THE SILVER TRUMPET; OR, THE CHURCH GUIDED AND WARNED IN PERILOUS TIMES

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The Silver Trumpet; Or, the Church Guided and Warned in Perilous Times by Octavius Winslow

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PERILOUS TIMES.

BY OCTAVIUS WINSLOW,

AUTHOR OF

"PRESONAL DECLENSION AND BRYFAL OF RELIGION IN THE SOUL," "THE OLORT OF THE REDREMER IN HIS FRENCH AND WORK," "THE INQUIRER DIRECTED TO THE ATONEMENT," "WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT," MYC. ETC.

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THE AFFECTIONATE PEOPLE OF MY CHARGE

THESE PAGES

ARE

INSCRIBED,

AS A MEMENTO OF CHRISTIAN LOVE, ACCOMPANIED WITH MANY PRAYERS, THAT, BY THE HOLY SPIRIT'S GRACE, THEY MAY WALK IN THE TRUTH HOLLLY, HOLD FAST THE TBUTH FIRMLY, AND PROMOTE THE TBUTH ZEALOUSLY, BEING "STEADFAST, UNMOVEABLE, ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD,"

> BY THEIR SINCERELY AND FONDLY ATTACHED MINISTER AND PASTOR, OCTAVIUS WINSLOW.

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THE SILVER TRUMPET,

&c. &c.

"And the Lord spake unto Moscs, saying, Make these two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calking of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps. * * * When ye blow an alarm, then the camps that lie on the cast parts shall go forward."-Num. z. 1, 2, 5.

WHAT a deep and precious mine of Gospel truth is God's most blessed Word ! It has pleased Him in giving this perfect and glorious revelation of His mind and will to man, that the richest veins should lie far below the surface. In other words, with a view of guarding us against a superficial acquaintance with the Scriptures, and to encourage and reward our profound and prayerful research, some of the sublimest revelations of Himself, some of the most glorious exhibitions of Jesus, and some of the most instructive and admonitory, comforting and sanctifying truths are deeply veiled in the types or dimly shadowed in the ceremonies of the Old Testament economy. Beheld with a Jewish eye, their significance and their beauty are but partially and imperfectly seen. But viewed through the

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glass of the Gospel—the wondrous telescope which brings out from their hidden glory the numerous and bright constellations of that twilight dispensation—they at once appear rich with the truth and resplendent with the glory of Immanuel, whom to see is to love, and "whom to know is life eternal."

In the former dispensation we find frequent and marked allusion made to the employment of trumpets in the service and worship of God by the Jews. The occasions on which they were used were various and interesting. Trumpets directed the marchings of the Israelites-sounded the onset to battleannounced the tidings and proclaimed the joys of victory-and summoned to the solemn assemblies. There was the "feast of trumpets," observed on the first day of the civil year, when, from the morning until the evening, they sounded over the sacrifices thus ushering in that important period amid circumstances of great and imposing solemnity. We may also refer to "the trumpet of the jubilee," as marking a most interesting and deeply significant occasion on which they were employed. Every fiftieth year, the "acceptable year of the Lord," on the day of atonement, and while the people were engaged in fasting and afflicting themselves I Isaiah Lur. 2.

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TRUMPET.

before God, this trumpet sounded throughout all the land, announcing, at every blast, tidings the most joyous and welcome. It proclaimed relaxation from all servile work, the earth during that period needing no culture, but spontaneously and abundantly yielding its increase, of which all alike were allowed freely to partake. It announced, too, the discharge of every insolvent debtor-the release of every bond servant-the restoration of property, and the universal enjoyment of harmony and rest. Defective indeed must be that eye, veiled that mind that sees not in all this, that which was typical of a far more glorious jubilee proclaimed through all the world-the glad tidings, the joyful sound of the Gospel proclaiming the discharge of the great debt to Divine Justice, our releasement from the bondage of sin and Satan, heaven restored, and joy and peace and rest succeeding, all flowing to us, through the cross of God's dear Son.

From the various uses of the trumpet among the Jews, we have selected a single one, as affording an illustration, if not a type, of the "glorious Gospel of the blessed God," deeply significant and instructive. Dismissing any further allusion to the primary ends for which these trumpets were employed, we proceed now to a solemn consideration.

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