

# The Banner

WORLD WIDE REFORMATION

"He That Winneth Souls Is Wise"



## THE BANNER

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## THE CLEANING OF THE LEPER

By A. C. Chatman.

(Continued from Last Issue.)

In the typical service, notwithstanding the fact that when the one to be cleansed from leprosy was sprinkled with the blood, he was pronounced clean, yet there was something more for him to do. On the eighth day after he was pronounced clean, he was to appear before the priest with two lambs, a meat offering, and a log of oil. The priest presented the man to be cleansed at the door of the tabernacle, and the log of oil before the Lord. He then slew the lamb, and took some of the blood and put it upon "the tip of the right ear" of him that was to be cleansed, "and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot," thus consecrating his ears to hear only those things that would tend to keep him clean, his hands to the service of God, and his feet to travel only in the way of the Lord's commandments.

Then the priest took the log of oil, and after sprinkling a portion of it before the Lord, he put some of it "upon the tip of the right ear" of him that was to be cleansed, also "upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot," and then anointed his head with the remainder of the oil.

This service was not an empty form, but a type of a blessed antitype which is fulfilled in every Christian who presents himself

for service before the Lord, after the Lord forgives his sins and pronounces him clean. Of Mary, Jesus said, "Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little." The leper cleansed from that loathsome, living death, felt so thankful to God for freedom and cleansing that he consecrated his life to the Lord for service. Not only is the oil an emblem of the Holy Spirit which prepares the Christian for service, touched to his ear, hand, and foot, but it is poured upon his head, thus betokening a full surrender of the entire being to the service of his Master, who has redeemed him. The books of heaven record the names of many who have fulfilled this beautiful antitype by surrendering their entire being to the service of their Redeemer.

The Levitical law provided for the cleansing of houses and garments infected with leprosy. If an owner of a house saw any signs of leprosy, he was to report the matter to the priest, who at once proceeded to examine the house. First the house was to be emptied, and if the priest saw "greenish or reddish" streaks upon the walls, the house was to be shut up for seven days. If at the end of that time the walls were still covered with mold, they were to be scraped and the stones taken out and the house thoroughly repaired. If the spots appeared again, this proved that the leprosy did not come from any leak or defect in the walls, but that the location was damp and unhealthful, and the house was to be torn down.

If the health laws of the land today were as watchful over the homes of the people as were the old Levitical laws, there would be less of that dread disease, tuberculosis.

The laws in regard to garments infected with leprosy were very rigid. If the plague of leprosy was so deep seated that it could not be removed by washing, then the garment was to be burned in the fire. There is a deeply spiritual lesson in this instruction. God has given very definite directions in regard to the dress of His followers. He never designed that His people should follow the foolish, fash-

ions of the world. There should be a marked difference between the dress of the Christian and that of the worldling. Individuals may argue that they have overcome pride, that when they wear fashionable apparel and dress like the worldling, it does not hurt them, for they have conquered pride. As well might a person who had just recovered from smallpox wear the garments infected by the disease. He reasons that as he has had the disease once and recovered, there is no danger in the garments; but he sows the germ of the disease wherever he goes. In like manner the Christian who fails to obey the Lord's instructions in regard to dress, misrepresents the Lord, and sows seeds of pride and vanity in the hearts of weaker members. It is better to follow the instructions given in the Levitical service, and even burn garments infected with pride and vanity, than to misrepresent our Lord and Master even in our dress.

May God bless us to the extent that we may see the real need of allowing the precious blood of Christ to be applied to our hearts and cleanse us from spiritual leprosy.

## THE BEAST FROM THE SEA AND THE BEAST FROM THE EARTH

(Continued from last issue)

In the more Southern colonies the same battles were fought. Finally in 1776, the Declaration of Independence published to the world the purpose of the new and growing states to cut loose from the tie which bound them to the mediaeval forms of government. The step appeared rash; but this was the thing necessary to bring unity and united effort among the people of America. With one common enemy, all internal strife was forgotten; but when the new nation was acknowledged free and independent, the problem of ages was just before it. Having thrown off the fetters of monarchy, and with no definite ideas as to the actual workings of an administration by the people, the ship of state was in the greatest danger of foundering on the rocks of anarchy; or, tired of the open sea, of again seeking shel-

ter in the harbor from which it had sailed. There were men who advocated return; but God had His angels in the meetings of statesmen, and His Spirit guided the minds of those who sought to follow the light of the Reformation.

