The PLAIN TRUTH
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Who is the Beast of Revelation?

The most important question of the hour is: "What, or who, is the Beast, the IMAGE of the Beast, and the MARK of the Beast?"

Whatever this weird "Beast"—whatever the baffling "IMAGE"—whatever the mysterious "MARK"—it behooves you and me to find out!

For it is those of this very present generation who shall be worshiping this "Beast" or his "Image," or shall have received his "Mark", that will suffer the unspeakable tortures of the Seven Last Plagues!

Ignorance will not excuse: "If people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," says the Lord, in Hosea 4:16. And the illustration of Ezekiel's watchman shows that those who are ignorant, because they are not warned, will suffer just the same. (Ezek. 3:17; and 5:18) God expects HIS PEOPLE to be His "watchmen" and to warn the people, and unless we do, He will require their blood at our hand!

"The time is at hand! The plagues of God's Wrath will soon be poured out, unblended and undiluted—FULL STRENGTH—upon a heedless, God-defying world, and a careless, lukewarm, indifferent Christianity!

Who Shall Suffer the Plagues?

Listen! John the Revelator describes the last, final, warning messages:

"If any man worship the Beast and his IMAGE, and receive his MARK in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the cup of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture." (Rev. 14:9-10.)

Lebanon again: John carried forward in vision into the terrible "Day of the Lord," seen those plagues beginning to fall:

"And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven last plagues, and went out..." And the first went, and poured out his vial on the earth: and there fell..." (Rev. 15:1-8.)

"Every sign tells us those things will happen: plunging the world into the most frightful, foreboding state of anguish ever known, "THUS A MATTER OF MONTHS!

These who suffer the indescribable WRATH of Almighty God and described as those who worship the BEAST, or his IMAGE, or have his MARK.

It is futile to try to imagine, as so many are doing, what the "Mark of the Beast" may be. Too many are trying to fix this all up in their own imaginations. But God says "My thoughts are not your thoughts." We cannot work this out in our minds; we are far to face with a stern reality, not an imaginary fairy-tale! There is ONLY
ONE WAY to learn the Truth is to study carefully, cautious, prayerfully, with an open mind, yielding to, and guided by, the Holy Spirit, the testimony of all the scriptures that bear on this question. We cannot determine what the "mask" of the Beast may be, until we have learned what, or who, the Beast is.

The Bible Description of the Beast

The "Beast," the "image of the Beast," and the "mark of the Beast" are all described primarily in the 18th chapter of Revelation.

Notice carefully this Bible description:

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having SEVEN HEADS and TEN HORNS, and upon his head the name of blasphemy.

"And the beast which I saw was like unto a LION, and his feet were as the feet of a BEAR, and his mouth as the mouth of a LION; and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority."

Now most of those who are teaching and preaching to others on these subjects overlook entirely this description. For this description will IDENTIFY the Beast.

If the "Beast" is some mysterious super-man, or Antichrist, soon to appear as world dictator, he will be a peculiar looking individual, for he will have SEVEN HEADS, and TEN HORNS. Have you ever seen a man with seven heads, and ten horns growing out of one of his heads? And did you ever see a man who was like a LION, and can you imagine a super-man coming who will have the feet of a BEAR, and the mouth of a LION? And will he appear by coming up from the sea?

Now these, of course, are ALL symbols. The very word "symbols" is a symbol. Our problem is to INTERPRET the symbols, for they stand for real, literal things. And when we know what the heads and the horns are, what the feet of the bear, the mouth of the lion, and likeness to a leopard all MEAN, then we can know what, or who, the "BEAST" really is.

The Bible Interprets Its Own Symbols

The point we want to stress is that the Bible INTERPRETS ITS OWN SYMBOLS. If we want the TRUTH, we must be guided solely by the BIBLE interpretation, not man's interpretations and imitations.

To illustrate: In Rev. 1:12 seven golden candlesticks are pictured. And in verse 16 is pictured a man having in his right hand seven stars. Of course the candlesticks and the stars are symbols. That are they? We need not use our human imaginations, for verses 20 tells us in plain language: "The seven stars ARE the angels of the seven churches; and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest ARE the seven churches."

Again, in Ezek. 17 is a riddle, using symbols. In verse 2 we read: "A great eagle with great wings, long-winged, full of teeth, which had divers colors, came unto Lebanon, and took the highest branch of the cedar."

