**“Sacrifices” The Signs of the Times, 23, 18.**

E. J. Waggoner

Sacrifices.-There is only one sacrifice in the Christian religion, and that was made by Christ. We have never made a sacrifice. God does not call us to make sacrifices, but to accept the sacrifice that has been made. True, we have to give up all things that pertain to self, but giving up self is simply taking Christ. {SITI May 6, 1897, p. 3.1}

Suppose a poor beggar comes to us, with ragged clothing, and a few coppers in his pocket, and we say to him, “Take off these rags, and we will give you a new suit; and give up the coppers, and we will fill your pockets with sovereigns.” Would he begin to mourn, or talk about the great sacrifice he was called upon to make in giving up his rags and the coppers he had in them? {SITI May 6, 1897, p. 3.2}

Of course we give up something, but what sacrifice is it, when we get ten thousand times as much, and infinitely more? God wants us to give up our miserable ways, and take his ways; our narrow, circumscribed thoughts, and take his thoughts; our poverty, and get his robes; our gross ignorance, and get his wisdom; our wickedness, and get his righteousness. E. J. W. {SITI May 6, 1897, p. 3.3}

**“Our High Calling” The Signs of the Times, 23, 19.**

E. J. Waggoner

When Peter, in his boat on the Sea of Galilee, saw the power of Jesus of Nazareth over the sea and its inhabitants, he fell down before the Lord, saying, “Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” Luke 5:8. It was the same feeling that prompted Isaiah, when he saw the same Lord sitting upon a throne high and lifted up, to exclaim, “Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.” Isaiah 6:5. {SITI May 13, 1897, p. 2.1}

It is worthy of note, also, that both those men who thus confess their sinfulness, were at once accepted as workers. To Peter, the Lord said, “Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men,” literally, “thou shalt be catching men alive.” But Peter had to be converted before he could strengthen the brethren; and likewise the coal from off the altar had to touch the lips of Isaiah, and purge his sin, before he could say, “Here am I; send me,” to the call “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” and could be told, “Go.” {SITI May 13, 1897, p. 2.2}

Herein is hope and a wondrous calling for every sinner. Christ came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. He receives and saves sinners, and then, having received them into his confidence, he sends them forth as his representatives, to carry his message of mercy to other sinners. He takes us as associates with him. He was made flesh, and took the nature of fallen humanity, in order to save men; and so he commits the work not to angels, but to those who have felt the power of the sins that oppress those to whom they are sent. To thus work with Christ is the highest honor that the universe can bestow. E. J. W. {SITI May 13, 1897, p. 2.3}

**“Only a Shadow” The Signs of the Times, 23, 21.**

E. J. Waggoner

Only a Shadow. —Every shadow of darkness, every cloud of gloom, every fear of whatever kind, is simply the shadow of death and of the devil. He has cast his hellish shadow over the world. Now, as Zacharias prophesied by the Holy Ghost, at the birth of his son, the Lord has visited us and delivered us out of the hand of our enemies, that we “might serve him without fear.” {SITI May 27, 1897, p. 323.1}

He has delivered us from every tremor of fear, and hath sent the Dayspring from on high “to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.” If you have his life, you have his light. What is there to be afraid of? To the one in Christ, death itself is only a shadow. The sting is gone. Satan can cast the shadow over him, but there is nothing in a shadow to be afraid of. He is delivered from the power of darkness. He is going through an enemy’s land, whose weapons are all broken. He is going into a nest of scorpions, whose stings have been removed. He is going into a prison-house, the key of which is held by One who loves him. E. J. W. {SITI May 27, 1897, p. 323.2}