



# *The Valley of Decision*

*Grace G. Henry*





# THE VALLEY OF DECISION



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## ***Contents***



	<b>Page</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1. The Valley of Decision .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2. The Two Great Suppers .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>The First Great Supper</b>	
<b>The Other Supper</b>	
<b>3. The Three Great Battles of the Church.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>The Church and Paganism</b>	
<b>The Church and Roman Catholicism</b>	
<b>The Church and the False Prophet</b>	
<b>4. Satan's Masterpiece .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>The First Unclean Spirit (Pagan)</b>	
<b>The Second Unclean Spirit (Beast)</b>	
<b>The Third Unclean Spirit (False Prophet)</b>	
<b>5. The Challenge .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>6. Where Is The Bride? .....</b>	<b>44</b>



## ***Introduction***



A few times in my childhood it was my privilege to go to a circus. It was a great outstanding treat to see the animals, about which we had studied in school, walking about or doing special stunts, and see the bare-back riders of the ring, and to hear the silly chatter of the clowns. There was, however, one thing that always bothered me about the circus.

There were three rings in the larger circuses, and while one watched the marvelous feats (in midair) of the acrobats, he missed the acting that went on in another ring at that same time and patrons would feel bewildered, trying to take it all in, missing nothing and so getting their money's worth.

Never in history has this poor old world been more like these three-ring circuses of our childhood days. While we set our attention on one definite matter, something of equal or, perhaps, much more importance is transpiring at the same time, that we cannot afford to miss.

We sit down in the midst of all this confusion to write this booklet in this brief form for a purpose and that purpose is to bring to your understanding a startling fact that is facing every living soul in the world today.

And just what is that fact? You will not find it in the newspapers, magazines, or in any secular publication and that is why so few know anything about it. Also, when they do hear about it, they will turn a deaf ear because long ago a majority of the people in this land and others have laid aside the book of knowledge, wisdom and divine love.

They care not what its pages contain for they are listening to the wisdom (?) of man and have exchanged their true inheritance for a mess of earthly pottage. So they will not look inside. But this same book warns the watchmen to be true and warn the people. If the watchman fails to warn, he is guilty before God.

So realizing this, and that the day is far spent and the night is at hand, we seek to send out the warning call.

This is the fact! Today and in these days of this last age of church history and world history, too, the Christian, wherever he is, many others also, will be called upon to make a great decision that will settle forever their fate for heaven or hell.

This will not be believed by many of those who read these pages. We have known all our lives that the sinner has to make a decision to give up the world if he is to live a Christian life. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world; if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

But plainly in the Bible God has stated through His Word that His Holy Spirit is working in these days to lead His people out of the confusion and division. They themselves, must make the decision before it is too late, and this decision must be made by every man and woman who has really been born again.



## CHAPTER 1

### THE VALLEY OF DECISION

In the short introduction we mentioned the fact that in these days ("days of people upon whom the ends of the earth are come") not only sinners must make a decision, but in the kingdom of God, men and women who have served Him and loved Him, some for a few years, some for many, and others for practically a whole lifetime, are going to have to make a decision that will seem harder to make, in many ways, than that of the sinner.

The man in sin knows he is lost. He knows that he cannot hope to enter heaven as he is and he can see the necessity of turning about and beginning a new life. But as light of the last days is being shed on the Word of God it is plainly written for all to see that the man who would live for God must decide to take a more definite stand and separate himself from all organizations that are not of God and prepare for His glorious coming.

He will need to go deeper into spiritual things that pertain to his salvation than at any other time of his history. It is simply impossible to describe the day in which we live as it should be, by word of mouth, or pen of any writer. And anyone reading the description or hearing about it only becomes confused at the very awesomeness of what is passing before us in a kaleidoscope.

In the world today corrupt and evil men like giants of power and ambition, are grasping the helm, determined to guide the great nations of earth in their special groove. Nations are fighting for a chance to keep some kind of freedom and escape their would-be masters. In the churches and various fields of religion, strong and ambitious leaders are making and working their plans to hold the lay members captive to their schemes for a great world church.

Government is offering to aid the public schools in order to get control of the educational feature and train the minds of our youth to suit their own schemes. Labor is restless and without a good cause does not hesitate to

cripple a great city or cause suffering and loss to their fellowmen to gain their ends. Moral standards are everywhere at an all-time low. Women walk the streets in as little attire as the law will permit, and the law is lenient, having seemed to become elastic these days.

Literature, in the main, lacks the elevating influence it should have and in the past has had. What our youth is reading today does not tend toward character building as the stories of a generation ago. A definite change for the worse is working everywhere and these changes are affecting the morals so that it seems we do not know whom we can trust.

In the midst of all this, time is rushing on to the end and with all our doubts and fears for the future. Today we are really living in the best days we will ever know from now on. We read in 2 Tim. 3:13, "But evil men and seducers will wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived."

But why must Christians who have long ago consecrated to live for God find it necessary to come to some special decision? Have we not decided in the past to follow Him, and kept our promise to be true as it lies in our power to so do? Yes, truly! But as the generations have passed, some vital changes have come, as well as the things mentioned in the world.

All through Christendom these changes have been wrought, and it has so transformed the original plan of God for His Church, that in these last days before Jesus comes, a great work must be done in the church, the body of Christ, and the bride to prepare her to meet our Saviour when He comes again to take her to heaven.

Know this, the church must meet the requirements laid down for her and keep the standard of holiness, without which "no man shall see the Lord." True, for generations men have planned, have made their creeds for their own sect or denomination and with it their own standard that no man can live without sin. That we "sin more or less every day." And thousands of thousands gladly accept this standard that requires no self-discipline, no high standard of living. If the church is not able to show the

world something above what it offers to man, there is no reason for her existence.

Our standard must come from the Bible which plainly teaches (1 John 3:8) "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the work of the devil." And also in the tenth verse, "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil; whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother."

So the beautiful bride of Christ, falling into the hands of men and not directed by the true governor, the Holy Spirit, has become corrupt and unfit for the position of bride to the Son of God; and there is a great move on in Christendom today. Every honest soul in her will be given a chance to prepare for the coming of Christ and every indifferent one will go on drifting farther and farther from the shore line.

God is sending ministers out to preach truth, plain and true, to the people. Alas! They are not heard in the big, fine places of worship, for these plain-spoken ministers are not allowed in the formal places of worship. And these good people will not humble their hearts to go and hear the truth which can only be heard in humble places.

When they do hear the precious warning coming through the message and learn that a call is even going out now all over the land for God's people to come out of formalism, creeds, divisions and false prophets to the one body in Christ, they will not be pressured, but must be perfectly willing to leave all to come out to a pure church, ready to meet the bridegroom.

And what is the main content of the call? Turn to Revelation 18:2, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. (4) And I heard another voice from heaven saying, come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. (5) For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities."

