

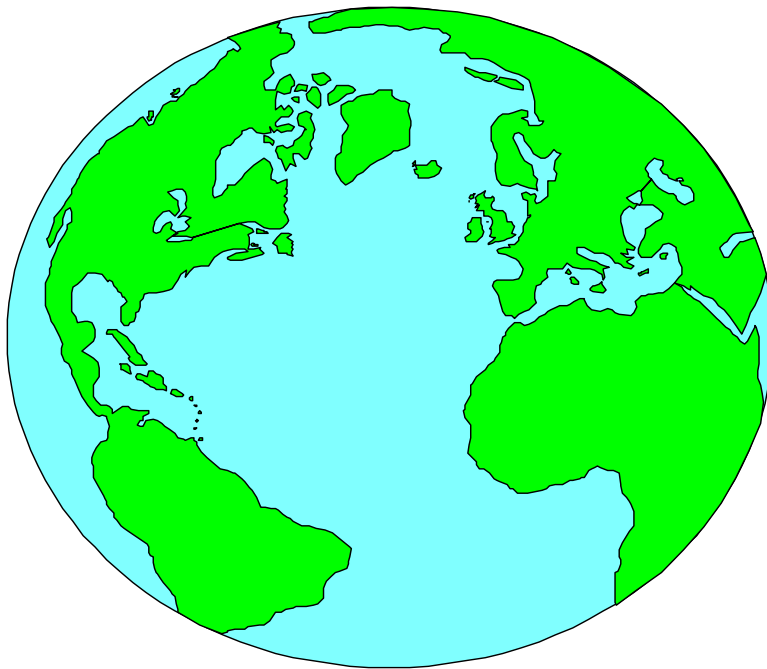
**Believers on Trial**

# **SAINTS**

**VS.**

# **THE WORLD**

**By John Kiesz**



**"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the assemblies: To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life which is in the midst of the paradise of Yahweh."—Rev. 2:7**

## IMPORTANT INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

In presenting the matter contained in this treatise on the following pages, the author is aware of the fact that he is laying himself open to much censure and even ridicule. Of course some who read it will no doubt readily approve of this treatise and its compilation, while others will consider it is coming from a fanatical or radical source. Knowing that it is impossible to please everyone in any matter, the writer considers it safest when he endeavors to teach what he believes will please the most High.

Because of a variety of opinions among the Almighty's professed people, it may not be advisable to set fast and hard rule in everything for everyone. However, some Christianity extremes will be avoided, and yet we must admit that where clear-cut Kodesh Scriptures are instructing us in righteous principles we cannot find a middle road. There is no halfway business with the Great King of the Universe.

Remember, too, as you read along that what is set forth herewith is not meant for non-Believers, but for those professing to be different--for those who consider themselves followers of the lowly Nazarene, who are no more babes, but grown-ups that can partake of strong meat (Heb. 5:11-14).

The original name of the Deity is used quite frequently in this tract, in order to be in keeping with the command found in I Chron. 16:29. "Give unto the LORD (Yahweh in the original text) the glory due unto his name..." The word LORD is in reality an attributive title, which in some translations has been substituted for the divine name of our heavenly Father, whose name is Yahweh. See Ex. 3:13-15, 6:3; Psa. 68:4; 83:16-18; Isa. 12:2, John 5:43.

"He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him." Prov. 18:13. --*By the Author.*

## BELIEVERS ON TRIAL

### THE SAINTS VS. THE WORLD

By John Kiesz

When we profess that we are believers and at the same time we are not living up to Christian principles, we not only are regarded as hypocrites, but we also become stumbling blocks unto others. Not only do we in this way bring reproach upon ourselves, upon the Assembly, and upon the Master, but we in particular offend those who are still in an unsaved condition. Many times a minister who is trying to lead some sinner to the Saviour, hears a reply something like this: "There is Mr. (or Mrs. as the case may be)...in your assembly and if he (or she) will be saved, I will be saved too." This retort usually comes in such a way because this sinner-friend has seen so much wrong in that certain assembly member. And sometimes I feel as if I might have more respect for such a deluded sinner than I do for the hypocrite that stands in his way.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, *nor standeth in the way of sinners*, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." --Psa. 1:1.

"But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: *for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.*" --Mat. 23:13.

There must be a vast difference between saints and worldlings. Yet we often hear an expression something like this from those that need salvation: "I am just as good as..." "For such our Saviour has an answer also. "For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of Heaven." --Mat. 5:20. Some people actually seem to think that the only difference there is between themselves and the professors, is that those who profess are members of an organization, while they themselves are not. There certainly must be a reason for such conclusions on the part of the non-members. The following true story related by William Edward Biederwolf illustrates this point very well:

"In one of our eastern cities there is living today a very happy couple. On the fourth anniversary of their wedding the young wife said to the husband, 'Ralph, I have been a very happy woman for four years, but if only one thing else could be true I would be the happiest woman in the world.' 'Well, Mollie,' he said, 'what is it? I would do anything for you.' 'Ralph,' she replied, 'if you were only a Believer.' 'Well, Mollie, are you a Believer?' said the young husband. 'Yes, Ralph,' came the answer. 'Well, Mollie,' said he, 'I didn't know it.' Ralph waited a while and then he said, 'See here, Mollie, I want to do what is right; you don't swear, do you?' 'Why, no,' said Mollie. 'Well,' said Ralph, 'I don't either.' 'Mollie,' said he, 'you don't steal, do you?' 'Why no, Ralph, of course I don't.' 'Well,' he replied, 'I don't either.' 'Mollie,' he said, 'you don't get drunk, do you?' 'Why Ralph! why do you ask such questions of me? Of course I don't get drunk.' 'Well,' said he, 'I don't either.' 'Now Mollie,' he said, 'you drink at the receptions, don't you?' 'Oh, yes,' said Mollie, 'I do that out of courtesy to the hostess.' 'Well, said Ralph, 'I do too.' 'Mollie,' he said, 'you go to the theater, don't you?' 'Why certainly,' she replied, 'I go quite often.' 'Well,' said Ralph, 'I do too.' 'Mollie,' he said, 'you dance, don't you?' 'Certainly,' she said, 'there's no harm in dancing; I love it, I dance, of course I do.' 'Well,' said Ralph, 'I do too.' Now Mollie,' said he, 'If you'll show me the difference between the kind of life that you are living and the kind I am living, I have no objection to my becoming a Believer.'

"Now Mollie saw this just as you see it. Ralph started downtown, and a few blocks away returned for something he had forgotten, and found his wife on her knees by the couch, her face buried in her hands and she was weeping. He lifted her up and asked her to forgive him if he had hurt her feelings, but she put her arms around his neck and kissed him and said, 'No Ralph, it is I who ought to ask forgiveness, and with God's help you shall have a different wife from this time on.'" (The story further relates that afterwards Ralph was won to the Almighty by the earnest, consistent, beautiful Believer's life of his devoted wife.)

My dear brother and sister, if the religion you profess to possess does not make any difference between the life you are living and the life your unconverted husband, wife, or friends may be living, it is not worth recommending to them. Let us not pretend any longer. If the religion we claim to possess has not purified and sanctified our lives to the extent that the world can see we are different--namely a peculiar people--it is only a farce. It is this so-called Christianity (more properly termed hypocrisy) that has to a large degree bred.

