

# “Where Two Seas Met”

From the above title you might conclude this would be a lesson in geography. Though such might well be. This is not true. In Acts 27:41 we find a description of the plight of Paul and his fellow-passengers on his voyage to Rome. The ship ran aground where the seas from the south and the north of the island met. Thus cross-current wrecked the ship.

How, many moral and spiritual shipwrecks have come in much the same way! Figuratively, the “seas” of life meet in many ways to the loss of those caught. Note some “seas” that meet, and note the savage harm done:

## A Wrong Act to Oppose

### Another Wrong Act

How many times have you heard someone say, “This may not be right, but what he (or she) did is not right either!” Here you have two “seas” meeting to destroy one's soul. Note the language of Romans 12:20-21. One is not to be overcome of evil, but “overcome evil with good.” If you choose evil methods to combat evil, you lose.

A wrong act cannot remedy another wrong act. Peter was ready to kill the people who came for Christ in the garden (Matthew 26:50-53) and nothing could have suited Satan more: but Jesus would not stoop to the devil's methods.

When Samuel felt that he was rejected, he would still pray for Israel (I Samuel 12:23). Though they rejected Samuel and wanted a king, this would not cause Samuel to use wrong methods in opposing them,

## Ignorance Meets

### Religious Error

When people will not seek to become informed, they will be ignorant. This ignorance is willful (Hosea 4:6). When people reject knowledge (8) Romans 1:28), they can blame nobody but themselves.

When false teachers find such conditions, they have a “field day.” They can lead such people into almost anything! The blind leading the blind, both fall into the ditch (Matthew 15:14).

Note the crowd that came to Jesus in Matthew 22:23. There were those who say that there is no resurrection. They presented a hypothetical question, bringing up the supposed case of a woman who had married seven brothers in succession. This was according to the Levirate law – when one died, she married another brother. Watch them gloat! They just knew (?) Jesus could not solve this complex problem and hold to the resurrection! But Jesus showed them that their problem was in their ignorance of the power of God and of the Scriptures, (read Matthew 22:29-30). Suppose Jesus had not known the Truth! Suppose He had not known the Scriptures! What then???? Error would have been triumphant!

When a false teacher comes along now, does not the same danger exist? What causes people to be swept into the neo-Pentecostal movement, for example? Error and ignorance meet! Havoc is wrought when this occurs.

## Liberalism Meets

### Arrogance and Dissatisfaction

Watch a “liberal” operate within a church. He (or she) will seek a weak or disgruntled member to begin to work on. If he can find those who feel neglected, he will befriend them to win their confidence. As Absalom of old, he will “steal their hearts” (II Samuel 15:6).

When these forces meet, you can see the beginning of discord and confusion. James would describe them just as they are “sensual, devilish” (James. 3:15). This cunning deceit will serve no good purpose. Watch your attitude, for you may be sure that the “liberals” are just waiting for you to become disenchanted; and they then will begin to tell you how bad the church, the elders, and the *status quo* really are.

## BE ON GUARD!

Remember that “where two seas meet” shipwrecks take place. Don't allow your soul to become part of the debris (I Corinthians 10:12).

Winfred Clark

Deceased

# BELVEDERE BEACON

“Ye are the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14)

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## Out of Tune Out of Fellowship

Some years ago, musicians noted that errand boys in a certain part of London all whistled out of tune as they went about their work. It was talked about and someone suggested that it was because the bells of Westminster were slightly out of tune. Something had gone wrong with the chimes and they were discordant. The boys did not know there was anything wrong with the peals, and quite unconsciously they had copied their pitch.

So we tend to copy the people with whom we associate we borrow thoughts from the books we read and the programs to which we listen, almost without knowing it.

God has given us His Word which is the absolute pitch of life and living. If we learn to sing by it, we shall easily detect the false in all of the music of the world. Man's conscience is a wonderful thing, as long as it is trained by the Word of Truth. When trained by something other than the Word, a man's conscience will not hurt when the truth is violated (cf. Acts 26:9).

