

## III

## The Consummation of Human History

Adam and Eve who were made through the Word were to be made perfect by passing through the three stages, Regeneration, Growth, and Perfection. And after their maturity they were to be conjoined by conjugal love. It was the ideal and purpose of creation to make the world the garden of Eden, and make Adam and Eve have dominion over the world, and to be fruitful and multiply sinless children. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'" (Gen. 1: 27) Adam and Eve had the potential to grow to perfection in the course of a certain period as

fruits have the potential to ripen.

They fell in the third degree of the stage of Growth and thus became sinful and could no longer remain under God's principle, but were captives under the satanic domination. Hell is where fallen mankind remain under satanic domination cut off from God's love. To designate satan as the prince of the power of the air (Eph.2:2) means that satan is the ruler of this non-principle world. For fallen man a savior became necessary and the final goal of his salvation is to restore him to the highest standard of perfection according to the divine ideal of creation. In other words it is the purpose of the divine providence throughout history to restore mankind to the standard of perfection and realization on earth in the purpose of human creation which has never yet been attained. "I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it." (Is.46:11) If the sun and moon were to be darkened before the divine ideal of creation is realized as some people suggest the Creator will have failed to accomplish His purpose. If the Divine ideal of creation had been realized on earth there would not have been such miseries and misfortunes as the flood of Noah, wars, diseases and ill-fated death which are the results of the fall of man. There would be a much larger population on earth than at present time. It was God's intention that the whole earth should be the Garden of Eden, and not a restricted area as originally given to Adam.

The man who should have dominated the garden was overthrown by satan and the whole universe has been groaning in travail since then. "For

the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons the redemption of our bodies." (Rom. 8:10-)

Rejoicing at the creation God said "It was good and God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good." (Gen. 1:31) If it was good it must have had eternity, unchangeability, and uniqueness. The essential meaning of Regeneration and Resurrection is to restore fallen men to their original state of creation. If man had not fallen eternal life would have begun with his birth. However on account of the fall of the first man we are born dead and destined to be regenerated and raised from death. "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven". It means that the ideal of creation would be realized on earth and man should be restored to the original state of creation. The restored world will be sinless world and an earthly kingdom of heaven. So Jesus and John the Baptist preached "Repent, the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

It is said in the Revelation, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." (Rev. 22:13) The world God created is eternal and there will not be an end. But the fallen world had its beginning and it

must have its end, and the original world of creation must be restored according to the ideal of God. Therefore the history of mankind is that of Restoration according to Divine Providence. In other words man had been made through the Word but on account of his fall the Word was lost and the purpose of the Word was not realized. God gave the Word - the Bible - to make anew the image and likeness of God in man. The history is that of the providence of salvation by means of the Word. The work of re-creating is also done according to the principle of creation. The word given for the purpose of re-creating to Regeneration Stage is the Old Testament. The Word given for the purpose of recreating to Growth Stage is the New Testament. There will again be a Completed Testament which will lead one to the Stage of Perfection.

Man is made perfect through the three stages, Regeneration, Growth, and Perfection. The words of Jesus are written in the New Testament which is the promise given to his bride to be. The words that he will give us when he comes again should be the Completed Testament which will be the fulfilment of the two previous covenants. Therefore the age of the Completed Testament will be the restored age after the Second Advent. The close of the age is the consummation of the New Testament Age, and it will be an end of the sovereignty of evil. By the fall of a nation we mean the fall of the sovereignty of the nation and not the people and country. So at the last day the sovereignty of satan will be destroyed and the sovereignty of God will be established. God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh; for the earth is filled with violence through them; behold, I

will destroy them with the earth." (Gen. 6:13) At the time of Noah the earth was not destroyed but evil was. It was God's providence to restore the Garden of Eden by closing the history of sins by the time of Noah in sixteen hundred years since the fall of Adam. Therefore the time of Noah was also called the close of the age. Jesus came as a Judge as well as a Saviour. "The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son." (John 5:22) And they thought that He would judge with fire, because it was written in the book of Malachi. "For behold the day comes, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble, the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch." (Mal. 4:1-) And it was also said "The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many." (Mt. 27:51-53) With Jesus God wished to close the history of sin which had extended from the time of Noah, and to accomplish the providence of salvation, but owing to his death on the cross it was again prolonged to the time of the Second Advent.

