

"SOUND AN ALARM,"

**Or Zion's Present Conflict with Spiritualism,
Papalism, and other Powers of Darkness.**

BY THE EDITOR.

It is other special consequence that we consider the teachings of the Spirit of God, in the "more sure word of prophecy; and whereunto do we well that we take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn and the daystar arise in our hearts." 2 Peter 1:19. We shall, for the present, examine principally the New Testament prophecy bearing upon the subject. Let us observe, first

THAT THE LORD JESUS HAS FORETOLD,
AND PREPARED HIS FOLLOWERS FOR THIS
CONFLICT WITH THE POWERS OF HELL
AND DARKNESS.

His own entrance upon his earthly ministry began with that conflict, and although we have not any record of the details of that great struggle for the empire of the human race, yet we have the closing scenes, in which we see that by His use of "the sword of the spirit"—"it is written"—He gives the great tempter himself, after a forty day's battle, the final blows which put him to flight. Matthew 4:1-11. His whole course of ministry is beautifully summed up Peter (Acts 10:38): "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost, and with power; who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with Him." He traced physical as well as spiritual diseases to this cause; and, when healing a woman who could "in no wise lift up herself," and "was bowed together," He recognized in her "a spirit of infirmity"; and, when blamed for casting out this devil on the Sabbath day, He justified Himself by saying, "Ought not this woman, whom Satan hath bound, lo! these eighteen

years, be loosed from her infirmity on the Sabbath day?" Luke 13: 10-17. He constantly "cast out devils," and He was accompanied in His journeyings through Palestine (see Luke 8:1-3) by "the twelve, and certain women which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary that was called Magdalene, from whom seven devils had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others who ministered unto Him of their substance." It is also recorded that "He called the twelve together, and gave them power over all devils" (Luke 9:1); that the "Seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us in Thy name;" and He said, "I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions [symbolical words for devils] and over all the power of the enemy. (Luke 10: 17-22); that His last earthly conflict, like His first, was with the devil, when, just before His crucifixion and death, He said, "The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me" (John 14:30); and the apostle John, long after, sums up the whole object of Christ's manifestation to be "that He might destroy the works of the devil." (I John 3:8), thus showing Him to be the Fulfiller of all Old Testament prophecies, the first of which was given when God said to that old serpent, the devil, in Paradise, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed [between devils and sons of God]; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel." Now, this work has been begun by Christ, is going on by His Spirit, and will be finished when, in due time, "He hath put all things under His feet." So that the Church of Christ may assuredly rest upon the prophecy of God's word: "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly." Romans 16:20. We observe, second that

CHRIST GAVE "POWER OVER ALL DEVILS" TO HIS PEOPLE BY THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT; THAT THIS POWER WAS EXERCISED THROUGHOUT THE APOSTOLIC AGE; AND THAT THE CONFLICT WITH THE SPIRITS OF HELL AND DARKNESS WAS SET FORTH AS THE GREAT WARFARE OF THE

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

That promise of Christ was that they were to “receive power when the Holy Ghost is come upon you” (Acts 1:8), and this “power,” which came at Pentecost, remains now, according to the promise of our Lord, who said, “He shall be with you forever.” John 14:16. The manifestations of this power were shown in the gifts of convincing speech conferred upon believers (Acts 2) which resulted in the immediate conversion of three thousand souls (verse 41). In gifts of healing added thereto, one remarkable case, that of the man lame from birth who sat at the “Beautiful” gate of the temple, resulting in the immediate conversion of five thousand men (Acts 4:4). In gifts of prevailing prayer (Acts 4:24-31) — for, “when they had prayed, the place was shaken wherein they were gathered, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.” In gifts of discerning evil spirits, as in the cases of Ananias and Sapphira, when Peter said, “Ananias, why hath Satan filled thy heart to lie to the Holy Ghost?” Acts 5:3. And lastly, in signs of power to cast out and to control devils, as when Peter healed “everyone who was vexed with unclean spirits. (Acts 5:16) or was when, through the preaching of Philip, in the city of Samaria, many were cast out, “for from many of these which had unclean spirits, they came out, crying with a loud voice” (Acts 8:4-8) or as when Paul conquered that “child of the devil, Elymas, the sorcerer, at Cypress, who was struck with blindness, and silenced (Acts 13: 6-12); or as when at Philippi, the same apostle, being “sore troubled” with “a spirit of divination” which possessed a certain maid there, “turned and said to the spirit, I charge thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her, and it came out that very hour” (Acts 16:16-18); or as at Ephesus, where “the evil spirits went out (Acts 19:12),” at which place, also, when “certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, “We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth,” the “spirits” would not own these hypocrites, and so one “evil spirit answered, and said, “Jesus I know, and

