

Pastor Russell's Sermon

CONSTANTINE, TRINITY MAKER

Father, His Son and His Holy Spirit Made One in Person. TRINITY NOT IN THE BIBLE.

Pastor Russell Says the Roman Emperor Put it in the Nicene Creed, A. D. 325—Confusion Followed. Some Claim Three Gods in One Person—Others Claim One God in Three Persons—All Say Incomprehensible Mystery—Constantine's Trinity Fiat Enforced by Cruel Persecutions. Back to the Bible and Away from Creeds is the Message of the Hour Urged Upon All Lovers of Truth.



PASTOR RUSSELL

London, Aug. 17.—Pastor Russell addressed the London Tabernacle congregation twice today. We report one of his discourses from the text, "To us there is one God, the Father, and one Lord Jesus Christ."—1 Corinthians 8:6.

The Pastor declared that the confusion which has rent the Church of God into hundreds of sects has come through neglect of the Bible. The confusion is recognized by all Christian people everywhere, but the cause is not generally discerned. Church creeds are admitted to be defective, notwithstanding the truths which they all contain. Creed clashes are the direct result of the serious errors in all creeds.

Realizing this, why should not all Christians abandon and demolish their creeds? They purport to be pictures of the Almighty God, and His attitude toward man and His resultant plans. No heathen idol is so grotesque, so terrible, so horrible, as that which the most intelligent Christian people have portrayed with the pen. We are all ashamed of having misrepresented our Creator as worse in His purposes toward man than the vilest of humanity—as bad as we know how to picture Satan himself and his attitude. Why linger longer? If Jehovah be God, let us worship Him—let the horrible Baal of the Dark Ages be no longer our God, let us destroy his creed images and endeavor to forget them.

Emperor Constantine's Nicene Creed. After the Christian Church had forgotten that the Master declared that His Twelve Apostles would constitute the chief foundation stones of the New Jerusalem, they began to recognize their bishops as successors to the Twelve—apostolic bishops. They overlooked the fact that while God had prophetically told that the place of Judas would be filled by another, this particularity itself intimated that there would be no successors to The Twelve.

The real successor to Judas, Bible Students recognize in St. Paul. Through him God has given us the major portion of the New Testament, and special light upon the Church's path, which is to "shine more and more unto the perfect Day." We now see that the eleven Apostles, before they had been confirmed in Apostleship by the Pentecostal blessing, erred in choosing Matthias, whom God merely ignored.

Under these circumstances the bishops rose gradually to power and influence as inspired oracles of God. And proportionately, The Twelve chosen as the Lord's mouthpieces to His Church lost their influence. It was easier to take the word of the bishops than to search the Scriptures at a time when copies of the Bible were very expensive, and only few were able to read.

scripts written at an earlier date. The Revised Version shows quite distinctly how the passage reads in the old manuscripts, and how the forgers to support the trinitarian theory were adroitly accomplished.

"To Us There is One God." The Old Testament Scriptures represent the Divine Message of four thousand years, and say not a word respecting the trinity. On the contrary, they declare, "Hear, O Israel, Jehovah thy God is one God"; "Thou shalt have no other gods." To keep in line with this definite statement, the trinitarian theory claims that this one God has three persons, although others claim that there are three Gods but only one person. It seems impossible to get a trinitarian to decide what he really believes; he hedges with the word "Mystery."

The New Testament is as explicit as the Old in its statement that there is but one Supreme God. Jesus testified to this, declaring, "My Father is greater than I"—greater than all. (John 14:28.) Jesus declared that of Himself He could do nothing; that He was merely the Mouthpiece of God in His teachings, and the Finger of God in His working of miracles. He directed that His followers should worship the Father, and declared, when leaving, "I ascend to My Father and to your Father, to My God and to your God."—John 20:17.

Our Lord did indeed declare the oneness, or harmony, between Himself and the Father, but He explained that this was because He ignored any will of His own, coming not to do His own will, but the will of the Father who sent Him. He exhorted His disciples similarly to have the same mind, the same will, the same spirit, which actuated Him—the Holy Spirit, the mind or disposition to do the will of the Father in Heaven. His prayer for His disciples was to the same effect, "That they all may be one"—even as "Thou, Father, and I are—one in heart, mind, will, disposition, or holiness of spirit, harmony with God."—John 17:20, 21.