The Federal Convention which convened in Philadelphia in the year 1787, was no common meeting; for the work done by the men who sat there, a wave set in motion which has influenced every nation of the earth. It was by the fifty-five representatives from the states which formed the nucleus of the nation today recognized as one of the leading powers of the world, that the American Constitution was framed. Of this document Gladstone says: "The American Constitution is the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain of man." The words of Declaration of Independence state the principles upon which the new government was founded. "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights . . . That to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." This was a deathblow to the papal hierarchy; it was the outgrowth of the principles advocated in the sixteenth century,—the result of restoring to their proper place the Two Witnesses, that for twelve hundred and sixty years prophesied, clothed in sackcloth. Thus the earth helped the woman by giving to her a home where the sunlight might shine unobstructed by the darkness which covered Europe during the twelve hundred and sixty years. The beast which came up out of the earth in the sight of the prophet, symbolizes the United States; and the two horns represent the two foundation principles of the government, Protestantism and republicanism. The seed of the Reformation, having been planted in congenial soil, soon grew into a mighty tree, sheltering the oppressed of all nations. Glorious as the sun rising was the establishment of the new government. It was a wonder to all the world; but when its freedom and stability once became



D. A. DUNN

## CORNELIUS, A DEVOUT MAN

By D. A. Dunn.

There was a certain man in Cesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band. A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always. He saw in a vision evidently, about the ninth hour of the day, an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, what is it Lord? And he said unto him, thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. Acts 10:1-4.

Here comes the thought of every man, that God is no respecter of persons. He is on His throne and sees good and evil, He knows our hearts whether it

known, America became the center of progress. All nations have been molded, more or less by the examples of this country. Her constitution has been the model for the reorganization of nations especially since 1840. The monarchs of Europe were forced to relax their hold upon their subjects, and America is the place toward which all eyes have been directed in these crises. Even the Orient has relaxed to the warming influence of the United States.

THE END

is for good or for evil. He has promised to send help to everyone that will call upon Him in Spirit and in truth.

The answer comes to this Gentile man: send men to Joppa and there you will find in the tanner's house one Simon Peter: call him, then listen to him, he will give you an outline of what you are to do. It was then that the obedient Gentile obeyed the messenger's orders and sent with haste to Joppa. There was the man Peter at the same time receiving his orders in a very peculiar way, and so it is that God moves in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. While three men were drawing nigh to Joppa, then Peter began to feel hungry, then he went up on the house top to pray about the sixth hour. He would have eaten: but while they made ready the daily food he fell into a trance, and saw heaven open, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth; this sheet representing the four corners of the world. In this sheet were all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

This, of course, was a great test to Peter, because the Jews, according to their custom, ate no unclean flesh. And Peter said, Not so, Lord: for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean. And the voice spoke unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

Now this was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven. This, of course, was very puzzling to Peter, for as he doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate, and called and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there. While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. Arise, therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting

nothing: for I have sent them.

Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius and said, behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come? And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man and one that feareth God, sent for thee to hear words of thee. Acts 10:6-22. Peter having a full knowledge of the Jewish tradition thought it best to take with him witnesses to the Gentile's house. How hard it is for a Jew to go into a Gentile's house. However, when Peter went down to Cesarea, Cornelius came to meet him and kneeling down to Pete, Peter said to him, don't do it, for I myself also am a man.

Then Peter inquired what is your request, tell me. And Cornelius said, four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold a man stood before me in bright clothing, and said, "Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God." Acts 10:30-33. Then Peter was convinced that this man was under the Holy Spirit. Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But that in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

This is an age when the world is going far from God's law; men have no honor of themselves, they have no word, they can not be depended on, they say one thing today and another tomorrow; because the honor of man's heart is to be seen by the world and if the least barrier comes in their way they are offended, they put down arms as if they are spiting anyone; but no, Jesus said, "Saul why art thou persecuting me?" Some men think that when they stop shouting, the work of God must go down, but here comes the great encouragement to those who will serve the Lord: "Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe

to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:6, 7.