The old prophet Isaiah foresaw God's people bound in this place in Christendom and prophetically sent out a call.

"Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is the time of the Lord's vengeance; and He will render unto her a recompense."

Zechariah saw this day and called out through the years, "Deliver thy self, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon."

And who is Babylon, or the daughter of Babylon? The word Babylon means confusion and never in all the world of time and church history was there more confusion and false teaching mingled with some truth in the pulpits than in this present day. So God's people must decide whether they are going to free themselves from this divided state of Christianity and come out from the midst or stay in confusion and be found there when the Lord comes.

This decision on their part will settle their own fate. In the Word of God we read in Joel 3:14, "Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision, for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision." Yes. There will be great multitudes in that valley who must decide. But a sad fact is appearing, for by far these multitudes will decide the wrong way.

Unless the Spirit of God clears their spiritual vision and they are made able to see what they are not able to see now, few indeed will be able to make what will seem to be a great sacrifice, even to retain their standing with God. Neither will they take time to read their Bibles and pray that they may find out the truth which is "hidden from the wise and prudent and revealed unto babes."

All the information needed is to be found in the pages of our Guide Book, the Bible. But in the hurry and confusion of modern day living they will neither take time to consider the plain words of prophecies nor the later, plainer message of Revelation.

The true interpretation of these great warning messages are given only to men who have sold out to God. Men, who will be true whatever the cost to themselves,

and will be heard and proper interpretation given in among those who are given the understanding through the Holy Spirit of God.

Like the true followers of Christ in the apostolic days, you will find it only among the meek and lowly in spirit. And there will not be large numbers in their congregations. But they will be here and there, scattered among the other churches, and will not be easy to find.

What then shall you do? Pray to God for leading of His Spirit, pray earnestly in your closet of prayer that God will guide you in your reading, in your search for light on the pathway. God will be true to the interest of your soul. Ask God to lead you in His own time to a church that is true to the teaching of the Bible.

When you find it, there will be no false manifestation of the Spirit of God in the midst. The presence of the Spirit will be made plain by:

1. The heart-searching preaching of the full message of salvation.
2. The burden for a world of lost souls.
3. The honest living, day by day, of the members of the congregation.
4. The dedication of her ministers to fearlessly preach a full gospel, whatever the cost.
5. The lack of worldly, immodest dress and adornment of the person, or the painted face and dyed hair of the world.
6. The presence of the healing power of God in the midst.
7. The preaching of the necessity of living a clean, holy life here and now. "Without holiness no man shall see the Lord."

This is the church, and she is here on earth and will be until Jesus comes for her.

He is surely gathering the saved of earth to get them together before He comes. But you will be the one who will make the final decision to stay in your present lofty position in the church world set-up, or free yourself and come among the saints.

. Wait just a moment while we say, this is not our opinion, or idea, this is as true as the story of salvation itself. What then is your decision?

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **THE TWO GREAT SUPPERS**

We trust that you, as a Christian, are willing to continue reading as we lay before you things plainly revealed (by the Bible) for your good. As we told you in the first chapter, a great many things are going on at the same time. Some of these things in the world and some of them in the church or in Christendom. In the hurry and excitement of it all we are missing some very important things which really are coming closer to us than we are able to realize.

Now, if anyone, for instance, would ask you if you knew of the great suppers that are being given, that is, the two great suppers, you would probably say, "Well, I have seen no announcement of them in the papers, nor have I heard anyone tell about any of national importance."

No, and neither will you hear about them from this source, for their eyes and ears are holden and they know nothing of these things; because they have been hidden and will continue to be hidden as we have told you, from the poor, blind and sin-laden world. But it is plainly revealed in the pages of your guidebook, the Bible. This book is full of wonderful things that have happened in the past, things that are happening now, and things still to happen in the future.

I told you, also, in the first chapter that the Word of God calls the false and divided systems of the church world, Babylon, (or confusion) and also it is called "the false prophet." Now, the False Prophet, or Babylon is in the midst of a great supper, called "the supper of the great God."

The first supper to be mentioned is in Revelation 19:17 "And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; (18) That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that

sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great."

In order to make this as simple and as plain to all readers as possible, we will try to describe these things as often as possible in the language of today, rather than in the St. James Bible.

When the body of Christ, the church, feeds or is nourished and strengthened by the whole, pure gospel, she is strong and is blessed of God to do exploits for Him. But when leaders come in her midst to bring the teaching of men and water down the strong meat of the gospel and feed the opinions of men and govern the movements of the church, she cannot stand and our God is against all such.

Let us come directly to the point in this and neither waste time nor space. Worldly leaders with modern beliefs and systems and the ruling of mankind instead of God, have separated the flock from God. It still has a form of godliness and often deceives the people by multitudes. Why? Because they trust their leaders to feed them and fail to read for themselves the truth so precious, found in the Word of God. Therefore, they are also guilty.

As a consequence, false teaching creeps in and the true vision is lost and while men and women are loyal to their particular creed, or division, or denomination, they are loyal to that which causes them to lose their own soul. They eventually lose the very presence of God in their midst. They sleep, spiritually speaking. Jer. 51:39 reads, "In their heat I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunken, that they may rejoice, and sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake, saith the Lord."

The sermons in this great religious system are no longer pure gospel, but hashed-up diet, prepared to please, to mollify, to lull spiritually a people who are willing to be led by men rather than strive to live the true Christ life. God plainly says that He is against the whole worldly set-up.

"Behold I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the Lord, which destroyeth all the earth: and I will stretch out my hand against thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain."



But the leaders of this great false system have grown strong and she is described in the Bible as rich, having goods, and great men of education and worldly power, and great buildings and much influence even among God's people, to lure them into her net and God speaks in Jeremiah 51:24, saying: "And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they leave done in Zion in your sight saith the Lord."

What then are the people in Babylon, these places of worship ruled and planned by men, really feasting on? The empty messages, devoid of the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and the opinions and teaching of those who have sought to rule God's heritage.

And what is God going to do about this? He is going to let them go until the time of the end, then He will deal with them. First, He will seek His true children that are in the midst of Babylon and try to lead them out. Jeremiah 51:45: "My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver every man his soul from the fierce anger of the Lord." God is not pleased that in this place His sheep are still found among a people who do not honor Him or His Holy Word as in the apostolic church. If they stay in her they will partake of the plagues God will send on her in the future.

It will take strong food to give them strength to fight the battle of life and they will only be hearing the messages of these modern prophets, and eat the "flesh" of these teachers, or take in their doctrines and beliefs.

Again, these saints may have had the privilege of being saved in a place where truth was preached and afterward, compromised, let down the standard and failed to continue in the truth as before. These people are in there captive in these places and they are eating of the supper.

To make it simple, Babylon is feeding her people or spreading a feast of the teachings of men, and all who worship in Babylon are partaking of this supper. Also of the "flesh" of horses, and captains and great men, or, the teaching of their systems and creeds and forms by which these churches carry on.

