

Article of the Month

November, 2018

WHAT WOULD YOU THINK IF...?

Even those of us who fully believe that we are on the threshold of Christ's kingdom on earth can oftentimes lose sight of the major changes that will occur. We are so surrounded by the "necessities" and the realities of our present lives that we easily forget how much of what we are used to will disappear — and not be missed!

We are entering the month in which Americans celebrate "Thanksgiving." We will soon take notice of how much we have to be thankful for. But let's join in a contemplation of the things which will soon happen, and realize what a different world mankind will soon experience — the kind of thanksgiving that will dwarf anything we have ever experienced! Our contemplations will be so limited! But they may start our thinking processes in a direction that helps us all to anxiously anticipate the answer to the prayer, "Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."

POLITICS

The subject of politics dominates much of the news and conversation. Philosophers have long suggested that the best form of government is a benevolent dictator. This sounds insane to most of us. But the reason it sounds insane is that we cannot trust ANY human being to be purely benevolent. But our Lord Jesus will, indeed, be the benevolent dictator that all will be able to trust and to love — the only one who gave his own life for our benefit, and the only one with sufficient power and wisdom to lead the Kingdom of God for its first thousand years.

Isaiah stated that "The government shall be on his shoulder." Paul wrote this lovely summary of the matter:

"...God's merciful purpose for the government of the world when the times are ripe for it — the purpose which He has cherished in His own mind of restoring the whole creation to find its one Head in Christ; yes, things in heaven and things on earth, to find their one Head in him."

Ephesians 1:10 (Weymouth)

We, in our human experience, cannot imagine what this will be like. We will no longer need elections because we will have the perfect king in charge. Graft, corruption, fraud, scheming, scandals — such things as these will never occur in this new government. The new King will need no armies because his power to control all situations will be without

Return to Article-of-the-Month Index

challenge. As Isaiah wrote: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks...They shall learn war no more.”

This government will not need taxes! It will not need police forces, fire departments, humane societies, welfare systems. The list is nearly interminable! We can only find it pleasurable to contemplate such a government.

FINANCES

Once the profit motive is gone, and once concern for the other individuals of the race reaches perfection, the idea of finances will become ludicrous. Because the earth, with willing humanity behind its resources, will supply everything everyone needs, the exchange of funds — the existence of salaries, banks, mortgage institutions, loans, interest, debt, monetary excesses and deficiencies — will all be things of the past. Just dream about that!

SOCIETY

This category of contemplation is just too large for us! As mankind is ushered back toward perfection, the number of things that will disappear from our vocabularies is beyond our comprehension. There will no longer be lawyers, jailers, doctors, morticians, pest-control workers, social workers, therapists, laborers, insurers, tax collectors, bondsmen, judges, etc. The list seems inexhaustible!

When we see the news broadcasts of starving peoples, children with horrible futures (if any futures at all), refugees, petty squabbles about who will take care of the immigrants or the illegals or the deprived, we almost instinctively feel that the situation is IMPOSSIBLE! But that is the point! It is NOT impossible. The solutions have been planned and are in process of being established.

PERSONAL WELL-BEING

Again we find an inexhaustible list! What will it be like when we are rid of dying, aging, sickness, injury, mental imbalances, stresses? What will it be like when homelessness, hunger, loneliness, lack of direction, poor memories, prejudices, handicaps and inequalities all disappear? What will it be like when we each can plan for an eternity of creativity — doing the things that most interest us without hindrances and restraints?

Return to Article-of-the-Month Index

GOOD

Here is a category most of humanity has had little time to think about — let alone to experience. We will have the time to define and practice *THAT WHICH IS RIGHT*. Once the whole creation understands righteousness and its effect on other humans, and has the ability to practice that righteousness *without failing*, we will have an inner peace such as humans have never experienced.

FAMILY

Because we all are descended from common parents, we will, in at least one sense, all be one family. We will probably spend millennia just getting to know all of our relatives and learning of their colorful stories. Old myths will vanish when all individuals return and explain “what really happened.” All of our long-lost relatives will return. Those with whom we have had unfortunate experiences will, like all, reform and become beloved members of the smaller as well as the larger family. Contemplations in this area of experience are beyond our imaginations! Some may approach the subject with fears and apprehensions. But our God has planned it all for our benefit and delight. We need not fear the experiences to come.

NATURE

If only the taming of nature were to be accomplished, the world would be an incredibly better place! There will be no more wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, destructive high and low temperatures, droughts, floods, lightning strikes, insect infestations, plant and animal diseases. What there will be is PLENTY. “The earth shall yield its increase.” Perfection of climates will produce food of quality beyond compare and quantity enough for all. Animals will no longer fear man, nor will men fear animals. Nature will supply clean and renewable resources for energy. The earth will, by anybody’s definition, become a paradise without any threats to its existence or quality.

EVEN SO, LET IT COME!

We even find it difficult to keep listing categories of delights for humanity. Do this for yourself. Such contemplations are healthful to the spirit and also give us an inner peace as we face the terrible things the world now has to offer.