**“The Hope of His Coming” The Bible Echo 15, 1.**

E. J. Waggoner

The glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ is the “blessed hope” that is set before the church of Christ. It has been the hope of the church in all ages. The ancient prophets foretold in minutest detail “the sufferings of Christ,” and at His first advent the “sure word of prophecy” was fulfilled to the letter, but “the glory that should follow” was no less the theme of inspired penmen, and the followers of Christ were pointed forward to the time when His glory should be revealed, as the time when they also should “appear with Him in glory,” and “be glad also with exceeding joy.” 1 Peter 4:13; Colossians 3:4. It was with this hope that our Saviour comforted His sorrowing disciples. {BEST January 1, 1900, par. 1}

“I will come *again*.” This means “another time once more.” Not thousands of times, as they would have us believe who claim that in fulfilment of His promise he comes whenever a saint dies, but only *once more* will He come again, to consummate the great plan of salvation. To this the apostle gave emphatic testimony, in these words: “Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear *the second time* without sin unto salvation.” Hebrews 9:28. It is appointed unto men once to die. In order that men might have life, Christ was once offered for sin, bearing “our sins in His own body on the tree;” and so, when His work for sinners shall have been finished, He will come once more—“the second time”—not bearing the sins of the world, as at his first advent, but for the salvation of those who, by means of His sacrifice and mediation, have “put away sin.” {BEST January 1, 1900, par. 2}

If He should not come the second time, His first coming would have been in vain. Said He, “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there ye may be also.” He comes to take to Himself the purchase of His own blood. He has gone to prepare a place for those who become His friends indeed, and when He has the place prepared for them, he will come and take them to it. His coming will be the grand consummation of the plan of salvation. In vain would be all His sufferings for men; in vain would be the faith which men have placed in him, if He should not return to complete that which He has begun. {BEST January 1, 1900, par. 3}

E. J. WAGGONER.

**“Terrible Manifestations of Mercy” The Bible Echo 15, 2.**

E. J. Waggoner

The terrors of Sinai reveal the mercies of Calvary. Men are accustomed to think and speak of the terrors of the law as given on Sinai, but they forget that Calvary is equally terrible. Was it death to touch the mount where the law was proclaimed? even so Calvary meant death. There were thunders and darkness and earthquake at Sinai, and at Calvary there were the same. Yea, even from the throne of grace, to which we are invited to come and obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need, proceed lightnings and thunderings, and voices which cause the earth to quake. Revelation 4:5; 11:19. The awfulness of Calvary, which wrung from the lips of the Saviour the cry, “My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?” and which broke His heart, show the greatness of the law which had been broken. On the cross Jesus magnified the law of God. There it was shown that so unchangeable is the law, that it will take the life even of the only begotten Son of God, when He is “numbered among the transgressors.” But the greater and more awful it appears, the more may we rejoice, because we know that God has pledged His own existence to the bestowal of all its righteousness upon us. What a blessed promise it is, that God will magnify the law. Let no one speak lightly of that which Christ by His death made honourable. {BEST January 8, 1900, par. 1}

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**“Not Under the Law” The Bible Echo 15, 4.**

E. J. Waggoner

“But we are not under the law.” No indeed, thank the Lord for that. And why are we not under it? Because we walk in it. Have you forgotten that the message of comfort prepares the way of the Lord? and that the undefiled in the way are those who walk in the law of the Lord? Psalm 119:1-3. We are delivered from the law, which condemned us to death for our transgression, that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter. Romans 7:4-6. And this is done by the body of Christ, in whom the law finds its perfect fulfillment. When we are joined to Christ in perfection, then the same fullness of the law will be found in us. The curse of the law is not to them that do it, but upon them that do not continue in all things that are written in it. Galatians 3:10-13. Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law; that is, He has redeemed us from disobedience, unto perfect obedience. {BEST January 22, 1900, par. 1}

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