

claim freedom for the negroes, and to be the chief servant of his country. "Never neglect young life ; it is the seed of the future ; it is the hope of the world."

We pass now from the little helpless infant to the nations toiling in bondage in the valley of the Nile.

What was the motive of the oppressor ? It was fear, v. 10. The policy that suggested itself to the cruel mind of Pharaoh was frightfulness. He determined to maltreat and terrorize the Israelites and destroy their little children. That was "an easy creed." When the Germans sank hospital ships, or murdered civilians, they were trying Pharaoh's method of ridding themselves of troublesome opposition.

But frightfulness did not succeed in the past any better than in the War ended last November. The Israelites waxed stronger though the slave driver's lash fell on their bleeding backs without cessation. No doubt some large cities, and such monuments as the Pyramids, were erected by forced labor, and the Egyptian junkers thought only : "How powerful we are, and how weak and miserable are these Israelites." Yet God had his great purpose to be carried out by this enslaved people, just as he had his plan for the little Hebrew infant floating among the bulrushes of the river. Israel never quite forgot her humble origin, and in after days one of her poets, reflecting on the far-off and bitter days of slavery, burst out with :

"He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death,

And brake their bands in sunder.

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,

And for his wonderful works to the children of men !" —Ps. 107 : 14, 15.

The modern interpretation of this ancient story is not far to seek. The great War was a struggle to the end against the tyranny of a modern Pharaoh. The ruthless spirit of the

oppressor is to be seen in the devastated areas of Europe, but think in particular of a million Armenians slaughtered by the Turk, the ally of the Kaiser, the unspeakable crimes against women and children in all the ravaged countries, France, Serbia, Russia, Roumania, Belgium. Egypt pales into insignificance, in the matter of guilt, in comparison with Germany.

What is the problem that troubled us when we read the horrible story of modern oppression, that great conspiracy against human peace and happiness ? Was it not this : "O, Lord, how long ?"

Yet just as the Egyptian was overthrown because he stood for an inhuman policy, so also was German inhumanity be destroyed, and the right cause was triumphant in the end.

But are there any other ways in which we may be enslaved ? As individuals, we may be in bondage to vicious habits. The habit may be known only to ourselves, or it may be well known. It may be avarice, jealousy, indolence, profanity, narrow sectarianism and bigotry or blind partizanship that sees no fault in one's political party and votes for it whether it is right or wrong. Jesus accused the Pharisees of being slaves. They hotly resented the imputation, but Jesus was right, for they were the bond servants of narrow and blinding ecclesiasticism. Again, a country may be in bondage to the liquor traffic. It shames us to speak of Britain in this respect.

One of the most dangerous tyrannies in our country is the tyranny of the man who wishes to impose his private interpretation of a text or book of the Bible on others. Instead of trying to become better acquainted with the immeasurably noble spirit of Jesus, many would bind heavy burdens about the neck of their fellows, so you have Adventists, Perfectionists, and those who insist in finding an account of present events in the book of Daniel, and so many others who do not understand that the "letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

FOR TEACHERS IN THE ADULT DEPARTMENT

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Teachers in the Adult Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the HOME STUDY QUARTERLY or the PATHFINDER.

In our course of study we are beginning a new period in the history of God's dealing

with the people of Israel. They are now to be transformed into a nation. Call attention