

BIBLE PURGATORY EXISTS IN THIS LIFE.

"Saved So as by Fire" Is Not Literal Fire.

Pastor Russell Points Out That Dante's Picture of Purgatory Has Little Foundation in Bible—Thinks Many Have Been Under Kind of Hoax.



Kansas City, Mo., June 9.—Pastor Russell spoke twice here today. We quote his discourse from the text, "Saved so as by fire" (1 Corinthians III, 15). He said in part:—

The Catholic thought of Purgatory has been opposed by Protestants upon the plea that Purgatory is not mentioned in the Bible. Let us admit that no such Purgatory as Dante pictured has any volume of foundation. Let us admit that not all that Catholics have claimed respecting Purgatory is either Scriptural or logical.

But let us admit also that there are Scriptures (of which our text is one) which tell of a salvation by "fire" that evidently is not the salvation in which the "elect" of God will participate as "more than conquerors" through obediently following in the footsteps of Jesus their Redeemer. Indeed, our text is the principal one used by our Catholic brethren in support of their Purgatory.

Purgatory in Our Text.

But if the Pastor did not agree with the Protestants that there is no Purgatory taught in the Bible, neither did he agree with the Catholics respecting the kind of a Purgatory, for he proceeded to show that his text referred, not to a place of suffering, a purgation that existed in the Apostle's day, but that the Apostle was here speaking prophetically, of the end of this Gospel Age—foretelling a purgatorial condition at that time—not after men have died, nor in another world, but in the present life, and on this earth.

Indeed, said Pastor Russell, not only is the fire of this text symbolical of trouble, but the same is true of nearly all that is said about fire in the Bible. There is a process of destruction, consumption. God's righteousness is spoken of as a consuming fire which burns against all sin and unrighteousness.

The context shows that the Apostle is discussing the Church in her earthly estate; that some of the brethren would not at the time appreciate the difference between "the gold, silver and precious stones" of the Divine promises and the cheaper materials—likening them to "wood, hay and stubble;" but that a day would come in the end of the Age when the Lord would specially test His people and when the tests would be severe and crucial like fire. In that day wood, hay and stubble would be consumed; but the gold, silver and precious stone characteristics of the true faith and proper character-building would remain. We are not to understand him to mean that doctrines are all-important, but rather that they are reflected in the character-development of the individual who without them would be unable to stand in the testings that would surely come in the close of this Age.

The Apostle points out, however, that all who build their faith on Christ will eventually be saved, no matter how much error they may get into—even though their entire faith structure is wrong and will be consumed in the foretold fiery trial. All who build faith on Him, in full accord with the Divine Revelation, obediently, will become joint-heirs with the Redeemer in His Kingdom, while those who build their faith on Him, and maintain it even through error, will be eventually saved, through a lower salvation. Theirs will be a purgatorial experience—purifying, sanctifying, fitting them for an inferior blessing on the spirit plane, serving before the throne instead of in the throne.

Living in Time Mentioned in Text. Apparently we are now living in the very time mentioned in our text. Many of God's people under the fiery trials of "higher criticism" and "science falsely so called" experienced a loss of all the faith they possessed, because they possessed only the wood, hay and stubble of human tradition, and not the gold, silver and precious jewels of the Divine Revelation.

Indeed, according to prophecy, we see that the time is fast approaching when God will have a further reckoning with the Gentiles and especially with the portion called Christendom. Richly favored, the responsibilities have been proportionate. The squaring of that account means "a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation."

But it will not be in another world nor in another life nor eternal in duration. Instead, God will merely permit the race, in selfishness of heart rejecting His counsels, to wreck present civilization to such an extent that, unless these days were shortened, there would be no flesh to be saved. But on account of the elect those days will be shortened, by the establishment of God's Kingdom, to restrain evil, to enlighten the world and to assist the willing and obedient back into the image and likeness of God.

Yellow Jacket Stingers.

What's the use of the poor old Democratic party running anybody? Better a ride in the band wagon than in the patrol wagon.