But what IS this "eagle"? What is Lebanon? What is the "branch"? The 18th verse gives the BIBLE interpretation, the many preservers and writers have given their own interpretations. "Now what do these things mean? Tell them, Behold, the King of Lebanon is come to Jerusalem, and hath taken the Mine thereof." Now Plain.

What are the Symbols Represent?

So while we know that the words "beast," and "heads" and "horns" and "leopard" and the "bear" and the "lion" are only used as symbols, yet they represent things that are very REAL. And the Bible ITSELF tells us what they represent.

In the 7th chapter of Daniel, we find exactly these same symbols described. Here again are the "beasts", with the "seven" and the "ten horns," and here also is the "lion, the "bear," and the "leopard." And here the Bible tells us what those symbols represent.

"Now notice verse 15, latter part. Here comes the INTERPRETATION OF THE THINGS! The question is, will we accept this BIBLE interpretation of the seven heads, the ten horns, the lion, the bear, and the leopard?

"These great beasts, which are four, ARE FOUR KINGS which shall arise out of the earth." Is the interpretation of verse 17. And the word "KINGS" is synonymous with KINGDOM, and used only in the sense that the king represents the kingdom over which he rules, for in verses 22 we read: "The fourth shall be the fourth KINGDOM upon the earth." Notice also the word "KINGDOM" is used to explain the beasts in verses 10, 22, 24, and 27.

"And what do the "HORNS" represent? Notice verse 24: "And the ten horns out of this KINGDOM are ten kings that shall arise. Notice the ten horns, or ten succeeding kingdoms or governments, come OUT OF A KINGDOM, not out of a man, or a super-man. This alone makes plain that the "BEAST" is not some mysterious personal super-man not to come. Also that the Beast is not the Roman Catholic church, for no ten kingdoms ever did, or will, come OUT OF that church. And since King in those prophesies only stands for the KINGDOM to present, and since the word is used interchangeably, it follows that those ten horns are ten succeeding KINGDOMS growing OUT OF the NORTHERN KINGDOM which was to rule the earth, from the time of Daniel!"
Identification of the Kingdoms

These same four world-ruling Gentile kingdoms are described in the second chapter of Daniel. King Nebuchadnezzar of the Chaldean Empire, who had taken the Jews captive, had a dream, the meaning of which God revealed to Daniel.

The dream is described in verses 31-35. The king saw a great image. Its head was of gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of brass, its legs of iron, and its feet and toes part iron and part clay. Finally, a stone, not in men's hands (but supernaturally), smote the image upon its feet and toes. It was broken in pieces, and was blown away like chaff. Then the stone that smashed it became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

"This," Daniel says, beginning verse 35, "is the dream; and we will tell the INTERPRETATION thereof to the king."

... Thou art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another KINGDOM inferior to thee, and another third KINGDOM of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the FOURTH KINGDOM shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron brealeth in pieces and subdueth all things; and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise..." (v. 38-40).

The interpretation of the STONE smashing the image at its toes is found in the 44th verse: "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." The Stone is Christ and His KINGDOM. The interpretation of the STONE is given in another place in the Bible, "Jesus of Nazareth...is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the HEAD of the corner." (Acts 4:10-11).

And so we see that there are four universal world-ruling Gentile kingdoms. They begin with the Chaldean Empire, at the beginning of the "Times of the Gentiles," when the Jews were taken captive to Babylon, 604-585 B.C. They continue thru four great universal kingdoms, and out of the fourth grows ten succeeding governments. These carry to the time of the Second Coming of Christ, and the setting up of the KINGDOM OF GOD to fill the whole earth and last forever.

The Fourth Beast

Plainly, here are described the SAME four universal world-ruling Gentile powers that are described by Daniel's four beasts. And this dream image identifies WHO they are. The first was Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom, the Chaldean Empire, called "Babylon" after the name of its capital city, 625-539 B.C.

The second kingdom, which followed, then, we know from history was the Persian Empire (558-339 B.C., often called Medo-Persia), composed of Medes and Persians. All ancient history students know the third world kingdom was Greece, or Macedon-ia under Alexander the Great, who conquered the great Persian Empire 333-330 B.C. But Alexander lived only a short year after his swift conquest, and his vast new empire was divided among his four generals: Macedonia and Greece; Thrace and Western Asia; Syria and territory east to the Indus; and Egypt. So there were the "four heads" of the third beast of Daniel 7.

