

# The Centre Reporter.

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## DR. FISCHER ON "THE BIBLE."

Former Ingal Pastor's Eloquent Discourse on the Sacred Book, Delivered on Recent Sabbath.

By REV. W. E. FISCHER, D. D. of Shamokin.

II Tim. 3:15—"The Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Jesus Christ."

The Bible is here; can't ignore or evade it. Bound to say of it just what we think and we must be able to give our reasons for our belief in it or our rejection of it.

I feel that it will be a service not without reason and consequent gratitude if I give you my personal reasons for fixing my faith to this old Book both for time and eternity.

In the first place it is entirely within reason to say that the Bible should be a natural consequence—we should expect it. Few people deny that there is a personal God and that we are children of God and of chance. It being generally conceded that God is then it must follow that if we are His children, then God should somehow make His purpose and will known to us as His children.

Now the Bible claims to be this authoritative Word of God. It claims to be inspired. And what is inspiration? The Bible distinctly says that "all Scripture is given of inspiration, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished into all good works."

It is nevertheless of supreme importance that we shall believe that Christ, as He once lived on the earth, was the perfect Son of God. And the very mistakes of Christians in their efforts to copy His life and character are evidences of His perfection. We are striving to get back to the original Christ; precisely as reverent students of the Scriptures seek, by both textual and historical criticism, to reach the "original autograph."

Then consider the completeness of this Book. The Bible is the only Book that touches and solves every one of the great problems that have to do with human destiny. You can not ask a question concerning God or immortality or salvation which it does not answer, and answer so clearly as to satisfy the simplest mind.

as the two perfect ethical symbols, Truth and righteousness, are here wholly considered and covered, and truth and righteousness are the two hemispheres of man. On these two things it speaks the final word. And so the Book closes, nothing is to be added or subtracted. Its challenge is "I am complete—match me if you can!"

It is a Book for this age. It is up-to-date. It is the oldest Book in the world. Job had been written 3000 years when Chaucer first opened the springs of "English undeluted." The Book of Ruth was 2,500 years old when America was discovered. But today men read their Bibles and find them fresh as the break of day.

It speaks with authority. Dealing with spiritual truths things that live beyond the reach of the physical sense, one might suppose that it would tread softly and with reserve and some uncertainty. But there are no "ifs" or "perhaps" or "peradventures" here.

Put an "if" in the Ten Commandments and the mortality of men and nations is gone. Put an "if" under the manger at Bethlehem and this old world is transformed into a valley of tears. Put an "if" under Calvary and we are of all men most miserable.

Its truth is faultless. We hear men talk about this Book as if it held errors. It would be strange indeed if the hundreds of current versions were wholly identical. There is no danger in acknowledging that copyists have made slips. But these slips are so insignificantly slight as not to affect in the slightest degree the integrity of the doctrine and ethical teaching.

It is to be emphasized that the slight discrepancies are such as to convince any candid mind that they were not in the original, but have crept into the text in the process of translation and transmission. This being true, they furnish of themselves a mighty argument for the absolute inerrancy of the original autograph.

If it is replied that no man living has ever seen that "original autograph," and that we are not practically concerned with it, we answer that the objection proves either too little or too much. For by the same reasoning, no living man has ever seen the Incarnate Word—the Son of God. He lived only 30 years in this world of ours and then vanished. The only knowledge that we have of Him, apart from the Scriptures, is through His followers; for every Christian, so to speak, is a current version of the Incarnate Word.

As a matter of fact, destructive critics have not been able to produce a single error or discrepancy which can not be most reasonably explained as either purely imaginary or unimportant. Of its ten thousand prophecies not one has miscarried yet. We need only read history to see how the course of divine judgment, pronounced in olden times, confirms their truth.

The history of the Bible is the only authentic history of the world. It is a deep river flowing backward in its course past the ruins of antiquity, past the confusion of tongues, past the deluge and creation, past the solitude of primeval ages, past the floating nebulae, and still beyond the ineffable glory where it finds its source beneath the heavenly throne, as it is written, "In the beginning, God."

And that history has come out of the ordeal of long centuries of criticism without a successful challenge. As archaeologists are unearthing confirmations every day, I recall the time when it was said, for example, that the battle of the four kings was purely fabulous. But a man with a spade has dug up a royal library in the Valley of the Euphrates, bearing date 640 B. C.,

(Continued on inside page.)

## WOODROW WILSON

Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States from March 4, 1913, to March 4, 1921, died at his 8 Street Washington home, Sunday 11:15 a. m., February 3.

An editorial in the Philadelphia Record, says in part: "His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Woodrow Wilson, faithful over a few things, ruler over many things, exponent by the Grace of God not only of the highest aspirations of American citizenship, but of the noblest ideals of humanity, has entered into the joy of his Lord. A prolonged life of devotion and self-sacrifice is ended. A prolonged martyrdom to duty is over.