### *Humanism, Indifference, and Unbelief*

The world watches the believers much more closely than many are even aware of. We are open epistles read of all men (2 Cor. 3:2). Some sort of an influence continually radiates from us either for good or bad. We cannot avoid it. Worldliness is not expected of us. They know that it is wrong for us to engage in the same rioting and revelry that they themselves partake of, even though some may on the surface tell us differently, either to ensnare us, or some because of ignorance.

"But judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way." -- Rom. 14:13.

### *Idolatry in Christian Worship*

Many profess to be commandment-keepers, but are they? Let us consider the first one to begin with--"Thou shall have no other gods before me." --Ex. 20:3. Many are quick to condemn those who break the fourth commandment, and at the same time they themselves may be breaking the first commandment. Perhaps the first one is the hardest of them all for most people to keep. Anything that we indulge in, anything that is master over us, or anything that we love more than our Creator, that thing is our god. "There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet are not washed from their filthiness." --Prov. 30:12. Some folks worship self (Rom. 12:3, 16), some have their bellies for gods (Phil. 3:19), some worship money (I Tim. 6:6-10), others are slaves to some lust of the flesh, while still others are overcome by the lust of the eyes. And so there are gods of fashion, gods of lust, and gods of pleasure. But those who are addicted to such can be made free, and anyone who is a saint is free indeed. (John 8:36) In 1 Cor. 10:1-12 we have an example of idolatry among the Israel-

ites anciently, and how the *ETERNAL ELOHIM* therefore dealt with them. That was written as a warning to us in the present age.

### *Is the Congregation Free?*

It is a disgrace for any group of religious people to allow sin and worldliness in its ranks, knowingly. The command of Yahweh to his ministers is: "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins." --Isa. 58:1

"Behold, Yahweh's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither is his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your Elohim, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." --Isa. 59:1-2

Any minister who is afraid to call sin by its right name, or who engages in questionable practices himself, is not fit to be working in the Master's vineyard. He must warn against sin in order to deliver his own soul, as well as the souls of others (Ezek. 33:7-9). He must not shun to declare the counsel of the Most High (Acts 20:27) . But of course not all ministers will do the whole will of the Almighty, hence they come in the following class: "His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber." ---Isa. 56:10.

In times past, the Eternal One let trouble after trouble come upon His people when they forsook Him and became worldly. See Hos. 2:13, 4:1-4; Jer. chaps 1-9. Read the story of Achan in Joshua, the 7th chapter. Yahweh is the same today as He always has been (Mal. 3:6). If sin is permitted knowingly in the congregation, it will suffer the consequences. (Rev. 2:20)

"Purge out therefore the old leaven that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened." --I Cor. 5:7. "But them that are without Elohim judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person." --v. 13. "Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear." --I Tim. 5:20.

Some honest folks have already seen the necessity of returning to the old paths, but others "will not walk therein," nor will they hearken to Yahweh's watchmen (Jer. 6:16-17). And sometimes one has to wonder if there is any more balm left in Gilead (Jer. 8:22); and like Jeremiah of old, one comes to the same conclusions. "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people." --Jer. 9:1.

### *Gods of Pleasure*

Among the amusements engaged in by many pleasure-seekers may be listed gambling, dancing, parties, secret societies, theatergoing, and attending other questionable places. One who professes set-apartness and yet still seeks after worldly pleasures has a form of religion but denies the power thereof. He who has been thoroughly converted and regenerated by the Good News of the "Saviour of the world" will not even want to engage in worldly pleasures. His whole life, nature, and way of thinking has been so transformed that he takes pleasure in eternal things only. "According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and set-apartness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: *that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.* " --2 Peter 1:3-4.

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unkindness, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, *lovers of pleasure more than lovers of Yahweh;* having a form of set-apartness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." --2 Tim. 3:1-5.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof, but he that doeth the

will of Yahweh abideth forever." --I John 2: 15-17.

### *Attending Questionable Places*

When you receive an invitation to attend a certain party, or when there are questionable doings in town, such as shows, circuses, entertainments and carnivals at fairs or otherwise, dances, or any other celebrations, which are alluring to the carnal mind, do you always ask yourself, "Would the Saviour go with me to that place? Or will I have to go without Him and without His approval?" Do you ever stop to think whether or not you would want to be found there when the Master comes for His own? Have you ever thought seriously enough and questioned yourself whether the love of the world might keep you from being "caught up" with the rest of the saints to meet the Master in the air? --I Thes. 4:13-18.

Real saints could hardly find enough time to attend such worldly places, for there are so many good things that believers can enjoy, and furthermore, their time is too precious for virtuous things to be squandered away in frivolity. By this time someone will likely raise the question whether I think that just because the Scriptures demand we should keep ourselves unspotted from the world (Jas. 1:27), that therefore we should not even mingle with worldly people? No, not at all. We must take the Chief Shepherd for our example (I Peter 2:20-25) . He ate with the publicans and sinners. He came to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance. But nowhere do we find that He took part in any revelry or questionable practices, nor will His true followers do so. "Evil communications corrupt good manners." (I Cor. 15:33b)

That the early followers of the Good News Message did not amuse themselves with the lustful and pleasurable things of this world is a fact. They had the Messiah for their example, and also Paul the Apostle, who was another good model for them to follow (I Cor. 11:1). It was he who carried the Good News to Rome; and his followers, the saints who were shortly afterwards persecuted by the Romans, were a peculiar people--peculiar in the sight of the world, but right with their heavenly Father (Titus 2:11-15). Among the four reasons given by the historian West as to the causes of persecution, one is the following:

"The attitude of the Christians toward society added to their unpopularity. Because Christ had preached peace, many of them refused to join the legions, or to fight, if drafted. This seemed treason, inasmuch as a prime duty of the Roman world was to repel barbarism. Moreover, the Christians were unsocial: they abstained from most public amusements as immoral, and they refused to illuminate their homes or garland their portals in honor of national triumphs." --Page 538.

Now let us compare ourselves with those that still had the first love (Rev. 2:4) with those that denied themselves of worldly pleasures to such an extent that they were persecuted for it, with those that set a high standard--yes, with those that were pioneers of the Good News Faith, and see how we measure up with their standard. Are we ashamed of the Bible standard? Can we believe that Yahweh has changed (Mal. 3:6), or that He has lowered His standard? In these (so-called) modern times we are in general so prone to try to make Yahweh conform His standard with ours, instead of conforming ours to His. And this just now reminds me that so many (supposed to be) saints who profess to have been baptized with the Kodesh Spirit are too often trying to control the Kodesh Spirit, instead of permitting the Kodesh Spirit to control their lives.

### *The Card Table*

John Bigelow stated, so it has been said, that: "Nine people out of ten when they for the first time accept an invitation to join a game of whist or poker have no more suspicion of the passions they may be about to nurse than the maid of sixteen when she engages in her first flirtation

The wrong that lies in card-playing may best be settled by what history has shown such to lead to. Not only is it a waste of time, but it usually leads to gambling. The majority of people who gamble learned to play cards in the home, therefore cards should never be allowed in any home. The fact that many gamblers (card-players) carry pistols and knives speaks for itself. In these gambling dens many have met foul play. To illustrate the evil that may originate with the so-called innocent games of cards, where not even money is played for, a

chaplain of the Penitentiary at Mt. Auburn, N.Y., has told the following story:

"In preparing a young man for his execution on the gallows, he asked him. 'What was it that first turned your steps in the downward path?' And he answered, 'The game of cards I played and the wine I drank in my mother's parlor.'"