What could be more explicit than our text, "To us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things"; additionally, "To us there is one Lord (or Master), Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him"? The Apostle here not only shows the relationship between the Father and Son, but he ignores and thus disowns entirely the Holy Spirit as another God. Clearly and plainly enough he sets forth time and again that the Holy Spirit is the spirit, will, mind, power, disposition, etc., in fullest conformity to that of the Father. There is no mystery about the matter, none whatever.

"The Alpha and the Omega." Our Lord Jesus declared Himself to be the Alpha and the Omega of the Divine direct creation (Revelation 1:8.) He was its Beginning and its End, according to John 1:1-5. Our Redeemer, known before He became a man as the Logos, was the Bestowing of the Divine creation and the End of it. It is that, ever after the creation of the Logos, Jehovah operated in and through Him in respect to all the stupendous works of creation. His name, the Logos, indicates all this; it signifies the Divine Message, or Messenger, the One through whom Jehovah's utterances and decrees went forth.

So we read in the Greek, "In the beginning was the Logos, and the Logos was with the God, and the Logos was a God." The same was in the beginning with the God. By Him were all things made that were made, and without Him was not one thing made. And the Logos was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory as the glory of the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Constantine the Trinity-Maker. The Roman Emperor Constantine saw a vision—probably when wide awake—a vision of greater prosperity for himself and his Empire, by a recognition of Christianity as the religion of his Empire instead of paganism, which had previously been recognized. For that moment a certain portion of the Church of Christ had long labored. Abandoning the thought of the Second Coming of Jesus to establish His Kingdom, they desired unwarlike, or union, with earthly empires, thus to be set as a queen upon the throne of earthly dominion and honor.

Constantine's influence in Church affairs became great. He proposed the calling of a council of all the bishops, numbering about one thousand. He wanted to know why these apostolic bishops, all inspired with the same Spirit of God, taught so differently. He offered to pay the expenses of all the bishops to the Council at Nice; but the majority, fearing that the Emperor would be under the control of the Roman bishop (not yet claiming to be pope), declined to attend.

Only 284 came. But even they were unable to agree, the great point of dispute being the one we are discussing. Many held to the Bible teaching that Jehovah is the One Supreme God; that the Lord Jesus Christ was His Son and honored Agent in all His creative work; and that He, having manifested faith and loyalty to the Father to the extent of leaving the Heavenly glory, becoming a man and dying, the Just for the unjust, had been exalted by the Father to His own right hand of angels and power.

But the mystification thought of the bishops had gained a hold on some of the bishops, amongst others the Bishop of Rome. The questions at issue were argued for months. With all his powerful influence, the Bishop of Rome could not bring the majority of the Council to acknowledge the doctrine of the trinity. Thereupon Constantine decided the matter; and the Nicene Creed, backed by the Emperor's authority and power, was declared to be the Christian faith, and anything contrary to it, heresy.

Yet be it remembered that only about one-third of the bishops were present at the Council; and that they could not be coerced into substituting mystery for the Word of God, until the Emperor lent his influence. His decree was that Christian doctrine as thus defined in the Nicene Creed should have the prestige of the support of the Emperor and of all his subordinate officers throughout the Roman Empire. All believing contrary to this creed would be heretics, and be considered in opposition to the Emperor, and such had the privilege of leaving the Empire. Thus was the mystery of trinity enshrined by a heathen emperor, not baptized—not even sprinkled.

The history of the persecution of all who would not worship the trinitarian mystery would fill volumes. One illustration is familiar to all—the burning of Servetus, by good Brother Calvin's signature to the death warrant. Is it any wonder that with such conditions prevailing for centuries, the Bible ignored and the creeds worshipped, the true teachings of the Bible on many subjects were completely lost sight of? Is it any wonder that, when in the sixteenth century God began to bring the Bible back to the attention of the world, it was burned by the bishops in front of St. Paul's Cathedral in London? Is it any wonder that the Presbyterians of that time were persecuted for studying it, and could meet only in secret?

