

THE CONCLUDING WORK OF THE HARVEST

“And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire, and cried with a loud voice to him that had a sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle upon the earth and gathered the vine of the earth and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.”—Rev. 14:18, 19.

It is the new creation that is gathered into the garner of the Lord. It is the vine of the earth, composed of the tare systems of the earth, that must be gathered for destruction. Such were the words of the Master.

For nineteen centuries God has been preparing the new creation. That work is now reaching a climax. Jehovah is a strict economist. He wastes neither time nor effort. The length of time and the expenditure of treasure is evidence all-sufficient of the great importance of the work of completing the new creation. This work has consisted of the purchasing, calling, begetting and transformation of poor, sad, dying human beings into perfect, joyful, spirit beings of superlative beauty and glory, possessing life immortal and powers for usefulness without limitation.

Long ago, at great cost to himself—yea, at the cost of the dearest treasure to his own heart—Jehovah provided for the purchase of the entire human race. The purchase-price has been used for those who will compose the new creation, and they have been brought to a knowledge of that fact and joyfully accepted the benefits thereof.

PICTURES FORESHADOWING DEVELOPMENT

Long, long before the beginning of the actual development of the new creation, God caused many wonderful pictures to be made, foreshadowing the preparation for and the process of bringing to completion the great work in behalf of the new creation. To Abraham he made a promise concerning the same, designating that class as “the seed” from which shall go forth the blessings to all humankind. Abraham offered up his son in the mountain and received him as from the dead, picturing the death and resurrection of the antitypical Isaac, the Lord Jesus. (Hebrews 11:17-19) For many centuries God’s typical people offered yearly sacrifices foreshadowing the great sin-offering on behalf of the church and the world. David in his experiences typified the church at war, while Solomon pictured the new creation in glory.

The sin-offering on behalf of the church being finished, God issued a call for the election of the new creation. Mark, that this call began at Pentecost and not before; there the heavenly way was opened.

God designates this class as his elect, as distinguished from the non-elect. Selected from amongst men, favored with a knowledge of his great plan and furnished with the rules governing the election, the called ones have the assurance that if they conform themselves to these rules they will be elected judges and blessers of mankind, and thereafter forever be the recipients of Jehovah’s favor.

Again, Jehovah likens this class unto a glorious temple, of which Solomon’s Temple was a type or picture. The material for Solomon’s Temple was prepared in advance, and when the time came it was put together without noise or confusion. (1 Kings 6:7) So the new creation has been long in the course of preparation. Now it is being put in order and the glorious temple is being erected, without noise or confusion, and without the knowledge of the world.

Long centuries ago God caused to be erected in Egypt a mighty pillar of stone, composed of many stones, all dressed and nicely shaped and fitted to the one chief corner stone. The entire structure constituted a grand building in the form of a pyramid, picturing the new creation in the likeness of God.

St. Peter speaks of the new creation as living stones built up into a spiritual house. (1 Peter 2:4-9) The Lord’s Prophet refers to the same as the “jewel class,” constituting the precious jewels of Jehovah. He divides the new creation into twelve tribes or companies, and then selects twelve of the most precious or rare jewels of all material creation to picture the respective tribes. (Rev. 21:19, 20) Another of his prophets speaks of this class as a crown of glory in the hand of Jehovah, a royal diadem in the hand of God. (Isaiah 62:3) Again, this class is pictured as a royal priesthood, meaning that they shall both reign with Christ and minister blessings unto the world. They were pictured by Melchisedec, whose priesthood had neither predecessor nor successor, signifying that the new creation will be in a class distinctive and alone in Jehovah’s great realm.

Many centuries ago Jehovah made another picture by causing Abraham to send his servant into a distant country to select a wife for Isaac. When Rebecca was brought to

Isaac, she became his wife, thus foreshadowing how Jehovah sent his Spirit into the earth to select from amongst men the antitypical Rebecca as the bride for the antitypical Isaac. The Lord has made the relationship of husband and wife picture the relationship between Jesus and his bride.—Ephesians 5:25-32.