The time is not yet at hand when Woodrow Wilson's services to his country and to his fellow-men may be justly and adequately appraised. We cannot gauge at this close range the profundity of his influence upon events still in the making, nor set up a mark and say thus far, and farther, he succeeded in advancing toward the attainment of his ideals.

Like all truly great leaders, he marched in advance of the following hosts. If they halted, who shall say but that it is merely for rest and recuperation? Millions want to press on to the pinnacle from which he beckoned them. It is too soon to say that the spiritual exaltation he inspired in his people in the days of his health and strength has evaporated.

Woodrow Wilson is dead. The monument he built lives on. Its foundations were roused on the everlasting rock of an imperishable ideal. Even now myriad hands are busily replacing those portions of the superstructure all but destroyed by the breath of hatred, malice and envy, and as sure as there is a God in heaven the righteousness and justice for which the martyred President labored will triumph in all the lands that border the seven seas.

We wish that Woodrow Wilson might have lived to witness the fruition of the seed he sowed. It was not to be. God's will be done! Inscrutable are the ways of Providence. Perhaps it was necessary to the Divine plan that Woodrow Wilson should die in order that justice might be done to his memory by those who, while he lived, betrayed the sacred trust of civilization to do him injury and drag him in the dust of humiliation.

We mourn one of whom it is not enough to say that he was the greatest American. He stood head and shoulders above the great men of the world. He was pre-eminent in his day and generation.

## Sumner Packer Advanced.

On the first of August Sumner K. Packer, son of Prof. and Mrs. L. O. Packer, of Centre Hall, finished his engineering work at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, and was immediately recommended by two of the professors at the University to the Berwyn White Coal Company, who gave him employment. Upon the death of the assistant chief field engineer of the Philadelphia Gas Company, young Packer was again recommended to this concern and on the first of the month was interviewed in their Pittsburgh office, which occupy an entire floor of the Chamber of Commerce building and a portion of another building, which resulted in his being appointed assistant chief engineer with a good salary.

## SAFER MOTORING.

Recently the Pennsylvania Motor Federation inaugurated a campaign looking to safety for pedestrians on highways.

The movement now has been endorsed by the state highway department and the co-operation of the department is expected to bring about even better results. Reports to the state highway department, just compiled, show that during November last of the fourteen persons killed as a result of automobile accidents on the state highways three were pedestrians.

Eight other pedestrians were struck and injured by automobiles while twelve more were struck by cars, but escaped serious injury.

It is believed that if the suggestion of the motor federation that all pedestrians on the highways face the traffic or walk on the left-hand side of the road would be uniformly followed there would be fewer serious accidents.

Accidents will happen, even to the most careful drivers, but the odds are in favor of the one who makes precaution his companion on all motor trips.

## Approved Plans for New School Building.

At a special meeting of the Centre Hall school board, held last Thursday afternoon, plans for the proposed new school building for Centre Hall were formally adopted.

The plans are the work of John T. Harnish, of Bellefonte, a man of large experience. Blue prints and specifications will soon be prepared and bids asked for on the construction work.

## Letter from South Dakota.

Durpee, South Dakota, Jan. 26, 1924

Dear Editor: It is time to make good with the newspaper man, which has been partly neglected, not because our work has kept us too busy but because we were too slow.

January 1, date has been a stiff one. We can go our Madison, So. Dak. friend and our ex-Loop Jordan man in Illinois one on the weather. We have a set of U. S. Government instruments and it has stayed around zero all month. The first eight days averaged 18-7-0 degrees below zero. Our altitude gives us a dryer atmosphere or we would freeze up. We have about nine inches of snow on the ground, but you will see wagons, sleds and autos traveling along on the same road at the same time.

Yours respectfully, W. T. SEARSON.

## Letter from New York State.

Horseheads, N. Y., Jan. 25, 1924.

Dear Editor: I am enclosing a money order for \$1.50 in payment of renewal of my subscription to the Reporter. It is an oversight on my part that this has not been done in advance. I never forget to look for my paper every Thursday evening; it is like receiving a letter from home.

We have had a very nice and mild winter here until the last three days; we are having zero weather; have had no snow thus far—scarcely two inches at all. Respectfully yours, R. P. BREON.

## Competitive Scholarships.

Twenty scholarships in Susquehanna University with an annual value of \$100.00 each, are open to young men graduating from accredited secondary schools and passing the college entrance requirements. They are not confined to any particular school, locality, subject of study, or religious denomination. The qualities which will be considered in making the selections are:

1. Qualities of manhood, force of character and leadership.
2. Literary and scholastic ability and attainments.
3. Physical vigor as shown by interest in outdoor sports and in other ways.