Too bad, if they belong to him, that Billy didn't copyright his ideas. Don't worry about the other fellow—how about yourself?

Wonder if the Baltimore convention will go daft on prohibition and bank guarantees.

Talk about contests. Why, man, it looks like every delegation was to be contested and even then some.

The harvester trust is now under fire, but the harvester has saved the farmer millions of dollars.

The air ship will soon be perfected and the coffin trust will quit declaring dividends.

The man who waits for the clouds to roll by very often remains out too late.

The goose that lays the golden egg never cackles as much as the old hen that lays the ordinary soft shell.

They say that women will wear umbrella covers for dresses next year.

Miss Democracy hasn't yet declared her views on suffrage—but she has been suffering a long time.

Pop, bang, fizz and flizzle—that is what Democracy will do because that is what Democracy has always done.

The platform writers must look a little out this time—because the people are in a mood to demand many things.

Make hay while the sun shines and if the sun doesn't shine make hay anyway—maybe it won't rain until tomorrow.

A man with blues should not take a dose of reds. And white ficker has the same depressing effect this morning after.

North Carolina will have some hair pulling this fall in the senatorial fight—but what state, dear Pauline, will not have a hair pulling.

Blow your own horn, but don't blow it louder than you've got the capital stock to represent the noise you make.

North Dakota has a man with whiskers 11 feet long—another fellow, perhaps who has been waiting for Bryan to come in before shaving.

The floods in the South have been terrible, but what do people care for floods in a country where double-headed delegations of all sorts blossom out in the night.

Too bad that Old Man Rockefeller couldn't elect his school superintendent at Tarrytown. Seems that Old John is mistaken for a fly the way people are swatting him.

And they tell us that Richerson, the Boston murderer was wafted straight to Heaven. Won't hell be a lonesome place if all the diabolical murderers make their way to the Glory Land?

A tad pole after awhile gets to be a frog—and the man at the bottom of the ladder some day gets on top. Keep on sawing wood—all is not lost yet, no matter how dark it may look just now.

We will just a million dollars that the man who is nominated at Chicago will be the winner. This million dollars is carefully tied up in bundles, and is clean Confederate money printed for the occasion.

And so young Mrs. Tillman sags for a divorce—and this scandal of two years ago is to be revived. You can't cross a wild cat and a turtle dove and have peace—no use to try it.

Look to us like Teddy has the whole bunch in a basket. The machinery may try to make things go otherwise, but if the Chicago convention isn't a grand snake dance if they try to put it over the Roosevelt cohorts then search us for a tomahawk—and if we don't wear one you will find it in the belt of the contested delegate. We are here to tell you Aunt Lucinda, there will be something dicking at Chicago.

It does not pay to act the rascal Chas. W. Morse got into trouble and landed in the penitentiary as a result. The mental anguish expense of this part of the affair would bankrupt a millionaire, besides it leaks out that he paid a law firm \$100,000 to secure his freedom. "Would have been a blamed sight cheaper to practical honesty at the start, and then these scheming lawyers would have had to look some other way for a living.—From the Yellow Jacket, Moravian Falls, N. C.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Explanation of Wireless Call.

Perhaps many people in reading of the Titanic disaster have wondered what "S O S" really means. The following taken from Popular Mechanics Magazine will explain its origin.

"An interesting statement in connection with the 'S O S' and 'C Q D' wireless calls was made by Guglielmo Marconi in connection with the Titanic disaster. He said that these letters were arbitrarily selected and mean nothing except calls of distress. Originally 'C Q' was a signal for all stations to

cause operations and pay attention to the operator sending the call, the 'D' being added when it was used for a distress signal. At an international conference in Berlin a short time ago, the 'S O S' sign was agreed upon to supplant 'C Q D' because the former, consisting of three dots, three dashes and three dots, was the simplest, easiest and quickest call to send as a danger signal."

ADABURG. Farmers are very busy trying to get their crops out.