Let us, however, remember one thing more about this supper and how it will end. Let us turn to Ezekiel

39:17: "And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord God; speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.

18. Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan.

19. And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.

20. Thus ye shall be filled at table with horses and chariots, with mighty men and with all men of war, saith the Lord God."

We have said that God is determined to have a pure church and He will only claim that people who take the Bible for their standard of life, who are ruled by the Holy Spirit instead of men and who "are not of this world." He cannot claim anyone who is not living a holy standard, according to the Word of God. Then what will He do with these people who will not heed the warning cry?

According to His Word He will sacrifice them that He might have a pure church. "And thou, son of man, thus saith the Lord God; speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, . . . Thus shall ye be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men and with all men of war, saith the Lord God."

Who are the fowls? The feathered birds? For we read again, "I saw an angel standing in the sun, saying to all the fowls of heaven, Come, and gather yourselves together to the great supper of the great God."

What are they to eat? "That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses."

Now let us turn back just a moment to Israel in their murmuring and complaining against the manna. God supplied for their daily food on their march toward Canaan. Do you remember that God gave them their desire and sent them quails out of heaven until they were not only satisfied but nauseated and physically ill and died of the great feast of meat?

This surely proved to be a symbol of the spiritual feast of the dead formal churches that do not hunger for heavenly food but "eat their own bread, and wear their own apparel," (that is, have their own spiritual standard) and their own covering, when God intends his bride to wear a robe of righteousness. Just so, these latter day professed Christians want to eat what they want of the spiritual food.

What do they want? The doctrine and teaching or words of men. They cannot enter heaven and be accepted of God, they will be sacrificed. Notice, that on the table also will be horses and chariots—to feast on. Men do not eat horses and chariots, so what are these? They are the false systems of men who brought them into the church and introduced them; forms to bind and hold together men and women in worldly churches.

There is one way, and one door into the true church, the body of Christ; Christ is the door, repentance for sin is the way and no man can gain the new birth by being catechized, by joining, by baptism, by letter—yet thousands are brought in every year to man-planned and man-ruled churches.

After these people come in this way, being assured that they are now saved and they are fed from man-supplied tables from the accepted creeds and private interpretations of men and they are deceived and cannot grow spiritually. Should one soul, through honesty of heart and a real hunger, be saved in spite of all this, (and it is possible) he has to live from his spiritual infancy on the starvation diet set out by man.

God has borne this for generations and now a day of reckoning has come. But our God is just, He will send hunters out to hunt the honest souls, and fishers out to

fish for them. But they will not be found in the large and beautiful places of worship men have erected. Remember, it was fishermen and converted publicans, etc. who shook the known world with the powerful gospel message.

It was not the scribes, Pharisees, doctors, etc. of that day who led in the great battle of gospel against paganism. "It is hidden from the wise and prudent and revealed unto babes." And the proud will not be willing to humble themselves to go to the places where God is sending His humble servants to preach pure gospel as of yore to needy souls.

I have not forgotten about the fowls, but let us move on as the Spirit of God is leading. If we are in the very midst of a thing it is harder to see some things we need to see, sometimes than when we look upon it from a short distance. So it may be with those who are still in the very midst of Babylon and do not seem able to behold her as she is. So they continue to be satisfied with the husks of the meals provided by man.

But our God will not always bear this indifference and remember He will not send His Son back to bring home a bride satisfied with worldly garments and the food this old world provides, when Christ plainly says "Verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat of the Son of man and drink his blood you have no life in you. Whosoever eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood hath eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

What does He mean, "eateth my flesh"? "The word was made flesh and dwelt among us." We are to shape our lives by the precious Word of God and by the leading of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We have no strength or help in sayings and creeds of men. If we live spiritually after we are (spiritually) born again it will be by the Word, read and preached, Word of God. "As the living Father has sent me, and I live by the Father; so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me." John 6:57.

In the great sacrifice supper of God that is going on men will gradually see that the systems of men are falling and the light of the gospel is dying out in the great sectarian

churches as they are, and it is growing darker and darker spiritually until they are even willing to join up with the false Roman Catholic system and be one with them.

These false ministers (or fowls) may feast on false doctrine and systems that carry the work on until they are sated and nauseated for it will not satisfy the soul of man nor fit him for eternal life. He will be left out. "If ye seek me with a whole heart ye shall find me!" Men are not seeking God with a whole heart or they would be breaking open the doors to their prison houses and fleeing for their very lives.

Do we dare mean to say that these leaders will be lost? The Word says the great men, "the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth." Princes are rulers, heads, leaders. The Word of God also says that some of these were used of God. Great men turned away from the leadership of the Holy Spirit to follow the leading of mankind and are lost to the church of the living God, though retaining a "form of godliness and denying the power thereof." Again we are warned, "from such turn away."

One more thought on this particular line—as to where the supper is being served, "even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel." What is a mountain? A high place. All worship places were high places. Ezekiel 34:14: "I will feed them in a good pasture and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be." It will be in the churches where this sacrifice will be spread by God and like Israel of old they will have their own diet and will in time be sated and filled and it will not satisfy their souls. It will not save them.

Reader, if you are depending on confirmation, church joining, baptism, or "making a decision" for Christ, instead of old-fashioned conviction for sin, repentance and confession and really believe Christ has saved your soul from sin and you have been (spiritually) born again, think it over for you will find yourself one of those who must be sacrificed. If you have been saved, then "flee for your life." "For her sins have reached unto heaven and God hath remembered her [Babylon's, where you are] iniquities." Revelation 18:5.

### THE OTHER GREAT SUPPER

Meanwhile there is another great supper going on at the same time. The call went out long ago inviting men everywhere to come to the marriage supper of the Lamb of God. Those who carry the invitations to a lost world to come and be saved from sin, or "come and dine" at God's table must be called men. They must get their call from God.

It is a common belief in the world today that a man can look upon the ministry and if he feels that he would be satisfied with that "profession" and is willing to go to a higher school of learning and make the proper preparation for the educational phase, all is well and proper and so men have lost the vision of how a minister should be recruited in the great army of the Lord. When God sought men to represent Him in Old Testament times He went out into the fields where men were plowing and called His man from the plow, or He went to the pasture lands and called a shepherd. And why?

Because these men would not be entangled with the opinions of teachers and rabbis and other men's learning but would have open receptive hearts. When Jesus came He went out along the seashore and called fishermen and publicans and others whom He could influence to carry His message. Remember, God does not change. He is "the same, yesterday, today, and forever."

We believe in education plus the call (definitely from God) but men have planned and carried on our places of education for this great work of God until today it is scarcely possible to find a school of learning that has not in it professors and teachers who bring the student along a devious path of "possibly, probably, and perhaps" until the student is confused, and so much else is brought in to hinder and lead off into modernism and a "form of godliness," that few really are ever benefited spiritually or properly prepared for their role in life.