Thank God we know that we can depend on our leader, for as he answered Cornelius a Gentile, He is the same God which answers prayers in all ages irrespective of person, nationalities, color, or creed. "Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage, be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:9. We remember very well the building of the walls of Jerusalem, the great hindrances that were in the way, but thank God there was a Nehemiah who would not leave off praying, and we thank God for the company of hard-working men and women who would not come down. And "I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down; why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?" Why, because they had gone too far to come down.

Shall we not press on this last hour of time, when every moment that passes by is telling us that Jesus is at the door?

Dear Saints of God, let us heed the prophet's warning: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Hear the beautiful words of the prophet Isaiah: "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear."

We are thanking God for His watchful care over all His children in all parts of the broad harvest field that will always depend on Him as their leader. The night is far spent, the day is at hand, what I say unto you, I say unto all, watch. Cornelius was not only watching, but he was waiting for his answer. We cannot tell how many years Cornelius was praying, but we found that his prayers were answered. And so there must be found some very earnest Corneliuses in these days in spite of nationality, color or creed. God has promised and He must fulfill.

Here is the promise of God. "The race is not to the swift, but for those that endureth to the end the same shall be saved."

Let us awake from our sleep. The coming King is at the door who once the cross for sinners bore, but now the righteous ones alone who comes together home.

May God bless you to this end.

## WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

### Ms. A. B. Brown.

While visiting the work in Brunswick, Ga., in company with Elder M. L. Ivory, our vice president, of Milwaukee, Wis., during the month of September, we were deeply impressed with the spiritual growth of the work and integrity of the brethren there.

I am glad to say that the church is on the upward march, and the brethren are strong in the faith, full of courage, working together for the upbuilding of the cause of Christ in the earth.

Bro. W. M. Trapp, the leader of the church, I must say, is a wonderful man. Not so easily moved from his first profession and the principles of the third angel's message. The testimony of both white and colored speaks well for him and the work he and his collaborators are doing in the city of Brunswick.

May God bless their continued efforts for good; we hope for them a bright harvest through their plans for the work. This church sends greetings to all and wishes to be remembered in your prayers.

When Israel stood in a dark day, for years frustrated by their own sins and lack of faith from possessing the promised land, Jehovah gave courage to their souls by assuring their leader, Joshua, of his own presence and power. "I will not fail thee nor forsake thee: Be strong," He said, "and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them . . . turn not to the right hand nor to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. . . . Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord

thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest." Subsequent experience tested the reliability of these promises and encourages us today to go forward, confidently trusting the Captain by our side.

But it is vastly easier to look back over history and realize God's leading than to look forward with faith to a similar leadership. It is easier to be despondent with Elijah under the juniper tree than to face the future with a wide vision of work yet to be done in encouraging and preparing leaders who will continue to carry on God's work.

Is it not remarkable that amid depression we have done as well as we have—that the General Assembly has been able to pay some of its indebtedness; that the Banner Publishing Association has been able to carry on without more seriously crippling its work; that other activities have not suffered more than they have? All these should cause us to be more grateful to God who has not left us nor forsaken us.

We must not be content with the near view. The right perspective by a long view will give us new hope and zeal to be true and loyal to Him who has promised. "And lo, I am with you always."

## GOALS

"Goal-setting" is the systematic means of accomplishing an end. Spasmodic, aimless efforts never amount to much; it is the set purpose that counts.

A story in an old reader impressed me with the importance of goal-setting: A mason contracted to build a stone wall, and estimated that it could be done in twenty days. His little boy worked with him, and before beginning the wall, the father asked his son if he thought they could build it in twenty days. The boy was quite positive that they could not.

Early in the morning they were to begin the wall, the father went to the place and set a stake marking off one-twentieth of the wall. When they began work the father asked the boy if he thought they could build

the wall as far as the stake that day. The boy's face lighted up at once. He felt sure they could. The next day another stake was placed to mark off another twentieth. Each day the goal was reached, and at the end of the twenty days the wall was completed.