Students of this school desiring to be considered as candidates for these scholarships are requested to write before April 1st for application forms to L. D. Gressman, Chairman Scholarship Committee, Selingsgrove, Pa.

## ONCE AGAIN—DOLLAR DAY IN ALTOONA.

Booster Stores in Altoona will stage another Community Dollar Day next Wednesday the 13th and wise buyers in this district know what it means to them in savings on seasonal merchandise.

Of course YOU have been in Altoona for one of these events, therefore you will not miss this one. BUT—maybe your neighbor did not come. Therefore it's your duty to bring them along this time.

Extra clerks have been secured for this Dollar Day so that you will not have to wait for service.

We insist, however, upon calling attention to the "Official Dollar Day Store" card which appears in the windows of every member of the Altoona Booster Association. This card and this store and this association guarantee every purchase.

When you visit Altoona next Wednesday go to the Community Rest Room on Fifteenth street, in Christ Reformed Church, for relaxation. Mrs. Isenbarg, the matron in charge, will welcome you and give you necessary information about the city. Nothing for sale—just a place to rest.

Booster Dollar Days in Altoona have become an established custom as a trade event in this district and each one eclipses the last one in number of out-of-town visitors.

We expect you next Wednesday and aside from the money savings on merchandise you have good places to eat and good movies to see. Tell your neighbor—Booster Stores Dollar Day in Altoona—next Wednesday. adv.

The Governor's ear ailment that kept him confined to the executive mansion for several days, evidently did not come from "giving his ear" to the advice of friends.

## DEATHS.

WILLIAMS.—Mrs. Julia Williams, having attained the age of 86 years, 4 months and 19 days and outlived all of her brothers and sisters and her only son, died at the home of her niece, Mrs. D. Frank Smith, in Centre Hall, on Friday. Interment was made in the Branch cemetery, near Lemont, on Monday, after services were held at her late home by Rev. Bingham and at the Lemont Presbyterian church.

The deceased was a daughter of Daniel Markle and was born at Shigletown, above Boalsburg. Her husband, Nelson Williams, passed away thirty-eight years ago. Her only child, a son, James Williams, who was postmaster at State College, died about nine months ago.

It is possible her former pastor, Rev. Harnish, should conduct the funeral and hear the text, "My Lord is my Strength," and that the hymn, "That Beautiful Land," should be sung by a male quartette. Both requests were complied with.

KELLER.—Mrs. William H. Keller died at her home in Centre Hall Saturday afternoon, after an illness extending over a considerable length of time, due largely to her advanced age. Interment was made Tuesday afternoon in the local cemetery, the services having been conducted by the pastor of the Reformed church, Rev. D. R. Keener.

Mrs. Keller's maiden name was Miss Pasella Hugh and she was born in Berks county. Mr. and Mrs. Keller came to Penna Valley many years ago, living the greater part of the time in Centre Hall. The deceased's age was lacking twenty-one days of being seventy-nine years. There survive her, besides her husband, two daughters—Miss Tillie at home and Mrs. (Rev.) Ward K. Shultz, of Philadelphia.

LYON.—Jacob Lyon, a well known and highly esteemed resident of Bellefonte, who was formerly associated in the meat market business with the late William A. Lyon, on the stand now occupied by Mr. Shearer, died after an illness of several years caused by nervous exhaustion. The deceased was a native of Danville, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Moyer Lyon, and was aged about 69 years. The greater part of his life was spent in and around Bellefonte. For many years he made his home with his brother until the death of that person, and at the time of his death, he was living at the home of Mrs. Tillie Woods. While in Bellefonte he was a prominent member of the Elks lodge and as a tribute to the memory of this man, his body lay in state at the Elks' lodge. Surviving are three sisters and two brothers. A devoted nephew, Robert Lyon, of Buffalo, N. Y., came to Bellefonte and accompanied the body to Danville for burial in the family plot. Representing the Elks' lodge, DeLann Stewart and Jacob Marks accompanied the remains to Danville.

HAZEL.—George Wilson Hazel, a well known and highly respected citizen, died at his home in Madisonburg, after a long illness of complications of diseases. Born at Madisonburg, a son of the late Michael and Sarah Hazel, he was aged 77 years, 4 months and 8 days. On January 10, 1871, deceased was married to Miss Emma Shaffer, daughter of the late John and Fanny Shaffer. Besides the widow, these children survive: Irvin, of Lock Haven; and Annie M., at home; two brothers, Cornelius and Frank, at Bellefonte; and one sister, Mrs. Adam Courtin, of Waukegan, Ind. Funeral services were held at the home of the deceased at Madisonburg, Rev. J. M. Rearick, of Elk Lick, officiating. Interment in the Lutheran cemetery. Mr. Hazel was a member of Zion Lutheran church all his life.