God filled the waiting men with the Holy Spirit and set them on fire and called them out to go forth and take the gospel to all men and at Pentecost started the call for the great supper which is still going on today. Now we said, in the feast that is going on in Babylon, the place

of division, creeds and ruling of men that men were feasting on the teaching and creeds of men and their false systems and are in great danger of their spiritual lives and are being called through the Word of God to come out of Babylon, to flee for their lives.

But here in this supper which started way back at Pentecost, we find them eating heavenly manna or the true Word of God. Jesus said in John 6:48: "I am that bread of life. (50) This is the bread that cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof and not die."

We read further, in verse 51: "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." And then He continues, as He saw the effect of His words among the Jews.

Verse 53: "Verily, verily I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the son of man and drink His blood, ye have no life in you." What is the flesh of the Son of God? It is nothing other than the pure Word of God. Since eternal life comes to those who believe the Word of God so they must eat of this bread and (drink?) of His blood or be filled with His Holy Spirit.

The feast of the great supper of the true church, the bride of Christ is the feasting on pure gospel messages and prophetic warnings of and for our day. It is not a social gospel as people think; of governments, of events of the day, and the whims and fancies of men. But it is the burning, two-edged sword of God that makes men strong for battle with the arch enemy, Satan.

Let us simplify the whole by saying it is a feast of hearing the pure gospel, preached under the anointing of the Holy Ghost by the ministers of God who are called and sent out to gather in the saints from wherever they may be scattered and feed them on heavenly manna.

These are the two suppers that are going on right now in the church everywhere in the world and those who continue to eat of the provision thereof will be either among the saints of God feasting on pure manna, or among the Babylonians on a diluted or false diet of men's teaching and creeds. Notice, that the supper of the Babylonians

is also called the "great sacrifice." This will be dealt with in later chapters.

The question for you and me to settle is, which supper will you partake of, reader? Where are we feasting today? Will the empty, watered-down messages of the formal church, or the apostate church, bring to you eternal life or are you heading for the great sacrifice in the end? Think soberly, think prayerfully, for your own soul may be in the balance.



## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **THE THREE GREAT BATTLES OF THE CHURCH**

#### **THE FIRST WAR—**

#### **THE CHURCH AND PAGANISM**

When the great mystery of heaven was planned and Christ purchased the church with His own blood, immediately the arch enemy of Christ began to plan for a substitute church, for it is said that wherever there is a real, there is a substitute. And throughout the years gigantic efforts have been made by him to crush the true church. Let us turn to the 12th chapter of Revelations and begin with the very first verse. We find it in symbol.

"And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet and upon her head a crown of twelve stars."

This is the symbolic picture of the New Testament church in her pristine beauty. (Clothed in or with the sun) or the gospel truth of the New Testament and the moon under her feet, or, standing on the Old Testament, the law under her feet. However, the very next verse gives us a vivid picture of her enemy coming this time to battle in the form of a great red dragon (a symbol of heathenism), and we read in the third verse:

"And there appeared another wonder in heaven; [or in a heavenly place] and behold a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns upon his heads. 4. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born."

The dragon as a beast from the earth was the symbol of a persecuting government. At the time of the apostolic church the Roman Empire was under pagan power which opposed and persecuted the Christian church from the beginning. This was represented by a great red dragon, symbol of paganism. This, we remember, was the first

definite attack of Satan to crush the church, and we read on in verse seven:

"And there was war in heaven; [a heavenly place here on earth] Michael, [Christ] and his angels, [the saints] fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought, and his angels, [the saints] fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought, and his angels."

Surely the reader knows a battle was not fought in heaven above, where there is no sin and no dragons to fight. Besides this, Paul said, "our warfare is not carnal." Neither Christians nor Christ can fight spiritual battles with guns, swords and other weapons. But here is a graphic picture of evil and godlessness opposing Christ and the saints.

But the battle was fought in the realm of the church here on earth. The church is a heavenly place. "And made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:6.)

8. "And prevailed not, neither was their place found any more in heaven." (False doctrines brought in the church in those days when the Holy Spirit reigned in the hearts of men could not survive. The saints conquered even to death.) We continue.

9. "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan which deceiveth the whole world: and he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

The Devil or Satan has his seat in paganism and sat on thrones to rule peoples of the earth.

"Into the earth"—no longer in high places of honor.

Heathenism was cast out, note that it was the devil and Satan at the very bottom of the whole attack trying to crush the church, but he even lost his seat of government in the great city of Rome, the very seat of his power, and he was cast out and Rome was eventually no longer a heathen city.

10. "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God; and the power of his Christ; for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God, day and night.

11. And they overcame him by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death."

In the awful persecution that came upon the Apostolic Church through pagan Rome, multitudes gave their lives but the church was triumphant and as a consequence the numbers of Christians were multiplied in spite of the awful slaughter. The church, let us note, failed not to testify to salvation so through the shed blood, their clean lives, and holy testimony, pagan walls fell down and Rome was a pagan city no more. Rome fell, a conquered foe in this first outstanding battle with the church.

## **THE SECOND GREAT WAR—**

### **THE CHURCH AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM**

Paganism failed to conquer the church of Christ. She reigned triumphantly over heathenism but the great enemy now sees it is impossible to destroy her by open opposition so he sends false teachers in her midst. The apostles saw the thing working in their day and warned the saints. Acts 20:29 they were told: "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30. Also of your own selves shall men arise speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."

And again in 1 John 2:18: "... As ye have heard, that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrist;" and other warnings were given the church to warn her that the enemy was again ready to do battle to tear down her walls and destroy her. This time as sheep among the people, to gain a hold in her midst. We read this account in Revelation 13:1: "and I stood upon the sands of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads, and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

2. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion; and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat and great authority.

5. And there was given him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

6. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, [church] and them that dwell in heaven.

7. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds and tongues and nations."

It has been agreed by most commentators that this governing power under the guise of a religious cloak in symbol as a beast rising up out of the sea, or appearing right in the sea of humanity is the great Roman Catholic system of religion that grew and became strong and ruled during the dark days of history.

The Word tells us he "opened his mouth in blasphemy against God." To strive to take the place or represent ourselves as God is real blasphemy and this is what the leader of this great false system does even today. Satan now has come in the form of a false religious system to work against the church. He gained world power through this guise and a reign of fear and bondage and darkness as to real truth is in the midst.

But "it was given to him to make war with the saints," and he is able to cause great harm to come to the church for we read in the third verse, that "all the world wondered after the beast."

4. "And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast and they worshipped the beast saying, Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

His power became so great and his influence so strong that, we are told in verse 8: "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

Such persecution and suffering came upon the church of that period of history that those who refused to recant had to flee for their lives into hiding and the church for that dark period of history was hidden from view.

