

GOD NOT ALONE!

The Beginning of God's Creation Was His Only Begotten Son.

And All Subsequent Intelligences Were Created by and Through the Logos.



Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 15.—Pastor Russell took as his text John 1, 1, 2—"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with the God and the Word was a God. The same was in the beginning with the God. By him were all things made and without him was not anything made that was made."

From the above Scripture Pastor Russell deduced that after the Almighty had been alone for an untold period his first creation of an intelligence being in his own likeness was accomplished. The distinguished One referred to in this Scripture is the Only Begotten of the Father, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the ending of Jehovah's direct creation. The Logos was he who subsequently became man. When a man he was styled "the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a Ransom-price for all, to be testified in due time" (1 Timothy II, 6). He was both the beginning and the ending of the direct Divine creation, to the intent that the Almighty might use him as his great and honored Agent in the creation of angels and men and in the ordering of their affairs.

The speaker declared that Christian thought respecting Messiah, the Son of the Highest, is in confusion because of the general neglect to investigate the Scriptures bearing on the subject. He pointed back to the beginning of the Christian Era and declared that soon after that time a controversy arose in the Church and as a result great confusion has since prevailed. At a time when there were no such Bibles as we now possess, with concordances, marginal references, etc.; at a time, too, when the masses were unable to read, disputation ran high. The Jews took the ground that Jesus was an impostor who did his works by the power of the fallen angels.

Some Christians took the opposite extreme—that Jesus was not merely a Son, but was God the Father himself, who for a time appeared amongst men, and in false humility styled himself the Son of God when, in reality, he was "the Father of lights." Some carried this thought to the extreme, teaching that there are three Gods who are in union, in harmony, in oneness of spirit or work. Others held that there is but one God, but that in some unexplainable manner he divides himself into three parts equal in power and glory. Still others, rejecting these extreme views, claimed that Jesus had no prehuman existence, that Joseph was his father, etc.

But all the while, said Pastor Russell, the Scriptures bore the plain testimony that Jesus was the beginning of the Creation of God, the First-Born, the Logos, the first Divine expression.

"The Word Made Flesh."

The Scriptures explain that "the Logos was made flesh and dwelt amongst men and we beheld his glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father." He thus "took upon him the form of a servant" "that he by the grace of God might taste death for every man." Having finished the work given him by the Father, the latter raised Jesus from the dead by his (Jehovah's) own power, exalting Jesus again to the spirit plane of being with added glory—"far above angels" (Philippians II, 7-9).

We read that God sent his Son into the world to redeem the world, but it is a mistake to suppose that his coming was compulsory; that the sufferings of Christ were enforced. On the contrary, the Scriptures declare that the heavenly Father set before his Son, the First-Begotten of all creation, the promise of a glorious reward. (1) He should have the pleasure of doing the Father's will. (2) Although this would cost him a great sacrifice, nevertheless, it would bring him the great distinction of being for a thousand years the Mediator between God and men, the great Messiah and Deliverer of mankind from the reign of sin and death. (3) Additionally, he should be returned from the earthly conditions to the heavenly conditions, as a spirit being, and with added glory.

The Trinity of the Bible.

Various are the views called the doctrine of the Trinity. The Bible does teach that "to us there is one God the Father, of whom are all things, and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things and we by him," and that there is one holy Spirit of the Father, a holy power, will, mind, energy, and that this is the mind of Christ, by virtue of his full submission of his will to do the Father's will. This holy Spirit is also to be the spirit, mind or will of the Church.

All Christians must of necessity believe in the Father and in the Son and in the Holy Spirit and must recognize that these are not contrary influences—that they are at one, in full harmony. But the unscriptural theory of some that there are three Gods in one person, and the opposite theory of others that there is one God in three persons—these errors of the Dark Ages are not only irrational but wholly unscriptural. Not only does the Bible not contain the word Trinity, but neither does it contain the thought of Trinity.

In the seventh century this dogma of three Gods in one God and one God in three Gods had become widely accepted, and, because there was no Scripture to support it, some one originated a little Scripture to cover the point, adding to the Word of God, contrary to the warnings of the Scriptures. Pastor Russell advised his audience to take their pens and strike out the interpolated words, which are not to be found in any Greek manuscript of earlier date than the seventh century. He cited the following words to be marked off in I John, chap. 5, vs. 7—"In heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one." Also in vs. 8, the words, "and there are three that bear witness in earth."

No scholar denies that these words are spurious. Why then should we recognize and teach them, confusing ourselves and others thereby? When they are stricken out the passage reads smoothly and beautifully and in harmony with the remainder of the Scriptures. How absurdly the passage reads in our common version, telling us that the Father and the Son and holy Spirit are bearing witness in heaven that Jesus is the Son of God! Do not the angels know this without any witness being given?

Honor the Son as the Father.

