Bible view of slavery, by John H. Hopkins, D.D., bishop of the diocese of Vermont

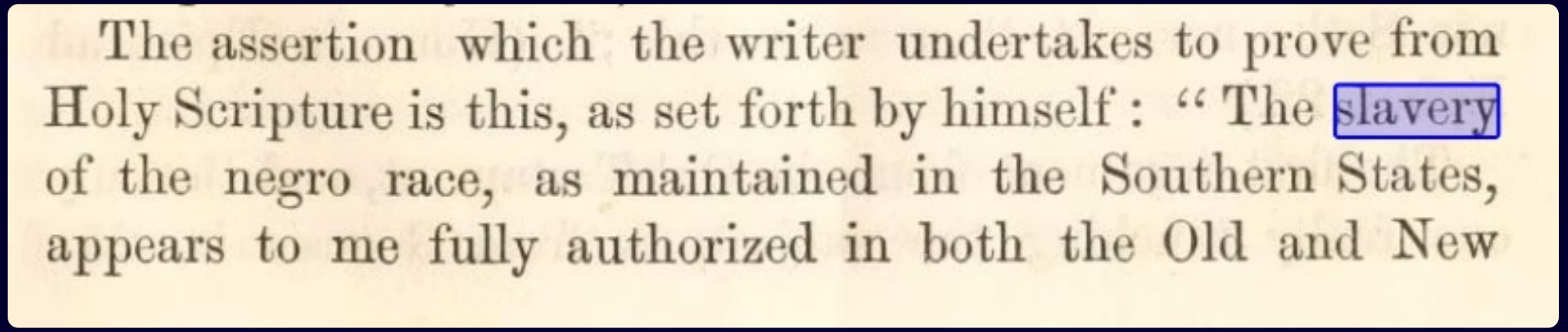
" The slavery of the negro race, as maintained in the Southern States, appears to me fully authorized in both the Old and New Testaments, which, as the written word of God, afford the Duly infallible standard of moral rights and obligations :" " and thus [by the Southern slaves becboming Christianized through slavery] the .wisdom and goodness of God are vindicated in the sanction which his Word has given, and the sentence originally passed upon Canaan, as a curse, has been converted into a blessing" (p. IG)

; and again : " Under the rule of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the United States, the negro belongs to an inferior race, which the law did not presume to be fitted for freedom at any age" (p. 12) ; and finally : " God, in his wisdom and providence, caused the patriarch Noah to i)redict that he [the negro] should be the servant of servants to the posterity of Japhet" (p. 12). This, then, is the proposition, that the negro slavery of the Southern States is justified by Holy Scripture.

Bible view of slavery

by

Drisler, Henry, 1818-1897



The assertion which the writer undertakes to prove from Holy Scripture is this, as set forth by himself: "The slavery of the negro race, as maintained in the Southern States, appears to me fully authorized in both the Old and New

Testaments, which, as the written word of God, afford the only infallible standard of moral rights and obligations:" "and thus [by the Southern slaves becoming Christianized through slavery] the wisdom and goodness of God are vindicated in the sanction which his Word has given, and the sentence originally passed upon Canaan, as a curse, has been converted into a blessing" (p. 16); and again: "Under the rule of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the United States, the negro belongs to an inferior race, which *the law did not presume to be fitted for freedom at any age*" (p. 12); and finally: "God, in his wisdom and providence, caused the patriarch Noah to predict that he [the negro] should be the servant of servants to the posterity of Japhet" (p. 12). This, then, is the proposition, that the *negro slavery of the Southern States* is justified by Holy Scripture.

Address by the General Assembly to All the Churches of Jesus Christ Throughout the Earth

by James H. Thornwell

The question, then, is brought within a narrow compass: Do the Scriptures directly or indirectly condemn slavery as a sin? If they do not, the dispute is ended, for the Church, without forfeiting her character, dares not go beyond them.

