

United Temple Bulletin

P.O. Box 12202



Portland, Oregon 97212

Vol. 4 - Number VII

April 1, 1967

Our Master's Answers to the Questions

"If there was no link between man and the ape, what were the early men like?"

"There could have been men like Adam for some time. History both before and after Jesus must be viewed symbolically rather than literally. The important point is in the meaning. Our calendar was changed at the time of the Roman Empire. Who knows what it was prior to that time, particularly before Abraham?"

"A friend of ours went up into a mountain cave to pray and meditate. He was gone for weeks and weeks, without access to any calendar or keeping a record of any kind. He and his people with him completely forgot the days and had no knowledge of how long they had been there.

"If you don't use a calendar, even now you can not tell how many days have passed from any particular event. Without using a calendar, how could anyone tell whether the time elapsed was 900 years or 90 years? The matter is not important but in its symbolism.

"The prehistoric age is revelation and should not be taken literally. Since it is revelation, the figures appearing prior to Abraham should be regarded symbolically. It is not literally 2,000 years."

"Can we not ask the spirit-world about the exact time of the creation?"

"The spirit-world does not have the same conception of time as we do. It is useless to ask them how many years it has been. Our earth revolves around the sun once a year. But other planets revolve maybe once in every 20 years. So even spirits can not tell us the time in terms of our own time.

"Your Master is not interested in straightening out this question. It may be entirely symbolical. When we say 6,000 years, we do not mean a literal 6,000 years.

We say in the Principles 4, 40, 400, 1600 - all have the same meaning. From King Saul to Solomon was 120 years, but in terms of God's Restoration Providence it only means 40 years, because the three kings only accomplished one thing - the erection of the Temple."

The Legend Of The Raindrop

The legend of the raindrop has a lesson for us all . . .
As it trembled in the heavens questioning whether it should fall
For the glistening raindrop argued to the genie of the sky,
"I am beautiful and lovely as I sparkle here on high...
And hanging here I will become part of the rainbow's hue -
And I'll shimmer like a diamond for all the world to view"
But the genie told the raindrop, "Do not hesitate to go...
For you will be more beautiful if you fall to earth below...
For you will sink into the soil and be lost a while from sight,
But when you reappear on earth, you'll be looked on with delight..
For you will be the raindrop that quenched the thirsty ground -
And helped the lovely flowers to blossom all around...

And in your resurrection you'll appear in queenly clothes...
With the beauty of the lily and the fragrance of the rose...
Then, when you wilt and wither, you'll become part of the earth
And make the soil more fertile and give new flowers birth!...
For there is nothing ever lost or Eternally neglected -
For everything God ever made is always resurrected....

So trust God's all-wise wisdom and doubt the Father never,
For in His Heavenly Kingdom there is nothing lost forever.

- Helen Steiner Rice -

"Why I Believe in Life After Death"

By Norman Vincent Peale

The renowned minister released an article on Easter to the "Family Weekly" March 26, 1967, on his experience of seeing his dead father and refers to his belief that there exists the life after death and the promise of immortality. He is the author of "The Healing of Sorrow", "Sin, Sex and Self-Control", "Adventure in the Holy Land", "The Power of Positive Thinking", etc.

"While none of us has any definite knowledge of life after death, there are hints from time to time that are too strong to be brushed aside. I have known a number of persons who have been close to death and later reported experiences that seemed 'out of this world'. There has been remarkable similarity between these reports - an impression of intense, radiant light; a sensation that an ethereal kind of music is being played; an aura of great happiness and well-being.

"I have even heard people say they felt a Presence with them - a manifestation of love so strong that they could not find words to describe it. Many of these people are so down-to-earth in their everyday lives that I find it impossible to accuse them of self-deception....

"I have heard about other experiences, such as the mysterious and sometimes dramatic moments when the personality of a loved one who has died, seems to reach back and make contact with the consciousness of someone still in this life. Sometimes this takes the form of a dream or an apparent touch, sometimes what seems to be an apparition.

"Scientists have become interested in such phenomena and certainly no longer categorically deny their existence. Dr. J.B. Rhine, the world-famous pioneer in parapsychology, has collected data on many of these cases and feels that they belong to a realm of the mind or spirit that we are just beginning dimly to understand.

"Many such cases have been reported to me by others, but I have had related experiences on several occasions myself. They did not involve any personal brush with death but, rather, encounters with the spirits of loved ones who had died.

"One of these occurred when my mother died. I was in my church, Marble Collegiate Church in New York, preparing a sermon when the news came. Naturally I was deeply grieved. My mother had once told me she would always be with me in spirit when I was in my pulpit, so almost instinctively that is where I went for solace. Then I returned to my office and sat down at my desk. I put my hand on a worn old Bible. At that moment, I felt two cupped hands lightly touch my head and rest there a moment with loving pressure. Then they were gone. Was this imagination....or was this the touch of my mother?

