

JSD
147
31-D-4

SLAVERY STILL EXISTENT

By C. S. Longacre

There are today not less than 5,000,000 slaves in the world. Some authorities place the figure as high as 8,000,000. The biggest slave-owning countries today are Ethiopia, China, and Arabia. In China, according to a conservative estimate, there are some two million slave girls. There are 700,000 slaves in Arabia, where slavery continues as a legal institution. Slave running is also prevalent in the caravans of pilgrims to Mecca, the pilgrims frequently falling so heavily in debt that they sell their children in order to obtain money to return to their homes, after having worshiped the Black Stone of Kaaba at Mecca."--The Religious Digest, May, 1942.

Since his restoration, Haile Selassie, the emperor of Abyssinia, has issued a decree abolishing slavery in that country. Some critics have found fault with the Bible, saying that it is out of date and behind the times, because it speaks of slaves as an ever-existing institution when slaves are no more. They find fault with John the revelator because he said that when the Lord returns to this earth the second time in glory, "the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Rev. 6:15-17.

The critics of the Bible have told us that there are no more bondmen today, that all men and women have been set free. Now we are told that there are still 8,000,000 bondmen. There always have been slaves in the world and no doubt will be till the Lord comes. For the Scriptures cannot be broken.

The critics of the Scriptures will get many a surprise in the judgment day, when He "taketh the wise in their own craftiness." For it is written: "The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God." "And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain."--Review and Herald, June 11, 1942.