

# THE CLEANER.

“Let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves.”—Ruth 2; 7.

Thos. Somerville, Editor. Brantford, Feb., 1895.

Vol. 10, No. 2

## GODS PICTURES OF THE FUTURE.

### A PICTURE OF BLESSING.

When the future is unfolded to us in the Word of God, we find first that sin and evil are permitted to develop and manifest themselves in their most terrible forms. Then we find judgment following judgment until it culminates in the destruction of the combined powers of evil, and the establishment of righteousness in the earth. However difficult it may be to understand some parts of the Revelation so as to be able to follow the different lines of prophecy contained in them, when we come to the 19th chapter we find an orderly sequence of events. This is indicated by the frequent occurrence of the words ‘and I saw.’ First, there is the destruction of the beast and the false prophet, and also the armies of the kings of the earth. Then in the 20th; 1-3, is the binding of Satan for a thousand years. That of itself is a wonderful mercy to a world in which he has ruled men so long, and deceived them by his awful power. For a time all hindrance has been withdrawn and man has learned what it is to have Satan in the earth. Rev. 12; 7-13.

That is what the world is now getting ready for, and few realize how rapidly events are being

shaped for Satan’s coming to the earth. When the Son of God came into the world, He was cast out and slain; when Satan comes, he will be enthroned. Thank God, that time is short. Rev. 12; 12. He is laid hold of and bound, he is put where he can deceive the nations no more for a thousand years. Thus the way is cleared for the time of blessing.

Next comes the reign of Christ and all His saints, the righteous and righteousness reigning. Wondrous contrast to what we see now. Unrighteousness and the unrighteous reign now. For a thousand years Satan will be bound and the earth will know the reign of One after God’s own heart.—Rev. 20 is one of the most wonderful pictures in the Word of God. There is a rapid and brief view of the greatest events in the world’s history with two exceptions, the creation and fall of man, and the birth, life, and death of Christ. A few brief words tell of the thousand years of blessing, and then we see Satan loosed for a little season. But he finds hearts ready to listen to him, even after a thousand years of the reign of righteousness. Then comes the final and complete overthrow of Satan, the judgment of the great white throne, and in the first seven verses of the next chapter, a brief picture of the eternal state of the