Another chaplain also tells of a man that he had been trying in vain to bring to repentance for his evil life. Finding him so very hardened, and thinking he might gain an entrance to his heart if he could bring him some thoughts of his mother, he procured her photograph and brought it to him in the prison. At sight of it he tore it to pieces, and throwing it to the ground and trampling on it, he exclaimed, "Yes, it was she who first turned me into the path of all this ruin. It was at her parlor table I learned to play cards and drink wine." --Selected. Won't some folks have an awful account to render for their wrong influences upon the children, at the last-day judgment?

### *The Pool Table*

"We older people should be very much concerned about the boys--and we are; that is why this message is written. There are many snares to entrap the feet of the young. One of the worst is the public pool hall.

"There are hundreds of these 'open doors' in our 'Christian America.' Consider for a moment, boys, what this means. These places are practically hotbeds for hatching out criminal plots, etc. If you will notice it is generally the idle, non-working class that infest these places, and you will never find a fellow too low to patronize such resorts. Therefore, the old adage is true, 'An idle mind is the devil's workshop,' so we see when these idlers congregate in these places, it is generally with no good intent." --From a mother who is interested in all boys.

### *The Menace of the Movies*

The theater as a whole is a polluter of public morals, brings degradation to the assembly, and is a seminar of vice. The cry, "Unclean! Unclean!" should be sounded against every one of them. It is hard to attend any of them without one's heart and mind becoming unclean, and remember that no unclean person will inherit the kingdom. Eph. 5:5. Some tell us that they attend the theater because of its educational value, but the fact is that the majority of theater goers attend for pleasure, and for the thrills that they can get out of it. They, in reality, wish to fulfill lust of the eyes.

"The limited scope of the employment market today (written several years ago) caused me, the daughter of respected and devout religious parents, to become a screen actress. My father was killed in the Great War, and I was forced, in an effort to help the family exchequer to accept the position. On the fifth day I left the movie stage forever. Those five days were the worst I have ever experienced. It was a week in hell itself. All the fine traditions of cleanliness of body and mind in which I had been brought up were made a mockery of. It was too much for me. I could never have remained in such a den of vice and iniquity. One of my girl colleagues said to me, 'When girls come here, they are generally like you. I know I was. But when you see films showing these sexy matters and hear the coarse and suggestive jokes, you simply can't help it. The immoral aspect gets a grip on you, and once it has got you, it is impossible to get away. It is like smoking or drinking. It is a habit. The pictures affect the mind. They are a drug.' As one who has served on the screen staff, I say quite emphatically that every preacher or social worker who raises his voice in protest against the movies is doing a public service." --*The Methodist Times*.

The writer is indebted to Dr. Fred Eastman, Professor of Religious Literature and Drama in the Chicago Theological Seminary, for most of the following. He knows the movie picture business from experience, at one time having been an exhibitor himself. This material appeared in the *Christian Century* a number of years ago.

In about 1922 "Will Hayes, a Presbyterian elder, became the 'Czar' of the movies. He let it be known that he intended to 'clean them up.'" All these years have passed since then, but how clean are the movies now? Did he make good his promise? Quite some time ago the *Christian Century* asked its readers such questions as:

"Are your movies today any less of a menace to the mental and moral life of the community than before Mr. Hayes assumed office? Are they any less devoted to blood and thunder, crime, gun-play, lasciviousness, sentimentality, and insanity?" The following are a few of the typical answers which speak for themselves:

"No matter how carefully you choose your programs. some scenes will appear before it is over that are objectionable... I think the movies have a bad educational influence on many children. If they are not vicious they are just cheap and time wasters." --Edward J. Carson.

"If the state is to continue to punish racketeering, bootlegging, theft and murder, then let it ban pictures that promote these." --Albert W. Kauffman.

### *Children and the Movies*

"The movies are so occupied with crime and sex stuff and are so saturating the minds of children the world over with social sewage that they have become a menace to the mental and moral life of the coming generation." (And that time has arrived, as can be seen on almost every hand nowadays.)

### *Effects Upon the Children*

Mr. Hayes argues that the moving pictures have not increased the tendency of children to crime...

"Over against this amazing testimony let us call into the witness box some well-known educators...and some of the children themselves."

### *Testimony of Teachers*

"Call Prof. E.W. Burgess, of the department of sociology at the University of Chicago. He reports the result of a study made under his direction by Miss Sarah Lewis. She questioned teachers and principals of 124 public and private schools in the city of Chicago. The overwhelming majority of these teachers report that the pictures interfered with schoolwork, retarded mental development, lowered vitality, rendered the children nervous and excitable, weakened initiative and ambition, and caused other undesirable effects."

### *The Children's Testimony*

Now let us hear from a few of the children whose testimony is recorded in Mrs. Mitchell's book...

"A Boy Scout after seeing a mystery play: "I didn't sleep for a week... I dreamed of skeletons.'

Another lad: 'It makes you nuts to see so many movies... Just don't know what you are doing when you see movies so often. They make you want things you haven't got...and you get them.'

A young delinquent: 'Movies make most anything seem all right. Things that look bad on the outside don't seem to be bad at all in the movies.'"

Here you have it. Such testimonies! What will happen with the producers of the filthy motion pictures, and also to the parents who permit their children to see such trash, when they will have to appear before the judgment of the One who said: "Whosoever shall cause one of these little ones that believe to stumble, it were better for him if a great millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea"? "Watchman, what of the night?" Are you doing your duty in denouncing sin? Do you wonder why such bold vulgarity and unabashed lust exists today? Television and videos are in a measure responsible for it.

Friend, do not patronize the movies. Of course we realize that the natural eyes like to see something exciting, but the lust of the eyes must be overcome. Only to overcome is eternal life granted. Have you, dear reader, the courage to say "No," when you are coaxed to attend such a questionable place? Or do you fear that you will be considered unpopular and unsocial? But do you know that popularity in itself will never save anyone? The popularity of this old world will soon pass away. Did you know that the Apostles and early saints

had to contend with the then worldly acts of temptations, and that they disapproved of such amusements? The following quotation, from the history I studied while in high school, speaks for itself:

"The Christians were for some time regarded simply as a sect of the Jews. The Roman government professed to be tolerant of all religions, and to permit everyone to worship as he saw fit. As long as the Christians were supposed to be Jews they were not especially molested. They simply suffered the ill feeling which Romans had for all Jews. But in the process of time the Christians came to be hated and despised for other reasons...Being devoted to their religion, they refused to engage in some of the practices that were commonly followed by the Romans. They disapproved of the Roman *amusements*, the gladiatorial *shows*, the races in the *circuses*, and *plays* and *dances* in the theaters. They were hence regarded as unsocial and 'haters of mankind.'" --Morey's Ancient Peoples. Page 510.