And the FOURTH KINGDOM, which, developing from Rome, spread out and gradually absorbed one after another of these four divisions, ---"dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly," was the ROMAN EMPIRE (31 B.C.-A.D. 476). It had absorbed all the others, occupied all their territory, was greater and stronger that all. It included all the royal splendor of ancient Babylon, thus having the head---the strongest part---of the "lion." It had all the massiveness and numerically-powerful army of the Persian Empire---symbolized by the LEGS, the most powerful part, of the BEAR. It was the greatest war-making machine the world had ever seen, and it also possessed the swiftness, the cunning, the cruelty of Alexander's army, symbolized by the LION.

And thus, this fourth beast was unlike any wild beast of the earth. It was greater, stronger, more terrible, than any. And so John, in Rev. 13, sees, not four beasts, but ONE beast. Not a leopard, but LIKE a leopard---possessing all its cunning, cruelty, and speed. But it also possessed the dominant characteristics of the two other most powerful beasts---the FEET of a bear, and the MOUTH of a lion. Daniel's fourth Beast, the Roman Empire, had absorbed, and therefore it included, the three beasts before it. Thus it included all seven HEADS. And John's beast also has SEVEN HEADS. It was Daniel's fourth beast, ONLY, which had TEN HORNs, and John's beast has TEN HORNs.

And so, if we are willing to be guided solely by the BIBLE description of this "beast," and to let the BIBLE interpret the symbols used to describe it, we come to the inevitable conclusion that the BEAST OF Rev. 13 is the ROMAN EMPIRE, of 31 B.C. to A.D. 476. Of course many man-imagined THEORIES widely taught and published, interpret this BEAST otherwise---some as the Roman Catholic Church, some as a mysterious, individual, super-man yet to come. But these theories will not stand the test of applying the BIBLE interpretation to all the symbols that describe this beast.

Nebuchadnezzar's image, by the two legs describes the TWO DIVISIONS of the Roman Empire, after A.D. 330; West, with capital at Rome, and East, with capital at Constantinople.

John also pictures this BEAST, not as a church, or as an individual, but as a powerful GOVERNMENT having a great ARMY. For they worshipped the Beast "by saying; 'WHO IS ABLE TO MAKE WAR WITH HIM?'"(Rev. 13: 4).

The Toes and the Horns

Let us now notice the symbolism of the toes of the image (Dan. 2), and the horns of the Fourth Beast of Daniel 7 and of the Beast of Revelation 13.
### A Chart, Showing Prophecies of Times of the Gentiles' Reign

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<td>In 1814, just 1260 years after &quot;deadly wound was healed,&quot; the HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE was dissolved. &quot;So closed a rev't. that dated from Augustus Caesar&quot; (Matt p.377).</td>
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In conclusion, this chart illustrates the prophetic timeline of the Gentiles' reign as foretold in the Book of Daniel and Revelation. Each beast and head represents a historical empire, fulfilling the prophecy of the Gentiles' world domination. The final event aligns with the apocalyptic narrative of the New Testament, underscoring the prophetic nature of the Bible's messages.
The ten horns and the ten kings both symbolize the same thing—the ten stages of government continuing out of the Roman Empire after its fall, 476 A.D. "The ten horns out of this kingdom" (the fourth Empire, side by side, down to the present—and since there have been NINE successive kingdoms ruling that territory from 476 to the present, with the tenth one now being formed by Mussolini—therefore we know that the kingdoms represented by the toes and the horns are SUCCESSIVE, not contemporaneous.

The Deadly Wound

Now let us return to our description of the "beast" in Revelation 13.

"And I saw one of his heads as it were WOUNDED TO DEATH; and his deadly wound was HEALED; and all the world wondered after the beast." And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to CONTINUE FORTY AND TWO MONTHS." (Rev. 13:12-14).