But she stood true throughout the dreadful siege when thousands of thousands died at the hands of the enemy.

So powerful was this evil teaching that unless a man was really born again by the power of God he was influenced by this false doctrine. Only the true saints of God were able to see through its deceiving claims. The beast was wounded at one time later in history when truth caused many to break through the binding walls of Catholicism and souls escaped to religious freedom once more.

In the 3rd verse of the thirteenth chapter, "I saw one of his heads as it were, wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed, and all the world wondered after the beast." In the great persecution that followed the first battle in the history of the church, multitudes again gave their lives for the gospel. They also "loved not their lives unto the death." The great Catholic system, however, was not conquered and it still remained a power of evil, ever stretching its cords and taking new territory.

### **THE THIRD ATTACK ON THE CHURCH BY THE FALSE PROPHET**

After the twelve hundred and sixty years of the dark ages when Martin Luther led some brave souls out of bondage and opened a wedge in the walls of this great religious prison that bound men's souls, the truth once more began to be preached in a measure. Men preached that the just shall live by faith.

When enough Bible truth was preached to mankind again after the dark ages of the Roman Catholic reign, men began to seek more light, revivals broke out and the church grew in numbers and for some time in spirituality. But while supreme darkness had reigned Satan (paganism) had been bound and now with the Word of God preached with freedom again, he began to work toward his next attack.

What would be the most hurtful thing that could happen to this outburst of freedom and light among seeking souls and the growth of Christianity? Division and a

difference in one's belief of the Scripture. So, one after another arose to lead off a group of believers after his own interpretation of the Scripture. They also began to use different names. As time went on there were the Congregationalists, Methodists, Baptists, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterians, Church of the Brethren, Reformed Lutheran, and on and on until the church was divided and subdivided again and again and weakened by a little difference here in some ordinance or some slight difference just enough to cause a rift and make a new creed and sect.

Satan's third attempt was by far the most drastic move he had made. With so many divisions, and schools of preparation for the ministry to keep them that way, a terrible blow had at last been struck at the very heart of the church. In spite of this, however, for a few generations many of these sects taught repentance, confession of sin, belief in Jesus Christ to save, and the new birth.

But Satan never rested from his appointed task. Little by little the teaching of evolution, doubting God from the very beginning of His great work of creation crept in the colleges and places of higher education. Also higher criticism, and the teaching of rationalism, crept in as the Word of God says, "unawares." The church was already weakened in her division and now her ministry was greatly affected by this rank teaching.

New divisions and sects, Jehovah's Witnesses, Adventism, New Thought, Rose Crucianism, Christian Science, Pentecostalism, Nazarenes, Pilgrim Holiness, and many others sprang into existence. There were now so many that people were advised to go to the church of their choice.

Alas. In God's sight there is and never has been but "one church, one Lord, one faith, one baptism" and you and I will either be a part of the Bible church or we will be lost eternally. God did not give you or me our choice but we must accept his church and his condition and meet the condition laid down if we are to really live on in heaven.

But the stages of the history of the church show her to be going downward all the time—first division, second, false teaching, and third, the world creeping in her stronghold like a thief in the night.

When Jesus was here He said, "My house shall be called a house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves." Matt. 21:13. In the name of the church suppers are sold, bazaars are held, shows are given, skating parties put on, and most every other entertainment put on to "hold the crowd."

This has had the effect on the persons of the church and they now look like the world so that you cannot tell the professed Christian from the sinner when we meet them on the street. They, for the most part, go to the same entertainments, they set the T. V.'s in their living rooms, and the guest or caller cannot say he has called on a separated people or a peculiar people, a holy nation.

All this has been accomplished by Satan in his third attack upon the church of God, the bride of Christ and the "called out" or professed Christian. But God has looked on at the devastation and ruin wrought by the interloper. He has written in His Word: Rev. 3:17: "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth."

But all have not been influenced by the adversary, and there is still an army of men and women who refuse to deal with Satan and have taken a stand against the wiles of Satan, the lust of the flesh, and the lure of the world, and are standing for truth and the things that pertain to eternal life. These are the tried and faithful souls who make up the bride, the church.

These souls will have to be tried and tested in the last days. Our heavenly Father has His own way of testing them. We read in Isaiah 17:5, 6: "And it shall be as when the harvestman gathereth the corn, and reapeth the ears with his arm; and it shall be as he that gathereth ears in the valley of Rephaim. (6) Yet gleaning grapes shall be left in it, as the shaking of an olive tree, two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof, saith the Lord God of Israel."

Also Isaiah 24:13: "Thus shall it be in the midst of the land among the people, there shall be as the shaking of an olive tree, and as the gleaning grapes when the vintage is done."

The prophet Isaiah is foretelling the testing time for the church, saying that the trials and things which shall come upon the church will be like the shaking of the olive trees when only a few will be left hanging on the branches after they are through shaking them. Then note he adds in the 13th verse of the 24th chapter, "Thus it will be in the midst of the land among the people."

Let us verify this by turning to the New Testament and to Hebrews 12:26, 27 and read: "Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven." (the church) 27. "And this word, yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain."

Thank God, if we by faith refuse to waver and be tossed about by every wind of doctrine, but stand solid for Bible truth in a day when old time simple faith in God and His Word is at a premium, God says, if these popular ideas and false teachings cannot move us we will remain even as the olives final shaking.

What a challenge! What a goal in life! Who says the Christian life is dull? They have not known it, nor even entered in to the great experiences of the new birth. Let us gird our loins and get in the very front line for our great leader. Thank God the great arch enemy has not been able to crush or destroy the true church; he will not be able to destroy men and women who long to put God first in their lives.



## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **SATAN'S MASTERPIECE**

**(or his last attack on the church)**

Our earnest desire in writing this account of church history has been to keep it as plain and simple as possible. We have avoided the deeper things, realizing that no doubt, in the main, people will read this booklet who, perhaps, take time to read, but not to study the deep things of prophecy, etc. We want it therefore to benefit the public and hope it may induce many to search for themselves these facts already given.

The work of the enemy of the church throughout the generations since the breakthrough from the Roman Catholic Church has been of gradual and evident success. That is, the dividing of the great forces of the church. But this enemy was not satisfied even with the results ensuing of division, false teaching, and the presence of the world in her midst.

All these things, it is true, greatly hindered the work of God and the salvation of souls, weakening the whole structure and robbing her of unity and a good testimony in the present world. But still, there were as in the days of Elijah, multitudes unaffected by the division, false teaching and worldliness in their ranks. So the same evil spirit that set about to divide the saints in the beginning is the very one, strange to say, that is putting forth an all-out effort to unite the very same sects and divisions into one great world church.

Can it be that he has seen his mistake and is trying at last to not only redeem himself, but the church also, in the sight of God? Alas, no! Men have been slow indeed to see that the church cannot be dealt with as any other institution in the world. It is a supernatural organization, belonging to God. Men did not buy it. Christ bought it with His shed blood.