It is a recognized rule that the antitype is greater than the sum total of all the types. The marriage of Jesus and his bride, which soon will be completed, will therefore, as the antitype, be far greater than all the marriages of earth. Call to mind all the happiness and joy manifested at all the weddings of all the ages that have occurred on earth, and then know that the sum total of these marriages is nothing as compared to the unspeakable joy that will pervade the universe on the festal day when Jesus and his bride shall be made one.

WHO WILL SHARE IN THIS FAVOR

The elaborate program arranged by Jehovah, and the time and the treasure consumed in carrying it out, enable us to grasp in a measure the great importance of this work and the marvelous blessings that shall follow its completion. With his heart fired with a burning desire to attain unto the position offered, the Apostle said, “That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, and be made conformable to his death: if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. . . . This one thing I do, forgetting the things that are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before I press forward along the mark for the prize.” (Philippians 3:10-14) Those who attain to this exalted position will be they who love the Lord supremely, who keep his commandments with a joyful heart and with delight submit to his holy will. The special commandments to the new creation are, “That ye love one another, even as I have loved you”; “Thrust in the sickle and reap”; “Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life.” To the faithful he says, “He that reapeth receiveth wages.”—John 13:34, 35; Revelation 14:15; 2:10; John 4:36.

It follows that the harvest work is of the greatest importance. It may properly be divided into three parts: (1) the bride making herself ready for the marriage; (2) the bride class declaring the message of the kingdom to others, that they might be invited to the marriage feast; (3) the gathering of the grapes of “the vine of the earth.” It is difficult to see how the bride could make herself ready if she failed or refused to declare the message to others; and particularly is this true if the opportunity to do the work of the harvest is granted and she fails to avail herself of such opportunity. Those who reap receive the wages. It follows that those who fail to reap in the manner prescribed could not expect to receive the wage.

PERIOD OF THE HARVEST

It is important for us to know when the harvest began and when it will end. We feel sure it is pleasing to the Lord that we make an effort to know. The Jewish and Gospel ages parallel each other, both in time and in events. Our thought once was that the Jewish harvest began with the consecration of our Lord, in A. D. 30, and ended with the destruction of Jerusalem, in A. D. 70—a period of forty years. But, as pointed out by Brother Russell in *THE WATCH TOWER* last year (page 264), this view does not seem to be supported by the Scriptures. Jesus was not one who was harvested; for he was always in harmony with Jehovah. During the three and a half years of his ministry he recognized the law arrangement in force (Matt 23:1-3)—that three and a half years was the period of preparation, the gathering of the loyal Jews together, and especially of preparing the apostles as his instruments for the work of harvest that was to follow. The heavenly garner could not possibly be opened until Jesus had provided the ransom-price, and had ascended on high and presented it to the Father.—2 Tim. 1:10.

It was at Pentecost that the apostles received the holy Spirit. Then it was that St. Peter stood up and spoke with authority to the Jews, and told them how that Jesus was the great Redeemer whom they had wickedly slain, but whom God raised up. “Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their hearts and said unto Peter and to the rest of the Apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized, every one of you,

in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the holy Spirit. For the promise is unto you and to your children and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."—Acts 2:37-39.

Here, for the first time, the call went forth to enter the race for the prize of heavenly glory, and on that same day about three thousand responded to the call. Prior thereto there was no garner. Not even the Apostles could receive the holy Spirit until that day. This would seem to establish beyond question of doubt that the Jewish harvest began at Pentecost.

This conclusion in no wise interferes with our chronology, but instead confirms it. The year 1914 marked the end of the Gentile times, but did not mark the end of the harvest of the Gospel age. Many have consecrated and given evidence of spirit-begetting since 1914, which is the best evidence that the harvest is not yet closed.

END OF JEWISH HARVEST

Just before his crucifixion Jesus was asked by his disciples three questions in one, namely: (1) When shall the temple be destroyed? (2) What would be the proof of his presence and (3) of the end of the age? These questions he answered. (Matthew 24:3-35) The historical facts show: (1) the destruction of Jerusalem, A. D. 70; (2) the complete subjugation of Judea, A. D. 73, and (3) the depopulation of Palestine, A. D. 135. Thus it follows that there were three different endings relative to the Jewish polity. Which one of these did the Lord intend should be our guide in the harvest parallels?

