THE KING'S HIGHWAY

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EDITORIAL

SIGNS OF THE COMING OF ANOTHER GREAT WORLD EVENT

Radio Message by the Editor over CKCW, Moncton, N. B.

You will find our lesson this morning in the gospel according to Mat., chapter 24, the first 14 verses. The text is the 33rd verse. "So likewise when ye shall see all these things, know that it is nigh even at the doors."

The great coming event that I wish to speak of this morning is the coming of our Lord to earth again to judge the world in righteousness. The words of our text are His own words to His disciples as He sat on the Mount of Olives where they came to Him to ask Him what should be the sign of His coming and of the end of the

Previous to this they had showed Him the buildings of the temple and called His attention to the great stones used in building it, and Jesus had told them that these would all be destroyed and there would not be left one stone upon another that would not be thrown down. The disciples were greatly surprised and thought that He was prophesying of the end of the world and of His second advent: hence they came to Him to ask Him more about it. Then Jesus tried to make clear to them that He was speaking of the destruction of Jerusalem, which came to pass a few years later when the Roman armies under Titus came up against it, besieged it, and literally fulfilled the prophesy of our Lord in its complete destruction, according to the record given by Josephus the ancient Jewish historian. He says the stones were all thrown down, taken away and the place where the temple stood was ploughed. Then in addition to what He said about the destruction of Jerusalem He went on and also said several things about His coming back to earth again and of the end of the world or of this age. He spoke of conditions which would obtain or be in evidence at that time.

The first thing that I would have you note which He said to His disciples was, "I will come again and receive you unto myself." Those words settle the fact, that He is coming back again. Note again He also said, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man not the angels of heaven but my Father only." So it is absurd for men to try to set a time or to fix dates for our Lord's return as many have done in the past, which were not fulfilled, and only revealed their ignorance of the teaching of the Scriptures on this great subject, and showed their utter folly in trying to pry into things and fix dates for those things which our heavenly Father has not yet revealed unto the children of men.

On another occasion His disciples asked Him about the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel, and He replied, "it is not for you to know the times and seasons which the Father hath put in His own power," etc. However Jesus did tell them that there would be signs which would indicate that His coming draweth nigh. He spoke of several things which would come to pass or be in evidence about that time, and then said, "Now learn a parable of the fig tree. When His branch is yet tender and putteth forth leaves ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all things, know that it is near even at the doors." That is, the end of this world is near.

What things? you ask, was our Lord referring to? He spoke of conditions which would obtain in three different realms or parts of the life of our world. I will just call your attention to them briefly and leave you to judge for yourselves whether the times or conditions Jesus spoke of are here. He referred to conditions among the nations or in national life. He said there shall be distress of nations with perplexity, men's hearts failing them for fear for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. Let me ask you friends, did you ever hear of a time when there was as much distress in the world or among the nations as there is at the present time. Distress because of wars, strife, unemployment, poverty, drunkenness, wasting money on luxuries while the poor are getting poorer and increasing in numbers, and the rich are growing richer? And no one seems to know what to do to relieve the situation. The spirit of unrest and dissatisfaction is on the increase. It is conditions like these that provide fertile soil for Socialism and Communism to take root in and spring up and

Did vou ever hear of a time when there was so much fear and perplexity and distrust among the nations, when statesmen were so perplexed and baffled in their efforts to keep out of war? When they are all saying we want peace, and yet all that are not fighting already are preparing for war, and spending billions of money on armaments. Does that not look like distress of nations?

obtain in social life. He said as it was in the days of Noah so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man. They were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage. You say, did men not always eat and drink? Yes, men used to eat and drink to live, but now they live to eat and drink. Doctors tell us that we are digging our graves with our teeth. Bakers, cooks, manufacturers of foods are producing everything that can be desired to tempt our appetites, and those who can buy their wares are eating more and more until their stomachs have become their gods. We cannot have a social function of any kind now, and not many religious services, without something to eat and drink, and very often the drink is strong drink, and the demand for it is increasing as the days go by,

And for an explanation of Jesus' words about marrying and given in marriage, I would call your attention to the great increase in divorces and remarriages in these last few years. Statistics tell us that one out of every six marriages of the United States is divorced, and in Hollywood where they make the motion pictures that so many of our church members pay their money to see and support, many of those actors have been

divorced and remarried several times, some as many as six and seven, so we read.

And last but not least, Jesus spoke of conditions in religious circles. He said because iniquity (of which we have just been speaking) shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. In nearly all churches the complaint is that there is a waning in interest, a cooling off spiritually, a loss of zeal for spiritual things. This condition is especially noticeable in the summer time in warm weather, when many church members have to leave the city and go to the beaches to keep their bodies cool, the same temperature as their souls, and many of the churches have to discontinue business or have only a very few to work with on Sundays. The figtree is surely putting forth its buds which tells us that summer is nigh. So likewise when ye see all these things, know that He is near, even at the door.

"THE FAITHFUL GOD WHICH KEEPETH COVENANT"

By Mrs. H. C. Sanders

"I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."-Josh 1:5. "They that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou Lord has not forsaken them that seek thee."-Psa. 9:10. "God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man; that He should repent; hath he said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?" Num. 23:19.

"The Lord thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations." Deut. 7:9.

"There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel all came to pass." James 21:45.

Dear hearts, long tested and tried, know this these promises and statements are as fresh and true today for you and me as when they were first promised or spoken.

Saints who were our helps and props, maybe, have joined the shining throng beyond. Circumstances, times and friends have changed, but our God, whose we are and whom we serve, has never changed.

David said, "I have been young, and now Tesus also spoke of conditions which would am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Ps. 37:25. This is the testimony of a man who had had all sorts of vissitudes, trials, friends turned to enemies, losses, deaths, and yet this is his testimony in his old age.

> He had proved God true and gives testimony to the fact again and again "For the Lord loveth judgment and forsaketh not His saints they are preserved forever." Ps. 37:28.

> Now you and I have made our covenant with Him. Let us be faithful and never turn back nor weaken, but "Be strong and of good courage" because He can not fail.

> Our trials and tests are only fresh places, where we may prove anew some of His promises or learn a new truth or receive strength to overcome some of our weaknesses. We have yet much of preparation to do to be ready to meet Him and to stand before our King. Amherst, N. S.

> Last year, says Moody Monthly, all the nations of the world spent seven billion dollars for armaments, and are expected to contribute eight billion more this year. But the United States alone in 1937 paid a crime bill that equaled this entire amount—fifteen billion dollars. — Pentecostal