Paul I now, but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was, leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house, naked and wounded.” (Acts 19: 15, 16.) A warning to all sham Christians!

And these illustrations of the fact that this “power over all devils” was directly exercised throughout the apostolic age by believers in the Lord Jesus, “in the power of the Spirit, “are also supported by the inspired exhortations to its continued exercise, and by reminders that it is with these, “devils” that the Christian’s warfare lies— in every condition, and in every age.

Paul warns the Church at Corinth against those who would “corrupt their minds from the simplicity and purity that is toward Christ,” and who act as “the serpent” who beguiled Eve in his craftiness. 2 Corinthians 11:3 And, in the same chapter (verses 13, 15), he declares that “such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.” This transformation, he says, is a proof of their being under diabolical control, for he argues that they are the “ministers” of Satan, who “himself is transformed into an angel of light,” This warning is similar to that of our Lord (Matthew 24:24), where He says, “For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders, insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.” And, in addition to these Satan-inspired deceivers, Paul reminds the Corinthian Christian that they must not look upon idols as if they represented nothing, but that the idolaters around them were really “sacrificing to devils” were holding “fellowship with devils,” and were drinking, in their heathen feasts, “the cup of devils” and sitting at “the table of devils” I Corinthians 10:16-22.

Here let us, in passing, note that it is within our own knowledge that the principle of diabolical communion and sacrifice is at the present moment fully established amongst Modern Spiritualists, at what are known as “materialization seances,” to which silly men and women bring bouquets of flowers, and other things of more importance, for the “spirits of devils” with whom they meet. But to

continue.

Paul warns “younger women” in his epistle to Timothy (I Timothy 5:14,15) of their danger in giving “occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully; for some are already turned aside after Satan.” Peter likewise warns, “All of you” to “be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary, the devil as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour, whom resist steadfast in the faith.” I Peter 5:8,9. James speaks of “the devils, also, who believe and tremble” (James 2:19); and declares that an evil tongue is a fire; a world of iniquity,” which is “set on fire of hell”— thus tracing all speech that defiles and hurts the good, to its origin in the “spirits of devils.” John writes to “young men” who are “strong,” and in whom “the word of God abideth,” rejoicing that they “have overcome the wicked one.” I John 2: 14. He also says, “He that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.” I John 5:18. He speaks of those who are “children of the devil” (I John 3: 10); and warns the “children of God” against lying “spirits,” and “false prophets” who deny that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh;” telling them that “this is the spirit of antichrist, whereof, ye have heard that it should come, and even now already is in the world” I John 4:1-3.

Again we observe, in passing, this is the sin which makes Unitarianism an open door, and broad highway, into Spiritualism, for the denial of Jesus as the Christ, God’s anointed and eternal Son, is a common article of faith with both. As James puts it, in a passage already alluded to, the Unitarians who say they believe in one God, are in agreement with the Spiritualists, who believe in many devils: “Thou believest there is one God; thou doest well, the devils also believe and tremble.” Fatal and false is the acknowledgment of God which rejects faith in the divinity of His Son!

That the warfare of the Christian is to be against the powers of hell, is most surely made clear by these teachings of the Spirit of God.

