

COME TO CHURCH SUNDAY!

You Have Something For the Church

∴ The Church Has Something For You

"PLACING IN NOMINATION
THE NAME OF THE
CHRISTIAN'S CANDIDATE"

By Rev. G. Whitcomb Ellers,
Pastor of Baptist Church,
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The first volume of the World's History was finished. No novelist ever produced a romance half so beautiful as that with which the first chapter opens, nor a tragedy

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half so black as that with which it closes.

The opening scene is laid in a garden planted by the hand of God Himself. Earth's fairest flowers were blooming there without a thorn to pierce the hand of those that gathered them. There too, are found trees bearing all manner of fruit. Through the midst of the garden flows a pure river of water. In the midst of the garden is the Eden home where in peace and love unstained by a single evil thought or act dwell the first human pair, the father and mother of us all. Never did bride and groom begin life under such favorable advantages. "God put man in the garden of Eden to dress it and keep it." "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it."

Here at the very birth of the race God is asserting His sovereignty. Man's first sin was not the stealing of an apple from God's tree, simply, it was a revolt against the sovereign rights of God. It was a denial of the sovereign rights of God and the blasphemous assumption that man owned what had so freely been placed in his care.

Two thousand years roll by and we come to the closing chapter of volume one. Noah for a hundred and forty years had been preaching that God was going to judge the earth for its sin of unbelief. The quiet communion gave way to the foulest blasphemy. Then followed the deluge, and the earth is a great morgue filled with unburied dead.

The second volume opens, again

the earth is blossoming in the sunshine of God's smile. A new family beginning a new era. Behind them lay two thousand years of history, a history of the terrible consequences of sin as well as a history of God's forbearing love. Sin, Sin, Sin. In two thousand years more the race had sunk so low in sin that when the Son of God appeared among them they nailed Him to a Roman cross. Within that two thousand year era there is recorded the rise and fall of some of the greatest world powers of all history. Babylon, Medio, Persian, Grecian, Roman.

Third volume opens with the fifth century of our era, and was marked by the decline of the Roman Empire. This marked the passing of the great system of social order, of society, of civilization. That civilization had been existing for hundreds of years. Nobody living at that time ever imagined that the Roman empire was going to disappear. It had become in the minds of the people living in that era an eternal thing, yet, in the period of two hundred years the greatest order of society the world has ever known absolutely disappeared. Yet, as I said, no man living in the fourth and fifth centuries had any idea that anything like this was going to happen, that the Roman empire was going to disappear.

At any rate, Rome fell, was succeeded by the Dark ages when everything known as civilization disappeared. Man returned to savagery. There was no light burning, except the light of the Christian Church. Society passed into the

Medieval Ages, and a new society known as Feudalism. What we mean by Feudalism is an order of society based on the idea of loyalty, loyalty of the servant to the master. Out of the complete chaos of the Dark Ages came this new type of society.

Feudalism was the rule of the aristocracy. They maintained that type of social order for hundreds of years. Then something happened. We came to the fourth crisis, roughly speaking, it came from the fourteenth to the fifteenth century of our time. Rome took at least three hundred years to decline, or fall. The Feudal System took several hundred years. At the close of the Middle Ages came this second crisis in our western world which is described as the breaking up of Feudalism.

Feudalism was succeeded by what we know today as Industrialism as the new order of society. Just as Imperial Rome was succeeded by Feudalism, so Feudalism was succeeded by modern Industrialism. Industrialism is characteristically the rule of the middle class of Feudalism was characteristically the rule of the aristocrats. When Feudalism began to go to pieces aristocracy which felt it owned the world was amazed to discover power and control passing out of its hands into the hands of another class—the despised class—the middle class as we know them today. The aristocrats tried to resist the transfer of power but there was nothing they could do. Industrialism came to take the place of Feudalism which meant the seat of power was transferred from the

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ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES WILL BE GLAD TO WELCOME YOU SUNDAY.

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