They cannot be the head of it. For Christ is "the head of the body, the church." When mankind put themselves up as head of the church they blasphemed. They

cannot be the governor of it, "for the government shall be upon his shoulder." They cannot take in new members for God "added to the church daily such as should be saved." They cannot even preach the gospel message successfully unless anointed by the Holy Spirit of God.

However, they have tried, and are still trying to take over all these things and to completely take it out of the hands of God and run it themselves. They have built large church edifices, published all necessary supplies, run colleges, seminaries and universities to manufacture preachers after their own molds. But gradually the wise and the godly see that in God's eyes it has been a *failure*. There is one business that the smartest, the best educated, and trained cannot run and that is God's business in man's way.

But, as I said before, the enemy was not satisfied to inflict this great harm on the church and then call it a day. Beside the fact that time will not last much longer, what is done must be done soon. So a great master stroke has been planned. And what is this master stroke? To gather together all these sects and divisions under one great head. To have world government for all nations. To have such absolute rule that the faithful saints of God who could not be shaken off and still insisted on worshipping God according to their own conscience would have to come under the displeasure of the ruling forces. And just what in this case would be the nature of the ruling forces? The very spirit of this church would be and is today, anti-Christ.

### THE WORKING OF THE SPIRIT OF ANTICHRIST

Now it is safer and much better in every way to start with the Scripture since this is the story of the church. When John wrote to the saints in his first, second, and third letters, he mentioned this terrible spirit to them in the early days of their history. We read in 1 John, 18th verse of the second chapter: "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that anti-Christ shall come, even now are there many anti-christs."

What did he mean by anti-Christ? It is surprising indeed to consider the answer to some questions, and especially this one. Through the years I have heard men

say that Hitler was the antichrist, also Mussolini; another was sure Judas Iscariot was the man. Others say some great president of the whole evil world will take charge of things some day who will be the very opposite of our Saviour and he will be the anti-christ.

But note this, please, John says, that in **his** day ("now") there are many antichrists. Men who do not accept or choose to believe on Christ as the Saviour of the world and are opposed to him as such, therefore they are antichrist in spirit. That is, they are opposed to the teachings of the Word of God concerning him and will not ever consent to be a part of the body of Christ, the church. They are lined up on the side of the enemy of the church.

What I shall tell you in the pages ahead is truth, stark truth, so I hope you will open your heart and mind to receive it as we go a bit deeper into the story of the last great effort of Satan to destroy the church of Jesus Christ.

John was given a vision or revelation of what was to happen to the church through the various stages of her existence on earth. He gives that revelation in true symbolic form and says in Revelation, chapter 16 and verse thirteen:

"And I saw three unclean spirits **like** frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14. For they are the spirits of the devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth, and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 16. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

In order to make this as plain as possible we will try to deal with these unclean spirits one by one in their proper order. Note first, these spirits are not frogs but are like frogs, cold, slimy, and repulsive.

### **THE FIRST UNCLEAN SPIRIT**

#### **OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE DRAGON**

The first unclean spirit came out of the dragon. Now he is no stranger for we met him at the very begin-

ning in the 12th chapter of Revelation. This was his first attack on the church in the form of the great red dragon. At that time he was the symbol of heathen or pagan power in the world. Saints by hundreds and thousands were slain because they stood true to God and his Son, even to death. He lost his place in that encounter with the church.

But he never gave up. Why? Because he is anti-christ and opposes all that is right and good. Also other spirits have joined him since. When Jesus came to witness for truth and preach the gospel and offer himself for mankind, the leaders of the Jews would not accept him. They did not believe in Him and they opposed His ministry with such hatred that they never rested until he was betrayed into their hands.

Through their influence with Pilate he was crucified. But they did not know that when He hung dying on Calvary and the curtain in the temple that hung in front of the Holy of Holies was rent in twain and all could see in the temple, that God had deserted it, and truly said: "Your house is left unto you desolate." And not only were the Jews left without a Saviour but having cast Him down they had lost their God.

The wandering, the suffering, the scorn of man, the loneliness of a religion without a God has been the lot of the Jewish race since that time. But the Jew is an intelligent man with great business ability and good insight into many things in life. He has accumulated riches, held high positions, accomplished great things outside the realm of religion.

A young man in Germany whose father was reported to be a Jewish lawyer, wrote a form, it has been said that much of it was taken from the Talmud, a new religion as it were, by man for man, and this was accepted by the leaders of the godless hosts who began to gain power in Russia. These people also opposed Christ and were antichrist in spirit.

They multiplied rapidly, subduing other nations and ruling with a rod of iron everywhere, and crushing out the very spirit of men and women who had faith in a living Saviour. Finally, one of the largest nations

fell under their iron yoke. A nation still under the sway of paganism, therefore under the power of the great red dragon.

And still they move on for their goal is to conquer the known world and to rid the people of the Saviour, Jesus Christ. This is one of the great known forces in the world today known as the first of the three unclean spirits that do battle with the true church, the bride of Christ.

### **THE SECOND UNCLEAN SPIRIT**

#### **OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE BEAST**

Let us turn to the second unclean spirit and we will see that it has come out of the mouth of the beast that came up out of the sea. (Rev. 13:1). We read here that the dragon gave this beast the power, and his seat (or place) and great authority. So the second power that arose had in it the same spirit that was found in the first evil power except that it had a religious cloak on it.

Now the first church of Jesus Christ was the pure apostolic church filled with the Holy Spirit, that went forth conquering and did conquer paganism and suffered and died for the cause of God. But we find false teachers sent in the midst of these saints and bringing in damnable heresies and teachings that corrupted the faith and belief of God's people and we read in 2 Peter, the second chapter, and first verse:

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the truth shall be evil spoken of."

In the third century this became marked and gradually a great false system having the form of religion but denying the very truths and the experience of the new birth by repentance and faith sprung up out of the apostate church of the Pentecostal day. Human leadership, human creeds and human interpretation of the Word of God now took the place of Holy Spirit rule in the church.

Less and less reverence and honor was given to God and more and more worship to man until finally a man among men was voted in as the earthly head of the church, the vicar of Christ.

Certain privileges were denied such as marriage among the ministry, and meat denied to these people on certain days, ignoring the teaching of Scripture.

1 Tim. 4:1: "Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2. Speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3. Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth."

This great system grew and multiplied and prospered until millions of souls were, and still are, captive to it, in a land of plenty of Bibles, but in darkness as to the truth contained in them.

Now any teaching that does not put Jesus Christ in His place and recognize His power and accept His way of salvation is antichrist. Or, that puts up a human head and gives him reverence in the place of Christ, and prays to Mary or depends on Mary as an interceder is not a true church but a false one.