The Beast has symbolized the one which included the royal splendor and kingly power symbolized by the MOUTH of the lion (Babylon); the ponderous strength symbolized by the FEET of the BEAR (Medo-Persia), the speed, cunning, and cruelty of the LION (Greece). And since the INTERPRETATION of these symbols is found in Daniel 7, and since the fourth beast alone included all these characteristics, and since the fourth beast alone included all SEVEN of the heads, and had the TEN HORNs, the Bible interpretation of the Beast of Revelation 13 is the FOURTH BEAST of Daniel 7, --the Roman Empire, of 31 B.C. to 476 A.D. The Beast described never did. History is full of accounts of the worship of the Roman emperors, for paganism was a STATE RELIGION. The following is from Robinson's "Medieval and Modern Times," a college text book, page 7, chapter 1:

"The worship of the emperor: In a word, the Roman government was not only wonderfully organized... everyone was required to join in the worship of the emperor because he stood for the majesty and glory of the dominion... all were obliged, as good citizens, to join in the official sacrifices to the head of the state, as if he were a god."

But, when the seventh head of this great beast received its DEADLY WOUND in 476 A.D., was that the end? No, the prophecy says "HIS DEADLY WOUND WAS HEALED... AND POWER WAS GIVEN UNTO HIM TO CONTINUE FORTY AND TWO MONTHS." The TEN HORNs rep-
resent ten successive kingdoms OUT OF this
territory. But they were driven out
the Roman territory filled the period
outside foreign
This text does not say the whole BEAST
died—but one of his HEADS was wounded
to death. The BEAST included the seven
heads and the ten horns. John sees the
BEAST living in the days of its seventh
head, the Roman Empire. And when that
HEAD of the beast had its deadly wound,
KIS—the BEAST's—deadly wound was
healed. This head was dead. But the BEAST
continued. The horns now reign, one by one.
In 476 the Empire was over-run by
barbarians, under Odaccor. His government,
set up at Rome, called the HERULI, was the
first horn. But it did not heal the
deadly wound, for this was a government
in Rome, but not a Roman government,
but one of foreign barbarians.
Then followed the Vandals, of Northern
Europe, who over-run Rome in 455 and
ruled it for a brief space. Then was the
kingdom of the Ostrogoths, 493–564, an
other outside foreign people who rule in
the territory. But they were driven out
of Italy and disappeared.
These three kingdoms, sweeping into
the Roman territory, filled the period
known in history as the "transition age." (See
Myers Ancient History, page 571.)
That is, a TRANSITION between the wound
and the healing.
Now Daniel saw a "little horn" coming
up AMONG these ten, before whom these
first three were "plucked up by the roots.
This "little horn" is identified as the
Roman Catholic church, or the papacy, and
it was at the behest of the pope that all
three of these were "plucked up by the
roots." That leaves 7 horns to come. And
of the little horn, Daniel 7 says."his
look was more stout than his fellows." The
papacy dominated completely all the
"horns" to follow.

