER
California For Wilson.
San Francisco.—Wilson and Marshall seemingly have carried California. Indications of Democratic victory appearing from a rough survey of the situation, cleared to a definite certainty with the tabulation of returns from 1520 state precincts out of 4372. The totals gave Wilson 90,355, Roosevelt 85,258, Taft 652 and Debs 11,020. This ratio, if maintained in the still untabulated precincts, should give Wilson a plurality in the state of about 15,000.

Bryan Felicitates Wilson. Lincoln, Neb.—William J. Bryan sent the following telegram to Governor Wilson:
"I most heartily congratulate you and the country upon your election. Your splendid campaign has borne fruit in a great victory. I am sure your administration will prove a blessing to the nation and a source of strength to our party."

—From New York World.

OREGON VOTE GOES TO WILSON

Roosevelt Will Gain Second Place on Complete Count of State is Belief.

Portland.—Woodrow Wilson, according to figures representing about one-half the vote in Multnomah county and one-fifteenth of the vote upstate, has carried Oregon, with Taft and Roosevelt contesting for second place.

For United States senator Jonathan Bourne has suffered a decisive defeat. According to early estimates he will run third, with Ben Selling and Harry Lane close contestants for first place. The earliest returns indicated that Bourne would carry Multnomah county and that Selling would have the state outside, but later reports showed Lane making unexpected gains. In Portland it is a close race between the three candidates, but in the state at large the closeness is between only Lane and Selling.

Bourne is defeated by 8000 to 10,000 votes, according to early indications. In the state outside of Multnomah county, Roosevelt and Taft are running neck and neck, with indications



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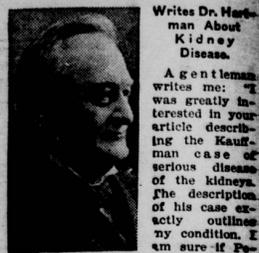
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A Sick Man



Writes Dr. Hartman About Kidney Disease.

A gentleman writes me: "I was greatly interested in your article describing the Kaufman case of serious disease of the kidneys. The description of his case exactly outlines my condition. I am sure if Peruna cured him as you say, it would cure me also. I am losing flesh rapidly and the doctors say I have every symptom of Bright's disease of the kidneys. If you think I would be benefited by Peruna I will certainly try some as the doctors have practically given me up, the same as they did him."
In reply I wish to say, first, that I never make any promises as to what Peruna will cure. No physician can make positive statements of that sort. I can say this much, however, if I were in your place I should certainly give Peruna a trial. I know of no other remedy that would be so likely to be of use to you in your present condition as Peruna. Take a tablespoonful before each meal and at bedtime. Continue this for two or three weeks and then if there is anything you wish to ask me further write me and I will give you my letter prompt attention.

If I find that the Peruna is not helping you I will be perfectly frank and tell you so, for I would not have you take Peruna unless it was really helping you. But it has rescued so many cases of kidney disease that I am quite confident you will find it exactly suited to your case.

Kidney disease begins with catarrh of the kidneys. Peruna is a catarrh remedy. Unless the destruction of the kidneys is already too great Peruna relieves the catarrh and the cause of the kidney disease is removed. I shall anxiously await a report of your case. Remember, all letters are strictly confidential. I never use any one's name or address without his written consent. My correspondence is absolutely private. PERUNA IS FOR SALE AT ALL DRUG STORES. SPECIAL NOTICE—Many persons are making inquiries for the old-time Peruna. To such would say, this formula is now put out under the name of KA-TAR-NO, manufactured by KA-TAR-NO COMPANY, Columbus, Ohio. Write them and they will be pleased to send you a free booklet.

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