Paul said, when addressing Agrippa, that it was for that purpose Jesus had sent him forth, giving his commission in these words: “I send thee to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light,

and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified, by faith that is in me,” Acts 26:14-18. And truly he could say, “I was not disobedient;” for he went forth, from Jerusalem to Athens and from Athens to Rome, he fought in many cities and lands, for thirty years, amidst countless devils, with “the Prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience,” Ephesians 2:2. His courage never failed; and although, at the time he wrote these words, he was an “ambassador in bonds,” awaiting a martyr’s death and crown, in prison at Rome, yet he demanded prayer for “utterance,” that he might “speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” Ephesians 6:19,20. And, although he said, “No man stood by me,” when he stood before the heathen tyrant who “sacrificed to devils,” yet he could say, “the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, . . . and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion,” the devil who would have fain made his heart to fear by his demoniac roaring. And it is with the divinely-inspired words of that glorious hero, who shortly after “finished his course,” and received his “crown of righteousness,” that we close this section of our argument. They are the words of the Spirit of God to the Church in this, as in that day: “Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly [the upper air] places. Ephesians 6:11,12.

These solemn words must close the proofs in support of our second observation: and we submit that its truth is fully proved from these inspired Scriptures, to whose authority every true Christian owes allegiance.

WE NOW OBSERVE THIRD THAT THE SCRIPTURES DECLARE THAT THIS CONFLICT WITH EVIL SPIRITS IS TO INCREASE IN INTENSITY UNTIL THE LATTER TIMES, WHEN THESE “SPIRITS” WILL PUT FORTH MIGHTIER AND SUBTLER

POWERS, AND MAKE A DETERMINED EFFORT TO POSSESS THEMSELVES OF THE WHOLE WORLD, AND OF EVERY SOUL THEREIN.

The prophecies in the New Testament afford, clearly and definitely, conclusive proof of this observation. I quote but three of these, as being sufficient:—

The first is in I Timothy 4:1,2: “But the Spirit saith expressly, that in the latter times some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, through the hypocrisy of men that speak lies, branded in their own conscience as with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe, and know the truth.’ This prophecy is fulfilled in Spiritualism in its main features.

Abundant proof of this is to be found in the writings and in the practices of leading Spiritualists. Prominent among these A. J. Davis has distinguished himself by his “specially spiritualistic” attacks upon the sacred institution of marriage, which lies at the foundation of all national virtue, happiness and progress.

In his “Genesis and Ethics of Conjugal Love,” at page 46, he says: “The true plan of correcting the evils in social life is, first, to provide by law for the legitimacy of all children, and for their support and education from public or private funds; second, to restrict marriage and parentage, as far as possible, to competent persons; and third, to let those who make mistakes, in spite of caution and the law, get out as easily and voluntarily as they got into the trouble.” Here, he, is distinctly taught a diabolical doctrine, which would destroy the foundation of all morality. If divorce is to be thus easy, the land will be full of vice, family life will be impossible, parental and political obligations will be set at naught, and the utmost confusion and danger must follow. The evil results would defy description and exaggeration.

In proof of the real nature of this attack, we no refer to another work of A. J. Davis, entitled, “The Great Harmonia,” Vol IV, “The Reformer,” where,

from pages 397 to 425, he is pleased to treat of what he calls, “The Rights and Wrongs of Divorce.”

A more grossly wicked and immoral chapter was never penned.

He begins with an attack upon the Lord Jesus, and laudation of the Pharisees; and he declares that “the history of divorce is coeval with the history of marriage;” and suggests that “the first idea of divorce occurred in Paradise” He quotes with approval from many enemies of marriage. For instance, at page 409, he says: “In regard to marriage and divorce, he [Mr. Andrews] speaks out like a lover of truth, not intuitionally, but intellectually. He opposes the perpetual or exclusive marriage. He objects to civil marriages, because they make personal property of women, restricting her self-sovereignty, and ultimating in compound selfishness and imperfect offspring. He says, “The man and woman who do love, can live together in purity without any mummery at all.” Now what this means is clear enough, namely the abolition of marriage in any form, and all the consequent horrors of such a state. On page 410 he quotes approvingly from another, who writes: “A love may be genuine and true for the time, and not for all time. The woman who filled my ideal twenty years ago, may have no attraction for me now. There is no evident reason why the law of variety, which extends to the studies, pursuits, pleasures, tastes, and passions, should fail when it comes to the question of variety in love: What does this “peculiarly Spiritualistic” teaching mean, if it does not mean approval of general immorality and base desertion of wives, especially when advanced in years? Again, he quotes at page 413, approvingly from Dr. Nichols, who says, “If by marriage is meant an indissoluble monogamy (or union with one), a legal exclusive bond of a civilized institution, I deny that it ever is, or ever can be, right. I assert that the promise of a man to love any woman as long as he lives is wrong. I denounce, therefore, the civilized marriage as a violation of the laws of nature, and the commands of God.” Where the “seducing spirits” are now leading men, in “forbidding to marry, “as God’s word prophesied they would (I Timothy 4:1-3), is now, we hope, become clear; and, if more proof is

