

## God's Way Out

### ***The "Birthday" of the World***

God was present on earth in a special personal way during the creation. And though His work was finished as the sun sank on Friday evening, it is not recorded that He then left the world.

No. On the seventh day He "rested." The hosts of heaven, "the morning stars," sang together in joy, and God Himself rejoiced in His new-born children. Rejoiced as earthly parents rejoice over the birth of their treasured offspring. No wonder angels and man sang for joy: "Glory to God in the Highest. Great and mighty are Thy works, O Lord Most High!"

To the newly created pair this must have been a day of loving companionship with God Himself. God Himself was their companion and teacher. They listened to His voice as He walked with them in the cool of the day. Never to be forgotten was the first wonderful rest-day, "the birthday of the world." "Saturday" almost seems a profane name to use for it.

"And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it." Made it holy; set it apart for a holy use; so that when the next Sabbath came the happy pair in the garden would rejoice to lay down their light tasks and have companionship with God in fuller measure than in the working days of the week. And every succeeding Sabbath was to bring a renewal of this blessed experience.

Even if they had never sinned, the Sabbath would have continued to be observed for ever. It had nothing to do with sin or sacrifice or redemption. It was not a type, shadow, or figure. It would have existed throughout eternity as a glad reminder that the great Father whom men worshipped was the living God, the Creator of the world. It exists still. God has commanded its observance that we may ever remember His love and power, and find rest and renewal of body, mind, and spirit as we worship Him. We should observe it and remember the paradise of God.

This beautiful garden of Eden, "Paradise," as it has been called, was to be the center of the new kingdom. In course of time the happy voices of children should be heard in these lovely groves. Here boys and girls should smile in their safe dreaming and awake to the joys of each new day with all the tireless vigor of healthful youth. And parents' hearts should echo their laughter with never a thought of care.

That home in Eden was to be Earth's first "Garden City." It was God's plan that as the human race multiplied they would spread out from this "mother-country" to all parts of the world, making homes all over the earth after the model of Eden.

So would all men in the time to come look back to that free, beautiful Garden City as "the mother of us all." [8] Yes, the spirit of Eden was "God's way of joy and happiness."

#### **REFERENCES:**

1. Exodus 20: 11;
2. Isaiah 45: 18;
3. "The World's Quest," page 28;
4. Genesis 6:4;
5. Daniel 12:3; Matthew 13:43; Acts 3: 21;
6. 1 Corinthians 12:1-31;
7. Tennyson's "Locksley Hall";
8. Isaiah 54:1, 2; Galatians 4: 26, 27.