Now, we venture to assert that if men had drawn their conclusions upon this subject only from the Bible, it would no more have entered into any human head to denounce slavery as a sin, than to denounce monarchy, aristocracy, or poverty. The truth is, men have listened to what they falsely considered as primitive intuitions, or as necessary deductions from primitive cognitions, and then have gone to the Bible to confirm the crotchets of their vain philosophy.

They have gone there determined to find a particular result, and the consequence is, that they leave with having made, instead of having interpreted, Scripture. Slavery is no new thing. It has not only existed for ages in the world, but it has existed, under every dispensation of the covenant of grace, in the Church of God. Indeed, the first organization of the Church as a visible society, separate and distinct from the unbelieving world, was inaugurated in the family of a slaveholder.

Among the very first persons to whom the seal of circumcision was affixed, were the slaves of the father of the faithful, some born in his house, and others bought with his money. Slavery again re-appears under the Law. God sanctions it in the first table of the Decalogue, and Moses treats it as an institution to be regulated, not abolished; legitimated, and not condemned.

We come down to the age of the New Testament, and we find it again in the Churches founded by the Apostles under the plenary inspiration of the Holy Ghost. These facts are utterly amazing, if slavery is the enormous sin which its enemies represent it to be. It will not do to say that the Scriptures have treated it only in a general, incidental way, without any clear implication as to its moral character.

Moses surely made it the subject of express and positive legislation, and the Apostles are equally explicit in inculcating the duties which spring from both sides of the relation. They treat slaves as bound to obey and inculcate obedience as an office of religion—a thing wholly self-contradictory, if the authority exercised over them were unlawful and iniquitous.

The Reverend Richard Furman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Charleston, wrote those words in 1822, at the end of a year that sent shock waves through South Carolina and the rest of the South with the discovery of Denmark Vesey's plans for a slave revolt.

Had the holding of slaves been a moral evil, it cannot be supposed, that the inspired Apostles, who feared not the faces of men, and were ready to lay down their lives in the cause of their God, would have tolerated it, for a moment, in the Christian Church.

If they had done so on a principle of accommodation, in cases where the masters remained heathen, to avoid offences and civil commotion; yet, surely, where both master and servant were Christian, as in the case before us, they would have enforced the law of Christ, and required, that the master should liberate his slave in the first instance.

But, instead of this, they let the relationship remain untouched, as being lawful and right, and insist on the relative duties. In proving this subject justifiable by Scriptural authority, its morality is also proved; for the Divine Law never sanctions immoral actions.

"Of some of these things I could speak, because at sundry times and in divers places many things have been presented to me.... As my brethren read the selections from letters, I knew what to say to them for this matter has been presented to me again and again.... I have not felt at liberty to write out the matter until now."—E. G. White Letter 73, 1895

"Slavery will again be revived in the Southern States; for the spirit of slavery still lives. Therefore it will not do for those who labor among the colored people to preach the truth as boldly and openly as they would be free to do in other places. SWR 6.3

"Judges and jurors, lawyers and citizens, would, if they had a chance, bring decisions which would bind about them rites which would cause much suffering, not only to the ones whom they term guilty of breaking the laws of their State, but all the colored people everywhere would be placed in a position of surveillance, and under cruel treatment by the white people, that would be no less than slavery.. SWk 72.3

In the month of April a scene in the Southern Field was presented before me. O what destitution there was! What need of help! In March there had been some confusion in the South which I could not explain. Our people were in trouble with the Southerners, who were making efforts to hinder the work from being established.

Thousands of the colored people cannot read, and therefore cannot study the Word of God for themselves. And there are very many among the white people who do not want us to give assistance to this poor, ignorant, half-clad, half-fed people. They do not want them to be taught how to work, how to become self-sustaining, and they are seeking to revive the spirit of slavery in the South. 14LtMs, Lt 99, 1899, par. 6

While I was speaking, some voices were raised, saying, "We have been told that these great precautions are not necessary, and that altogether too much has been said in regard to the dangers existing in the South." I turned to the speakers, and said, "You do not understand the elements to be dealt with in the Southern Field. As soon as an effort is made to educate and uplift this people, who have so long been held in ignorance and slavery, the jealousy of the whites is aroused.