Is it any wonder that the men who began afresh to study the Bible, but who had their minds thickened with the creeds of centuries, were considerably handicapped? Is it any wonder if some of their conceptions of correct Bible interpretation were rude and crude? Have not our various Protestant denominations marked fresh endeavors to get nearer to the light? Now as we are in the dawning of the New Dispensation, and God is lifting the veil of ignorance in general, is it any wonder that we can see the true teachings of the Bible more clearly than did our forefathers? Surely it is what we might expect, as well as what the Bible distinctly declares: "The mystery of God shall be finished," which He has kept secret from the foundation of the world.

The Difficulty at Present. It seems sad indeed that now, in the dawning of the New Era, and its clearer light, on the Bible as well as upon all things, so few Christian people should be prepared to profit by these clearer views. Only in our day is thorough Bible study possible for the majority in civilized lands; for only of late is there a sufficiency of education to admit of intelligent Bible study. What is the explanation of the failure to make use of all these blessings, favors, privileges and opportunities for Bible study? It is loss of faith; as Jesus said: "When the Son of Man cometh, shall He find the faith on the earth?" It would appear that with more advantages than any previous generation, ours has less faith in God and less trust in the Bible as His Word. The cause of this can readily be traced, and it appalls us! Our great institutions of learning, founded by our Bible-loving, God-fearing forefathers, have become worldly-wise. They have followed the course of leaning to human understanding, against which we were forewarned by God—that the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God and will perish.

Following the guidance of so-called Higher Critics, the rank and file of professors of colleges have lost their faith, and at the present time, all over Christendom, are engaged in destroying the faith of the most intelligent young men and women of the world. Having lost faith in the Bible themselves, they think they are doing a real service in destroying the faith of others. Truly, they know not what they do; as the Bible declares, the wisdom of our wise men has perished; the understanding of the prudent men, the wealthy, etc., who govern these, is not apparent.—Isaiah 29:14. With college graduates sneering at the Bible, and knowing Divine worship, except in the sense of drawing nigh with their lips, is it any wonder that the spirit of this infidelity is gradually extending to the masses—the less educated? Is it any wonder that those who have nothing in particular to gain from religion except comfort and hope, bereft of these, care nothing for Bible study or for church attendance, except to hear the music or a brilliant address or to renew acquaintanceships?

Balm of Gilead the Remedy. The only remedy which can hinder the world from rapidly rushing on toward socialism and anarchy, in other disregard of God and His Divine arrangements, is a return to Bible study. Not that the people be invited back to study the Bible along the lines of the creeds. Indeed, in order to attract attention to the Word of God, it is necessary that Christians should unite in smashing their creeds and in telling the truth as it is written in the Bible. Character and the Divine Plan? With other Bible Students, I make this my chief business in life. Having found the true Message of God's Word to be beautiful, heart-comforting and head-satisfying, we are prepared to recommend it to others and to offer them a helping hand out of the mist, fog, misunderstandings, misstatements and interpolations of the Dark Ages. Following the words of Jesus and the inspired Twelve, and the Prophets of old, we find that our God is a wholly different one from the horrible picture God in the creeds of the Dark Ages. We rejoice in the true God, and in the true Savior, and in the Spirit of Holiness, which comes to us as followers of Christ in proportion as we receive Him and His teachings into our hearts and lives.

