



Creation in Travail by Elbert A Smith

Compiled by Pat Chadwick

This was written by Elbert A Smith at the end of World War 1. This is extracted from an address delivered at the Stone Church, November 1917 and put into the book, *Square Blocks*. I have decided to insert it here in the midst of flash cards by F Henry because I believe it is pertinent to many of the things we see happening now.

Bro. Elbert starts with: I wish to transpose two passages that appear in the 8th chapter of Romans. *For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now...For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God (Romans 8:19, 22).*

The jubilee that we had last Monday (the war ending) has not restored the broken homes that this war is responsible for. There is mourning and pain and travail all over the world...This is but the closing of one chapter in the story. Section 45 of the Book of Covenants yet remains to be fulfilled. I refer to the statement that the times will come when “...*that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor, must needs flee unto Zion for safety. And there shall be gathered unto it out of every nation under heaven; and it shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another (DC 45:13a-b).*”

I do not believe that refers to any war that has occurred, or to an international war that will occur. To my mind, it refers to a condition of anarchy, when order and government will break down in our own country, and neighbors be arrayed against neighbors, and we must flee to Zion if we wish to have safety.

There is a significant statement in *Section 45:4a And in that day shall be heard of wars and rumors of wars, and the whole earth shall be in commotion, and men's hearts shall fail them, and they say Christ delayeth his coming until the end of the earth.* On the other hand, there are a great many who are looking and waiting in faith and expectation. As the Master said, *When ye see these things begin to come to pass, then look up and lift up your heads, for the day of your redemption draweth nigh (Luke 21:27).*