It will not do to work that field with the same freedom that you would bring into your work in the Northern states. On many subjects a discreet silence must be maintained, or a state of things will be brought about which will close the field against us. Those who apprehend no danger, and think they can work on the same lines in the South as in the North, have no real wisdom. In the South the spirit of slavery is not eradicated; it has only been smothered for a short time. 14LtMs, Lt 99, 1899, par. 8

"The desire to show their masterly authority over the blacks is still burning in the hearts of many who claim to be Christians, but whose lives declare that they are standing under the black banner of the great apostate. When the whites commit crimes, they are often allowed to go uncondemned, while for the same transgressions the blacks, ignorant, debased, knowing nothing of the Word of God, and scarcely knowing their right hand from their left, are treated worse than the brutes.

The demon of passion is let loose, and all the suffering that can be devised is instituted against them. Will not God judge for these things? As surely as the whites have brought their inhuman cruelty to bear upon the negroes, so surely will God's vengeance fall upon them." 14LtMs, Lt 99, 1899, par. 9

"Satan is doing his best to block the way to the progress of the message. He is putting forth efforts to bring about the enactment of a Sunday law, which will result in slavery in the Southern field, and will close the door to the observance of the true Sabbath which God has given to men to keep holy."—E. G. White Letter 6, 1909.

"It will be impossible to adjust all matters regarding the color question in accordance with the Lord's order until those who believe the truth are so closely united with Christ that they are one with Him. Both the white and the colored members of our churches need to be converted.

There are some of both classes who are unreasonable, and when the color question is agitated they manifest unsanctified, unconverted traits of character. Quarrelsome elements are easily aroused in those who, because they have never learned to wear the yoke of Christ, are opinionated and obstinate. In such, self clamors with an unsanctified determination for the supremacy."—E G. White **Letter 105, 1904**.

They can not go to the South and present the real facts in reference to Sunday-keeping being the mark of the beast, and encourage the colored people to work on Sunday; **for the same spirit that held the colored people in slavery is not dead, but alive today, and ready to spring into activity.** The **same spirit of oppression** is still cherished in the minds of many of the white people of the South, and will reveal itself in cruel deeds, which are the manifestation of their religious zeal. Some will oppose, in every possible way, any action which has a tendency to uplift the colored race, and teach them to be self-supporting. SWR 13.6

"Let all be warned. Let the instruction be given to this much-oppressed people that the keeping of the Sabbath does not necessitate their working on Sunday; for if they should do this, they would have instigated against them all the powers of the white population who are transgressors of the law of God. Church-members and priests and rulers will combine to organize **secret societies** to work in their land to whip, imprison, and destroy the lives of the colored race. **History will be repeated**. SWR 18.1 1895

(I would not advise that this be published in our papers, but let the workers have it in leaflets, and let them keep their own counsels.) SWR 20.3

Report of an Interview Regarding our Work in the Southern States

Present: Mrs. E. G. White, W. C. White, P. T. Magan, D. E. Robinson. 22LtMs, Ms 196, 1907, par. 1

P. T. Magan: And I have thought that the same things were true about the blacks. You know, years ago you made the statement that the time would come when there would be a terrible race war in the South. I do not know whether you ever said it in so many words, but you intimated that slavery would exist again. 22LtMs, Ms 196, 1907, par. 16

E. G. White: Just as soon as people begin to make any kind of movement to educate the blacks, there are some who are determined that it shall not be done. 22LtMs, Ms 196, 1907, par. 17

P. T. Magan: It is the common talk all over the South that there will be a race war within the next few years. Senator Tillman has talked it in the House. Governor elect, Hoke Smith, and Tillman have published a plan that they are advocating everywhere. Their plan is something like this; that they will divide every county into districts, and every negro is to be numbered. He will have a brass plate strapped to his arm with a leather strap, giving his number, 536 or 6023, or whatever it may be, and then he is never to be allowed outside of that district without a passport from the officers. 22LtMs, Ms 196, 1907, par. 18