Paul Harvey tells the story of the uncertain soldier in our Civil War who, figuring to play it safe, dressed himself in a blue coat and gray pants and tip-toed out onto the field of battle. He got shot from both directions!

The Bible is full of examples of individuals who compromised in one form or another and their ensuing losses. Lot who separated from Abram and moved as far as Sodom (Gen. 13:12-13; 19:1-29), Samson who compromised with Delilah (Jud. 16:1-2), and Solomon who loved many foreign women (1 Kin. 11:1-4) are but a few examples.

What about times when we are tempted to compromise our faith or beliefs? Will we stay strong or try and wear the blue and gray? Think about it!

Author Unknown

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY:

Bible Classes for all ages 10.00 am.

Morning Worship 11.00 am.

Evening Worship 6.00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes for all ages 7.00 p.m.

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Professor Arnold H. Guyot, LLD (1807- 1884) a renowned Swiss-American geologist and geographer was a professor of geology and physical geography at Princeton University wrote the following in the conclusion to his book "Creation or The Biblical Cosmology in The Light Of Modern Science" published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1889, p. 135 – 136:

"Such is the grand cosmogonic week described by Moses. To a sincere and unprejudiced mind it must be evident that these great outlines are the same as those which modern science enables us to trace, however imperfect and unsettled the data afforded by scientific researches may appear on many points.

Whatever modifications in our present view of the development of the universe and the globe may be expected from new discoveries, the prominent features of this vast picture will remain, and these only are delineated in this admirable account of Genesis.

These outlines were sufficient for the moral purposes of the book; the scientific details are for us patiently to investigate. They were, no doubt, unknown to Moses ; as the details of the life and of the work of the Saviour were unknown to the great prophets, who announced his coming and traced out with master hand his character and mission, centuries before his appearance on the earth.

But the same divine hand which lifted, for Daniel and Isaiah, the veil which covered the tableau of the time to come, unveiled to the eyes of the author of Genesis, by a series of graphic visions and pictures, the earliest ages of the creation. Thus Moses was the prophet of the past, as Daniel and Isaiah and many others were the prophets of the future."

Today, because of his views of the Bible would be laughed at by many of his contemporaries for holding such "ridiculous" views. What has changed? Has the Bible changed? No. The change is that many "Scientists" now reject out of hand the biblical record without proof because of their preconceived notions. Many no longer have a belief in God and consequently any idea that there was a Creator and that He would inspire a book that, while not being a science textbook is ahead of modern science in its statements. However, his words, written as a result of his extensive studies, are worthy of note as he confirms the inspiration of the biblical record, including the first chapters of the book of Genesis which some today, even some supposed Christians, like to reject as "myth."

*Ken Chumbley*

**NEWS AND NOTES**

Keep in your prayers the following: Helen Culpepper, Pam Gossett and mother, Lavonne McClish, Linda Chumbley, and Rachel Fitzpatrick's aunt (Eula Baker) who has cancer, Maomi Aaron' sister who has having health problems, and Tim Smith.

Our next Pot Luck meal will be on August 31 after the evening services. An Italian theme for the food has been suggested. Plan to stay and eat with us.

In addition to Kimberly and Jennifer Wilson being at the University of Georgia in Athens, Natalie Aaron is attending USC at Aiken and Parys Mitchell is attending Piedmont Technical College in Edgefield continuing their education. We pray that all will go well with them in their studies.

Rachel Fitzpatrick has been out of town for vacation.

## How Many Of These...

How many of the following have you done since you last read your Bible?

Watched television?

Read the newspaper?

Read the TV Guide?

Took a nap?

Gone to the movies?

Read a novel?

Gone to bed?

Visited with friends?

Made a phone call?

Gone on vacation?

You know whether too much time has passed since your last study of the Word...  
only you.... and the Lord.

*Tim Smith  
Dothan, AL*