But this great false system has attained wealth and power in government and everywhere her great and beautiful edifices stand to witness to her prosperity. But so dark was her reign that when she was the outstanding church of the known world at one time, it was called "the dark ages." Her people are not told how to come in by the door. Christ says, "I am the door." There is only one way under heaven whereby man can be saved and that by way of repentance for sin and belief in Christ.

She has also a persecuting spirit and persecuted and slew multitudes of Christians for their stand for truth. Since she is not the true church she is also an enemy to the bride of Christ and seems in our day to slowly be making friends with the other enemy, the dragon. She has robbed multitudes of the knowledge of real salvation and held

them captive in her system of religious form and teaching. She, too, seeks world power and leaves nothing undone to gain it. She is the enemy of the true body of Christ, the church. This is the great Roman Catholic Church of today.

### **THE THIRD EVIL SPIRIT THAT CAME OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE FALSE PROPHET**

Reader, lift up your soul to God at this point, for some of you will not be willing to accept the truths in these coming pages and yet here it is pictured for you in the Book of books, the Bible.

And what is the false prophet? This is the second time we have dealt with these beasts of Revelation and we should begin to see them more clearly, but only when the spirit of God makes them plain to our inner vision can we really see them clearly as we ought. May God help us to read prayerfully. This little book is true and God will not withhold its true meaning from the sincere heart.

As the Protestant faith grew, and multiplied and spread over the earth, she became also more worldly as we have before stated until her places of learning were beds of false teaching, atheism, and worldliness. By ballot at one time over 40 per cent of her ministers admitted that they did not believe Jesus was the Son of God. Yet the Scripture tells us that they who do not believe **this** are antichrist.

So then, 40 per cent of the ministers standing in the churches of today and ministering to the never-dying souls of men are antichrist by their own vote. Others do not believe in the resurrection of Christ. If Christ was not resurrected, we are not saved. Yet these men stand in the sacred places today.

What is the consequence of this? The divided church is corrupted and in the book of Revelation and the third chapter, verse 15 we read: "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold or hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

16. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

18. I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do no appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."

How do we know that God is really writing to the modern church of today? It is the exact condition that prevails in the churches of this modern age.

The enemy began fighting the church from without, then he began to work through false teachers to get closer and was able to accomplish more. But in this last attack he has his emissaries standing behind the sacred desk of every church group that will bear with these false prophets. God says in Revelation that the voice of the bride and the bridegroom will be heard no longer in these churches. But what does he mean?

The voice of the bride will be heard no longer in the church that has gone along with the modern trend of thought because God's true children will not be there and the voice of the bridegroom will not be heard because Christ cannot be present where the antichrist spirit prevails. He has left them to their own delusions.

But in this great divided multitude the spirit of anti-christ moves and will become stronger and stronger until honest men and women who are willing to see and acknowledge the truth will be able to see at last that they are captive in the great sectarian system that is filling the land.

The time will come, and it is already here, when no Christian can speak among others unless he has the mark of the other sect. That is, the same teaching or training or background.

True, again there is a tendency to merge together, but they must acknowledge certain similarities and teachings. Salvation will not be enough to make you one with



these bodies because their leaders require you to believe their way and accept their creed.

Those who read widely have been shocked by some things done in the name of the church but more and more people are being brought under the influence of these things and become captive to this great system. And the Bible plainly tells us that the third evil spirit came out of the mouth of the false prophet, the modern church of sectism.

She is the third evil spirit that will join the other two in eventual persecution of the true body of Christ, the church of the Living God. They are working hard to get together in good time. First, the merging of the Protestant churches, then the gradual merging with the Roman Catholic, who is making every preparation to receive her, then later the next step. It is coming as fast as things can be molded into the picture. These are the enemies of the church.

Every one of these foes is powerful. Let us take inventory. Note the millions in China and Russia and satellite powers. Alone they are a host to be reckoned with. Also, note the millions of earth captive to the teaching of Roman Catholicism and loyal to her interests, and then think of the riches and might in her midst and the ambition for world power as she once held in the Roman Empire and you can, perhaps, realize at least dimly, how formidable a host she is.

Now this is the one you will find hard to realize and accept. I can hear someone say, "Why, these people teach Christ—for this is the third beast of Revelation, this is the 'false prophet,' which has at last come to be an enemy of the true church, the bride of Christ. But how can she be the enemy when she also teaches Bible and she came out of the false Roman Catholic church because of false teaching!"

True. But since those days false ministers have crept in, the world has crept in, and a dead formality has set in and as before stated, these multitudes of souls are being led into man-planned organizations, at Eastertime particularly men and women are received as members who have never received the new birth, but simply signed a card, learned a catechism, made a decision, or presented a letter.

The Scripture says, she is full of "unclean birds," that is, of uncleansed hearts and unsaved souls. She does not know the real joy of salvation unless some special soul in her midst seeks deeper and receives the real experience of salvation and this often proves true. In all this confusion of belief the ministers of many of these congregations no longer believe in our Saviour as the Redeemer who really shed His blood for us and yet they teach men who do not know that an antichrist stands in the pulpit. He teaches social gospel. Beware, reader, if your own pastor is such an one.

What has this all to do with the true church? If you are alert, watch the grand procession of events. There is an almost universal movement to merge with other church groups. In their lovely places of worship and their (ritual and liturgies), ideas of men entirely, they look on in contempt at the smaller groups that have seen the danger to their own souls and have fled for their spiritual lives from it all.

Already we have the great World Council of Churches and these have proved to men of honest heart and mind to be no friend to the real cause of Christ, being a tool of the great sectarian groups. The wise have only to read what is going on among them to know they are not the true friend of Christ and cause.

It is therefore, to this great multitude that the call has come to honest hearts in her to flee out of their midst before it is too late.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### THE CHALLENGE

Bear with us, friend, if we repeat a little now and then, for it is for your sake that this has been written and, for your sake we repeat, that a deeper impression be left on your mind. We mentioned in chapter four that it was mainly in the time of the third party or foe that God is sending out a call or challenge. However, in all these ranks, wherever there is an honest soul God will give an opportunity.

The end of time is upon us; soon, oh so soon, the Son of God will be returning in power and great glory to claim His bride, the church, and take her home to heaven. She must be holy, for "without holiness [purity of heart] no man shall see the Lord." She must be separate from, and not love the things of this world—money, lands, pleasure, fame, and the things men sell in order to obtain them. Let me simplify this, they must not set their heart on these things to the extent that it robs them of their salvation.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

There are men and women in all the various religious groups and movements here on earth who have a hunger and thirst after righteousness. These are living godlier lives than the rest. A great test is coming on the believers who really love God wherever they are. As before stated, God is shaking the tree, and only the real solid foundation will hold on.

There will be tests and trials come and those who are in the great body, the church, will be tried as though by fire. The sad thing about all this is, that people will not know that they are being tried for a specific purpose. Remember Job? No angel whispered gently and warned him that all his loss and suffering was for the purpose of proving his love and loyalty to God. But Job went through with shining colors and his reward was great.