The Deadly Wound HEALED!
It was the fourth kingdom (horn, or
toe), succeeding the fall of the Empire in
476, which IN fact HEALED the deadly wound,
and restored the EMPIRE. In 554 A.D., Justinian,
emperor of the East, from Constantinople,
moved to Rome and brought about
what is known in history as the "IMPERIAL
RESTORATION" of the Empire.
Now notice verse 8, of Revelation 13.
Power was given to this "Beast", once
healed, to "CONTINUE FORTY AND TWO MONTHS.
In the prophecies pertaining to the times
of Israel's punishment, each day represents
a year in actual fulfilment (Ezek. 4:4–8;
Num. 14:34). Thus, the "healed" beast is
to continue 1260 YEARS!!
Following the healing, in 554, came the
French kingdom (French), the "Holy
Roman Empire" (German), the Hapsburg dy-
asty (Austrian), and Napoleon's kingdom
(French). But, when Napoleon met his "Wat-
erloo" in 1814, the healed beast continued
no longer. "SO CLOSED," says West's
Modern History, page 577, "A GOVERNMENT
THAT DATED FROM AUGUSTUS CAESAR." (From 31
B.C.). It went into the abyss!
And from 554 to 1814, the duration
of the "healed beast", was EXACTLY 1260
YEARS!!
At that time, sight of the "horns"
having appeared and gone, the "Beast"
itsel went into the non-existant condi-
tion symbolized in Rev. 17:8 as the "bot-
ttomless pit." But in the year 1870, Gar-
ibaldi united the many little divisions in
the peninsula of Italy into one nation,
and the kingdom thus established (the 9th
horn), continues today. King Emanuel is
its titular head, tho he is a "rubber
stamp" with Mussolini in actual power and
control.
The "Heads" the "Woman" rode
We shall deal later more specifically
with the 17th chapter of Revelation in this
connection. Then we shall prove beyond
doubt that the "harlot woman," BASTION THE
GREAT, is the Roman Catholic church. But
let us note in passing that the "woman,"
the Catholic church, with the papacy, never
"rode" on any part of this Beast excepting
its last seven "horns!" She is the "little
horn" of Daniel 7, whose "look was more
stout than his fellows," and who caused
the first three to be plucked up by the
roots. Justinian was the first ruler who
ever acknowledged the supremacy of the
pope, and bowed to his dictates! And since
in the 17th chapter, the "woman" rode on
all seven of the heads of the "beast" there
pictures, and since she rode none of the
"heads," but only the last seven of the
"horns" of the 15th chapter "beast," it
follows that the seven "horns" of the
"healed beast" of the 15th chapter FORM
the seven HEADS of the Beast of the 17th
chapter.
Notice, at the present time, five are
fallen, one is, and one is yet to come (Rev.
17:10). The five that are fallen are the
5 during the 1260 years in which power
WAS GIVEN, by the Papacy, for the "healed
beast" to CONTINUE. The one that is, is
the present kingdom from Garibaldi to the
present. Yet it is not in any sense the
old Roman Empire, so during the stage of
this 9th horn or 6th head (Rev. 17) John
speaks of it as the Beast that was, and is
not, and yet IS, and shall arise once again
OUT OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT.
The 10th "horn," symbolized by the
7th head with its ten horns in the 17th
chapter, yet to come, will be, as the 17th
chapter explains, the revival of the BEAST,
the Roman Empire, "out of the bottomless gift
by a "united States of Europe," or federa-
tion of ten European nations within the
bounds of the old Roman Empire. (Rev. 17:
12–18). This, Mussolini is bringing about
today! Five of these nations already are in
his control!
When Jesus comes, in the near future,
the Roman armies (the BEAST) will be mar-
shalled before Jerusalem for the BATTLE OF
ARMAGEDDON. (Rev. 16:16; 19:19). Those
who have the MARK of the "BEAST" will suffer
the horrible terrors of the seven last
PLAGUES! NOW WHAT IS THE IMAGE? WHAT IS
THE MARK? These things will be revealed
beginning with the September-number!
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EDITORIAL

Frequently people come to us freely acknowledging they are not saved. They believe there is a God. They fully understand their lost condition. But they say quite frankly they feel helpless, unconverted, unable to do anything about it. They say they are sorry about it. And one reason is because YOU who claim to be Christians are indifferent and unconcerned!

The answer is found in Isaiah 59:16. Looking down the stream of time in this prophecy, God sees into our day and the condition of lukewarm Christianity. "And he saw there was no man, and wondered that there was NO INTERCESSOR." Yes, there are intercessors praying for God to give them sinners by His Spirit! And now CAN he come to the Son except the Father, thru His Spirit, draw him! God works thru human agencies. In James 5:16 we are commanded to PRAY one for another. And in I Sam. 12:23 the prophet says to sinners: "God forbid that I should SIN against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you." Jesus said to ASK for the Holy Spirit, assuring us God is more willing to give His Holy Spirit, WHEN ASKED, then we are to give bread to our hungry children. (Luke 11:9,13.)

Is it not because YOU are not ASKING—because you are ceasing to pray for lost sinners—that they are so indifferent, so utterly helpless and unable to do anything about their lost condition, even tho the realization?

This class forms a vast portion of the unsaved. They have no conception of the enormity of sin. They are not under conviction. They feel no real sorrow, no pang of remorse, no sense of true repentance at all. No desire to turn from it. They are wedded to the ways and pleasures of the world, and helpless to turn from it. They realize they are out of contact with God, yet they are helpless to do anything about it.

The minister is just as helpless when he tries to talk to such a person. No minister can talk, persuade, or preach anyone into a real BORN-AGAIN experience. Conversion is a miracle—the receiving of a new life—the very nature and life of God. It is mortal flesh receiving God’s Spirit.

True, the Scriptures point the way, and with them the minister can point the way. Yet none can come EXCEPT THE SPIRIT OF THE FATHER DRAW HIM. And so unless YOU are back of our evangelistic efforts with real, earnest, intercessory prayer—unless YOU can come to have some real compassion for these lost, helpless, dying souls, and will pray earnestly until God convicts them of sin, all evangelistic effort is in vain.

