

desperation they will seek vengeance against the French. It is a deplorable state of affairs.

EUROPE A BOILING CAULDRON

Austria is panic-stricken, and another revolution is expected any day. In Italy the revolutionists threaten to overturn the government, and fear has taken hold upon every one who is in power. In fact, all Europe is like a boiling pot, with the intensity of the heat ever increasing. If any one who has studied the Bible can travel through Europe and not be convinced that the world has ended, that the day of God's vengeance is here, that the Messianic kingdom is at the door, then he has read the Bible in vain. The physical facts show beyond question of a doubt that 1914 ended the Gentile time; and as the Lord foretold, the old order is being destroyed by war, famine, pestilence, and revolution.

The date 1925 is even more distinctly indicated by the Scriptures because it is fixed by the law God gave to Israel. Viewing the present situation in Europe, one wonders how it will be possible to hold back the explosion much longer; and that even before 1925 the great crisis will be reached and probably passed. The present conditions are strengthening to the faith of the Christian. His heart groans with others of the groaning creation, anxious to see the Prince of Peace bring order out of chaos and blessings to the people.

What a privilege is now accorded the followers of Christ! What a blessed opportunity of holding aloof from the strife and turmoil of earth and bringing to the people the message of peace and salvation and saying unto those of nominal Zion who have been looking for the Lord: "Behold, the Lord is here; behold thy God reigneth!"

(To be continued.)

A REFRESHING SEASON

"And Jesus said unto them. Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while; for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat."—Mark 6: 31.

THE words of this text were spoken by Jesus to his disciples shortly after the beheading of John the Baptist. The disciples had taken the body and buried it in a tomb. It was a trying and strenuous time for these dear men. The forerunner of Jesus, who had honored him by announcing his coming, had been imprisoned and then beheaded. Doubtless there was much excitement in Jerusalem. Many people were coming and asking the disciples the meaning of these things, and the disciples had been busy explaining and teaching the doctrines which they had learned. They were so busy and so wrought up by the conditions that they had no time for leisure, not so much as to eat. They came to Jesus with their burden, repeating to him what they had done and taught. He saw that they had need of some quiet rest and fellowship together, away from the strife and turmoil of the disordered condition. Lovingly he said to them: "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while."

REFRESHING FELLOWSHIP

The quiet fellowship together of those of like precious faith is always refreshing, particularly after a strenuous season of effort put forth to accomplish a purpose. The people of God for some time have been passing through trying experiences—just such as Jesus had foretold would come to his followers at the end of the world. During the great sorrows resulting from the war, famine, pestilence, revolutions, distressed conditions of the people, the wicked persecution of Christians, and other trying experiences, the truly consecrated have been answering questions and teaching those who have been disturbed in mind and sad of heart. They have been cheering many by words of comfort. The excitement and turmoil of the world increases.

How like the Lord to provide a little season of rest and refreshing before engaging in a more active campaign! How appropriate that we come aside for a while in a quiet and isolated spot, such as Cedar Point is, and there have some rest of body and mind and sweet fellowship in the Lord! The peninsula and its appointments will all be ours for eight days. Beside the waters of beautiful Lake Erie we may sit down and rest a while and sing together songs of praise to God and to our Lord and offer our thanks and cheer each other by recounting the blessings of the past and pointing each other to the precious promises contained in his Word. May it be a real season of rest to the soul and joy to the heart of each one who comes.

Let us, therefore, dear brethren, for a time leave behind us the rush and turmoil, the confusion of tongues and the disturbance resulting from a disordered world, and in quietness and confidence come aside for a season of refreshment and blessing such as the Lord has in store for all who love him supremely and come with a sincere desire to glorify his name and to build each other up in our most holy faith. The Lord has promised that where two or three agree upon a thing and ask it in his name he will grant it. Let many of us agree, then, that we will constantly present the matter of this convention before the divine throne, that the Lord may open the windows of heaven and pour out his blessings upon the coming assembly of his people.

The convention will open Tuesday afternoon, September 5. It will close at noon Wednesday, September 13. For full information as to how to procure transportation, reserve accommodations, etc., see THE WATCH TOWER of August 1.