

THE WORLD'S PERPLEXITY.

ON the opposite page we copy from 'Doctor' Dowie's⁺ publication a cartoon which fairly well represents the present situation of 'Christendom'. But should not Doctor Dowie also be represented in the crowd, shouting, "I am for myself, as 'First Apostle'? 'Elijah', and the 'Messenger of the Covenant'?" It would seem so!

Possibly some unfriendly critic may say, "Yes; and you are another who is adding to the Babel of confusion, forming a new division, 'the sect everywhere spoken against', the no-name sect".

Not so, we reply. It is not we but the Truth which causes the division, even as our Master foretold and exemplified: 'I am not come to send peace, but a sword'. As *present truth* did a separating work between the wheat and the chaff in the Jewish 'harvest', so now *present truth* will be used of the Lord to separate the 'wheat' from the 'tares' in the present 'harvest' of this age.

It is true that our quiet, effective presentation of God's Word and plan does cause commotion and a great din, as all sects and parties at once shout against the faithful presentations of God's Word of 'good tidings of great joy unto all people', as presented in **MILLENNIAL DAWN**. But that is Babylon's noise, not ours. It is their effort to obscure the light of the dawning new dispensation. It is their unavailing effort to drown the voice of the great Shepherd, who is now calling his true sheep out of every earthly pen to himself and the liberties and rest and food of the true fold.

We preach not ourself but Christ. We substantiate nothing except by his Word. We make no laws, formulate no creed, deprive no sheep of his full liberty in Christ; but merely on every question quote the Word of the Lord, through the apostles and prophets. We boast nothing, claim nothing of ourself. We are content to serve the Lord and his flock to the best of our ability—exact no tithes, no 'honour of men', no confession of authority, no compensation; hoping merely for the love of the Lord and of those who are his children and have his Spirit.

So far from forming or desiring to form a new sect, we ignore all sectarian systems and their claimed authority; we recognise only the 'one Lord, one Faith and one Baptism' of the Scriptures and fellowship as a 'brother' every person of decent morals who confesses faith in the 'redemption through the blood of Christ', and especially all of this class who profess a full consecration to the Lord's will and service,—whatever sect they may be in, or outside of all.

The word 'Catholic' signifies general or universal. We know of Greek Catholics, Roman Catholics, Anglican Catholics, etc., but we know of no other company of Christians which recognises *every* Christian in the whole world in the same complete sense that we do, as stated foregoing. Hence to us the term Catholic, or Universal, most fitly belongs.

Our Lord's petition for his 'members'—'that they all may be one even as thou, Father, and I are one', was never meant to apply to sects and parties as is being attempted by the Federation movement now in progress. The Father and the Son are one in a very different sense from that. On the contrary, we occupy a position to which every true child of God can come if he chooses. And the *best*, the *truest* of all the sects and of those outside all sects are now being gathered to the Lord and to us, and all truly the Lord's in faith and in practice.—For complete article see:

—ZION'S WATCH TOWER, January 15, 1906—

⁺ John Alexander Dowie (May 25, 1847–March 9, 1907) was a Scottish Congregationalist and spiritual healer in the United States. See: R2837: page 211.

"I am of Paul" "I am of Cephas!"
 I am of Calvin! I am of Luther!
 etc! etc! etc!

How can I know that
 God sends this crowd
 with a plan for my re-
 demption? Why they are
 not united. How do I know
 which one to follow?

The Prayer of the Christ—

"Neither for these only do I pray,
 but for them also that believe on
 Me through their word; that
 they may all be one; even as Thou
 Father, art in Me and I in Thee,
 that they also may be in Us,
 that the World may believe
 that Thou didst send Me."

John, 17:20, 21.



I thought my friend was
 safe in that crowd, but
 here comes along this Zion
 that will unify all the
 good people among them.
 Then the prayer of the
 Christ will be answered.

Champe

THE DISGRACE OF MODERN CHRISTIANITY AND THE HOPE OF THE WORLD IN ZION.