### *Fictions, Novels, and Love Stories*

Another kind of fascination and thrills that a good many people become slaves to is that which they acquire in reading trashy literature and magazines in the form of fiction, novels, detective, love, and true stories, etc. Perhaps this form of pleasure is next to the movies in helping to bring about immorality, murder, and unnatural affections.

"Tell me how and what you read, and I will tell you what you are," is only too true in most cases. If one continually fills his mind with filth and unnatural things, what else can be expected but that he will become just that way himself? "Can a man take fire into his bosom and his clothes not be burned?" --Prov. 6:27. Good advice to follow in such matters comes from the pen of Paul in these words:

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." --Phil. 4:8.

### *Secret Societies*

"Woe to the rebellious children, saith Yahweh, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin: that walk to go down into Egypt (to questionable sources for help) *and have not asked of my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt! Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame, and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion.*" --Isa. 30:1-3.

The Saviour of mankind set an example that should be followed (I Peter 2:21). He never was affiliated with any secret orders, lodges, or even labor unions. In the first place He was not unequally yoked with worldly organizations, and in the second place He was open and above-board in all of His life (John 18:20). It was He who said, "For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in the darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in the closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops." --Luke 12:2,3.

If a believer is a member of a lodge, fraternity, or sorority, or any other worldly order, he is yoked together with unbelievers, and that is forbidden (2 Cor. 6:14-18). Some contend that lodges are all right because they also have religious principles, and that one must accept these certain beliefs or principles in order to join them. But how can any conscientious person be a member of two different religious (?) organizations, the one being an assembly and the other a lodge, in which he has to keep the inner workings secret from the others? Even though not all lodges are exactly alike in their principles, yet such is the general run.

And now I quote from an ex-member:

"While engaged in business in Michigan a number of years ago; I found that many of the leading businessmen with whom I was associated were members of a certain lodge. I was importuned to unite with them; and so one night found me with a friend in the anteroom. After being blindfolded, they proceeded with the initiation. We were yanked around the hall as fast as we could run, were punched with spears at every step. Not be-



ing satisfied with a few times around in that way, we had to go through more such trips with heavier obstructions in our pathway, and with guards on each side to prevent our falling. My friend succeeded in getting through without breaking his leg only by the breaking off the spear that was being used. It seemed to me that this was 'not very Christ like,' as the battle raged on with still greater obstructions in our pathway; but I do not care to say any more respecting this heathenish custom, 'For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.'

"We were next led into the august presence of the head mogul, where we proceeded to take the obligation as follows: "I, George O. States, do solemnly and voluntarily promise in the presence of Almighty God and this duly convoked ...Lodge of..., that I will maintain and uphold the constitution and by-laws of the Order, or of any...to which at any time I may belong: that I will be true to all...of the Order, and that I will not, under any circumstances make them known to any one in the world, or suffer to do so, if in my power to prevent it. Then follows the terrible penalty following the violation of these obligations.

"I affiliated with the lodge about a year. I found, however, that the more interest I had in the lodge, the less I cared for the third angel's message. *I left the lodge because I could not live up to my convictions of Bible truth and remain in the lodge.*" --By George O. States, in "My Lodge Experience."

I quote from another ex-member: "The Fraternity should not arrogate to itself to select the Christian and reject the unbeliever, or to favor the Republican and frown upon the Democrat. If a man has not regard for the Bible, he should not be required to insult its sacredness in the eyes of his venerating neighbor by refusing to be obligated upon it. So it were better to dispense with such a requirement. The doors then are left open to the Jew and the Gentile, the Catholic and the Protestant, the agnostic and the atheist." Such teaching is contrary to the Bible: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Messiah with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? and what agreement hath the temple of Elohim with idols? for ye are the temple of the living Elohim; as Yahweh hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people."

What are we to do when we find ourselves bound up with these worldly influences? "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith Yahweh, and touch not the unclean thing." What will be the result of taking a firm stand for Yahweh and His truth? "And I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith Yahweh the Almighty." --2 Cor. 6:14-18.

"Deeds of unconverted men in the lodges are part of the sins of saints belonging together in the order, which acts as a body. Theology in lodges contradicts the Bible. Irrationality of the soul is taught, though the resurrection is also taught at one, making a contradiction." --By another ex-member.

Paul wrote, "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret." --Eph. 5:11-12; also verse 7.

Another thing that stands against the lodges is that the chief officers are usually given titles which rightfully belong only to Yahweh, and to His Son "Worthy Matron" of the Eastern Star; "Chief Potentate" of the higher Masonic Order; and "Worshipful Master" of the Masonic Blue Lodge, etc. are some of the titles used. It is absolutely wrong, from a Scriptural standpoint, to call any human being by such titles as Master or Potentate, for these titles belong to Divinity only.

"But be ye not called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Messiah; and all ye are brethren. And call no man your father (i.e., as a title for a priest) upon earth, for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called *Masters*, for one is your Master, even Messiah. But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoso ever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." --Mat. 23:8-12.

"Which in his time he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Master of masters." --I Tim. 6:15.

"How' can ye believe, which receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor which cometh from Yahweh only?" --John 5:44.

"Let me not, I pray thee, accept any man's person, *neither let me give flattering titles unto man.* For I know

not to give flattering titles; *in so doing my Maker would soon take me away.* “ --Job 32:21, 22.

When Elder States joined the lodge he took a solemn oath under penalty of death to not disclose the secrets of the order to those outside. “If a soul swear, pronouncing with his lips to do evil, or to do good, whatsoever it be, that a man shall pronounce with an oath, and it be hid from him; when he knoweth of it, then he shall be guilty in one of these. And it shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these things, that he shall confess that he hath sinned in that thing.” --Lev. 5:4-5. “At the time I knelt down before that bogus chaplain and took those wicked oaths, I did not realize what I was getting into, but when I began to see this wickedness I began to confess, and have done it nearly thirty years, and if I can help our people to see the lodge evil I will keep it up.”

The fact that an unnecessary and unlawful oath is required of the secret orders' members is alone sufficient to condemn it entirely. When a man is being made a Mason, he takes a solemn oath or obligation to never divulge any part of the secrets of the lodge and therefore it is hard to learn all the details by an outsider, but still many of these secrets leak out. Didn't our Saviour say they would? --Luke 12:2, 3.

"But above all things, my brethren, *swear not*, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, *neither by any other oath*: but let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation." --James 5:12; see also Mat. 5:33-37.

"Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you. Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you: that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." --Mat. 5:43-45. This is good news teaching, and those who do these things are children of our Father which is in heaven. This is a true test of fellowship; and any lodge that is *exclusive* in doing good to others, is contrary to the good news of Messiah.

## GODS OF PLEASURE AND LUST *Glorious Liberty in the Messiah*

“For brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another...This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.” --Gal. 5:13-18.

In the first verse of this chapter Paul asked the Galatians to stand fast in the liberty wherewith they had been made free by the Saviour. It is wonderful indeed to be freed from slavery. And it was He who said that whom the Son makes free is free indeed (John 8:36). We were servants to sin, but since we have obeyed from the heart we have become servants of righteousness (Rom. 6:16-22). When once we are liberated, we are not, however, free to continue in sin but are free from it. Some feel that since they are at liberty it gives them license to do whatsoever they please. And some so-called Believers even say: “It's nobody's business what I do.” Perhaps some of the Galatians felt the same way about it, hence Paul's exhortation: “Only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh.” “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Messiah Yahshua (Christ Jesus)--who walk: not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” --Rom. 8:1 (A. V.)

