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THE DAYS OF NOAH
By Albert Sims

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A PICTURE OF THE AUTHOR INCLUDED

As hdm0900.jpg, a picture of Albert Sims is included with this publication.

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The question is often asked, What will be the moral condition of the world at the second advent of our Lord; will righteousness or iniquity prevail? Now, if we can ascertain the condition of the world in the Antediluvian Age, we shall know what the condition of the world will be when the Son of Man comes; for our Lord distinctly says, as it was then it shall be when He comes. The Bible plainly tells us what the characteristics of that age were:

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01 -- IT WAS AN AGE OF INVENTIONS, ARTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There were the weapons of Tubalcain, the music of Jubal and the vaunting poetry of Lamech. A rapid progress was made in the mechanical arts, and the consequent invention of many whereby the hardships of the curse were mitigated, and life was rendered more easy and indulgent.

Also a proficiency in the fine arts, which captivated the minds of men, and helped to induce an entire oblivion of God.

This is an age of locomotion, navigation, exploration, discovery, invention, education, culture and society. "At the time of the end many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall increase." Dan. 12:4.

Truly has the poet expressed it:

"We are living, we are dwelling in a grand and awful time,
In an age on ages telling, to be living is sublime,
Hark! the waking up of nations, Gog and Magog to the fray;
Hark ! what soundeth? 'Tis creation groaning for its latter day."

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02 -- IT WAS AN UNBELIEVING AGE

"They knew not until the flood came." Had they believed the revelation they would not have lacked knowledge of the coming flood. Will the last days be noted for infidelity? Let our Lord himself answer. To such an extent will unbelief prevail, he asks the solemn question, "When the Son of Man cometh shall he find faith on the earth?" Scoffers are to abound. The ministry in many places has become so skeptical concerning the cardinal doctrines of the Bible that the Church itself has become honeycombed with infidelity. The Truth says:

"It is in the pulpit, indeed, that the work of disintegration and ruin most rapidly progresses. The more boldly a preacher denies the inspiration of God's word, the atoning sacrifice of Christ and the future punishment of the wicked, the more adroitly he leaves out all flavor of the Gospel in his sermons and substitutes the greatness of man; the more impudently he advertises sensational topics and clap-trap performances worthy of a clown, the more certainly he draws a crowd, and is lauded to the skies by the secular press, which, in many parts of the country, is conducted almost wholly in the interests of infidelity." "That day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed the son of perdition." 2. Thess. 2:3

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03 -- IT WAS A CORRUPT AGE

The cup of iniquity was full. In the second generation from Adam, all flesh had so corrupted its way, that it repented the Lord He had made man on the earth. Only one family was left who walked uprightly before God. The proportion in these days also is much the same. It is not an age of millennial glory that is to welcome the return of the Lord, but a world like Sodom and Gomorrah. The very sins which characterized the time of Noah are rapidly developing at the present time. Crime of every kind is increasing much faster than the population. Says the Christian Herald: "It is a fact that in about the same ratio that the cause of experimental religion declines, immorality and vice increase."

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04 -- IT WAS AN AGE OF VIOLENCE

Violent disregard of the rights and lives of others was a striking feature of the Antediluvians. "There were men of violence (as the Hebrew for "giants" means) in those days; and the earth was filled with violence through them." Today the mob element is everywhere gaining the ascendancy. Murders, suicides, lynchings, etc., have already become so common as to threaten the very foundations of society. Dr. Talmage thus graphically describes the destructive, violent classes of today: "He owns nothing but a knife for universal blood-letting and a nitro-glycerine bomb for universal explosions. He believes in no God, no government, no heaven, no hell, except what he can make on earth. He slew the Czar of Russia; keeps Emperor William of Germany practically imprisoned; killed Abraham Lincoln and William McKinley; would put to death every king and president on earth, and if he had the power, would climb up until he could drive the God of Heaven from His throne -- the universal butcher. In France it is called Communism; in the United States it is called Anarchism; in Russia, Nihilism. That last is the most graphic and descriptive term -- it means complete and eternal smash-up. It would make the holding of property a crime; it would drive a dagger through your heart, apply a torch to your dwelling, and turn over this whole land into the possession of theft, and lust and rapine and murder."

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05 -- IT WAS AN AGE OF SENSUALISM

"They took them wives of all which they chose." It was not the observance of the marriage vow which Jesus condemned in them, for that was Sacred, but it was the gross abuse of it. Speaking of the last days, the Apostle declares men shall be "incontinent." In one country alone divorces now number over 25,000 every year! Impurity is increasing apace in all parts of the land. Crowded divorce courts, divorce lawyers, diseased men and ruined girls tell the same fearful story. On the basis of abundant information gathered by the Salvation Army, there are in the United States 230,000 professional prostitutes. Adding the apprentices, there are a full quarter million, supported by more than a million male prostitutes. They follow this awful trade but five years on an average. This causes 50,000 deaths a year, and 50,000 seductions are needed to fill their places! The police returns show that the whole number of professedly dissolute women in New York City cannot be short of 20,000. In London, England, sometimes called the most Christian city in the world, there are not less than 80,000 belonging to the outcast class.

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06 -- IT WAS AN AGE OF INTEMPERANCE

The expression, "They were eating and drinking," etc., denotes that appetite was one of their ruling passions and must be gratified. They were slaves to their passions. And what of today? In the two most civilized and Christian nations of the world an average of \$200 a year is paid by each individual for alcohol, and for religion one dollar! Think of what that means! Says Rev. D. L.