Huge Argentine Dreadnought Biggest Battleship In World

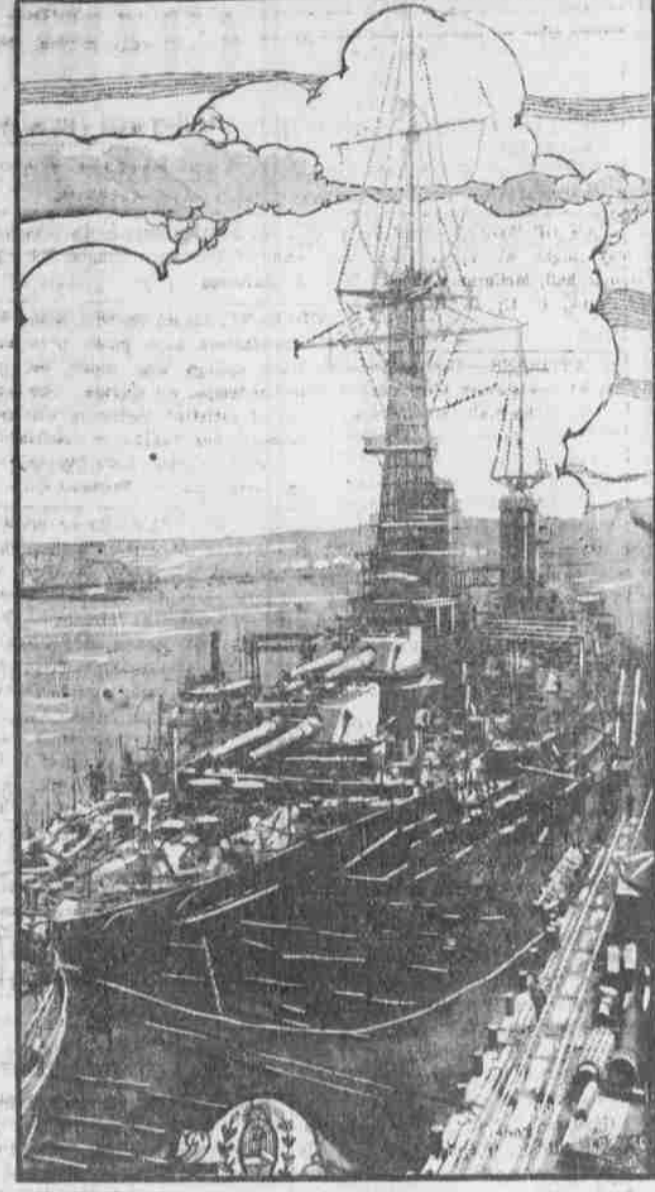


Photo by American Press Association.

THIS is the biggest battleship in the world. It's the Argentine Dreadnought *Morano Rivadavia*. She was sniped at Quincy, Mass., where she was launched, Aug. 20, 1911. Her sponsor was Senora de Naon, wife of the Argentine minister to the United States. The displacement of the *Rivadavia* is 27,500 tons, and she has twelve twelve-inch guns, all of which can be fired at one broadside. The dimensions of the dreadnought are: Length, 577.5 feet; width, 90 feet. She was scheduled to start on her trial trip over the government course at Rockland, Me., Aug. 12. A number of United States officers will be aboard her.

THE OPEN FORUM

The Capital Journal invites public discussion in this department. Let both sides of all matters be fully brought out—it is not the purpose of this newspaper to do the thinking for its readers.

THE CITY'S AFFAIRS.

Ed. Journal: There seems at this time to be an abundant amount of anxiety on the part of a number of our Salem citizens to place in line for recall several city officials.

ERRONEOUS IDEA PREVAILS IT IS PAINLESS METHOD

Violent Pains Wrack System and There Is Agony Until Death Comes Slowly to Relief of Patient.

ETIQUETTE OF TODAY

By Mrs. Frank Learned. Culture is the result of the constant choice of everything that makes life beautiful. In manners, habits, thoughts or conversation the cultivated man or woman aims to choose the best. If one has been negligent in these matters a new start may be made.

BICHLORIDE OF MERCURY WORST SUICIDE POISON

Denver Physician Warns Those Contemplating Shuffling Off Mortal Coil to Heed Him.

