

TRUTH CRUSHED.

Judgement is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, equity cannot enter.

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THE SECTS ALL MET IN CHICAGO.

There is something going at Chicago, that the learned call, "The World's Fair," or the "World's Columbian Exposition." Since this is admitted to be by the learned none else than an Exposition of the world, I need say no more about it at present; for no one claims that it is intended to further the kingdom of Christ. But there are religious congresses about Chicago, (and not Jerusalem this time,) and we are told that they all met last month in one grand body, which the learned, again call, the "Parliament of Religions." All the great religions of the world has been represented there. "Eminent men from all parts of the world has been in attendance. Not only all branches of Christianity, including the Greek, Armenian, and Nestorian churches, as well as the Catholic and the different Protestant denominations, but worshippers of Brahma, disciples of Buddha, followers of Confucius and believers in Mahomed." All these were there, we are told, "to set forth the distinctive characteristics of their respective religions."

It is not claimed here by the learned that these representatives of their religious bodies had met for the purpose of presenting the one harmonious and uncontradictory doctrine and religion of Jesus Christ, but that each was there for the purpose of setting forth the "distinctive characteristics of their religions."

They do well in classing them "their religions," for certainly these religions are not of Christ. Christ had one religion, but they

have many. Christ's religion was and is unpopular, but their's are popular. The learned are aware that the religions of these latter days has not the fruit of Primitive Christianity; and that they are not opposed and rejected by the world, or false of earth. Hence they try to justify these false and corrupt religious bodies, by claiming that, "Things have changed, and the time has at last come when genuine liberty of conscience is recognized by all the leaders of the religions of the present day, so that the age of persecution is past."

Yes, these religionists have become quite liberal in what they recognize as religions of Christ. They are liberal enough now to commit any kind of a crime, and propagate any kind of error over the world, and still claim they are of Christ. They are quite liberal, indeed. They are about as liberal as Satan himself.

Now, let us see about this matter. If times have so changed that God is now in these religious bodies in their present lying corrupt state, we ought to know it. We don't think he is. In the first place, the leaders in these religious organizations tell us that the Bible is the word of God, and they take texts out of it, as if it was; and they tell us also that we are to receive the word of God in its "entirety," and that the "Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation."

Now can they prove from the Bible that God has changed, or that Christ has changed in these latter days? Does the Bible tell us that Jesus Christ would ever have ministers whom he recognized as his, that are at friendship with a carnal world? Does the Bible tell us that Jesus has many religious faiths? or that he ever will recognize but "One Lord, one faith, one baptism?" Does not his word tell us that those who believe in him "are all

one in Christ Jesus," whether "male or female?" Yet the sects would have us believe that Christ has so changed that he has established many religions; although the book tells us that "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, to-day, and forever." The book also tells us that "The word of the Lord endureth forever." "The scriptures cannot be broken." Our Saviour's servants hear his voice, and they do follow him; but they know not the voice of these sect strangers; neither will they follow them. The book tells us that they are none else but "thieves and robbers."

No, Christ is not divided. He has but one body of believers, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether bond or free, whether male or female; neither do we differ from Primitive Christians; for if we "be Christ's, then are we Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Again, "God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect."

So we see that the Christ of the New Testament has but one body of believers that he recognizes in his word, and that body includes all the just; for the just shall live by faith. The just believe God's word, and become one body thereby. The sects present many bodies who, believe in another Christ entirely different from the Christ of the New Testament; and these bodies present unjust persons in them, which make up their numbers, and they have not faith in the one only risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ of the New Testament. Hence they become many thereby; and are at friendship with the wicked; and they imagine that times have changed, and that the age of persecution is past. Cannot any one see that they are none else but blind leaders of the blind?

The divines of to-day are very popular among the masses; but the book tells us that all of God's true prophets were persecuted and put to death. "Woe unto you," says our Saviour, "when all men shall speak well of you, for so spake the fathers concerning the false prophets." Again, "It is impossible but that offences will come," against you disciples of mine, "but woe unto him through whom they come." Again, "If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub, how much more those of his household?" "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you,

and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil falsely, for my sake." "If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified."