Daily goal-setting makes a great tasks seem small. If a child were told he must learn three hundred and sixty-five verses in a year, he would be staggered at the thought; while if asked to learn only one verse each day, he would undertake it willingly. Though we may have an annual life, and eternal goals, it is necessary to have a daily goal.

In nature, the handiwork of God, the great worlds and system of worlds have their daily goal. The sun comes forth and "rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race," we are told. The harmony of the universe depends upon every planet's reaching a goal. There would be great confusion if they failed to reach their goals on time.

All great men have had goals. There have been no great achievements where there was no great purpose to achieve. A life without a goal is like a ship without a rudder.

The foster mother of Moses set for his goal the throne of Egypt, and Moses spent many years of his life in putting forth every effort to reach that goal. When he came to the place where that goal was just within his grasp, another goal presented itself to him. This goal had been set for him by his own Hebrew mother, and was even "the

recompense of the reward." Moses chose the better part—"to suffer affliction with the people of God," rather than "to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." Moses took up his cross and bore the trials and murmurings of the people whom he loved so well. Finally God led him up to Pisgah, and showed him his goal, the kingdom of Christ. Moses died, and was buried by God. But he was soon resurrected, and entered the heavenly Canaan thousands of years in advance of his brethren. What a wonderful example of goal-setting and goal-reaching is seen in the life of Moses!

Two goals are presented to everyone as they were to Moses. Perhaps you who read these lines are hesitating, almost persuaded to go in pursuit of the heavenly goal. Dear friend, be persuaded today to choose definitely the heavenly goal.

Our Sabbath school work proves the value of goals. Ten years ago someone suggested that we try having as a goal five cents a member. Those who had been giving a penny found it just as easy to give a nickel. Soon the goal was raised to ten cents a member, and to our surprise it was as easily reached. The next step was fifteen cents a week. The burden seemed to increase our strength. Now it is suggested that we raise our goal to thirty-five cents per week per member, and our thirteenth Sabbath goal one dollar per member. We hope that all of our Sabbath schools will adopt this plan and work in harmony with the plan, in the language of Scripture, "Lord . . . there is nothing too hard for thee."

Remember the great goal that was set for our redemption, the great gift for our salvation, the great sacrifice that Jesus made to bring us back to God our Father. Think on these things and give as the Lord prospereth you. And remember when we have given all, we have done nothing considering what we have received of the Lord. Let us not look at the obstacles and depression, but rather look at the great goodness and tender mercies of our God to us-ward.

A true prophet gets his knowledge from God at first hand.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

Due to the financial depression and lack of funds, we will be compelled to reduce the size of the Banner. We regret to resort to this, but the only way same can be averted is, if every member of the denomination does his part in selling a definite number of copies each month, and put forth energetic effort to take subscriptions and report for them regularly. If this is done, the financial deficit that is now looming over this part of the work will be ameliorated.

### FREE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS PROGRAM

#### Our Program Is:

1st—A deeper consecration to do service in the vineyard of the Lord.

2nd—To do our BIT in preaching the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ, in all the world, for a witness unto all nations.

3rd—As a race, maintain self-respect, and do as Our Lord has said, "Occupy until I come."

4th—To establish among Negro Seventh-Day Adventists, Negro Conferences with Negro officers—Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Bookkeepers.

5th—To establish schools for the training of our children and for workers in our organization.

6th—To establish a publishing house in which we may furnish employment to Negro Men, Women, Boys and Girls, as we strive to preach the truth of the Third Angel's Message through the printed page.

An invitation is extended to all "INTELLIGENT" Negro Seventh-Day Adventists, those, with a vision, with moral courage, with backbone, those who are strong in the knees, in short, just common self-respect, who have the love of God in the heart, to join with us and help to put this program over the TOP, for over the TOP it must GO.

"Of a truth, I perceive that God is no respecter of persons." Acts 10:34. Therefore, we are determined to, "Stand fast . . . in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us Free." Gal. 5:1.