Taylor: "Of beer alone, twelve of the greatest nations (all [professedly] Christian) make and drink no less than 3,250,000,000 gallons! Every medical authority declares this beer more debasing, more destructive of morals and conscience than are the stronger drinks. This beer, gurgled down the world's throat yearly, would fill a lake twenty feet deep and covering one square mile -- large enough to float all the navies of the world -- and would require 812,500 [railroad]cars, each of twenty tons burden, to carry it. It is impossible to strain all this poisonous beer and liquor through humanity and not spoil the strainer. And that is what is the matter with our race today. Hence poverty, misery, crime, loss of vital stamina to resist evil and general demoralization everywhere." Forty years ago the saloon was a thing unknown in the United States, now there is not a large city in that country which is not controlled by its liquor shops.

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07 -- IT WAS AN AGE OF WORLDLINESS

The days of Sodom were like those of Noah, and it was said of the Sodomites, "They bought, they sold, they planted they builded." All this could have been done lawfully, but when carried to excess it proved their ruin. The Sethite sons of God intermarried with the daughters of the world. The salt of the Church lost its savor. At this point universal corruption set in -- the prelude of universal judgment. A similar state of things exist today. Lukewarmness, worldliness, the form of godliness without the power, neglect of deeply spiritual truths, and the inroad of worldly feasts and amusements seem to leave nothing lacking to fill out the prophetic picture given us in the last days.

The tide of worldliness which has set in among churches of nearly every name, is moving onward with an ever-increasing rapidity and strength, and threatens to carry everything before it. The latest and most ridiculous styles of fashion in dress; operatic singing in churches by ungodly choirs; churches in their pride and jealousy trying to outdo each other in the cost and elegance of their church buildings and courting the world with all manner of questionable amusements in order to secure the means to do it, are prominent characteristics of Christendom in these last days. "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, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." 2 Tim. 1:5. See also Rev. 3:15-18.

Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." -- See also Rev. 3:15-18; 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

Mr. Pember, in his instructive work, entitled, "Earth's Earliest Ages," says:

"The most fearful characteristics of the days of Noah was the unlawful appearance among men of beings from another sphere. This, many would quickly reply, is certainly an event which has not yet startled our age, strange as our experience may be we have still something at least to wait for, before the completion of that fatal circle of influences which ruined the old world. But a

diligent comparison of Scripture with the things that are now taking place among us will give a very different impression, and induce a strong conviction that the advance hosts of this terrible foe have already crossed our borders. For it is no longer possible to deny the supernatural character of the apostasy called Spiritualism, which is spreading through the world with unexampled rapidity, and which attracts its votaries, and retains them within its grasp solely by continual exhibitions of the miraculous. It is vain to speak of that power as mere juggling which has convinced some of the elite of the literary world, which has caught in its meshes many scientific men, who at first only troubled to investigate for the purpose of refutation. Nor, indeed, can anything be more dangerous than utter incredulity; for the wholly incredulous, if suddenly brought face to face with the supernatural, is of all men the most likely to yield entire submission to the priests of the new wonder. Better far is it to prayerfully inquire whether these things are possible, and if so, in what light the Bible teaches us to regard them. We shall thus be armed against all the wiles of the Devil."

Finally, the days of Noah foreshadow the days of Christ's return still further in the following particulars:

1. The people were forewarned of their impending doom.
2. They derided it and made no preparation.
3. They substituted pleasure for piety, as now, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.
4. Only a few prepared for the flood.
5. All were warned and might have escaped.
6. To the multitude the flood was sudden and unlooked-for.
7. Their skepticism gave way to awful consternation and doom.
8. Those who were prepared were caught up out of the flood in the ark and sailed victoriously over. When Jesus comes the resurrected dead and holy living shall be caught up to meet him in the air.
9. When the flood subsided they took possession of the earth. "Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth."

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THE END IS NEAR

Clouds of darkness gathering o'er us,
Awful tidings with them bear;
Scenes of misery spread before us--
Dearth and pestilence and war;

All in one loud, piercing chorus,
Tell us that the end is near

Hearts of men within them failing
For the coming woes they fear:
All their efforts unavailing--
No propitious signs appear;
Sin increasing, crime prevailing,
Tell us that the end is near!

Selfishness in all abounding;
Gold the idol everywhere,
Worshipped by a host confounding,
Gold for all that's good or fair;
Crowds the mammon god surrounding,
Tell us that the end is near!

Formal godliness increasing,
Power denied and forms held dear;
Christ and fashion coalescing,
Forming now the character;
Rites so popular and pleasing,
Tell us that the end is near!

Lawlessness is vastly spreading,
Void of reverence, awe or fear;
Sacred things beneath it treading,
Stamped with God's own signature--
Never once his vengeance dreading--
Tell us that the end is near!

War, the heaviest curse of nations,
Running on its dread career;
While the mass of desolations,
Listless, or applauding, hear
War, with its abominations,
Tell us that the end is near!

Saints of God, all evil hating,
Faithful to the name they bear,
For their coming Saviour waiting,
To be caught up in the air;
Hence their rest and blessing dating,
Tell us that the end is near!

Sinner, wouldst thou in the glory

Of the (cloudless morning) share?
Wouldst thou have this hope before thee,
Wear the crown saints then will wear?
Oh, believe redemption's story;
Look to Christ! the end is near!

Let not earth, thy thoughts engrossing,
Cheat thee of thy portion fair!
Look to Christ, on Him reposing,
Thou shalt happy be, nor fear!
Sinner, haste! the day is closing;
Look to Christ! the end is near!

Should the reader desire to examine more of the overwhelming and ever accumulating mass of evidence on this deeply important subject, we recommend him to read Chapter 9 of our book, "Deepening Shadows, and Coming Glories."

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THE END