needed that it is an abyss of unbridled lust and social chaos, we find it in abundant in the writings and practices of many leading Spiritualists. Such proof may be found at pages 418, 433 of the volume from which we have just quoted, and at pages 65, 66, 100, and 101, of A.J. Davis' book on "Conjugal Love," and in many other "Spiritualistic" works.

But one of the crowing proofs is to be found in the history and person of Andrew Jackson Davis himself, as recorded in the "Magic Staff; or Autobiography of A.J. Davis." He gives without shame, the story of his two marriages, which shows that he induced both women to get divorces from their husbands in order to marry him, and that, both in law, and in fact, he was living in a state of adultery in 1876, when the edition of the book in my possession was published. The proof of this may be seen at page 550, where a decree of the Supreme Court, Erie County, New York, is quoted. That decree grants a divorce to Mr. S.G. Love, on the ground "that the defendant (his wife) is now, and has been for some time, *living in open adultery with the said A.J. Davis*, and that the said defendant, Mary F. Love, now calls herself Mary F. Davis; and it shall be lawful for the said plaintiff to marry again, as if the defendant was actually dead; but *it shall not be lawful for the said defendant, Mary F. Love, to marry again until the said plaintiff is actually dead.*" This decree was obtained in 1856. Hence, in 1876, *A.J. Davis has been living, from 1855, in a state of adultery for more than twenty years*, for Mr. S.G. Love was then living, and may be still. In 1854 Mary F. Love, had, on her own application got, in a scandalous way, after an understanding with Davis a divorce in the state of Indiana; but it was of no avail either to herself or Mr. S.G. Love, who, about two years after, sued for, and obtained the Supreme Court decree which have quoted. The whole story, even upon A.J. Davis' own version of it, is a scandalously bad and immoral transaction, and the story of his first marriage is not a whit better or cleaner— in some respects it is worse.

We give these facts as specially Spiritualistic illustrations of the effects upon leading Spiritualists of the immoral doctrines of Spiritualism; and we

have been most careful to assert nothing except that which Spiritualistic works of easy reference in this city, can verify. If we were to state facts within our personal knowledge, we could add most heart-rending illustrations of the misery and ruin which these horrible and detestable doctrines have wrought in breaking up once happy homes, and destroying the precious lives of many persons, after ruining them body, soul and spirit.

Papalism and Spiritualism join hands, and have their common origins in "forbidding to marry" for the former forbids marriage to the nuns and priests, and the latter forbids it altogether. All this diabolical anti-marriage philosophy of Spiritualism may be summed up in the word of Dr. A.B. Child, one of its most advanced teachers. He says—

"'Virtue' and 'vice,' a 'lie' and the 'truth,' are taught by the 'spirits' to be of equal value—to be, in fact, not words conveying opposite ideas, but words conveying identical ideas as in the following expressions: "WHAT IS CALLED EVIL GOOD, A LIE IS A TRUTH INTRINSICALLY; VICE AND VIRTUE, TOO, ARE BEAUTIFUL IN THE EYES OF THE SOUL; VIRTUE IS GOOD AND SIN IS GOOD,"— *Whatever Is, Is Right, pages 18-27. etc.*

The next passage to which we refer is in 2 Thessaloonians 2:3-12, where, after saying that ere" the day of the Lord' comes there must be a falling away first, and the man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, he that opposeth and exhalteth himself against all that is called God, or that is worshiped, so that he sitteth in the temple of God, setting himself forth as God," this has surely been fulfilled in the triumphs of the "seducing spirits," who have long ruled the apostate Church of Rome, and who, on July 18, 1870, promulgated the diabolical doctrine, of the Popes infallibility. By that doctrine, as defined in the Constitution "*Pastor Æternus*, chapters three and four, that infallibility is defined as making the Pope the "one supreme pastor" with "the entire and supreme power of jurisdiction," and "the absolute fullness of this supreme power; and that, therefore, the definition of the Roman pontiff are unalterable."