"The most dramatic episode of this type in which I have been involved concerned my father. He had been dead several years when I went to preach one day at a Methodist gathering in Georgia. It was the kind of meeting he loved to attend. Before I was to speak, the congregation walked singing to the platform and continued to sing a fine old hymn, 'At the Cross, At the Cross, Where I First Saw the Light'.

"I was sitting on the platform enjoying the singing when suddenly, among those walking down the center aisle, I SAW MY FATHER.

"Before his death, he had suffered several strokes that left him barely able to speak above a whisper. Now here he was, striding vigorously and singing with his old booming voice. He had a wonderful light on his face. He

seemed about 40, trim, vital, healthy, and handsome. He was smiling at me. For me, there were only my father and I in that big auditorium. Then he vanished. I could see him no more, but I felt his presence deeply.

"Now I am not superstitious. Nor am I over-excitabile. Neither do I think I am prone to hallucinations. I am merely telling you what I saw and felt. It was one of the most vibrant experiences of my life.

"What are we to make of stories such as the ones I have related about others and also about myself? Are they merely fantasies and hallucinations? Or could it be that they are simply the result of unusual organic conditions in the brain? I am certain they are not. They are too consistent. They are too close to the teaching of the Scriptures. They are glimpses of a non-material life, a non-material world that sometimes come to us when our senses are especially attuned or when they are dimmed by the imminence of death.

"Is it not conceivable that around us in this mysterious universe are those we have loved and lost for a while - but that between us is a barrier through which we see only in rare moments? I THINK SO."

(Source: Family Weekly, March 26, 1967)

I Saw Our Master in My Dream"
By Gerald Johnson

I received a wonderful dream revelation during the night of March 21, 1967. Behold, before my eyes was a marriage ceremony taking place in a large building. Approximately sixteen couples were dressed in white robes waiting to be blessed in Holy Marriage.

I was standing near the middle of the room and looked around me to see all that was taking place. I noticed that the couples did not choose their own mates. They had been previously chosen by someone. However, I did not have a mate standing next to me. All couples were eating of a sweet fruit. I, also, had the fruit but was hesitant to take of it. A boy on the floor next to me said "go ahead eat the fruit", so I did and enjoyed its lusciousness. Master Moon made a brief entrance into the room, smiled at everyone and then went back out of the room with something in his hand. It appeared to be a sponge or an anointing cup which he used to sprinkle the couples with a liquid. I looked at the audience watching the ceremony. My father and mother were there. My father did not look too happy about what was taking place, but he accepted it. He was also taking of the fruit.

Berkeley, California

Norma Marie Laux

It was a great day at the campus on Tuesday, March 21st. After setting up the table, displaying literature, signs, etc. the red haired preacher that comes nearly everyday to preach at the campus came and set up his loud speaker and proceeded to preach. He began criticizing words in our posters among other things - trying to make us look ridiculous, but then Gerald circulated among the preacher's audience talking Principles and distributing our tracts. So we turned Satan's attack to God's victory.

Then on Thursday March 23rd the preacher plus several other men came to preach at the campus. This was really tremendous!

These same three men came to our table trying to give us trouble and finally gave up in disgust. When they left our table, Gerald resumed playing his guitar and we began singing. Very shortly another man with a loud, booming voice appeared. The louder he preached, the louder Gerald played and the louder we sang. This continued for about twenty minutes and then a little old man took over, but his voice was not in condition for us; so very shortly the preacher again resumed talking. It was quite a sight to behold! There was a large crowd gathered around the preacher, many keeping time with Gerald's music. After a period of time of competing with our music, Gerald again circulated among the preacher's audience talking to interested people about our movement, distributing our tracts and inviting them to our lectures. The preacher and other speaker's did not try to interfere with what Gerald was doing, but continued to criticize our movement and saying we were going to hell.

Many people came to our table who, I feel, would not have come otherwise. It was so wonderful and uplifting to see and feel how God moves after Satan tries his best to destroy God's work.

God is marching on on the campus but He needs our help and boldness. All avenues are being exercised by us here in the Berkeley Chapel.

BRIEF NEWS REELS

Berkeley, California

The Berkeley chapel is getting a good response to their posters, tracts and, also, several have called in answer to the ad in the campus newspaper "Barb". Many new contacts have been made, including a very conscientious minister who is interested in our teachings and the work our movement is doing in this country and around the world.

San Francisco, California

Mr. Chei returned on Wednesday, March 29th from a trip of several months to Korea and Japan. Welcome back to America, Mr. Chei! We are happy you returned safely!

* * * * *

"Have you learned lessons only of those who admired you, and were tender with you? Have you not learned great lessons from those who braced themselves against you, and with you?" (Walt Whitman)

"Then welcome each rebuff
That turns earth's smoothness rough,
Each sting that bids nor sit, nor stand but go!"
(Robert Browning)