Jesus declared, "The harvest is the end of the age." (Matthew 13:39) Therefore we must find that when the harvest ended, the age is ended. He could not have meant A. D. 70 and its parallel date, 1915, as marking the end of the harvest, because the harvest did not end there. It is still going on. He could not have meant A. D. 135 and the parallel date, 1980, for the reason that such a conclusion would entirely destroy the parallel with reference to the harvest.

In giving his answer with reference to the end of the age, Jesus said, "Let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains." Judea more particularly types Babylon. The date of the fall of Judea, therefore, is of great importance. In Volume 7, *STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES*, pages 23 and 24, we have collected seven historical authorities definitely establishing the fact that Judea's fall occurred on the first day of the Feast of the Passover (April 15) A. D. 73, which was exactly forty years after Pentecost, the beginning of the Jewish harvest, therefore marking the close of the Jewish harvest in A. D. 73.

GOSPEL AGE HARVEST

The proof heretofore published in *STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES* definitely establishes the second presence of our Lord since 1874. Correspondingly, the three and a half years following would be a period of preparation for the harvest of the Gospel age, exactly as such preparation was made for the harvest of the Jewish age, and would consequently mark the beginning of the harvest of the Gospel age in 1878.

Likewise, the proof heretofore published definitely establishes the resurrection of the sleeping saints in A. D. 1878. (See Rev. 14:13 comments in Vol. 7) St. Paul clearly establishes the fact that none could be gathered into the heavenly garner of the Lord in the harvest of the Gospel age until after the awakening of the saints, saying, "For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them which are asleep; for the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout and with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first."—1 Thessalonians 4:15, 16.

Immediately following the announcement in Rev. 14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth," we read (Verse 14) "and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud I saw one sitting like unto the Son of Man, having on his head a golden crown and in his hand a sharp sickle." Thus is described the second presence of our Lord as the great Chief Reaper, at the beginning of the harvest in 1878. The 15th verse of that same chapter refers to the Great Pyramid, the measurements of which confirm the Bible teaching that 1878 marked the beginning of the harvest of the Gospel age. The parallel, therefore, would establish definitely that the harvest would close forty years thereafter; to wit, in the spring of A. D. 1918. If this be true, and the evidence is very conclusive that it is true, then we have only a few months in which to labor before the great night settles down when no man can work.

Now we have come to another step in the pathway of present truth; and the question that confronts the people of God is, Are we ready for it? In 1875, when Brother Russell learned of the presence of our Lord, he immediately saw from Revelation 14:14, 16 that the work which the Lord would have his people to do is to reap the harvest of ripened wheat. (Matt. 13:39) The Lord has been pleased to remove Brother Russell from the earthly stage of action; and now the great Shepherd of the sheep has called our attention in unmistakable terms to the fact that he has a work for the church yet in the flesh, following the harvesting of the wheat, a work which is described in detail in Rev. 14:17, 19, as the harvesting of the vine of the earth. This work is doubtless the same as that described in Matt. 13:40, 43. It is a work of exposing to all the world the unrighteousness of the ecclesiastical systems, their acts and their unholy alliances with the beastly governments of the present evil order of things. It also seems to relate to the gathering out from amongst God's professed consecrated people of all offending ones.—Matthew 13:41.

THE LAST WORK OF THE CHURCH

If any of us have come to this hour expecting that the last work of the church in the flesh would be one of quiet, pleasing, easy triumph, void of severe and fiery trials, then surely we have misread our Bibles and *STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES* and the pages of history. Never before were there so many indications as now that the church is in the great enemy's territory undergoing final and crucial testing, with still more in front of her. She must continue her fight to the end, amidst graver perils than any she has encountered for a long time.

To accomplish the work now at hand the Lord will use such instruments as he has provided. He has placed an instrument within the reach of every one of the Elijah class who desires to have a part in setting the nominal heavens on fire. The instrument is the Seventh Volume of *SCRIPTURE STUDIES*, and other kindred truths which the Lord has been providing for the church. In Revelation 22:10 he tells us, "Make no secret of the predictions contained in this book; for the time for their fulfillment is now close at hand."