E. G. White: **There will be slavery just as verily as it has been, only upon a basis that is more favorable and secure to the white people.**

P. T. Magan: More secure, because they do not have to feed the negroes and care for them. Then if the negro has got outside that district, or if he is loafing and not working, they can put him in the chain gang for a year. 22LtMs, Ms 196, 1907, par. 20

E. G. White: That is the danger. That is why I have pleaded and entreated, entreated, and entreated for the work to be done in the South, **because I knew that this very race war would be introduced.** 22LtMs, Ms 196, 1907, par. 23

ARSH January 9, 1866, page 48.3

-Our readers are perhaps very generally aware that the constitutional amendment in regard to slavery has become a law, as we publish this week, under the heading, "Slavery Abolished." In connection with this piece, read another headed, "The Shrew Untamed," and see what South Carolina considers the adoption of that amendment.

As for the people of the Southern States, the hellish spirit of slavery is part and parcel of their being; and the leopard will sooner change his spots, than they cease to cherish it in their hearts. A good brother recently said to us, that he used to think it cruel in the children of Israel to exterminate the Canaanites as they did; but now said he, we have a practical illustration of this point, in the Southern rebellion.

To get the spirit of slavery out of this nation, it will be necessary to wipe out of existence those former Southern slaveholders, men, *women, and children*. It is born and bred in them, and will die only when they die. He is right. It may be asked if this action of the government does not affect our view of the two-horned beast. Not at all. We believe that it is toward God's people, the visible church, that the lamb-like pretences and the dragon voice of this power is to be manifested. If we mistake not, we shall soon see enough to fulfill (which means to fill full) this specification.

Jim Crow:

Bob Jones, Sr. — "Is Segregation Scriptural?" (Easter radio address, 1960)

In recent years there has been a subtle, Satanic effort to undermined people's faith in the Bible; and the devil has helped the race along until men have put their own opinion above the Word of God. You will find that practically all the troubles we are having today have come out of the fact that men in many instances have ceased to believe in an authoritative Bible.

For instance, we are living in the midst of race turmoil all over the world today. Look at what they are facing in Africa, and look at what we are facing in this country. It is all contrary to Scripture — it is all contrary to the Word of God. I am going to show you that the Bible is perfectly clear on races — just as clear as it can be. ….

If we would just listen to the Word of God and not try to overthrow God's established order, we would not have any trouble. God never meant for America to be a melting pot to rub out the line between the nations. That was not God's purpose for this nation.

When someone goes to overthrowing His established order and goes around preaching pious sermons about it, that makes me sick — for a man to stand up and preach pious sermons in this country and talk about rubbing out the line between the races — I say it makes me sick. I have had the sweetest fellowship with colored Christians, with yellow Christians, with red Christians, with all sorts of Christians — the sweetest fellowship anybody has ever had, we have had. Christians have always had it. We have never had any trouble about that."

God put the Africans over there. They are fine people. They are intelligent people. Do not think they are inferior in every way. It is not so. But we should have sent missionaries over there, and Africa should have been a great nation of colored Christians. If we had done what God had told us to do and sent the Gospel to them and made a Christian nation out of them instead of bringing them over here and selling them into slavery, Africa could have been a great nation of colored Christians. What we did was wrong. It was not right. It cannot be justified. We should not try to justify it.

But racially we have separation in the Bible. Let's get that clear…Now, you colored people listen to me. If you had not been brought over here and if your grandparents in slavery days had not heard that great preaching you might not even be a Christian. You might be over there in the jungles of Africa today, unsaved.

But you are here in America where you have your own schools and your own churches and your own liberties and your own rights, with certain restrictions that God Almighty put about you — restrictions that are in line with the Word of God. The Jews have lived a separated race. they have been separated from the other races of the world. They have been miraculously preserved. Now they have a homeland. They are back there today, and what a wonderful thing is happening.