In other words, the vast majority of unconverted sinners are indifferent today because YOU are so indifferent about their plight! The wages of sin is DEATH. If you should see a helpless woman about to fall off a high precipice, and plunge to certain destruction below, would you sit by indifferent and unconcerned, or would you spring into action? MILLIONS are plunging into eternal death, yet you sit by careless and unconcerned! Are you not sinning in ceasing to pray for them?

God has set you a watchman. YOU see the conditions in the world, and you know by the prophecies foretelling the day that we are in the very last days. YOU are not blinded. YOU see the sudden destruction coming upon the world. And God says to you: "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thine hand" (Ezek.33:17,18).

Perhaps God has not cast you out and preach or publish a magazine. He does not give to all the same work. But God has a work for every Christian, and certainly you ARE called to stand back of those whom God is sending out to preach and publish the warning Gospel message. There are at least three ways you can do this. By the first tenth of His money which He permits to come into your hands (for your ALL belongs to HIM and He demands the first tenth of it, with free-will offerings, leaving you all the balance). In passing out literature and speaking to people when there is opportunity. And above all, by INTERCEDING for lost sinners in EARTHLY SUPPLICATION AND PRAYER before God!

If you are just a lukewarm, indifferent Christian God says He is going to spew you out of His mouth. (Rev. 3:16.)

The trouble is, too many of us are overcharged with the CARES OF THIS LIFE, with our work, our business, our house-work, so that we never have much time for God, or to be concerned over other millions about to perish! Read Luke 21:34 and 8:14.

The time is too serious for pretense platitudes, or the soft and smooth things so many are demanding of their ministers. "All Scripture is profitable for . . . CORRECTION, for REPROOF, for instruction in righteousness." (II Tim. 3:16.) Unless you are willing to let it correct and reprove, and arouse from this spiritual slumber, the Scripture is NOT PROFITABLE to you.

The Church is asleep, and it is now high time to AWAKE, for new is our salvation much nearer than we supposed. (Rom. 13:11.)

The remedy is MORE PRAYER! NOW!
God Prospers the Tithers!

Why did the Lord ordain tithing? Was it to place increased burden and taxation upon us? Or, let us not misunderstand God's love and wisdom.

It isn't that God needs your first tenth. He could have established some different system for carrying on His work. But to have done so would have robbed us of the blessing that flows back to us if we are faithful in tithes and offerings!

The tither is invariably a prosperous man. Not necessarily wealthy—but one whose actual needs are always supplied. Tithers, if faithful and obedient to the Lord, are not often found in want—no, not even in those unprecedented times of stress and depression. "Not because I desire a gift, but I desire fruit that may abound to your account." (Phil. 4:17).

God promises His children shall always have something to give (Deut. 16:16, 17). It is only when they withhold and misappropriate the tithe and offerings that He fails to prosper them. For thru John He tells us: "I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health." (III John 2).

"Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." (Prov. 3:9,10).

"Try it! Pray to me now, brethren; challenges the Lord to us, in a prophecy for our day (Mal. 3:10), "if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

Are you behind financially? In debt? Your unfaithfulness in tithing and offerings may be the reason!

Concrete Experiences

John D. Rockefeller, it is said, accepted the Lord's challenge to prosper the tither at eight years of age, when he began tithing. Has he prospered?

Mr. Colgate, the great soap manufacturer, left home when a very small boy. He met an old sea captain who was a Christian. He asked the boy what he could do, and the boy replied he knew only how to make soap and candles.

"Give your heart to God," advised the sea captain, "and tithe your income." He said that if you are in debt take God into partnership FIRST, and watch Him prosper you until you are out of debt. Remember the debt you owe God comes FIRST.

Tithing While in Debt

Yet so many say: "I don't think it would be right for me to tithe while I'm in debt."

John D. Rockefeller, the old sea captain, and the others in the soap industry, believe the Lord's promise to prosper the tither at all times. When God gets His portion of all your income, He becomes your partner, sharing in your profits. He causes His partners to prosper, and if you are in debt take God into partnership FIRST, and watch Him prosper you until you are out of debt. Remember the debt you owe God comes FIRST.
The tithe is the debt that you owe. It is FIRST in time and principle. Pay your debts to God, make Him your PARTNER in your finances, and receive His blessing in temporal affairs. This will enable you to pay your debts, or to get ahead, or to have your needs supplied more quickly than if you evade His debt.