The church is now in a time of severe trial and testing. Many things are arising that have a tendency to cause doubt. The church needs comfort and encouragement. There is nothing that will give her so much encouragement and comfort as to engage intelligently and enthusiastically in the harvest work, with the instruments which the Lord has provided for that work at this time. Concerning the Seventh Volume, Brother Russell said: "It will probably be given to the church in a time of direst need, for her comfort and encouragement." Again he said, "It will be for the purpose of enabling the church to stand after first having been developed." He pointed out that the book would be an explanation of Revelation and Ezekiel. Can we ever look for another explanation of Revelation such as we now possess, with 743 extracts from Brother Russell's pen and thousands of Scripture references confirming the same? Brother Russell replied to a question concerning the Seventh Volume, "If the Lord shows me the key, I will write the Seventh Volume; if he shows the key to someone else, he can write it." Brother Russell himself is the key, and his modesty and humility prevented him from seeing it. He is the prominent figure foreshadowed both in Revelation and Ezekiel.

THE PENNY

Explaining the parable of the Penny (Matthew 20:1-16), Brother Russell set forth in *SCRIPTURE STUDIES*, Vol. III, page 223, that the penny is "Kingdom honors." In Psalm 149:5-9 we read, "Let the saints be joyful in glory; let them sing aloud upon their beds; let the high praises of God be in their mouths and a two-edged sword in their hand; to execute vengeance upon the heathen and punishment upon the people; to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron; to execute upon them the judgment written; this honor have all the saints." Commenting upon this Psalm, Brother Russell stated that the "honor" here referred to would be conferred upon the saints on this side of the veil; that the sword, likewise, would be used by the saints on this side the veil. It is a great and wonderful honor to have part in wielding the sword now (the message of truth) that is binding the kings, rulers, nobles and systems of this world. Everyone who joyfully receives and uses the "point" of the sword, to wit, the Seventh Volume (Ezek. 21:14, 15), thus receives "Kingdom Honors"—The Penny.

For many years we have been promised the Seventh Volume. All have looked for it, expecting the last coming into the truth would be classed equally with the first in receiving it.

The parable shows that some would murmur and complain. In harmony with this parable we see some murmuring and rejecting Volume Seven. Hence they are not satisfied with the penny—the honor that the Lord has offered them of having part in this wonderful closing work of the harvest. Such are not engaged now in the harvest, but are more particularly engaged in murmuring, in finding fault and in trying to hinder the work.

THE ANGEL WITH THE SICKLE

"And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire, and cried with a loud voice to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sickle and gather the cluster of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." (Rev. 14:17, 18) Clearly, the angel here mentioned is the WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY. The altar represents the place of sacrifice, and the SOCIETY is maintained by the sacrifices of saints. The Lord has used the SOCIETY since its organization, and is still using it. There would be no reason why he would change his channel, or chariot, or method of bearing the message to his people until the work is finished.

The sacrifice of the saints has wonderfully increased the work during the present year. The contributions for the year 1917 are already far in excess of the entire year 1916, and there are yet two months more of this year. The volunteer work for this year is much greater than in 1916. There has been a great increase in the pastoral work. It has been frequently remarked at the conventions this year that never has there been such a spirit of loving devotion to the Lord and his cause and to each other as is shown by the friends in general, with the firm determination to finish their course with joy by now grasping the sword and using the "point" of it—the Seventh Volume—to the glory and praise of the Master. Interest at public meetings is also wonderfully increasing.

"Which had power over fire," means the authority to publish and send out an explanation of the prophecies of Ezekiel and Revelation, which are destructive to the present erroneous systems by turning the flood of light upon them. This is exactly the work now being done by the SOCIETY. "And the angel [SOCIETY] thrust in his sickle [message of truth] into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God"—by distributing far and wide amongst order-loving people the good news that the Babylonish systems of error are doomed, and a better time is near at hand. Will you have a part in this good work? Are you doing your part, and receiving the blessing?