Some believe that the Lord of Second Advent will come as a judge and will judge with fire and the bodies of saints who have fallen asleep will be raised then. This was not fulfilled literally even at the time of the first advent and so it will never happen literally. "He shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked." (Is. 11:4) The judgment with fire is the judgment with the word that will be brought by the Lord of Second

Advent. At the last day all creatures are not destroyed but made new. "Behold, I make all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end." (Rev. 21:5,6) "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more." (Rev. 21:1) This first heaven and first earth that has passed away are the heaven and earth of the New Testament age where Jesus was the Lord. The new heaven and the new earth means the new dispensation age of the Completed Testament when the Lord of Second Advent appears. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken; then will appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven." (Math. 24:29-) This means the ministry of Jesus and the Holy Spirit will be over with the close of the New Testament age. "And I saw the holy city new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband, and I heard a great voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away." (Rev. 21:2-4) This is the new age of the Completed Testament age which will commence with the Second Advent. It will be the restored age.

"He drove out the man; and at the east of the

garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life." (Gen. 3:24) The way to the tree of life is denied to man on account of the fall and it must be opened to man again. "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates." (Rev. 22:14) The greatest hope for fallen man is to end the history of sin and enter the restored Eden and with washed robes partake of the tree of life. Therefore the history of God's providence over six thousand years was to restore the tree of life which had been lost to man since the fall. The tree of life spoken of in the Revelation represents the Lord of Second Advent. Accordingly the tree of life in the garden of Eden represents the perfect Adam to be, and Jesus as well. Hence Jesus is called the last Adam. "Thus it is written, the first Adam became a living being; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit." (I Cor. 15:45) "Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come." (Rom. 5:14)

It is right for historians to point out that the history of mankind is reverting to its primitive form. There are signs that man is doing this.

Firstly, today individuals and nations seek freedom by all means throughout the world. This is one of the signs of restoration. For the garden of Eden was an ideal world of freedom.

Secondly, today the equality of man and woman is claimed world-wide and the right of woman is being recognized and the status of woman raised. This is also a sign of restoration. God created

man and woman equal after the image and likeness of God. Womanhood has been down-trodden since Eve committed sin and enticed Adam to fall.

Thirdly, in these days the protection of human rights is intensely maintained all over the world. This is also a sign of restoration. Man is the most precious being in the whole universe since he is made in the image of God and is the object with whom God wishes to have the correlation of give-and-take, and is destined to be the Lord of all creation in heaven and earth. Since the fall man's status became lower than angels, and the value of man as an individual has been disregarded.

Fourthly, the world is now divided into two great blocs. The free world and the Communist world. This is the first time in history that the world is divided into just two factions. The two 'blocs' represent Cain and Abel on an universal scale. God providence for salvation is to transfer the sovereignty of evil to that of good. Naturally the wars between good and evil have been unavoidable. But wars for seizing land, lives, and treasures have come to an end.

Now the only war still to be fought will be between the Communist world and the Free World unless the Communist world makes a voluntary surrender to the Free World. The Communist world is the bloc which denies God and represents Cain although there are individual Christians in it. On the other hand, Abel is represented by the Free World which recognizes God although reversely there are many non-Christians in that bloc. God permitted both Cain and Abel to bear fruits on a world-wide scale. After Abel's bloc subdues Cain's bloc future wars will be prohibited by the United



Nations and a unified world will thus be brought into being. In this world there will be reformation of Christianity and it will result in the unification of all denominations and other religions. Finally one ideal world based on the truth of God will be established. Then the Lord of Advent will appear and the garden of Eden will be restored. If the fall of man had not taken place physical science would have progressed in six hundred years since the creation as far as it has today. After one ideal world is brought into being the worry and anxiety which come from the lack of food, clothing, and shelter will cease to exist, because the money spent on armaments will be used to produce the necessities of life and the progress of science will provide the maximum convenience for life. Atomic energy will be used for production only. Man's life will become longer. So far the people of all classes (the upper, middle, and lower ) have had their times of prosperity in the world while the conscientious and righteous people whom God loved had no opportunity of advancement. God created the world for such a people and He will restore the world for them and realize His purpose of creation in the end. God has been working through the long history of six thousand years to see this one day. The prophets, Apostles, and saints will also rejoice with the Lord. It is the day that God's will will be done on earth as it is in heaven. It is the day that we will become perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect. This is the goal to which we must run our race with all our endeavour.