

CORRESPONDENCE

North Head

Dear Highway Readers:

Just a few more lines by way of report of our special services. Our evangelist, Rev. T. DeLong's heart was made to rejoice greatly us strong spiritual food, every message seemed to be unctionized by the Holy Spirit, many of them being good old fashioned Holiness sermons which we feel is needed greatly in this church at this time. We are glad to say that quite a number walked in the light, some to be reclaimed, others sanctified, and Mrs. DeLong's heart was made to rejoice greatly in seeing every one of her Crusaders saved. They seem to have real salvation and are a great blessing and inspiration to our meetings.

We organized a young people's society recently with a good membership, and these are real blessed services.

We regret that many of our members have been quite sick of late, Brother L. C. Watt being confined to his home all winter.

We miss these dear old saints from our services but are thankful to God for their influence and good works which will never be forgotten.

Continue to pray for us, dear ones, as there are still many who seem convicted of their need, and we trust will soon be brought into the fold.

Yours for souls,

REV. G. A. DeLONG

"WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE WORLD"

North Head, Jan. 4th, 1939

In these days of trouble and crime, millions of terrified and peace-loving people are wondering what has gone wrong with the world. The trouble with the world is that the minds and hearts of humanity are divided among doctrines of Buddha, Mohammed, Lenin, Mussolini, Hitler and many such figures, while the principles of Christ, which is summed up in words (rightfully called the Golden Rule): "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them," which alone would be the solution for our ills, which have been crowded out of the minds and hearts of people. Only the name of Christ is applied to some activities partly of Anti-Christ, which only serve to create loop-holes for wrong doings and thus boosting humanity to destroy its one well being and safety.

I am convinced, and my convictions are based on the teachings of Christ, that on earth peace and good-will among men has been starved to a skeleton by the lack of true Christian education. It is true we have varieties of religious education, but the true Christian education is largely lacking.

We have learned from the study of life, and teaching of Christ, that his chief aim was to lead men to be born of the Spirit (idea) of neighborly love; in other words, a Spirit of self-denial for the welfare of humanity which he himself possessed, and he definitely declared that except men be born of that Spirit, they shall never see the Kingdom of God or life hereafter; and, he unmistakably demonstrated by his resurrection that only those who follow him in his aim and ideals shall be crowned with resurrection from the dead, which all other religious and political leaders have failed to do, and the same spirit of self-denial for the welfare of humanity is the only

factor that alone would create on earth peace, good-will among men. It seems a shameful mockery, deceit and a crime to teach humanity to accept Christ only by faith and creeds, when scriptures distinctly declare that faith without works functioned by neighborly love is dead. Christ intended people to accept Him by His teachings and principles. This he confirmed by these words, "Whosoever heard these sayings (teaching) of mine and doeth them I will liken him unto a wise man, who built his house upon a rock, the rain descended, the floods came and the winds blew and beat upon that house, and it fell not for it was founded upon a rock," which means by right interpretation that those who accept and follow Christ in His Spirit and principles, as well as by faith, are the only ones who are building their future and eternal welfare on unmovable foundations as a house that is builded upon a rock, no storms nor even gates of Hell shall ever prevail against it. But hearers, and not doers, of the word, according to his words, are building their welfare as it were on the sands which will crumble away in the test of time, and great is the fall thereof. Apparently our so-called civilization is built on that movable ground.

It is unmistakably noticeable from the records and teachings of Christ that His teachings centered on a life of self-denial for the welfare of humanity, in other words neighborly love, that is the light or example he brought to mankind. Therefore said the beloved Apostle John, "If we walk in the light as he is in the light (meaning the same light he walked in) having loving fellowship with God and man then the blood of Christ, God's Son, will cleanse us from all unrighteousness," which in other words means, if we fail to walk in that light, then the blood of Christ will not cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and our hopes for hereafter is built as it were on a shifting sand.

Yes, His example is the only cure for all the ills of humanity, both for here and hereafter.

The true Christian education should not be left on the shoulders of volunteers alone, our law-makers and educational bodies should play a large part in it, and except they do so, they are and will be responsible for the future ills of humanity. Rulers and other outstanding figures among the people are setting an example to the masses either one way or the other. As long as they continue to aim for higher wages and bigger profits at expenses of others, the masses will follow them to do the same, which continually and increasingly refuel the flame of trouble and unemployment. If the outstanding figures would set the example of self-denial for the welfare of others in deeds as well as in words the masses would follow them to do the same, that would help to dissolve the wrong that is in the world! For if all individuals, classes and nations would use others in words and deed as they would be used, is there any reason then why that wouldn't solve all present day troubles, including the unemployment problem. Employees so minded would not demand more wages than he himself could and would pay, and employers would not install machinery which would reduce employees' jobs, and if mankind were convinced that the Golden Rule is the only straight and narrow way that leadeth to life hereafter, they would be just as devout to follow it, as they are now devoted to the other ideas which they believe is the straight and narrow way of life. And Christ is the author of that fact, that the Golden Rule is

the straight and narrow way, and he warns mankind against accepting substitutes for it from the false teachers and false prophets.—St. Matthew 7:12-27.

PETER RAHNELL

"EXCEPT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL EXCEED"

By Rev. W. Edmund Smith

Matt. 5:20: For I say unto you except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees ye shall in no case enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

The most scathing denunciations that ever fell from the lips of man were hurled forth by the meek and lowly Jesus against the Scribes and Pharisees, the most religious people of his day. The word Pharisee, even at that time, had become a synonym for all that was sinister, crafty and hypocritical.

But the Pharisees at their beginning had a better character than this. They had their origin in Babylonian captivity, and were those who still remembered Zion, and humbled themselves under the chastening hand of Jehovah. They deplored the idolatrous abominations that were rampant in that proud heathen city. They mourned to see many of their people being carried away by their insidious environment. The most devout of the Hebrews organized to counteract the evil influences. They separated themselves and thus became the Pharisees or the Separatists. They perpetuated the worship of the true God. By the waters of Babylon they sat down and wept when they remembered Zion. They found it hard to sing the songs of Zion in a strange land. They cried: "If I forget thee, oh Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning. Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth.

But time had wrought a great change with the Pharisees. Upon their return to their native land they lost the sincerity and the purity of their spirit, and became formal, worldly and hypocritical as a class, notwithstanding among them there was still devout souls who waited for and longed for the coming of the Messiah.

The scorching words of Jesus penetrated the religious cloak, aroused the conscience of those who loved darkness rather than light, and made those who thought themselves to be the incarnation of piety, the most malicious opposers of Him who was the Way, the Truth and the Life.

But it may be well for us to consider some of the aspects of Pharisaic righteousness and find wherein it failed to measure up to Christ's requirements.

First, we know the Pharisees venerated their Bible or their sacred roll. It was a part of their early education to memorize Moses and the prophets. They rightly regarded their sacred book as a book of religious authority, far above any other book. They knew their Bible, and would defend its divine character with words and with physical force. They regarded themselves as the special custodian of divine truth because their progenitors had been Moses and the prophets. They were ready to quote their Bible against Jesus.

But Jesus endeavored to show them that because they had lost their sincerity of heart, and their spiritual vision, they had no real fellowship with the spirit of Moses and the prophets. When they quoted these they were quoting them to their own condemnation. If