Now, the worldliness, the short coming, the deadness of worship shaped and conducted by man for man, will not satisfy the hungry heart of a true child of God and so the lack in the great fields of religion is becoming more and more evident. This is the will of God that those who honestly seek Him may find Him. As they feel the lack and discern the false form and man-made religious systems they are going to have to make a decision.

Plainly, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Revelation and others warn us to flee out of Babylon. Why can't we just stay in and help to restore her? Because she has gone too far and will not be restored. God says in His own Word that she will not be saved. She is to be sacrificed at the great sacrifice or supper of God. The spirit of antichrist is in her. In numberless pulpits today there stand men who are not even believers but they are not ready to declare themselves. They do not believe in Christ. They are antichrist.

Only the precious souls in Babylon will be saved that will grow sick of the starvation diet of their leaders and hunt new pastures. The call of this last dispensation is, "Come out of her, my people." Note, it is only God's own people that He is calling out. If you, reader, are satisfied with the 10 to 20 minute essays delivered in Babylon, you will in all probability receive no call. But if there is at times a longing for something more satisfying, and you are able to see the trend of the modern church, then be sure it is the gentle Holy Spirit of God trying to awaken you to your real danger before it is too late.

"My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the Lord." Jeremiah 51:45.

"And I heard another voice from heaven saying, come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. 5. For her sins have reached unto heaven and God hath remembered her iniquities." Revelation 14:4, 5.

But God will never pull you out of Babylon. Everyone in His great army is a volunteer. You must decide whether your eternal salvation is worth the sacrifice (?) and take the step. You are in the Valley of Decision if you have not

already decided. We are told that there are, "multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of Decision."

Read for yourself. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Revelation. And see the warning printed there for you. Remember that five of the virgins who were to go to the wedding and slept with the others while waiting, never entered but were shut out. And why? Because they had no oil in their lamps. They made no provision for the coming of the Bridegroom. They were in the company of the guests. They were considered to be one of them. They, too, expected fully to be present. They slept, but so, also, did the others with the consequence that they were shut out for not being prepared to meet Him.

You know you will have no oil if you stay in Babylon or if you stay in the great body of the Roman Catholic Church. You will not receive oil for your lamps there, neither in an apostate church that has fallen from her first estate and no longer preaches the truths she once believed. You are in the Valley of Decision. You will either decide to give up all and be clean of man's plans, creeds, and diet, or you will consider the effort too great, the sacrifice too costly, and stay in Babylon.

And remember "Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine, and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord who judgeth her." This is the fate of those who stay in and tarry in her midst.

But do not forget that Rahab was saved out of Jericho because she was wise enough to see the near destruction of that city and to turn and decide to cast her lot with the children of God.

## CHAPTER SIX

### WHERE IS THE BRIDE JESUS IS COMING FOR?

When the great persecution came on the Apostolic church, so great was the suffering, that the church as we have mentioned before was hidden from view. In these last days the great avalanche of modern teaching and the large church edifices stand in every city, and great programs are put on and everywhere for the most part, people are seeking the large and popular places.

If you or I would ask, "Do you know where there is a congregation that is today still hearing the same old-time gospel?" they would probably tell you that they doubted very much if any are today in this modern age preaching as they did in those days. They would inform you that times have changed and we must keep up with the times.

No, it will not be easy to find a congregation where old time full gospel truth is preached and yet the message of the last days must sound out from the few faithful souls.

They must blow the trumpet in Zion, (the church). "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast; let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare Thy people, O Lord, and give not Thine heritage to reproach." They must preach the message of deliverance from sin and from Babylon. They must warn the children of God who are scattered in Babylon.

"Therefore, saith the Lord God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away." "And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them and will bring them again to their folds . . . And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them; and they shall fear no more nor be dismayed neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord." Jer. 23:2, 3, 4.

Notice that the pastors in this prophecy have failed, and caused God's people to be driven away from their true experience and heritage in Christ. God says there will

be a gathering of those out in Babylon who know Him and He will bring them back safely into the true fold and there they shall be fed on full gospel and they will have no lack.

I seem to hear the earnest plea of many honest, sincere hearts. "But what can we do if we feel burdened and begin to feel the true spirit of this thing and really obey and flee this great captivity?"

There is one thing you can do and few will be willing to make the very real sacrifice to do it. That is, withdraw from the false religious setup of division and creeds, and worship in your own home and call upon the Lord mightily to lead you to His own true church as found in the Bible. Do not hesitate at His seeming delay but pray on and watch.

If you are sincere and patient He will lead you in time to His own church of God, not church of men. Do not be found in Babylon for it has been sentenced to utter destruction and all who remain in her will be visited with her plagues, and share in her damnation.

Jeremiah prophesied using Israel as a symbol of the children of God. Read Jer. 50:4-19 verses.

Also Ezekiel 34:1-16. (A prophecy against the minister or shepherds of the flock.) And Isaiah 13:1-15. Let us turn now to the book of Revelation 18:1-24.

These prophecies are real and true and we do well to take heed.

How shall we test our church to see if we are in the right one?

1. Is the message of your place of worship based entirely upon the Bible? Isa. 8:20. "If they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in them."

2. Do they fully recognize and rely on the Word of God? 2 Tim. 3:16: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

3. Is Christ recognized as the head of the church and the Redeemer? Romans 3:25. Do they clearly set forth the resurrection of Christ, and do they declare His imminent return?

Are you warned of the coming judgment? And the

reality of a hell? And in the preaching of the Word are you plainly taught that there must be a spiritual birth? "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Are you urged to study the Word of God? Is your pastor preaching a holy, separate life from the world, or, that you must sin more or less every day?

"He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8.

Do you call on the pastor or members to pray for you when trouble comes, or call on the pastor to pray the prayer of faith when sickness overtakes you?

Does your church pass the test? If it fails, remember, you are called to come out of her. "So then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12.

Is your church calling on men and women to take a stand for righteousness and renounce all division and creeds of men? When you find a flock where God is worshipped, Christ is lifted up, the Holy Ghost is the overseer and who sound out the message to mankind to flee out of any substitute church, you have found the true church.

Friend, you will do well to heed the warning sounded out in this book, for "The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light."

"Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision." Have you decided to take a stand for old time Bible truth? What will be your final decision? Will you remain in comfort as you are now or strive against the odds and come out of the great and world-wide sectarian system and be a child of God, a saint and an heir to a heavenly home?

Choose ye this day and we do pray God you may choose wisely, and choose for eternity.

We have sounded the trumpet, given the warning, and we have surely cleared ourselves before God, but now that you have the truth, what will you do with it? Which of the virgins will you be at judgment? Will you be among the wise or be left among the foolish who failed to enter in?

THE END