But St. Stephen said in the face of his learned persecutors, "Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers."

This has been the one undivided testimony through all Bible ages; yet the sectarians and covetous ministers of to-day, would have us believe that offences for the Gospel's sake have ceased, and that persecutions are no more. But they should know that there was but little or no persecution in the ages past against false prophets and teachers: they were just as popular, and as much at friendship with the world as these of our day.

There is no difference between the false teachers of to-day and the false prophets of past ages, on this point. Neither is there any difference between the true prophets of the ages past and the few true teachers who insist to-day upon the spirit and teachings of the New Testament, and its Christ.

Luther, and Zwingli, and their co-laborers told the people of their day that the Church of Jesus Christ had been bought with blood, and with blood it would be maintained in the world. We also cast in this same truthful testimony. The word of God has the same power in it that it has ever had. The sects have lost this light and power by walking in their own ways, after their own thoughts.

They are trying to justify themselves in their rebellion to Christ, the same as did the Sadducees and Pharisees. They are at friendship with the wicked that do the persecuting, and of course, there is no one to persecute them. They are spoken well of, the same as were all ancient false prophets by the ancient fathers. But there rests a woe on them. No marvel they want times, and things, and God, and his Gospel, different now. The signs of a true ministry are foreign to them. Christ's teachings condemn them all the way through. They will not allow the people to unite in Christ, and upon his word. They neither enter themselves, nor suffer those that would

to enter. It is a sore lamentation that ministers can not be got to live up to their ordinations. Here is a quotation of how a Methodist Bishop is ordained:

"Are you ready with faithful diligence to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's word, and both privately and openly to call upon and encourage others to the same? Ans. I am ready, the Lord being my helper."

Do Methodist ministers keep this vow? Were they, at it in Chicago last month, when at friendship with all the false teachers of all the erroneous doctrines of earth in what the learned call the "World's Parliament of Religions?" They are gone clean contrary to their own ordination, to their discipline, to the bible, to all that is pure and true. They ought by all means to come back to the gospel, and think upon the things contained in the book!

No one who reads this article with the spirit or light of Christ in him can any longer uphold sectarianism, or even sanction it in his heart. Sectarianism must go; it is doomed by God's word. Let it go, and let the truth which is being crushed, rise again.

"O the bitter pain and sorrow
That a time could ever be,
When I proudly said to Jesus,"
"All of sects, and none of thee."

But the people do not believe God's word, therefore they sport over it. They are bound to the sects, and to their christs. But there is no other name given whereby men can be saved except this Christ of the New Testament, which we preach.

"The great Physician now is near,
The sympathizing Jesus:
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer,
Oh, hear the voice of Jesus.

"Sweetest note in seraph song,
Sweetest Name on mortal tongue,
Sweetest carol ever sung,
Jesus, blessed Jesus."

"Your many sins are all forgiven,
Oh, hear the voice of Jesus;
Go on your way in peace to heaven,
And wear a crown with Jesus.

"All glory to the dying Lamb!
I now believe in Jesus;
I love the blessed Saviour's name,
I love the name of Jesus.

"The children too, both great and small,
Who love the name of Jesus;
May now accept the gracious call
To work and live for Jesus.

"Come, brethren, help me sing his praise,
Oh, praise the name of Jesus;
Come, sisters, all your voices raise,
Oh, bless the name of Jesus.

"His name dispels my guilt and fear,
No other name but Jesus;
Oh, how my soul delights to hear
The precious name of Jesus.

"And when to that bright world above,
We rise to see our Jesus,
We'll sing around the throne of love,
His name, the name of Jesus."

FALSE RELIGION IS WORSE THAN NO RELIGION.