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The Markets

The wheat market shows a fairly firm tone, but prices remain unchanged. A report is made by experts that the new crop is showing a deficiency in gluten, but it is thought that this will not prove serious. Indications are that the crop will be somewhat heavier in the United States than was at first estimated, but the surplus will not be large enough to change prices. Hops are steady in price, 20 cents being the figures at which all transfers and contracts are being made. The poultry market is almost bare and prices are stiffening. The fruit supply has outrun the demand and the market is oversupplied and prices weaker. New apples are selling at from \$1 to \$1.75 a box, and Bartlett pears find ready sale at from \$2.25 to \$2.50 per box.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Track prices: New Club, 78¢; new Bluebonnet, 82¢; new Fortyfold, 80¢; new Red Russian, 77¢. Millstuffs—Bran \$24.25 per ton; shorts, \$26.27; middlings, \$31. Flour—Patents, \$4.70 per barrel; straights, \$4.10; exports, \$3.65@3.65; valley, \$4.70; Graham, \$4.60; whole wheat, \$4.80. Corn—Whole, \$3.4; cracked, \$35 per ton. Hay—Fancy Idaho timothy, \$17@18; fancy eastern Oregon timothy, \$15@16; timothy and clover, \$14@15; timothy and alfalfa, \$12.50; clover, \$8.50@9; oats and vetch, \$10@11; cheat, 10@11; valley grain hay, \$10@11. Oats—No. 1, white, \$27; new, \$24.50 per ton. Barley—Feed, \$24@24.50 per ton; brewing, nominal; rolled, \$27@28. Groceries, Dried Fruits, Etc. Dried Fruits—Apples, 10¢ per lb.; currants, 10¢; apricots, 12¢@14¢; peaches, 8¢@11¢; prunes, Italian, 8¢@10¢; silver, 18¢; figs, white and black, 6¢@7¢; currents, 9¢; raisins, loose Muscatel 6¢@7¢; bleached Thompson, 11¢, unbleached Sultanina, 8¢; seeded, 7¢@8¢. Coffee—Roasted, in drums, 18¢@32¢ per lb. Nuts—Walnuts, 17¢@18¢ per lb.; Brazil nuts, 12¢; almonds, 15¢; almonds, 16¢@18¢; pecans, 17¢; coconuts, 90¢@\$1 per dozen. Salt—Graunat 1, \$14 per ton; half-ground, 100%, \$10 per ton; 50%, \$10.75 per ton. Beans—Small white, \$6.75; large white, \$6.90; Lima, \$6.30; pink, \$4.25; red Mexican, 5¢; bayon, \$5.90. Sugar—Dry granulated, \$5.55; fruit and berry, \$5.55; beet, \$5.35; Extra C, \$5.05; powdered, barrels, \$5.80; cubes, barrels, \$5.95. Rice—No. 1 Japan, 5¢@5.5¢; cheaper grades, 4½¢; southern head, 5¢@6¢. Honey—Choice, \$3.25@3.75 per case.

LOCAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

Bran, per ton. Shorts, per ton. Wheat, per bushel. Oats, per bushel. Chittim bark, per lb. Hay, timothy. Oats and vetch. Clover, per ton. Cheat, per ton. Butter and Eggs. Butterfat, per lb. Creamery butter, per lb. Country butter, per lb. Eggs, per dozen. Poultry. Fryers. Hens, per lb. Roosters, per lb. Steers. Cows, per cwt. Hogs, fat, per lb. Stock ops, per lb. Eweas, per lb. Spring lambs, per lb. Veal, according to quality. Pelts. Dry, per lb. Salted country pelts, each. Lamb pelts, each.

Snap

New and up-to-date modern 6 rooms, bath, two toilets, stationary wash tubs, electric and fixtures, plumbing, sewer pipe and cold water, shades, screen porch, assessments paid, two large lawns, street, close to school and car line, property is well worth \$1000.00 away, must sell at a sacrifice, \$2150.00 terms. Any one wishing a modern home at a lower price you could build for yourself, see this property.

Bechtel & Bynon write fine seven good companies. Large lot 66x132 on paved only \$200. This is a snap. SUBURBAN HOME. We have a fine suburban home and a half acre of fine land, \$2800.00 terms. For stock or dairy farm. For grain, hay or potato land. For fruit or timber land. See BECHTEL & BYNON, 347 State Street. A vast amount of ill health is impaired digestion. When the stomach fails to perform its functions the whole system becomes deranged. A few doses of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy will regulate your bowels, and give you a healthy appetite. Why not you? For sale by...