### *Works of the Flesh*

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery (the Kodesh Spirit never leads anyone to steal his neighbor's wife, or to lust after another woman), fornication (unlawful sexual intercourse, esp. by one not married--Webster), uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry (and there are idols found in many homes today), witchcraft (includes fortune-telling, or consulting them--Deut. 18:9-13), hatred (Did you ever hear a believer say, “Oh, I just hate him--or her”?), variance, emulations, wrath, strife (includes debating and wars; see Rom. 1:28, 29; 2 Cor. 12:20; Jas. 4:1), seditions, heresies, envyings (even some ministers may take account of themselves and see if perchance they may envy the office or labors of a brother minister), murders (includes

taking life literally, and hatred which is considered murder, or smiting with the tongue and even the sin of committing willful abortion), drunkenness, revellings (and much is included in this), and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, *that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of Yahweh.*”--Gal 5:19-21.

### *The Dance Hall*

Although not directly mentioned in the Scriptures that dancing is forbidden, yet all honest-hearted believers will admit that (except when one dances by himself in the Spirit unto Yahweh like David did of old) it is sin, because it is done primarily to fulfill the lust of the flesh. People usually dance for the carnal pleasure that they can get out of it. Let a law be enacted prohibiting the opposite sexes from dancing together, and that they dance in separate buildings if they dance at all, then see if the dance will not become almost as scarce as hen's teeth. The majority that engage in dancing do it for the thrill they receive from being in contact with the opposite sex.

“Out of 230,000 fallen women in the United States, statistics show that seven-tenths went there through the dance. A Catholic priest of New York said his confessional had proved that three-fourths of the fallen girls that have confessed to him lay the blame on the dance. Other priests have said three-fourths is too small, and make it nine-tenths.” --The Carnival of Death, by the Free Tract Society.

It has been related that the wife of a young man, who had been married just a few months, asked him one night that he go to the dance with her, and this was the answer she received: "Mabel, I'm married now, and if you want me to be true to you, don't ask me to go to the dance." A Christian worker once said, "The hardest young man and especially young woman in the world to win for Christ is the one who is devoted to the dance."

The following, found in “The First Dancing Lesson,” by Leander Smith, is also to the point:

“It is a pity that those who attempt to defend the dance could not see a young innocent girl taking her first dancing lesson. When the dancing master, who is rarely a taxpayer or a respectable man, but often a low libertine, first puts his lecherous arms about her, the crimson comes to her cheeks, and she shrinks from his embrace. She is soon reassured by this social anarchist that the position is perfectly proper and that it is essential to the dance. Knowing that other ladies have suffered the same familiarities, she soon seems “at home” in this lustful embrace. The blush, God's danger signal, soon disappears, and one of the God-given barriers is gone. Many pure and noble young girls are, at first, all unconscious of the nature of the pleasure they derive from the ballroom, and the danger is they may learn it to their sorrow and shame. Take sex out of the dance and its charm has departed. The ballroom is the playground for the libertine, and the recruiting station for the brothel. There are not a few young men who are expert dancers, who bring about the ruin of girls through the dance, and then receive pay from the brothel for delivering their victims. The Indian girl in the American forest was safer than the American in the ballroom.”

“Abstain from all appearance of evil.” --I Thes. 5:22. You know that no normal men would stand for it to see other men embrace their wives and flirt with them, in any other place or ordinary occasion, in the way it is often done in the dance halls. Nor would normal women allow their husbands to embrace other women or girls in the street or in their own parlors or homes, as they do permit them to do in the dance halls, without becoming very jealous and perhaps even suing for divorce, and in some cases threatening life. Now honestly, is it not just as bad (in Yahweh's sight) in one place as the other? “Keep thyself pure.”--I Tim. 5:22.

The booklets, “From the Ballroom to Hell” and “The Lure of the Dance” should be read by everyone that gives this subject any thought whatsoever, either for or against. Having been written by a famous dancing master, Mr. T. A. Faulkner, who gave up his career as such due to his 18-year-old sister's dying request to “Sound the warning, Tom, that other girls may be saved,” after she had become a victim of dancehall lust, he knows whereof he is speaking and it should convict any honest and normal-minded person. This booklet may be secured (or at least could be when I last was informed) from the EVANGELIST OF TRUTH, 737 Shelby Street, Indianapolis, IN 46203-1167. I recommend that you order a copy right away, and then after reading it through that you lend it to someone else to read, and thus continue to sound the warning.

## *Fornication, Adultery, and Vice*

If dancing were confined altogether and strictly to this practice alone, there might be some excuse in the minds of certain people for tolerating it. But as a rule, this performance leads to other immoral practices, because in these suggestive movements of certain phases of the dance it would be practically impossible for the engagers' minds to remain pure. It is a fact that many get their lower passions so aroused in certain lustful movements of the dance, that by the time they reach home, or before some couples separate for the night (or perhaps better said for the day), the devil has caused them to fulfill their sensual desires.

Adultery and fornication are among the basest sins that are being copiously committed nowadays, by both young and old. And many are reaping an undesirable harvest there from. "Be not deceived, Yahweh is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption;..." --Gal. 6:7, 8. It is appalling to note the percentage of some people that are reaping some of the most loathsome and practically incurable venereal diseases as a result of such immoral practices: and besides, they are a danger and a menace to decent, innocent society. Here is what the Bible says about fornication:

"Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Messiah? Shall I then take the members of Messiah, and make them the members of an harlot? Yahweh forbid. What? Know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. But he that is joined unto Yahweh is one spirit. *Flee fornication*. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Kodesh Spirit which is in you, which ye have of Yahweh, and ye are not your own...?" --I Cor. 6:15-20; see also Deut. 22:22-24.

Just why most ministers shrink from crying aloud against the sin of fornication and adultery may be hard to answer, except that they may fear the consequences for themselves, because this is considered a delicate subject, or some of them may even be guilty themselves, so how could they preach against it honestly? But how can a true preacher keep silent, and not denounce this sin publicly, when it has almost become a public affair? Once in a while those who have been engaged in adultery or vice will confide their troubles to ministers, and some even tell that they did not know what they were getting into and that it was a sin for them to remarry to begin with, for they had never heard any teaching on the matter. Is there not a danger that many of us ministers will have to give an account in the day of judgment for the blood of lost souls because we have not warned the wicked (Ezek. 33:7-9)?

## *The Tobacco Habit*

From questioning a good number of tobacco users, it has become an established fact that many of them now wish that they were free from this habit, some because they have learned from experience that it is undermining their health, and others because they feel condemned about it, and still others for both reasons, etc. Most of those that admit they ought to forsake this habit will also tell that they would like to do so, but that this habit has such a hold on them that they cannot easily overcome it. Their flesh craves for the nicotine that they have become slaves to. As long as they do not forsake it they of course are yielding to the lust of the flesh. There is One, however, who can free slaves, and that is our Master the Messiah--John 8:36.