Here is the "man of sin" revealed! He has approval of Mgr. Berteaud saying, "The Father and

the Pope may have and probably have, secrets between them in which Christ does not participate, and thus it is practically safer to go to the Pope than to Christ, for, when the Pope speaks it is more than Christ speaking, it is God the father himself.” He has allowed Cardinal Manning to say that he, the Pope, may rightly say: “I claim to be the supreme judge and director to the consciences of men; I am the sole, last supreme judge of what is right and wrong. “He has allowed a newspaper, published under his own direction, in Rome, *The Civiltà Cattolica*, to say: “When the Pope reflects, It is God who thinks in him.” Hence he is seen to be, as prophesied, “sitting in the temple of God, setting himself forth as God.”

But, associate with him in these latter days (see verse 8 and 9) there is to be revealed “the lawless one, whom the Lord Jesus shall slay with the breath of his mouth, and bring to naught by the manifestation of his coming; even he whose coming is according to the working of Satan, with all power, and signs, and lying wonders, and with all deceits of unrighteousness for them that are perishing.” I suggest that this describes Spiritualism accurately, whilst it also covers Socialism and other forms of political oppression, which desire to bring about a state of *Anarchy* similar to that of the French Revolution, when to be a Christian was to be a criminal in the eyes of the *Lawless One*, whose doom, for instance, was the *guillotine*. These scenes would be repeated instantly did *Infidel socialism* obtain its longed for supremacy in the governments of the world. Who shall say it will not?

We would further draw attention to another prophecy, which seems to bear out this interpretation.

We allude to the passage in the book of Revelation, 16: 13-16. It is part of that which happens after the “sixth vial” is poured out upon the river Euphrates, which dries up; and which symbol is generally held to apply to our days and the rapid drying up of the Turkish Empire in the East, which is going on daily. Then the inspired vision of “things to come” continues, “And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet,

three unclean spirits, as it were frogs; for they are spirits of devils, working signs; which go forth unto the kings of the whole world, to gather them together unto the war of the great day of God The Almighty.

As the dragon represents the direct power of Satan, it is probably here that, amongst other forms of Satanic delusion in these days, Spiritualism is foretold, with all its “spirits of devils.” The beast is generally supposed to represent the Romish Church, and other forms of ecclesiastical corruption; and we have already shown that at this very time there is a revival of diabolical pride and imposture. The false prophet who comes last, doubtless refers to Mohammedanism; and the prospects of a revival of Moslem fanaticism throughout the East are said to be many— some of them, as in Egypt, are already apparent. Hence, it seems to us that Spiritualism, as one powerful form of this prophesied going forth of “the spirit of devils” was to be expected about this time— and here it certainly is, a most dangerous ally to all the other existing delusions imposed upon men by “seducing spirits.”

But, even if our application of these prophecies be incorrect in some particular, we submit humbly that our third observation is one the less proved, and that a most desperate conflict is lying before the Church with “the spirits of devils” The utmost courage, vigilance, wisdom, faith and power are needed at this crises, and to her Lord the Church must turn her eyes and prayers, for only by the breath of his mouth, and the manifestation of his coming, can these demon hosts be overcome and brought to nothing”

What, then, shall be done? “When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him. Isaiah 59:19. In whose hands shall this standard be placed? “Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?” Song of Solomon 6:10. ‘Tis the church of Christ, and she alone can lift up the royal standard, and carry it on to victory. May ever soldier of her army in all lands “put on the whole armor of God, and withstand “the spiritual hosts of wickedness,” who are now flooding the nations with every vice, and destroying

every virtue.

Lord Jesus, come!
Against this earth by sin oppressed
By demons from beneath possessed—
Some dark and foul, as hell and night,
And some transformed, like sons of light.
Usurp Thy throne within the heart.,
And bid men choose the evil part.

Lord Jesus, Come!
Lord Jesus come!

Thine answer sweet our spirits hear,
It soothes our grief, we cannot fear;
It came to him on Patmos Isle,
Who loved and lived on earth awhile;
It comes to us— “I quickly come”
Yes, “Even so, Lord Jesus Come!
Lord Jesus come.

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