THE GREAT DRIVE BEGINNING

Many are signifying their keen interest in this work by entering the colporteur service. The demand for colporteur territory is every day increasing. Several new pilgrims are entering the service. The extension work is reviving; the pastoral work is increasing; volunteers are doing much more than heretofore; others are doing sharp-shooting; while still others are giving chart talks, and thus the army of the Lord, the little band of Gideon throughout the world, is now holding forth the light, proclaiming the message that the work may be finished in the Lord's appointed time, Babylon put to complete rout, and the Lord's little ones gathered home.

Many classes are adopting the following method for a quick accomplishment of colporteur of their respective districts, namely: the territory of a city or a county is assigned by the SOCIETY upon request, to a district committee, consisting of two or three energetic members (who may be regular colporteurs or otherwise) appointed by the class. This district committee deals exclusively with the home office in the way of ordering books, making reports, etc. This committee, whose assignment supercedes all others, will co-operate with any regular colporteurs who may be in the county, but the understanding being that the territory will be divided by the committee into small districts, and that every member in the local class who has the desire, time and ability will participate in the rapid colporteur of that territory, by taking a small district and working it quickly. Many of the classes are ordering books in large quantities for this work, the SOCIETY granting them special colporteur rates. Our thought is that the canvassing of the colporteurs should be done for the entire seven volumes, but the colporteur should specialize on the Seventh Volume. To this end we suggest the following as a method, or canvass:

"Good morning! I have here something that you will want, and I will take only a moment to call it to your attention. As we know, for more than three years the world has been involved in the greatest war of all times. The people everywhere are asking 'Why should we have such a war? What

will be the result?' Those who read the Bible have wondered if this is the great war therein foretold. For a long time order-loving people, Bible readers and Christians have desired to understand the prophecies of Revelation and Ezekiel.

"I have here a work recently published by the BIBLE SOCIETY of Brooklyn, New York, which is the first and only book that makes clear every part of Revelation and Ezekiel. It takes up these prophecies verse by verse, and explains them. It throws more light on the present war, the real causes, and what will be the result, than does anything yet written. It shows what part the Catholics, Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and other church denominations have played in the world's history, and what part they are yet to perform. It treats the subject from the political, scientific, historical and prophetic viewpoints. Of course you will want it. You can't afford to be without it. The publishers have placed it at such a low figure that it is now within the reach of every one.

[Pause a moment for them to ask price of book.]

"The price is only 60 cents, less than half the usual price of a book that size. While this book is complete within itself, yet it is the last in a series of seven volumes. When you have these volumes you have a complete library, making clear every difficult Bible and prophetic question which you have heretofore been unable to understand. The house also publishes twice each month a journal which keeps abreast with current events in the light of the Scriptures. No matter what church you belong to, you need these books, and particularly the Seventh Volume. The entire set together with the journal is only \$4.50. Shall I bring them to you?"

Do the colporteur work first, then let pastoral workers follow, loaning books to those who do not purchase.

The SOCIETY has been compelled to order another large edition of the Seventh Volume, that the demand may be supplied. The friends are greatly encouraged at the outlook; and those who love the Lord supremely are forgetting all differences and have in mind but one thought, as did St. Paul: "This one thing I do"—I am determined to win the prize.

NEW VOLUNTEER MATTER

The SOCIETY is preparing and will shortly issue another number of volunteer matter for this year. In 1916 we had only one main issue. This year we have already published two, and the distribution has far exceeded that of 1916. The third number is now being prepared and will contain strong, pointed, compact truths in line with the message set forth in the Seventh Volume, the leading article being entitled THE FALL OF BABYLON. We suggest that the friends order immediately the quantity they will be able to use. Specify B. S. M. No. 99.

"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, gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God." (Revelation 19:17) The angel standing in the sun clearly represents the the Elijah class yet on earth—those, we believe, who have joyfully accepted the Seventh Volume of SCRIPTURE STUDIES. Greater light has come to such and they are serene and happy in divine favor. Resplendent in the light that they have received in the closing hours of the age, these are eagerly spreading far and near to order-loving people the enlightening prophecies of Revelation and Ezekiel. They are not fearful; they are not complainers; they are not shrinking from duty, but are fearlessly and plainly declaring the message of truth, calling to the eagles (God's consecrated people) to come and join in the feast of the Lord. This might suggest that those who reject the Seventh Volume would not be of the Elijah class, but would be separated from the Elijah class by the fiery chariot.