Mr. Clarence Gilmore, Knottsville, was to see Miss Oda Raymon Sunday.

Mrs. Lela Patton and daughter, Eida C., spent last week with Mrs. Patton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Miller, near Dundee.

Messrs. Tommie Helm and Fred Evans and Misses Olive Owen and Ina Patton attended the decoration of the M. W. A. graves at Bells Run Sunday afternoon.

Eq. J. L. Patton passed here enroute to Westerford onday.

Mr. Clarence Patton, wife and daughter, Thelma, of Taffy, visited Mr. C. M. Patton and family Sunday.

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County Court—R. R. Wedding, Judge; W. S. Tinsley, Clerk, C. E. Smith, Attorney, Hartford. Court convenes first Monday in each month.

Quarterly Court—Begins on the fourth Monday in February, May, August and November.

Court of Claims—Convenes first Tuesday in January and first Tuesday in October.

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O. E. Scott, Cromwell, Wednesday after 3rd Monday in March, Wednesday after 3rd Monday in June, Wednesday after 3rd Monday in September, Wednesday after 3rd Monday in December.

John H. Billie, Rockport, Friday after 3rd Monday in March, Friday after 3rd Monday in June, Friday after 3rd Monday in September, Friday after 3rd Monday in December.

J. C. Jackson, Centertown, Saturday after 3rd Monday in March, Saturday after 3rd Monday in June, Saturday after 3rd Monday in September, Saturday after 3rd Monday in December.

M. C. Cook, Renfrow, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in March, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in June, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in August, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in November.

Thomas Sanders, Olaton, Wednesday after 2nd Monday in March, Wednesday after 2nd Monday in May, Wednesday after 2nd Monday in August, Wednesday after 2nd Monday in November.

Grant Penard, Fordsville, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in March, Thursday after 2nd Monday in August, Thursday after 2nd Monday in November.

J. L. Patton, Ralph, Friday after 2nd Monday in March, Friday after 2nd Monday in August, Friday after 2nd Monday in November.

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Christian Church—Services every fourth Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Elder W. B. Wright, pastor.

C. P. Church—Services first Sunday in each month at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School 9:45.

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Hartford Lodge No. 65, F. & A. M., meets first and third Monday night in each month. Owen Hunter, W. M. L. P. Foreman Secretary.

Key Stone Chapter No. 116, R. A. M., meets every third Saturday night in each month. John T. Moore High Priest; W. S. Tinsley, Secretary.

Hartford Chapter No. 54, O. E. S., meets second and fourth Monday evening. Mrs. S. A. Anderson, W. M. Miss Lizzie Miller Secretary.

Rough River Lodge No. 116, Knights of Pythias, meets every Tuesday night. W. H. Hedrick, C. C., J. Ney Foster, K. of R. & S.

Hartford Tent No. 89, K. O. T. M., meets every first and third Thursday night. W. H. Gillespie, Commander; L. P. Foreman, Record Keeper.

Hartford Chapter No. 54, O. E. S., meets every first and third Friday night in each month. Mrs. Attie Griffin, Lady Commander; Mrs. Lula Pendleton, Lady Record Keeper.

Acme Lodge No. 238, I. O. O. F., meets second and fourth Friday night in each month. W. C. Wallace Nobel Grand R. B. Riley Secretary.

Ohio Tribe No. 125, Imp. Order Red Men, meets second and fourth Wednesday night in each month. Ellis Foster, Sachem. A. E. Fate, Chief of Records.

Hartford Camp, W. O. W. No. 202 meets every second and fourth Saturday night in each month. Chief of Command, Thomas P. Williams; Clerk, W. C. Wallace.

Freston Morton Post No. 4, G. A. R., holds regular meetings Saturday before the first Monday in each month. Ashford Mills, Commander; J. M. Rogers, Adjutant.

Golden Rule Grove, Woodmen of the World Circle, meets every second and fourth Tuesday afternoon in each month. Mrs. H. E. Mische, Guardian; Mrs. E. B. Pendleton, Clerk.

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