Pastor Russell quoted his text so as to show the force of the Greek original, the Logos was a God who from the beginning was with the God who never had a beginning. The word God, both in the Hebrew and in the Greek, signifies a mighty one. In the Old Testament Scriptures both angels and men are styled *elohim*, gods, when occupying high positions or being specially deputized as Divine agents. The Apostle has the same thought when he speaks of "The God and Father of our Lord and

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COMPLAIN OF RATES CHARGED

Electric Light Meters in Gooding Run Strong on Current.

The Great Shoshone Twin Falls Light and Power company have a bunch of electric meters in Gooding that run away occasionally and when in December bills arrived this week there was indignation meetings held in all parts of the city.

E. T. Barber of the Leader Building company claims that the light bill for the building which is upon a separate meter entirely from the Leader Publishing company was \$140 for the two months.

Mr. Parks of the Idaho Rooming House claims that \$12.00 is the price of electricity for lighting purposes in dwelling for the month.

Several other residents have rates running from \$12.00 to \$15.00 per month.

The Leader's light bill for the month was \$10.00, but across the street in Smith Brother's Hardware store where the windows were illuminated during the holiday season from 5 o'clock p. m. until midnight their light bill was less than the minimum amount which the company charges per month.

The First National Bank bill was in the neighborhood of \$30.

The officials of the power company are all fine men and apparently will do any thing within their power to relieve the situation, and give justice to everyone, but the fact still remains that the system at this place needs some attention by their experts for the bills rendered for the service are not only outrageously high, but are ridiculous in every extreme.

The power company has invested many thousand dollars in Lincoln county, but there is no reason why the town of Gooding should pay the entire operating expenses of the company.

The Leader has no desire to pose as a kicker against Southern Idaho, but we believe that the Great Shoshone & Twin Falls light and power company has made a great mistake in making out their rate schedule. No legitimate business in the state that uses less than 15 horse power can exist under the schedule as adopted by this company.

KUHN INTERESTS IN IDAHO

Two Million Dollars to Be Expended in Irrigation Development.

Boise, Jan. 11.—J. H. Purdy, general manager of the Kuhn interests, spent Monday and Tuesday in the city while enroute to San Francisco. While here Mr. Purdy went over the business affairs of the Kuhn interests with their local representative Mr. S. H. Hays. Mr. Purdy will make a stop in Idaho of ten days on his return from California. While here Mr. Purdy expressed the belief that there was a fairly easy money market and prospect for the coming spring and that money might still be secured for a good class of irrigation projects. He expressed himself as well pleased with the Boise district.

The interests represented by Mr. Purdy will spend approximately \$2,000,000 in Idaho the coming year and other enterprises amounting to an additional expenditure in the state this year are now under their consideration.

Good Advice Mixed With Humor.

An exchange very wisely and humorously says:

The mother who allows a sixteen-year-old daughter to float around the

town in a top buggy until 2:00 a. m., with a counterfeit sport with weak jaw and weaker morals nearly opens the front door to grief and disgrace.

If you don't know what company your girl keeps or what time of night she turns in, your roar when gossips get busy will sound as pathetic as the wheeze from a Jew's harp. The girl who insists on spooning with everybody in the corporate limits ought to be backed into the woodshed and relieved of her overflow of affection with a number eleven slipper laid carelessly across the hiplots. We had sooner see a girl kiss a blind shoat through a barbed wire fence than have her change partners six times a week in the front parlor with the lights turned low. It's harder to marry off a girl who has been pawed over by every yap in the community than it is to fatten a sheep on pineapple ice. You can't gold brick a sharp-eyed cultor with second-hand goods any more than you can fit a bath robe on a goat. There are lots of weak minded parents who are going up against the judgment day with about as much show as a cross-eyed girl at a beauty show, and their children will rise up and call them blessed with the enthusiasm of a one-legged man at a club dance.

"Honeymoon Trail."

Lovers of musical comedy have a rare treat in store for themselves at the Standard Theatre on January 31 on which occasion the celebrated LaSalle Theatre (Chicago) musical comedy success, "Honeymoon Trail" will be the attraction. This is one of the pretentious and elaborate offerings of the current season. A cast and chorus of over half a hundred are carried, and the mammoth scenic production is a marvel of beauty.

A war of words between two Democratic statesmen in New Jersey culminated in the one calling the other a boss and the second calling his opponent a czar. This is almost as terrible as when Mr. Pickwick called Mr. Winkle a "fellow."

Dr. Cook simply moved and voted to make unanimous the verdict that he is the champion American prevaricator.

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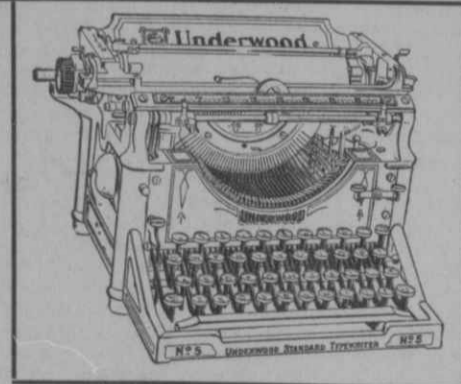
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