

“Watching for the Day”

FOR EIGHTEEN centuries God’s faithful people have been watching for the dawning of the glorious Millennial Day. They have realized that, as the Bible teaches, the world is in darkness under the rule of the Prince of Darkness, who now exercises authority through his control of “the children of disobedience”; and these, by reason of ignorance, and weakness, etc., are much more numerous than the children of obedience. — *Ephesians 2:2*

The followers of Jesus, through the testimony of the Prophets of the Old Testament, as well as through the words of Jesus and the Apostles, in the New Testament, have been expecting “the Kingdom of God’s dear Son.” They have never known how long the waiting time would be; but properly they have left the matter in the Lord’s hands. From an earthly viewpoint it has been a long while since sin entered the world—over six thousand years! And it has been a long time ~~also~~ since Jesus died for the sins of the world—over eighteen hundred years! But the time has not been long from the Divine standpoint, the Lord declaring that a thousand years ~~is are~~ but as one day with Him.

Now we begin to see the dawning of the New Dispensation, and perceive that the six great Days from Adam are already in the past. Chronologically we have entered the great Seventh Day, or Sabbath, which is to last a thousand years. We see that we have been in ~~that this~~ great Sabbath time ~~more than over~~ forty years. And behold, what wonderful years these have been!—none like them ever before. Nearly all of our modern conveniences have come to us during this period. Gradually man is attaining greater freedom from necessity of toil and sweat of face, and has more time for self-development and improvement. The comforts of life are spreading in every direction, and the world is becoming very, very rich. By degrees the wilderness is blossoming as the rose, and the solitary places ~~becoming become~~ like the Garden of Eden, as the Lord foretold.—*Isaiah 35:1; Ezekiel 36:35.*

These blessings are not coming in some miraculous way, but nevertheless are of the Lord. He is lifting the veil before the human mind: and lo, as if by magic, our fields are yielding their increase, artesian wells refresh the deserts, human skill is filling the earth with splendid flowers and fruits! Our streets and highways are replete with convenient arrangement for our comfort and transportation; and bring within our reach the treasures of the whole world.

With the eye of faith we see the shadows flee away. Not yet, however, has Messiah’s Kingdom been fully established; nor has the Sun of Righteousness risen with healing in His beams, to scatter all the miasma of sin and death. This will not be fully accomplished until the Church shall be completed and glorified with her Lord; for He has declared that she, with Himself, is to be that “Sun of Righteousness,” which is to scatter the world’s blight and sin, so that all mankind may return to the image and likeness of God, lost in Eden, redeemed at Calvary.—*Matthew 13:13.*