

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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SAVE YOURSELVES

By Rev. H. E. Mullen

This may seem to be a paradox but by closely studying the Word, there is a sense in which we are to be careful to "Save ourselves." In Acts 2:40 the Apostle Peter exhorts the people of his age "To save themselves from this untoward generation." It seems every age or generation has its own fads, ways and tendencies. For a long time we have been interpreting Jesus' words in John 17:16 as a declaration that Christians abstained from worldly things. I believe it means that, yet I am convinced it goes further than just abstaining from worldly things. It also implies that we as Christians are not of the world spirit. In this article I wish to bring to our mind some world spirits that are abroad in this age and generation that we should save ourselves from. Peter warned his listeners to save themselves from this untoward (or crooked) generation. In this age and generation the world spirits that the child of God must save himself from are legion (many). Predominantly this is an age of hatred. Nations are caught by its sinister force and are doing their ut. most for the downfall of those they hate. May the Lord help us as Christians to "Save ourselves" from this world spirit of hatred. Most of the hatred the devil injects into hearts is fostered without much to nourish it except the imaginations of a depraved heart.

Then this is an age or generation of dissatisfaction. Our forefathers got along with few of the nicer things of life and seemed satisfied with food and raiment. But today with many fine things we have to enjoy, the very air is pregnant with dissatisfaction and the accompanying miseries that such a state of mind brings to those who are held in its sway. How it hurts the cause of God when folk never see the silver lining, but only the dark foreboding shadows of ruin and despair. Let us by His grace "Save ourselves" from this spirit of dissatisfaction. A close relative of the spirit of hatred and dissatisfaction is the doctrine of communism that promises a cure for all economic ills, only to prove that the shortcomings of the democratic system of government were but a drop in the bucket compared to the sorrow, disappointment and delusion that has come to the people that have lived under the iron rule of communism. May we by God's grace and good, sanctified common sense, "Save ourselves" as Christians from being led into spiritisms where we no longer have any semblance of Church rule or discipline, where the pastor is a dictator and controls us body and soul as surely as any dictator. The evils of this age are kept alive and sponsored by propaganda. The press, radio and public platform are kept busy in season and out of season with startling blood-curdling reports. Some are true; but the most dangerous part of it all is that there is a little truth in much we read and hear, but it is highly colored and toned to do a work of destruction. How we need to pray that God will help us to be careful of what we hear lest we are unduly influenced in taking a wrong attitude toward folk and things. Let us be determined by God's help to "Save ourselves" from entering into withering, blighting, destroying propaganda.

The strength of the nations that depend on propaganda lies in their agitators, men that make it their business to keep up a ceaseless campaign of agitation among the class of folk who are willing for others to do their thinking, endeavoring to get this class in a state of unrest until they believe a change of government is the cure-all for every economic ill. Agitators did in Austria and Czechoslovakia what seemed to be incredible. Let us "Save ourselves" not only from being one of Satan's agitators but from being influenced by their cry of blue-ruin. May the Lord help us when people try to influence us against what we know to be right; to serve notice on them, that God has endowed us with an influence that we intend to use for the up-building and not the tearing down of His work. Beware of people who are always telling you what is wrong with the Church, and how they have a plan if put into effect would work wonders.

Another world spirit that stalks about is the spectacular spirit. We read of the saberrattling dictators displaying and flaunting their weapons of war trying to glorify war. and boast of their machines of death. We hear of spectacular achievements in every line of endeavor. It is the same in the religious world until the more spectacular and showy the services are, the better some people like it. It must grieve the heart of God to see folk doing ridiculous things just for the sake of drawing attention. Let us be determined as God's people to save ourselves from this modern trend. What we need in our services is not so many strange and weird things taking place; but we need the sweet presence and blessing of God settling down upon us like the dew of Hermon. We also notice this is a generation and age of men with broken spirits. Our nation is teeming with those who are unable to support themselves. People who are living on dole and relief; many of them through no fault of their own, have so long been compelled to depend on others that they have lost hope of ever establishing themselves as productive members of society. Should we not strive to "Save ourselves" from this spirit that says: "It's no use, we can't have revivals now; it's no use, people don't get blessed in their souls like the folk of years gone by." Be not deceived by this spirit. Let us look to God for a great outpouring of His Spirit upon as His church and people.

Finally, this is an age great promises with but few fulfillments is with hope we read of new discoveries hat will alleviate the suffering of diseases cancer or leprosy; only to find as the months roll on, that when put to actual test they prove to be just another disappointment, not only to suffering humanity; but also to those who felt they were sure enough of their findings to make public their discoveries.

Are we, as the Church of the Living God, going to be caught in this same predicament. Preaching a big Gospel, but living a very careless, loose life. Will our declarations of the power of the Gospel cause a ray of hope to come to those suffering because of the fall; and will our lives show that we don't find the Gospel practical for this age we are living in. We must, by God's grace, "Save ourselves" from this spirit of great promises that lacks accompanying results. By the help of the Lord live such consistent lives that we may convince needy hearts that there is a Balm in Gilead to save a sin-sick soul. Not only in forgiving our actual transgressions, but also to cleanse from inbred sin.-Fort Fairfield, Me.

ON THE TAXPAYER

In five years the present administration has created 293,673 federal jobs on the regular pay roll throughout the country. The total increase is greater than the population of Delaware. In Washington alone the administration has added 48,972 jobs—enough to create a good-sized city.

On March 4, 1933, when President Roosevelt took the oath of office, there were 563,847 persons on the federal pay roll. The addition of deserving Democrats to the federal pay roll has raised the number of federal job holders by fifty-three per cent to 857,520. In Washington the federal pay roll has been increased by seventy-three per cent by the present administration. On March 4, 1933, workers on the federal roll here numbered 66,802, and last July 1 they stood at 115,774. The all-time high was reached November 11, 1918, when 117,103 persons drew federal salary checks in the capital. On the day Mr. Roosevelt was inaugurated, after promising to cut the expenses of government by twenty-five per cent, the federal job holders were drawing about seventy million dollars a month. For last June the 857,520 workers pocketed 128 million dollars. Federal workers drew about one-third of the estimated four billions a year the taxpayers of the country give to all office holders, federal, state, and local. The increase of 48,972 in capital workers in the city of Washington could have operated the capital end of the government in the early years of the century when only 30,000 workers were employed in the capital.

The year before the war, 1916, there were only 39,442 persons on the federal pay roll in the District of Columbia.—Chicago Tribune.