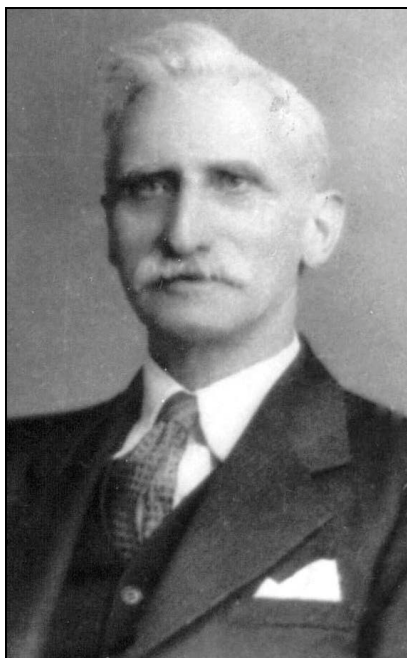


Rossell Henry (R.H.) Judd (1870-1963)

R.H. Judd was born in China to missionary parents who accompanied J. Hudson Taylor to establish the China Inland Mission. Dr. Taylor delivered Rossell. As an adult, Rossell resided in England and Canada. Around the turn of the century, he moved to Wicklow, Ontario, from England where he had lived for several years. Later, he lived in Grafton, Ontario. Rossell married Rose Emma (1869-1950) and they had one daughter.

Judd was a noted author, theologian and missionary. He was not ashamed of the truth, despite having come into it by a circuitous route. Rossell once testified that he first learned of the doctrine of life in Christ, otherwise known as conditional immortality or immortality upon conditions, around 1894 while he was at Moody Bible Institute. It is not known if he attended a Bible conference there, or if he was a student. Two Moody students discussed the destiny of the wicked. He overheard the conversation and carried those ideas into study; this eventually changed his life. At that time, however, he was planning to be a missionary to China and confession of this new-found faith meant "abandoned prospects," so he did not commit to the new doctrine just then.

After serving in China, Rossell returned to Canada a number of years later. From there he returned to England where, one Sunday in 1902 at the Devonshire Square Baptist Church, London, he heard two sermons by G.P. McKay. These, on the subject of man's nature, once again awakened his conscience, and in spite of opposition from his church friends he visited that pastor. McKay gave Judd literature to read and Rossell soon accepted the new faith wholeheartedly. From his own little printing business in Nottingham, he published a small tract "Friendly Word." (The Church of God Archives at McDonough, Georgia, would like to have a copy of "Friendly Word.") That publication caused upheaval among his

religious friends.

Rossell took his new faith back to his family at China Inland Mission, and they must have listened to him, for they modified their statement of faith to read, "eternal punishment" for the wicked. He said he agreed with that, but he knew they meant "eternal torment."

At some point Judd returned to live in Canada and continued to write tracts and books. He became a member of the Church of God in 1922. He wrote profusely for *The Restitution* and *The Restitution Herald*. When he wasn't writing and preaching, Judd raised chickens and turkeys on his poultry farm.

Judd refuted the idea held by some Church of God and Christadelphian men regarding limited resurrection. He said, "It is appointed once unto man to die, and after that the judgment." He noticed that advocates of limited resurrection usually quoted only the first part of the verse, but he asked, "Can judgment occur upon dead men?" Revelation 20:12 says "the dead stand." The first death is appointed to all men. The second death is appointed to the wicked. To him and many others this could only mean general resurrection in that all men would be raised, the righteous to reward, the wicked to judgment.

Rossell counted himself among those believers in the Church of God who denied the pre-existence of Jesus. In 1928 Judd authored a short book, *Jesus Christ in the Old Testament*, published by the National Bible Institute in Oregon, IL. He proved through scriptural arguments that the promised Messiah of the Old Testament was Jesus Christ of the New Testament. Why? Because the founder of a major religion has no way of controlling what is said about him before his birth.

The most ambitious piece of writing he did on behalf of the truth of the Gospel of the Kingdom was *One God, God of the Ages*. Judd's book was written and published by the General Conference in 1949 from Oregon, IL, just in time to train a new generation of Church of God ministers. Before it appeared as a book, it was published in an article series in *The Restitution Herald* from 1946 to 1948. Since its first edition, *One God* has had four printings. It is still available for sale and widely read among seekers of truth.

Rossell Judd never lost his enthusiasm for his newfound faith. He celebrated it his whole life. He wrote to *The Restitution Herald* at Christmas in 1925 that he had been distributing *Heralds* to libraries in Canada and the United States. He lived in Canada just over the border at Niagara Falls. He recommended that all the brethren make it a practice to put their *Heralds* into their public libraries.

In 1930, an auto struck R.H. Judd, crushing his foot and breaking two bones in an ankle. At the time he lived in Toronto. During convalescence, Rossell had time to write. People prayed for him, and he healed. He advanced to crutches and eventually reported being happy to be free of them, but his leg would never be the same.

When R.H. Judd died, notice appeared in *The Restitution Herald*. Pastor Emory Macy at Fonthill, Ontario, officiated the funeral service. The poem on the R.H. Judd's tombstone reads, "Life, New Life to them be given, When this Vale of Death has Passed, And, Through Glorious Resurrection, Endless Life Be Ours at Last."

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