Truly, we are living in a fearful and wonderful time, a time fraught with great danger, great responsibility and marvelous opportunities. Let each one who loves the Lord and his cause joyfully participate in using the instrument that shall reap "the vine of the earth." Seeing these things, let us look up and lift up our heads, for our deliverance draweth nigh. Your time, your love, your energy and strength, your means and your influence—your all—may now be used to the glory of the Lord and to your everlasting benefit and happiness. Will you thus employ your talents? Soon our journey will be ended, and we shall be gathered to our glory home. Let us be faithful!

"Come, all ye saints, to Pisgah's mountain.
Come view our home beyond the tide;
Millennial Canaan is before us;
Soon we'll sing on the other side."

THE TEMPLE REBUILT AND DEDICATED

[This article was a reprint of that entitled "Rebuilding the Temple," published in issue of October 15, 1905, which please see.]

EZRA'S RETURN FROM BABYLON

[This article, with the exception of the first paragraph (printed below) was reprinted from article entitled "Gathering and Winnowing," published in issue of November 1, 1905, which please see.]

The prophecies of Haggai were delivered to Israel about the time of their return from the Babylonian captivity, and therefore at the time of the founding of the Temple, the Prophet being advanced in years. Then the Prophet Zechariah, a younger man, was raised up by the Lord; and other messages were sent to the discouraged Israelites to show them that they must not expect great national prosperity at that time, but that nevertheless the Lord was with them, and that by

faithfully continuing in an apparently small, insignificant matter they would be accomplishing his purposes. In some degree this corresponds with the messages which have come to the Lord's people since the time of Wycliffe, and which have led to the Reformation movement in its various aspects, and incidentally to the preparation of the "living stones" of the glorious antitypical Temple.

SEVENTH VOLUME TRULY APPRECIATED

It would be impossible for us to print the thousands of letters being received expressive of the joy and assistance received through careful and prayerful reading of the Seventh Volume, *THE FINISHED MYSTERY*.

Surely the blessing of the Lord has rested upon this volume in no measured terms! Hundreds have stated that they have renewed their consecration to the Lord, and have appreciated his protecting care from the evil spirits more and more as they see more clearly how these evil ones are operating. However, we are glad to make a few quotations from some of the letters, all of which we are sure will be read with interest:

"We desire to tell you of the joy and comfort Volume Seven has brought to us. We appreciate it as the gift of the Lord and consider it invaluable. Bringing to us the Sinaitic version of Revelation alone would be worth the money, to say nothing of the labor of love in bringing together our Pastor's comments and the harmonizing of the other portions. I also deeply appreciate the comments on the book of Ezekiel. I consider that the whole book is wonderful. As I think over our Pastor's words that Volume Seven would be given to the church in her hour of direst need, my heart is comforted as respects the members of the little flock this side the veil, and I am amazed at the gracious provision of our heavenly Father on behalf of the great company class, to be reached through the same volume. What a glorious assistance it will be in helping them to come quickly to a knowledge of the truth, present truth!"—C. H. S., Pa.

"The more I study, looking up references to *SCRIPTURE STUDIES*, *TOWERS* and *Scriptures*, the more fully I am convinced that it is indeed the promised Seventh Volume or 'penny'—*THE* message now *DUE*. Words fail me to express the *JOY* and strength that fills my soul. The words of our Pastor have been culled from his writings of forty years, and brought together in one compact form, and supplemented by certain facts that he himself could not so well state as another. Surely it will be a *POWER* to accomplish the Lord's purpose at this momentous time! I pray that I may use this chariot to mount to the skies."—E. M., Mass.

"The most of us are rejoicing in the Seventh Volume. To my mind the volume came at the appointed time. I myself have been greatly oppressed of late with mental suggestions of a more or less lewd nature, and in talking to several of the friends I find this is true of both male and female. 'Know ye not that we shall judge angels?' No doubt, the *TEST IS NOW ON*; and our dear Lord has provided us, through that wise servant, the vow, for our help and protection at this time. It seems to me very plain how those fallen ones are being judged, and at the same time we as well. Let us *REMEMBER THE VOW*."—G. M. K., Va.