Occasionally, however, one will find a tobacco fiend who claims it is neither harmful nor wrong to use this weed. And some even question whether the Bible teaches anything against it. To such we must of course furnish the evidence. What was written aforetime was written for our learning (Rom. 15:4). The pitfalls and sins of the ancient Israelites serve as examples or types for us now (I Cor. 10:1-12). They were warned against the use of a certain poisonous herbs, and if it was wrong to use harmful herbs then, it surely is still sinful today to use anything of that same nature.

"Lest there should be among you a man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from Yahweh our Elohim, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall (or a poisonous herb. See margin) and wormwood; and it come to pass when he heareth the words

of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst (doesn't a tobacco user begin to feel drunken--figuratively speaking--if he cannot get his tobacco on time when he thirsts for it?): Yahweh will not spare him, but the anger of Yahweh and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and Yahweh shall blot out his name from under heaven." --Deut. 29:18-20.

Other Biblical references that are either directly or indirectly against the use of any habit-forming drug, or harmful weed or herb, and which should be seriously considered are the following: Job 20:12-16; Isa. 55:2; I Cor. 3:17; Gal. 6:7-8; I John 5:17; Isa. 55:11; Rev. 22:11; and 2 Cor. 7:1.

Let us also now consider the tobacco question more in detail from a scientific viewpoint. "Coffin Nails" is the title of a little tract written by one who previously was bringing ruination upon himself through the use of tobacco, but who later became a strong and healthy man after he was delivered from this curse. Besides relating his own experience in that tract, he also quotes statements from leading doctors, and we will herewith reproduce a few of them.

"Tobacco kills an American every five minutes by causing various diseases," says Dr. John Harvey Kellogg of Battle Creek, Michigan.

"There are several drugs which bear hard upon the heart. "Tobacco is the best known of these," are the words of Dr. W. A. Evans of the Chicago Tribune.

"Tobacco frequently causes blindness," reveals Dr. Earnest Fuchs in his Ophthalmology.

The United States Dispensary reveals that "Nicotine in its action on the animal system, is one of the most virulent poisons known. One drop of it in a state of concentrated solution is enough to destroy a dog, and small birds perish at the approach of a tube containing it.

"Twenty years ago (and this was published several years ago) our annual consumption of cigarettes was some 13,000,000,000. This year the people of America will smoke 126,000,000,000 cigarettes! A gain of nearly 1,000 percent in 20 years! Surely a fitting tribute to deceitful advertising and unscrupulous business ethics."

"I worked in summer meadows  
Where sunbeams flashed and broke;  
But I never saw the cattle,  
Sheep, or horses smoke.

I have watched the world with wonder  
When the grass with dew was wet;  
But I never saw the robin  
Puffing at a cigarette.

I have fished in many a river  
Where the sucker crop was ripe,  
But I never saw the catfish  
Puffing at a briar pipe.

Man is the only creature  
That blows where'er he goes;  
Like the booming traction engine-  
Smoke from mouth and nose.

If God had intended he'd smoke  
When He first invented man;  
He surely would have built him

On a widely different plan.

He'd have made him with a smokestack,  
And a damper and a grate;  
And He would have a smoke consumer  
Strictly up-to-date.”

*Sel.*

### *Depraved Appetites*

Not only is the use of tobacco a thing that many lust after, but there are those who crave for strong drink, such as makes drunkards out of many. “Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth its colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.” --Prov. 23:31-35.

“Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness.” --Hab. 2:15.

Besides drug habits and drunkenness being fulfilled by depraved appetites, there are also those who desire forbidden foods, such as are mentioned as unclean in Gen. 1:29; Lev. 11th and Deut. 14th chapters. Certain forbidden foods defile the physical body, as well as the temple of the Kodesh Spirit as a result. Many are gluttons. "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be in the days of the Son of man." They ate and drank to excess, and so we find many overindulging in food and unhealthy drinks today, with the explosion of fast food restaurants.

“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.” --Luke 21:34.

“Forasmuch then as Messiah hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of Yahweh. For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we worked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.” --I Pet. 4:1-5.

## GODS OF FASHION

### *The Lust of the Eyes*

“But if our good news be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious good news of Messiah, who is the image of Yahweh, should shine into them.” --2 Cor. 4:3,4.

“Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Yahshua Messiah; as obedient children, *not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance.*” --I Peter 1: 13, 14.

“And be not conformed (fashioned) to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of Yahweh.” -Rom. 12:2.

## *Immodest Dressing*

Now and then one will hear remarks such as: "It makes no difference how we dress. And besides, we have to keep up with the styles of the day," etc. The expression, "It makes no difference," has been handed down for millenniums, and is a lie from the devil himself. And it is surprising to note how many people really believe the devil rather than the Kodesh One. We professing folks ought to set an example to the world; but instead, we generally follow the fashions and styles that originate either in Paris, New York City, or in Hollywood, the hotbeds of immorality. That it really does make a difference in the sight of the Creator along this line can be seen from such Scripture texts as the following:

"Hold thy peace at the presence of Yahweh: for the day of Yahweh is at hand: for Yahweh hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests. And it shall come to pass in the day of Yahweh's sacrifice, that I will punish the princes, and the king's children, *And all such as are clothed with strange apparel.*" --Zep. 1:7, 8.

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in *modest apparel*, with shamefacedness and sobriety, not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array." --I Tim. 2:9.

"The woman shall *not* wear that which pertaineth unto a man, *neither* shall a man put on a woman's garment; *for all that do so are an abomination unto Yahweh thy Elohim.*"--Deut. 22:5.

## *Nakedness*

Where some give too much attention to clothing, others do not wear enough. Once the style is (or has been) to wear the dresses so long that they sweep the floor, and at another time the style is to wear them above the knees. Even in communistic and godless Russia the women dress more modestly (or have at least when we got the last report from there lately) than they in general do in Christian (?) America. It is a disgrace to see some going down the streets with perhaps nothing upon their backs but a piece of strap (and even much worse things have been seen). It is true that our original parents in the Garden of Eden were naked (Gen. 2:25); but after they sinned Yahweh clothed them (Gen. 3:10, 11, 21); and since we are still living in a sinful world, it is still necessary that we cover our flesh. To go about in a naked, or semi-naked manner is, according to an incident related in the Bible, a form of insanity. See Luke 8:26-36. It also appears that no true saint could feel all "at home" at the present-day bathing beaches, where so much semi-nakedness is manifested.

## *Ornaments*

Bedecking with jewelry and adorning the outward person is a very old custom, and is still practiced very extensively today. If this embellishing were confined to non-professors alone, we no doubt would keep silent about it, but why should saints want to fulfill the lust of the eyes, and also the pride of life? Just because some of the ancient Bible characters engaged in this practice is no ground for us to do so today. We are now living in the dispensation of which our Master said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them (or, to them) of old time, Thou shalt... But I say unto you, That (now)..." Some changes have been made in some matters.

As early as Genesis 35:1-5 we have the record that when Jacob was about to make an altar unto Yahweh at Bethel, that then his household first had to put away all their strange gods, including the earrings, etc. in order for the Most High Yahweh to meet with them.