The time has come when we good folks down here in the South — the good colored people and the good white people — need to use our heads. We should not let this outside agitation disturb us down here.

There is no problem here. But it could be a problem. It could be a problem in California. It could be a problem anywhere. Whenever you get a situation that rubs out the line that God has drawn between races, whenever that happens, you are going to have trouble. That is what is happening today in this country. All this agitation is a Communistic agitation to overthrow the established order of God in this world.

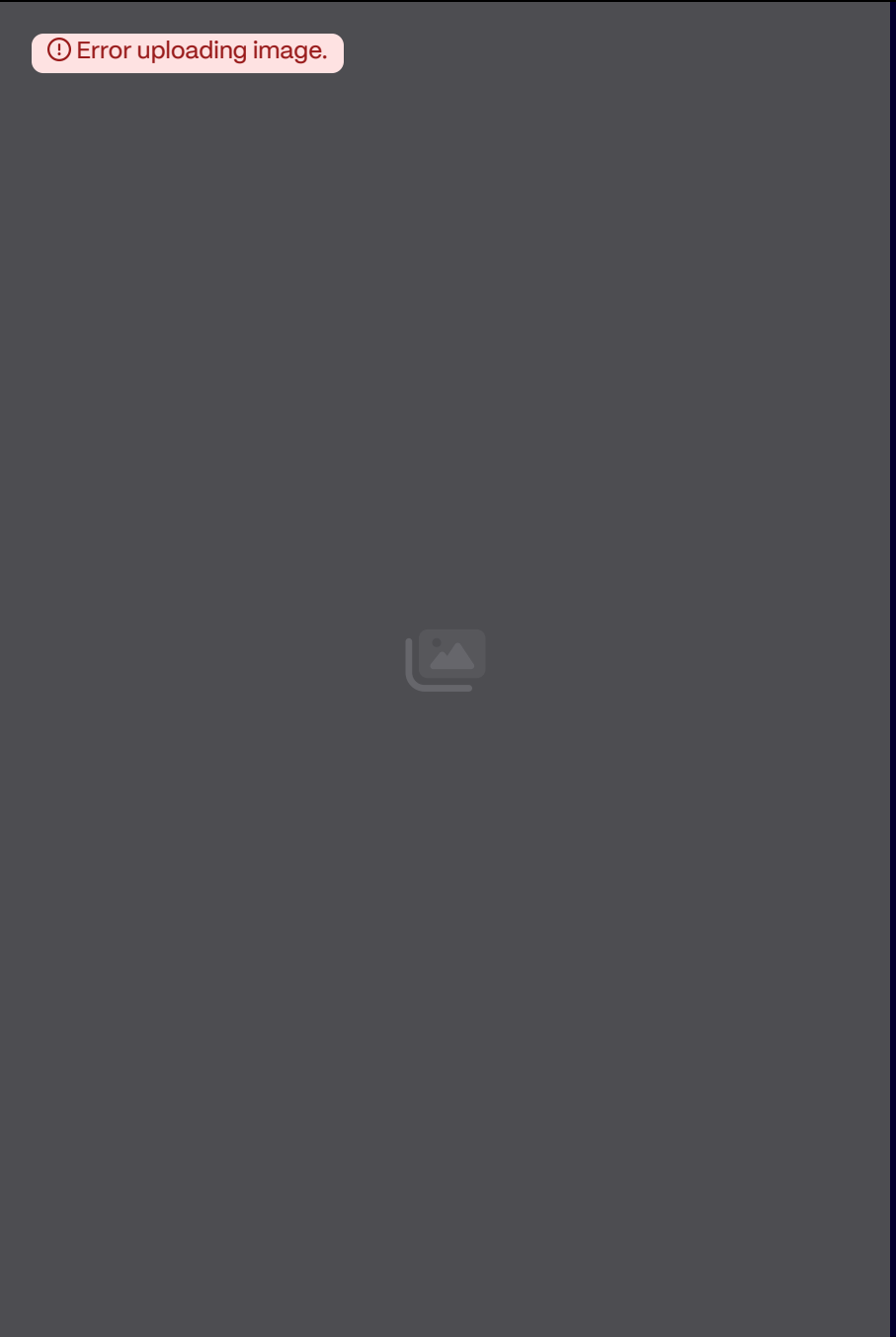
The Communistic influence is at work all about us. Certain people are disturbing this situation. They talk about the fact that we are going to have one world. We will never really have one world until this world heads up in God. We are not going to have one world by man's rubbing out the line that God has established. He is marking the lines, and you cannot rub them out and get away with it.