STOVER.—Mrs. Mary Magdalen Stover died at her home in Altoona, death being caused by paralysis after an illness of seventeen days. She was born May 31, 1839, near Pine Grove Mills, a daughter of William H. and Catherine Hess Musser. She was united in marriage February 5, 1862, with Frank B. Stover, who, died in 1913. For a number of years the couple resided in Bellefonte, and in 1904 moved to Altoona. Surviving are two sons and two daughters: Samuel H. and Mrs. E. H. Stover, both of Altoona; Alvin H., of Norristown, and Lulu C., at home. Five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren also survive. She was a lifelong member of the Lutheran church. Funeral services were held at the home and interment in Rose Hill cemetery, Altoona.

## Redeeming Treasury Certificates.

If you hold Treasury Certificates of Series 'M' and Series 'TM,' consult your banker. These certificates are being redeemed. This class of government securities are not so widely distributed as the bonds but here may be some held by individuals who are readers of this paper.

Let us hope the ground hog does not know. The sun shone for a brief period on Saturday morning.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Miss Nancy McWilliams, assistant cashier in the First National Bank, at Centre Hall, was a guest over Sunday of relatives in Milton.

Wouldn't the farmer be happy if he got the same rate for his wheat that the baker gets for the flour he puts into a twelve cent loaf?

The State College Chapter of the American Red Cross, of which the Centre Hall Auxiliary is a part, has named C. W. Swartz as treasurer.

Harold Keller, a student at Franklin and Marshall College, returned to that institution on Monday after having visited at his home here for a week.

The White Rock Quarry Company officers for 1924 are: W. Fred Reynolds, president; A. Fauble, vice president; Ray Noll, treasurer; L. A. Schaeffer, secretary.

Miss Sara McGhee, of Lock Haven, is the new nurse for Mrs. Frank D. Lee, hopes for whose recovery have been abandoned. Mrs. Lee is growing weaker daily.

Mrs. Benjamin Confer, who lives in the mountains beyond Pottery Mills, suffered what appears to have been a paralytic stroke some time ago and since has been unable to get around in the house.

Franklin S. Heckman, son of A. P. Heckman, of State College, and a brother of Prof. W. O. Heckman, of Centre Hall, was the only Centre county student to graduate at Penn State at the mid-winter period.

The care taking of the state highway from the "watering trough" on Nittany Mountain to Bellefonte has been given over to William F. Flory, of Centre Hall, who has been working on the state highway for several years.

A stock sale will be held by Robert E. Meeker, tenant on the Fleisher farm near Red Mill. He will sell a nice lot of cows, young cattle and hogs, also several horses. He has been successful in growing stock and now has a surplus to dispose of.

Mrs. William Bitner, of Tusseyville, for the first time, visited her son, Samuel H. Bitner, in Centre Hall, on Thursday of last week. Mrs. Bitner is a much of an "at home" woman, which accounts for the delayed visit to Mr. and Mrs. Bitner and grandson.

Catching wild cats is being made a specialty by Clayton Sheesley, of Woodward, who already captured four cats this season, the last of the feline tribe weighing twenty-six pounds. Earl Motz, of the same place, also was successful in capturing a large cat.

The net increase of 83,500 telephones in Pennsylvania during 1923 will make the new holders of Bell Telephone stock feel more secure than ever. Coming near home, it is learned that in Williamsport alone almost one thousand Bell telephones were added during the year just closed.

The State College Motor Company, salesmen for the Ford and Lincoln cars, is represented in this district by Rufus D. Rearick, son of W. O. Rearick, of Milroy. Mr. Rearick is located in State College and covers the territory in Penna Valley east of Boalsburg, also Brush Valley.

Harvey Vonada, of Georges Valley, was a caller last week and while here cheered the Reporter force not only with the annual one-fifty, but with a flow of wit and display of good humor. Another caller was William F. Petherolf, from east of Centre Hall, who is an uncompromising farmer.

Rev. John Adam Bright, of Topeka, Kansas, who has been spending the past several weeks with his sister, Miss Alice Bright, at Aaronsburg, called on Millheim friends. Although well advanced in years, Rev. Bright is quite active, having visited in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston since coming east several months ago.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Shook, of Coburn, held a reception in honor of the home-coming of their only daughter, Edna, and her husband, Bruce Stover, of Elburn, Ill. This is their first visit east in nine years. They left for their western home, Saturday. The affair was attended by J. W. Whiteman, Florence Lingle and Master Robert Confer, of Centre Hall.

Mrs. Alfred Catherman, of Millmont, accompanied her father, John A. Slack, who is at present making his home with her, to Centre Hall on Saturday, and from here they went by auto to Bellefonte where they visited Mrs. Slack who is a patient in the hospital there. In the afternoon they returned home. Mr. Slack reported his wife as getting along very well.