Then in Exodus 32nd chapter we find that while Moses was up in Mount Sinai to receive the Law, the people down below made a golden calf of their earrings (no doubt from that which they had borrowed from the Egyptians) and worshipped it, which was reckoned as sin unto them. And Yahweh refused to go with this stiff necked people at that time (Ex. 33:3).

"And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his *ornaments*. For Yahweh had said unto Moses, Say unto the children of Israel, Ye are a stiff necked people: I will come up into the midst of thee in a moment, and consume thee: *therefore now put off thy ornaments from thee*, that I may know what to do unto thee. And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their *ornaments* by the

mount Horeb.”--Ex. 33:4-6.

From Hosea 2:13 we glean that when Israel of old forgot Yahweh, she then served other gods, went after her lovers, and decked herself with her earrings and her jewels.

Any girl or woman who adorns herself with earrings, pearls, finger-rings, gold, or necklaces just to “show off”, is she not patterned after the mother of harlots as mentioned in Revelation 17:1-5? And men have to watch themselves just as closely along these lines. I have seen numbers of them carry to the extremes also. The wearing of unnecessary ornaments can certainly have no influence for good upon others.

“Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of Yahweh of great price.”--I Peter 3:3, 4.

The class rings (and pins) are ever-recurring problems to many students every spring. It is not necessary to wear them in order to graduate. Even if we are “different” than the rest of the class, we have the Great King on our side. The writer did not procure a class pin (as most of the others did) when he graduated, and yet he did not experience that he was held in lower esteem. Others will respect one's sincere convictions.

How about the engagement, marriage, and wedding rings, you may ask? There is need of none of them. The argument that the ring represents a tie, or a symbol of a binding together may have weight with some, but if genuine love is not existing all the rings in the world will not bring about that tie. It is love that unites and binds together. This takes place in the heart (the inward man), hence no need for outward signs.

Americans need not follow the custom of wearing marriage rings; it is not obligatory. Then we also hear the argument at times that a married woman should wear a ring as a sign, so no one will bother her. But is it not a fact that many of those who wear rings are living questionable lives, and so this can even serve to hide their wickedness. We repeat again, that all the rings in the world cannot bring about the desired tie, or keep people straight--that has to take place in the inward man, through love.

To get some more information on how our heavenly Father regards man-made ornaments, read Isa. 3:12-26. Let us rather wear garments of salvation, and be covered with robes of righteousness, than to please the natural eyes so much.

### *Cosmetics*

After Elohim (whom we commonly call God in the English language) had finished his creative work, which included the creation of mankind, He “saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.” But many modern folks deny this and say, “You didn't make me good-looking enough.” Perhaps they do not actually deny the Creator's conclusions so much by words as they do in actions, in that they use face powders, rouge, lipstick, eyebrow pencils, nail polish or coloring--and what not. When a sinner gets truly converted these artificial beautifiers will automatically fall away. People who are truly and deeply spiritual never “doll up” in such manner. It is usually the indifferent who are so fastidious--I mean indifferent to the deeper spiritual things, and indifferent to the Sacred Scriptures. It is in most cases simply done for the purpose of satisfying the lust of the eyes, or else to be in style with those of the worldly nature.

Jezebel, who was a cursed woman, painted her face and tired her head, and you know that her destiny was quite terrible. See 2 Kings 9:27-37. Had she been a pious person she would surely not have “put on” like she did, but then of course that usually goes more or less with the impious ones anyway. Why should saints want to follow these heathenish practices? Jezebel's destiny should be a warning for people today.

“And when thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with *painting*, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; thy lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life.” --Jer. 4:30.

### *Ancient Babylon*

“There have been recent excavations of ancient ruins in Babylon, in which the caskets of hundreds of



women were dug up, and in most of them were found the moderm lipstick, and rouge. This was published not long ago through the Associated News Press of the world, and it was also said that these female skeletons had bobbed hair. How unusually strange, that right now when the last warning message is going forth to come out of Babylon, that these ancient practices of Babylon should thus be published to the world. Surely it is the hand of Yahweh, and it is His purpose that these things should be known, that we should not “lust after worldly customs and practices as they lusted.” Israel was condemned because she wanted to be like the other nations around her; and let us, dear reader, be very careful that we love not the world and the things that are in the world, and suffer a like condemnation.

“Let us just be as Yahweh made us. Why try to improve our looks with paint? Instead of giving permanent improvement, rouge has been proven to be injurious, and to destroy the natural complexion and youthful glow of health and beauty. When once you begin to use it your natural complexion will soon be destroyed and you appear aged and worn. Yahweh's children are going to be satisfied with the appearance Yahweh gave them. Beauty that true men and women admire is not artificial beauty. It is not that which is put on, but that which is real, genuine, and enduring.”

A. N. Dugger in *Advocate of Truth* (Salem, WV).

### *Permanent Waves*

“When we ponder upon the great harvest field now white unto harvest and realize that the laborers are few, we wonder if people are truly concerned about their neighbor's salvation. Millions are going down to certain destruction without warning because professed Christians do not deny themselves.

“When we look upon the leaders, their wives and their children, and see them ignoring the plain words of the apostles, and not denying themselves of one thing they crave, when we see them adorned in costly array; with gold and silver ornaments and permanent waves in their hair, we wonder what Yahweh thinks about it all.

“Do you realize that the price of a permanent wave in a woman's hair will keep a minister and his family in the service of the Master for one entire month in India, where millions are perishing for the lack of the truth? Do you ever stop to think that the extra that you have paid for your “costly” clothing, in excess of that which you actually need, will keep ministers working in the harvest field for Messiah? Does it really mean anything to you to know these things?

“If money is spent for...and foolishness of this old world of sin and souls destroyed because they have never heard the message of salvation, because professed Believers did not love the cause enough, for which Messiah died, that they would deny themselves these ‘extras’ of the world; do you think, dear reader, that will permit them to be saved? This is a question for the reader to answer. It is personal, for salvation is personal.” -- Extracts from *Advocate of Truth*, Vol. 1, No. 22.

### *Bobbed Hair*

#### SHOULD A BELIEVING WOMAN WEAR BOBBED HAIR?

“Paul says, 'But if a woman have long hair it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.' I Cor. 11:15. Paul cried out against bobbed hair in his day for a good reason. The prostitute women of Greece, in the large cities of Athens and Corinth paraded the streets in bobbed hair and so advertised their profession and solicited trade. This was also prevalent in the then large cities of Rome and Egypt. Almost without exception the women of Paris, France, maintained this custom. From them it spread to certain members of the artist colony in Paris and from them to the same class in America. The movie queens of Hollywood, Calif., adopted it to be smart and the rest of the women had to go mad over it and follow suit.

“So the question arises as to whether the Believing woman should be a slave to the craze of fashion and parade around in the style of the prostitutes of old Greece and Rome and the inhabitants of the red light dis-

tricts, or follow the admonition of the Word.

*“There are cases where sickness and medical advice have made it necessary to cut the woman's hair, but that is a different story.* It may be interesting to know that the bobbed hair craze has brought a tremendous increase in baldness among women. The combing and brushing of the hair, necessary when it is long, has the effect of pulling on the hair roots and keeping the blood in circulation. But many are too lazy to do this, so cut it, and the rest follow.