There are a number of reasons why that false religion is worse than no religion. In the first place, the man who is filled with false religion is just as carnal as the man that does not profess to serve God at all. This being the case, the false religionist has to get rid of his religion and his carnality both before he can serve God acceptably, whereas the non-professor has only to be so purified and enlightened within so as to move him to become a devoted and earnest worshipper of God. No one likes to have his religion exposed, and when it is done the man finds himself in error, and the spirit of persecution rises up to stop the light of the gospel that shows him to be wrong. Hence we find that about all the persecutions against christians in Bible times were instigated by false religionists and false professors. Base men have been stirred up by them to misuse and abuse christians. Men have been suborned to cast false testimony against saints. The Devil himself is a religious being, and he is the prime author of all persecutions. No marvel his servants transform themselves as ministers of light. They have more power for evil, too, than the non-professor. Men are inclined to honor and follow them because of their profession. They flatter the people with the hopes of heaven while in their sins. People had rather be flattered as to repent. They do not like to repent; it is unpleasant to them. They risk their chances otherwise.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS SENT US
FROM DIFFERENT STATES.

Below we print the substance of several letters sent us, but modified so as to make them present facts in a proper shape. They show that there is evil ahead, and that the sects are still raging wild, and can not be checked by truth or virtue. Death only will stop their madness or folly. One writes:

"I see that the House has repealed the purchasing clause of the Sherman law, and I think the Senate will, then your Colorado governor can have 'blood flowing to the bridle's bit,' and Cleveland can work on the free trade plan, and the manufactures can shut down, and then we can see what the labor class will do. The trouble may come that way. The anarchists and laborers are uniting, and the People's party will be with them, and they may cause trouble. If they do, Cleveland will have his hands full." Another writes:

"Sect religion is on a boom in this part of the world; one sect trying to beat the other. It seems to me they are completely wrapt up in ignorance. Their goodness never lasts more than one or two weeks. I tell them there is no religion in hollowing and cutting up like they do; for we are known by our every day fruits. They look kind of hard at me and say nothing. I think it makes some of them mad." Yet another writes:

"This is a very wicked age of the world, and growing worse all the time. People who never heard the gospel can not be guilty of any worse crime. I never hear of a preacher of any denomination speaking out against it. Thos. Swindoll says they are afraid they will lose their grip-sack. I look at all denominations, see them trailing the same road, rich and poor, white and black. Not far from here a negro was hung by negroes some time back. Two colored women talked as if they believed it was right, and justified the deed upon the ground that the white people who helped to catch him gave him up to the negro mob. Three young white men had some kind of a difficulty with a negro after night; there are different rumors about it; any way he stuck his knife in one of them, killed him

right on the spot. The white people are hunting him daily, but have not found him yet. It is rumored all around here, that if they get him they will burn him. I do not doubt it; for it seems as if the people are ready for anything in the way of evil. This took place in Yalabushy county. I suppose they were whipping the negro or else he would not have killed one of them. That is so common now. It is a wonder to me that more don't get killed.

"If there is any political party or sect of any kind that is after the right thing now I can't see it. Nearly every one is clinging to some creed tight as wax. Words of truth cannot reach them. They won't have it at all. They will swallow anything that is told them by their preacher that is false.

"I thought the Advents would soon play out here on account of their main preacher joining the Baptists, but I see I was mistaken; they wrote up to head-quarters for a preacher, and two came. I went to hear them yesterday and to-day. The preacher run about all the passages he quoted to the final end of time; but stated that the millennium will set in when Christ comes. They say the end is near at hand. They say the earth will be heaven. They skip about and get all the scripture they can and take it right there; that is, all they think will suit their creed or theory.

"That is the kind of stuff they are poking at this people; and some are swallowing it down hard and fast. I feel sad to sit and listen at them tell the people where heaven will be at, and what a glorious time they will have yet never once tell them correctly how they must be saved, or what will cause them to be lost, which is the main point. They have licensed two young men to preach. They will preach the same erroneous stuff now, as these other two are going away soon."

It is evident that all sects have left the truth of God's book;—following the errors of carnal men. If they would labor as hard to spread truth and right as they do their errors and wrongs, the world would change for the better right away. But they are not called to a work so noble; for they are walking in their own ways, after their own thoughts. They are of the world, and the world receives and honors them.