"I feel as though the 'penny' is hundreds, yea, more than hundreds, of times beyond what I deserve. It has given me so much encouragement and so much blessing. I am only fourteen years old, so that I do not mingle with the world at all, and my only friends are the dear truth people; and this makes me shy in giving tracts to strangers, but I am trying to overcome and hope to be counted worthy of being of the *Elijah* class in this momentous hour."—O. F. D., N. Y.

"Our hearts are overflowing with love and gratitude to our loving Heavenly Father and our present Bridegroom and Chief Reaper for the wonderful message received through Volume Seven. We are overwhelmed at the goodness of our God. Surely we are not worthy of his wonderful favors, to be among those who have hearing ears and seeing eyes!"—A Brother and Sister (the two oldest successful colporteurs in the field.)

"All of the class are interested in the Father's plan as it is now being revealed in this last hour, and they have read and are studying the Seventh Volume as having been sent

at just the time Pastor Russell said it would come—in a time of great distress prevailing in the church. All rejoice at the marked indications of the fulfilment of what we are to expect in the perilous times which the church must see before the glorification comes."—C. B., Ill.

"I can never tell you what joy was mine when the long-looked-for Seventh Volume was handed to me. It certainly has been my Gethsemane comforter, renewing my zeal and courage with the reading of each page. How I long to be one of the three hundred (class) of the antitypical Gideon's band! and I am determined *TO BE*, by the Lord's help. Each day since receiving the volume I have thanked my dear heavenly Father for so great a favor."—B. T. M., Minn.

"I am rejoicing in the Seventh Volume. It is a call to look to our armor, fasten it carefully, to sharpen (our knowledge of) the Sword of the Spirit, and to lose no time in preparing to meet the foe. Before I had opened the parcel I felt it was the last message from our Head before we started for home. It is also a message for the false church, but how few will heed it till we are gone!"—MARY T. F. H., Ohio.

"The enlightenment which I have received from Volume Seven, especially Rev. 7:1-3, has been a great help to me; for I have had corroborative experiences along this very line. It comes to me now as re-enforcement in the time of need, giving me new strength for battle against the unseen forces and a deeper love and sympathy for others. Praise the Lord."—H. C. H., Conn.

"How great and rich a blessing has come to me through the Seventh Volume words cannot tell, but daily from its pages flows deeply and richly the Spirit of the Lord. How evident it is that God's hand is guiding and helping Brother Rutherford! How evidently the Lord guided in regard to Volume Seven!"—J. A. M., Pilgrim.

"Am much pleased with the Seventh Volume and deeply impressed with the many facts pointing to the Passover of 1918. My continued prayer is that we all may be found faithful to our covenant of sacrifice and found possessed of the Spirit of the Master, as illustrated in the first martyr, Stephen—"Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."—G. F. E., Conn.

"I cannot tell you how much I am enjoying the Seventh Volume. Am in the 14th chapter of Revelation, and it is getting more intensely interesting every minute. I am so anxious to get through with it to find out what the Lord's will has in store for us on this side of the veil, both of sorrows and joys."—R. B. J., Mich.

"The wonderful Seventh Volume! We could hardly believe it was at last published. We are feasting on it, and are thankful we are accounted worthy to read it and understand it. We have been greatly encouraged by reading it and want to be of those who will use it to mount to the skies."—H. N., Ohio.

"Oh, what a blessing the Seventh Volume has been to the church! Such encouragement we find while reading it! It causes us to be more diligent, and not let an opportunity slip that would help some poor struggling soul. I cannot find words to near tell my sentiments of this precious book."—E. T., Mont.

"We are rejoicing in the Seventh Volume; and we accept it as from the blessed Lord in this hour of temptation, and how thankful we are that we have lived to receive the penny. What a wonderful time we are living in, and what a Savior!"—O. R., Okla.

"How rich we all are with the wealth of his truth, and now additionally with his latest gift, 'the penny!' My heart is full of gratitude to him, and I praise him for his keeping power and the deep peace which passeth understanding."—J. G. H., N. Y.