Remember your ALL belongs to HIM, not to you. (Psalm 24:1; I Cor. 10:26,26; Deut. 16:14; Haggai 2:6). You are in the position of steward handling that which belongs to another. He is your silent partner, and the first tenth, in addition to offerings, is to be reserved. The rest He gives freely to you. But if you appropriate for yourself His share, you are stealing, and ROBBING God (Mat. 3:8). Would you pay your debts with money another man had left in your trust? If a man working in a bank does that, we call it embezzlement.

How to Figure the Tithe

Some say they do not understand how to figure the tithe.

"And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is HOLY unto the Lord. . . . And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be HOLY unto the Lord. He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it." ( Lev. 27:30, 32-33). And since, in the New Testament, Paul points to the Old Testament teachings respecting tithing and says "EVEN SO hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the Gospel," (I Cor. 9:14), this same METHOD of figuring the tithe is in force under the New Testament. The farmer, therefore, should tith as money, whether it be money, or of the stock, his grain, his fruit.

"Thou shalt truly tithe the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year, and if the place be too far from thee . . . then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the Lord thy God shall choose." (Deut. 14:22,24,25).

Jacobs said, long before the Old Covenant or the Law of Moses, "of all that thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto thee." (Gen. 28:22).

We tithe, then, our INCOME--our INCOME--whether it be money, stock, vegetables, fruit, or grain. And it is the FIRST tenth, not the second or the last, that is God's. If we start spending, expecting to pay God's tenth later, we will often be unable to meet the tithe. Give God the FIRSTFRUITS, or the FIRST tenth, and we can regulate our needs according to what is sure to spend on them. This plan of God is a wholesome check upon extravagance and carelessness. And that in itself is one reason the tithe succeeds better. The condition to having our "barns filled with plenty" is "to Honor the Lord with . . . the FIRSTFRUITS of all thine increase." (Prov. 3:9,10).

The man who receives a salary or wages should give to the Lord's cause the first tenth of his entire salary or wage, and offerings in addition. This represents his personal income or increase.

If we receive money from investments, stocks, bonds, etc., or from a pension, or insurance, or by inheritance, this is all personal income or increase, and the WHOLE of it should be honestly tithed, for the first tenth of all it belongs to God.

The man who owns a business usually draws a salary, and whatever net profits remain at the end of the year, or dividends declared. The first tenth of all this he should tithe. But the expenses of conducting the business, (salaries, wages paid others, purchase of supplies, stock, and materials, rent, light, heat, interest, insurance, advertising, etc.) are not part of his personal increase. So the business man cannot give a tenth of all the sales or gross income of the business--but the first tenth of all his PERSONAL salary, profits, dividends, or income.

The farmer conducts a business, and should figure his tithe accordingly. Money received that goes for the purchase of stock, seed, implements, rent, wages, etc., are not his personal INCREASE, but expenses of the business, and should be subtracted before figuring the tithe. But he should give honestly a full tenth of all that is personal INCREASE, which is for personal use or needs, such as food, clothing, shelter, or investments, money, or of "the seed of the land, or the fruit of the tree, or the herd, or the flock."

Reverse the order, and we would all know readily enough how to figure our tithes. Let Congress pass a new Act authorizing that for one year every citizen who will make application be given a sum equal to 10% of his personal income or increase. Everyone would then know how to figure this tithe, and would be at the postoffice or bank bright and early in the morning to receive it! Let us be as honest with God as we would be with ourselves!

Your Glorious Opportunity

Some will say, "I never tithed, and I know God never frowned on me, for I have the witness in my heart that I am His child."

God has blessed you according as you have YIELDED to Him according to the light He has revealed to you. From His Word! While you have the light, WALK in it, lest darkness come upon you! (John 12:18). Grow in grace and the KNOWLEDGE of our Lord." (II Pet. 3:15). See also Rom. 11:22, and Acts 17:30, and John 14:15.

If every professing Christian would accept this plain instruction from the Lord, honoring HIM instead of themselves with their substance, the work of the Lord would go forth with such mighty power that the world would be shaken to its foundations.

Seek ye FIRST the Kingdom, and material needs shall be ADDED. Try it. Take God at His Word! PROVE HIM! (Mat. 3:10). See how you begin to prosper! Be a faithful steward, make God your PARTNER! Receive His BLESSING! God's work is waiting upon YOU!"