

THE BIBLE ADVOCATE



AND HERALD OF THE COMING KINGDOM
THY WORD IS TRUTH

"THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET. AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH."

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GREAT PEACE HAVE THEY THAT LOVE THY LAW; AND NOTHING SHALL OFFEND THEM.

Our Part In The Great Commission

By Elder C. F. Knott.

The great commission of Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. . .," concerns all of God's people.

That this is so, is clearly set forth in St. Mark 16:34. "For the Son of man, is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to servants, and to every man his work.

It is true however, that we cannot all go to engage in active service as a minister of the gospel, or go to foreign fields as missionaries, and thus spend our lives in gospel work, but God has seen to it that we can all have some part in the promulgation of His work, and thus, "both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together." John 4:36.

There is no greater work than the work of saving souls, and we will never regret anything we have done or ever shall do in that direction.

I once read of a father who had professed Christ for many years. He had come to the evening of his life, and as he was lying on his death bed, with his children gathered around him, his elder son, who also was a Christian, noticed a struggle on his father's face, whereupon he asked him if he was afraid to die. The father replied, "No my son, I am not afraid to die, but I am ashamed to die," and lifting up his hands he said, "I am ashamed to come empty handed before my Savior."

How many will wish they had done more to show their love for the Lord, when it will be too late to amend?

God knows how much each of His dear children can do, and He loves a cheerful giver, but neverthe-

less, Paul tells us in 2 Cor. 9:6-7, "But this I say, he that soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly: and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give."

As we are nearing the end of time, and as the work of God is spreading with doors wide open for the truth, the calls for means to carry this gospel to the remotest bounds of the earth will of necessity also increase. It takes money to both send and keep the messenger in the field.

I with you am glad to see the Church of God enter into the new fields, to carry the gospel of the kingdom as a witness to all nations. Matt. 24:14.

The question that concerns us now is—how can we best support this work? My reply is—by systematic giving, every one according as God is prospering him. I believe that we can do the most in this line by bringing our gifts, be they small, or be they large, every Sabbath day as we meet in church or Sabbath school, and thus fulfill the word of the Lord as it is written in Psa. 96:8. "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name: bring an offering, and come into His courts." It surely will not displease our Father in heaven, when we thus come into His courts, bringing our offerings for the support of His work.

In Psa. 116:18-19 we read, "I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all His people. In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the Lord."

Why should we not take an offering in every Church of God, on every Sabbath day, so that the cause of God can prosper in the earth. And such that do not have the privilege of meeting with others of like precious faith, let them forward their offerings also in a systematic way, and we will all rejoice together when we shall see the results. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work." 2 Cor. 9:8.

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When they were at the place of execution, the brother, Wolfgang Mair, called out to the people: "This day I will present to my God a true burnt-offering, pay my vows, and attest divine truth by my blood." They were then executed with the sword, and afterward burned with fire. They resigned their lives with comfort, courage, and confidence, to inherit eternal life.

Some who had made themselves the most guilty in apprehension and death, were remarkably overtaken by the judgment of God; some lived but a short time afterwards; others did not die a natural death, but were so visited by God that it could be plainly seen that the wrath of God fell upon them.

The "Pact of Paris" Will It End War?

By Herbert W. Armstrong

Continued

(Editor's Note:....This is the second of three installments on world peace. In the first installment, world leaders and diplomats were found proclaiming "Peace and safety," while at the same time each nation is preparing with feverish haste for war. The present installment explains why the League of Nations and the Pact of Paris, outlawing war, will not end war, and discloses facts of stern reality, relating to one of two gigantic movements which are swiftly setting the stage for "that great and dreadful day.")

If the League of Nations, the World Court, the Pact of Paris which outlaws war, and similar efforts toward international peace are doomed only to failure, what is the reason?

"You seem," says a friend, "opposed to every plan and effort to end war and establish permanent peace. You show no sympathy whatever with any world move toward peace."

So it would seem. What's the answer?

Every Bible Christian does sympathize heartily with the motives and intentions of all who work toward world peace. But he most emphatically disagrees with present plans as to method.

The League of Nations might, indeed, work admirably and prove a means of establishing peace, were human nature not what it is. But then, if human nature were otherwise, no league would be necessary at all.

The heart and core of the problem of world peace lies in the NATURE in man. Man's nature, at present, is enmity toward his God and Creator. It is

the nature of prejudice, suspicion jealousy, envy, selfishness, pride, vanity, ambition, animosity, anger, hatred and strife.

God freely offers mankind a different nature, if mankind will surrender, repent, accept Christ as his Leader, his Master and his Hope. It is the nature born of the Holy Spirit, the nature of LOVE. But just so long as mankind, as a whole, rejects God's offer, spurns Christ's sacrifice, refuses to surrender his old nature and put on the Spirit of Love, just so long will the peace of the world remain in jeopardy, and just so long will all leagues, courts, pacts, confederacies and councils fail to insure peace!

The whole difficulty with these loudly-heralded peace moves may be summed up in one fatal omission from the League of Nations constitution. God is not found in a single clause of its covenant. In other words, THE ALMIGHTY HAS BEEN LEFT ENTIRELY OUT OF THE DELIBERATIONS!

