

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness—Isa. 35-8

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REFLECTIONS FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

By Rev. B. C. Cochrane

How appropriate that Nov. 11th, anniversary of the signing of Armistice ending the Great War, should be called "Remembrance Day!" How truly should it be a day of reflection and meditation, set apart to the purpose of gathering together all the facts available from memory and history that concerned that bloody struggle!

Many would have us to consider only the thought of the courage and sacrifice of those who fought and died, and certainly we should dwell on this with the deepest respect and reverence. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." And so, according to the words of our own great Saviour and Teacher, those who fought and fell for the sake of those whom they loved, performed the most lofty service of which we are humanly capable. Therefore, let us honour this day of sad reflection those who shed their blood for others.

But there are other facts on which to dwell; true, they are not all lovely or noble, but should nevertheless be called to mind in this season.

May we suggest that you

Remember the origin of war.

Wars do not "just happen." They are not accidental. Post-war honesty has revealed facts concerning the origin of the trouble that both amaze and stir us with indignation.

A report of the League of Nations, tabled at a Conference in Geneva some years ago revealed that armament firms:

- (1) Have intentionally fomented war scares.
- (2) Have attempted to bribe government officials.
- (3) Have spread false reports about military and naval programmes of foreign countries in order that they might increase armament expenditures.
- (4) Have sought to influence public opinion through the press.

One of the overseers of an armament factory in England said: "We don't care who gets a whack at who, providing we get the order."

Think of it! Profiteering business men who will ruthlessly and purposely attempt to bring on war for the sake of financial gain.

Remember the cost of war.

In money the siege of 1914-18 cost the world billions of dollars. Charles Sumner says: "Give me the money that has been spent in war and I will purchase every foot of land upon the globe. I will clothe every man, woman and child in an attire of which kings and queens would be proud. I will build a school-house on every hillside and in every valley over the whole earth. I will build an academy and endow it, and a college in every state, and fill it with able professors. I will

crown every hillside with a place of worship. I will support in every pulpit an able preacher of righteousness so that every Sabbath morning the chime on one hill should answer to the chime on another around the earth's wide circumference, and the voice of prayer and song of praise should ascend like a universal holocaust to heaven." This gives some idea of the tremendous cost of war.

But the cost in dollars is the smallest item. Think of the cost in human lives! Over ten millions of the fairest and best of our lands fell in the Great War. And to this number must be added all those who died as a result of wounds and injuries. The Swiss Society for the Study of Social Consequences of the War reported that "The total loss of life must be put down at 40,000,000." Think of the agony involved in the suffering and death of such a multitude. Then add to these facts the millions of widows, orphans, lonely mothers and fathers, and friends, who were impoverished by the ravaging destruction of that horrible struggle and you gain some conception of the cost of war.

Again, let us—

Remember the folly of war.

Those who offered themselves as soldiers in 1914 were told that this was the "war to end war." The decisive struggle that was to abolish this deadly scourge from the universe. And has this glorious ideal been realized? By no means! As far as the solving of the problem of war is concerned, those who paid the supreme sacrifice died in vain.

Violence begets violence and leaves to the combatants a legacy of sullen resentment. In the heart of the defeated nation is created a lust for revenge which during the intervening years of peace smoulders like a volcano threatening a sudden and deadly eruption.

Nearly twenty years after . . . hear these words which, if they could reach the ears of those who fell would be both appalling and troublesome: "The atmosphere of the world today is charged with all the suspicions, hatreds and jealousies that breed war, and all efforts to avoid this impending slaughter have thus far failed."—David Lloyd George.

Finally—

Remember the solution of the problem of war.

For nearly a score of years now there has been, what appears the greatest and most universal effort to the establishment of world peace that man as man has ever expended. Millions of dollars, years of time, and unsparing efforts have been given in search of a solution for this greatest of world problems. And have they succeeded? Sadly the world answers, no. And why? Surely not a lack of money, time or effort. No, the lack is in one of these, but the weakness lies in the fact that men are trying to grapple with a situation that can only be handled by God himself.

Strangely, the name of Jesus Christ, the

Author of Peace, is seldom if ever mentioned in these Peace Conferences. In the year 1929, a new corner stone was laid in Geneva, which was the beginning of a magnificent Peace Palace for the League of Nations meetings. In all the addresses and ceremonies of that great event the name of Christ was not mentioned! And because that the world has hitherto failed or refused to recognize that Christ's way is the only way to solve the problem of war, it still remains to work havoc.

Remember the cost, the folly, and the origin of war, and likewise remember the words of the Lord Jesus, "They that take the sword, shall perish with the sword."

ASCENDING THE MOUNT OF SACRIFICE

(An incident from the prayer-life of Charles H. Usher, illustrating "soul-cling" as a hindrance to prevailing prayer):

"My little boy was very ill. The doctors held out little hope of his recovery. I had used all the knowledge of prayer which I possessed on his behalf, but he got worse and worse. This went on for several weeks. One day I stood watching him as he lay in his cot, and I saw that he could not live long unless he had a turn for the better. I said to God, 'O God, I have given much time in prayer for my boy and he gets no better; I must now leave him to Thee, and I will give myself to prayer for others. If it is Thy will to take him, I choose Thy will—I surrender him entirely to Thee.' I called in my dear wife, and told her what I had done. She shed some tears, but handed him over to God.

Two days afterwards, a man of God came to see us. He had been very interested in our boy Frank, and had been much in prayer for him. He said, 'God has given me faith to believe that he will recover—have you faith?' I said, 'I have surrendered him to God, but I will go again to God regarding him.' I did; and in prayer I discovered that I had faith for his recovery. From that time he began to get better. It was the 'soul-cling' in my prayers which had hindered God answering; and if I had continued to cling and been unwilling to surrender him, I doubt if my boy would be with me today.

"Child of God! If you want God to answer your prayers, you must be prepared to follow the footsteps of 'our father Abraham', even to the Mount of Sacrifice (see Rom. 4:12-25)."

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

A boy said to his mother, "When I grow up I am going to be a Christian like Father. Nobody knows whether he is a Christian or not." That man was like the clock in a certain courthouse tower we used to see. It had no hands. It may have been working inside, but how were we to know it?—From The Presbyterian.

"The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants; and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate."

Mrs Geo Tottle, Feb 30