Some of them owned slaves, and some of them did not; and some of them were slaves, and some of them were not. Back in those days they believed the Bible, and God called this nation into existence to be a witness to the world and to be true to the Word of God. Do not let these religious liberals blowing their bubbles of nothing over your head get you upset and disturbed. Let's get back to the Word of God and be sensible.

Our heavenly Father, bless our country. We thank Thee for our ancestors. We thank Thee for the good, Christian people — white and black. We thank Thee for the ties that have bound these Christian white people and Christian colored people together through the years, and we thank Thee that white people who had a little more money helped them build their churches and stood by them and when they got sick, they helped them. No nation has ever prospered or been blessed like the colored people in the South.

Help these colored Christian not to get swept away by all the propaganda that is being put out now. Help us to see this thing and to understand God's established order and to be one in Christ and to understand that God has fixed the boundaries of the nations so we would not have trouble and misunderstanding. Keep us by Thy power and use us for They glory, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

https://brucegerencser.net/2017/08/is-segregation-scriptural-by-evangelist-bob-jones-the-founder-of-bob-jones-university/?utm_source=chatgpt.com



God the Original Segregationist; 1955

Carey Daniels

OTHER OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

THE GOLDEN RULE

If you want Scriptural authority for desegregation you will just simply have to write another Bible: The feeble efforts of the integrationists to support their views by God's Word are not only pitiful, they are often ludicrous. When pressed for Bibical authority many of them can be no more specific than to quote such general moral principles as ''Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself'' and ''Do unto others as you would be done by,''etc.

But am I loving my white neighbor as myself if I am working for a society which threatens to mongrelize his children or grandchildren? Am I loving my black neighbor as myself if I am trying to change his God-given skin-color into something contrary to both nature and Scripture?

Am I not obeying the Golden Rule if I practise separation (except of course for missionary work) so far as possible in relation to the Negroes and ask them to treat me and mine in the same way? How many of the de-segregationists themselves would obey the Golden Rule if a Negro asked for their daughter's hand in marriage?

The integrationists of course are the most popular in those places where the colored population is the thinest. Are those Northern desegregationists practising the Golden Rule when they try to force on the South a condition which they themselves would not tolerate if the Negroes were as thick in their part of the country?

https://archive.org/details/bibleviewofslave00dris/page/n9/mode/2up?utm_source=chatgpt.com&q=slavery

In a recent public address President Eisenhower said, ''There are no second-class Americans.'' Many interpreted that remark as a sidewise slam at the segregationists. Soon after that address I sent him the following telegram: ''DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: YOU ARE PERFECTLY RIGHT. THERE ARE NO SECOND-CLASS AMERICANS, NOT EVEN US SOUTHERN WHITE PEOPLE. BUT WE ARE CERTAINLY BEING TREATED AS SUCH. A GREAT MAJORITY OF US, AS MY COUSIN SENATOR PRICE DANIEL WILL TELL YOU, STILL FAVOR SEGREGATION IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS. NEGROES HAVE A LARGER PERCENTAGE OF DESEGREGATIONISTS THAN WHITES, BUT WHICH CLASS IS BEING GIVEN THE PREFERENCE? PLEASE CORRECT THIS. GRATEFULLY AND RESPECTFULLY YOURS, CAREY DANIEL.''