In the blindness of his own pride and self-sufficiency deluded by the doctrine of evolution, which virtually all scientists and world leaders subscribe, mankind insists today that civilization has now outgrown its swaddling clothes; and may now, therefore, safely cast aside the heretofore uplifting "myths" and "legends," and "falacies" of the Bible, and the "ignorant superstition" of religion. The widely-accepted dogma of evolution denies the existence of any personal, creating, intelligent God, the need of any Savior, and the possibility of any "Second Coming" of the Prince of Peace to establish good will among men.

Ever since Adam fell, the Almighty has known man would prove unequal to the task of ruling himself. But He also knew it would be better for the human race in the end to learn this fact from bitter experience, and that he can save himself from the results of his own folly only through Christ. Acts 4:11, 12.

"Seek ye FIRST the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness," was the remedy laid down by Christ, and then, and not until then, shall "all these things be added unto you." Matt. 4:33. But civilization today ignores that remedy. And consequently it must be deprived of peace until, as it totters toward a self-imposed oblivion, it is at last compelled to "seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness. And that crisis, not far distant, will witness our Lord's return!

If the nations would REPENT, and seek God, the counsel of His inspired Word, the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and acknowledge Christ as Leader, this old world could have peace and safety right now.

The Bible warns the world to repent and accept Christ. Noah preached this solution in vain to a heedless world in his day. So did the prophets of Israel and Judah, down to John the Baptist—and Christ Himself uttered the despairing cry, "Oh Je-

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, . . . how often would I have gathered thy children together. . . and ye would not!" Matt. 23:37.

In his efforts to govern himself, and establish peace, man has tried every remedy he could conceive but that! That remedy he has never tried! That remedy he stubbornly refuses to try! This old war weary world never will enjoy the blessings of permanent peace until it does yield itself to that remedy!

For it is the only remedy which will remove the cause—the selfish, envious, suspicious, ambitious, hating nature in man—and his tendency to sudden inflaming of passions.

No, we are not antagonistic to the aims, the purposes, the desires of those who applaud these political gestures toward peace. We are in whole-hearted sympathy with the objective—but we believe no plan which fails even to so much as touch the cause—the present nature in man—can succeed.

Man has succeeded in harnessing the great forces of nature. He is proud of his accomplishments, and calls this the age of scientific PROGRESS. But, as D. Davidson of Great Britain has pointed out, "the chief feature of such development has been the misdirection of scientific knowledge. Man has applied his discoveries to the creation of machinery of destruction. Man has set in motion relentless energies that he cannot now control."

When power is uncontrolled, it becomes a potential danger. Man has increased his physical power, without enlarging his moral and mental powers for their control and direction into safe and constructive channels. The machines man has invented unfortunately, do not teach him to direct, control and use them.

Our nations today look, in spite of Peace Pacts outlawing war, to armed preparedness for protection. But what protection has been provided against the MIS-USE of these very agencies of defense?

"Why, certainly it is safe and right that our nation remain prepared," comes back the popular attitude. "Surely no one can believe we ever would mis-use our power. Oh, I CAN'T believe there ever will be another war—at least not for many, many years. The world is tired of war. The attitude toward war has changed." Such is the common conception.

The difficulty is to make the average American, living in our American environment, to understand and appreciate conditions in Europe and Asia. Certainly the United States is not going to start any war of aggression or conquest. But we cannot judge Europe and Asia by America! In Europe five or six different nations, consisting of different races, different languages, different peoples having different traditions, different ideals, hopes, desires and in-

tentions, may occupy the same land area of a single one of our states. We in America cannot conceive of the different conditions.

Vast populations in Europe are penned up in small areas, with many ancient enemy-nations bordering and adjoining. There, for centuries, secret diplomacy and political intrigue has predominated. Egoistical and ambitious political leaders still deal in old-world methods of diplomacy. Age-old hatreds, grudges and animosities smoulder in their breast. Motives of aggrandizement and nationalistic gain sway their every plan and action. They live for the day of revenge.

Add to these general conditions two new powers, each bringing its own new system forth into the world, each nursing tremendous ambitions for world-conquest, dominance and power, each thinking in terms of war and destruction, and not of peace and safety—and you begin to gain some realization of the actual conditions which exist.

The facts are that the world, today, stands upon the very brink of another world-war catastrophe, which doubtless will dwarf the present World War into significance in comparison! The world—especially the American public—will not believe it. But, Mr. Skeptic, you would have scoffed just as much at a prediction of a great world-war within five years, had it been made to you only two weeks prior to the outbreak of the World War! The world then walked serenely on, in blissful ignorance of the impending cataclysm, of the plans, the preparations, the secret alliances that has been made. And today history is repeating itself.

To be continued

Animals that go to church

In Italy horses and mules go to church once a year. The occasion is the day of St. Anthony, their patron saint. The faithful servants of man are on that day carefully cleaned, brushed and decorated and taken to church to be blessed—just as automobiles are taken on St. Christopher's day. St. Anthony, credited with being the first monk, lived a secluded life in the desert of Egypt and later—when too many followed him—in the mountains by the Red Sea, where a monastery bearing his name still stands. Many are the legends of special devotion to the saints by the lowly animals.—Pathfinder.

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