“I have personally seen scores of women with short hair receive the baptism (of the Kodesh Spirit), and most of these were admonished by the Spirit to let their hair grow and some could not receive the baptism until they did. But I have never seen a woman with long hair be admonished by the Spirit to cut it. I have seen many a woman backslide through cutting her hair, but have yet to see the first one get saved by doing so.” F. Lindblade, in *Pentecostal Messenger*.

“A nation rises and falls with the virtue of its women. One can see even in assemblies today what was hardly to be seen in brothels a few years ago. As sin entered the world through woman at the beginning, so she seems bent on finishing the destruction in these last days. The degeneracy of woman marks the nation's fall. Woman leads the man to Yahweh or to the devil. She also trains the children largely.

“Yahweh has made man the ‘head.’ We seek to change the order at our peril. Though man fails, we cannot change Yahweh's natural qualifications. ‘For the husband is the head of the of either obedience or disobedience. The first commandment says, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” --Ex. 20:3. So it is a question of serving and obeying the Almighty, or the gods of lust, pleasure, and fashion. “And if it seem evil unto you to serve Yahweh, choose ye this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh.” --Josh. 24:15.

“And Elijah came unto all the people and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if Yahweh be Elohim, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.” --I Kings 18:21.

“And why call ye me Master, Master, and do not the things which I say?” --Luke 6:46.

Woman was made a HELPMATE for man. She was to be his inspiration, and as we know woman has mostly all through the centuries been looked up to as an inspiration for purity, virtue, and higher spiritual motives. We well remember the times when men would guard their conversation before women, and that many men were won to saintly living through the chaste lives of their wives. It seems that many women, however, finally felt that they should be allowed the privilege of men's sins, and thus they finally demanded men's rights. And since woman suffrage came into existence we have seen a terrible change in women in general. Women began to take up men's jobs, and many began to wear short skirts, bob their hair, wear men's pants (even though they call them slacks), run for government offices, hold offices in assemblies, and even be boss in the homes; and now many have gotten so far that they drink and smoke like the men in general do. In other words, since the last world war woman has come down to man's level, and as a result we have also noticed with it an increase of broken homes and divorces.

Every disobedience has its just recompense of reward (Heb. 2:1-3). And so will it also be with this matter. “As a man soweth, so shall he reap.” Right in the very beginning of the home life, the heavenly Father said, “Thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.” --Gen. 3:16. But is it still true today that man is the ruler or head of the home? Everybody knows that in general this has been reversed. We have a prophecy, evidently referring to the last days, which foretold of this condition, and it reads thus: “As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.” --Isa. 3:12. Whenever people disregard the plans laid down by the Most High, and try to improve upon His ways, you will find that the resulting consequences will be devastating--and that is one of our national sins today.

“But if any man seem to be contentious (about this bobbed hair question), we have no such custom (or fashion, as women bobbing their hair), neither the assemblies of Yahweh.” --I Cor. 11:16. If the true assembly of Yahweh, in the days of the Apostles, did not countenance such a custom or fashion as women bobbing their hair, or men wearing long hair (I Cor. 11:4-16; Ezek. 44:20), why should the remnant believers who are pre-

paring themselves to meet the Bridegroom, have such practices or fashions in their minds? If we are truly children of Yahweh, let us show it by our corresponding works. Long hair is woman's glory, and if she cuts it off, that much of her glory is gone. And what has she left to glory in? The answer is shame (I Cor. 11:16), and that means destruction in the end, according to Phil. 3:18 and 19.

"(For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the stake of Messiah: *whose end is destruction*, whose god is their belly and *whose glory is in their shame*, who mind earthly things.)"

### *An Urgent Appeal in Conclusion*

Dear reader, it may be that some of the points presented in the foregoing treatise are new to you; and you may wonder why you had never heard anything preached about such by your preacher. But it is hoped by the writer that the Scriptural admonitions which have been given will bring a new vision of true religion to you, and that through a full surrender to the wooings of the Kodesh Spirit you will receive unmerited favor sufficient to overcome, and to let your light so shine in this evil world of darkness, that others may see the good works in you and thus glorify the heavenly Father. (Mat. 5:14-16; Phil. 2:14-16). I think that you can easily see that if you profess to believe and yet not live the life, that thus you bring disgrace upon the religion of the Saviour of the world, and more than that, Paul wrote to the Romans (ch. 2 v. 24), "For the name of Yahweh is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written."

"Pure religion and undefiled before Yahweh and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world" --James 1:27. "And they that are Messiah's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." --Gal. 5:24, 25. The secret of an overcoming life is the power of the Kodesh Spirit within, which changes one's nature so much that he will not even have desires to follow worldliness. For anyone to undertake to get by with a lower standard than that which the Most High has revealed and commanded, such a person will eventually learn that the bed was shorter than that a man could stretch himself on it; and that the covering was narrower than that he could wrap himself in it (Isa. 28:20) . "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." -- Prov. 28:13.

A great reformation is needed in the assemblies today. But this is evidently impossible unless the professed followers of the lowly Nazarene will first really get hungry for righteousness, and especially so for the filling of the Kodesh Spirit. And a great many people need a re-conversion. "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent... He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the assemblies." --Rev. 2:4-7.

"Therefore also now, saith Yahweh, *turn* ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and *turn* unto Yahweh your Elohim: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto Yahweh your Elohim?" --Joel 2:12-14.

"Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts; let the bridegroom go forth out of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of Yahweh, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Yahweh, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their Elohim? Then will Yahweh be jealous for his land, and pity his people." --Joel 2:15-18.

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Prov. 14:12) therefore it behooves all of us to be endeavoring to be on the right "track," --and that means a full-salvation path of obedience. If we are true worshippers then we will worship our Father in heaven both in spirit and in truth (John 4:22-24); and that of course is impossible for us to do unless we have had a full born-again experi-

ence in the inward man. It is not sufficient to be merely converted from darkness to light, but we must also be converted from the power of Satan unto Yahweh (Acts 26:18-20). It also means both the keeping of the Ten Commandments and the Testimony of Yahshua the Anointed (Rev. 12:17). Let it be once for all understood that full salvation consists not alone in the keeping of the commandments of Elohim, nor alone in the experience of being filled with the Kodesh Spirit; but one must be both sanctified (Heb. 12:14) and obedient unto the law (Mat. 19:16-22) in order to inherit eternal life.

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” --Isa. 8:20.

A true saint is doubly sealed. That is, with the law and with the Kodesh Spirit. In Isa. 8:13-20 we have a prophecy concerning the time that our Saviour was personally living on this earth, and the 16<sup>th</sup> verse says, “Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.” And in Eph. 4:30 it is commanded: “And grieve not the Kodesh Spirit of Yahweh, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.” It is evident that the mere observance of the Ten-Commandment Law, as far as salvation is concerned, is insufficient. “For the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life.” --2 Cor. 3:6. And no one can really keep the law in the spirit unless he first possesses the Kodesh Spirit. On the other hand, it is also evident that those who disobey will be lost even though they claim to possess so much power that they can prophesy, cast out devils, and do many wonderful works in His name (Mat. 7:21-27).

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of Elohim, and the faith of Yahshua.” --Rev. 14:12.--Evang. Jon Kiesz (1904-1996); Reprinted by permission.