

Right, seems to be the accepted practise if not the accepted principle. Hence, the impossibility of building external Peace out of internal Lawlessness.

There is a Peace promised, however, for our day. Proclaimed by the Heavenly Messengers nineteen hundred years ago, it is still effective today. This Peace Plan takes cognizance of man's heart need. It begins at the centre and works outward. Beginning at the heart it puts man at peace with himself. This calls for a complete overthrow of the reign of sin in the heart. This the Author of Peace makes possible by a changed nature and a cleansed heart. "Peace on earth" can be known, but only where sin has been expurgated by sanctifying grace. When man is at peace with himself he is at peace with the God who created him, and principles of peace found anywhere. Paul speaks of the "peace of God keeping his heart." He speaks of the "God of Peace being with us." He also testifies, "I have learned in whatsoever state I am therewith to be content." This way of life was not natural to Paul. It required a justifying grace and a sanctifying grace to make him thus. And so is the need today.

It is vain to hope for anything like a universal peace in our day, but peace for the individual is blessedly possible. To this end the Church is to labor. Revivals are in order and sorely needed. Revivals that launch an attack against sin. When the Church shifts her emphasis from saving society via the individual, the cause is already lost. I pray the holiness people in every church and in every land may keep on the main line. Ours is the task of pointing man to the one and only means that brings peace. God bless every effort to outlaw war, but let all men know that our greatest contribution to this end is the enthronement of the Prince of Peace in our hearts.

A GREAT FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

The great annual Foreign Missionary Conference of the Park Street Church, Boston, was held April 15th-22nd inclusive, and in some respects surpassed all previous conventions.

As usual, missionaries were present from different parts of the great countries of China, Africa, India and South America. Smaller areas like New Guinea, Mexico, Alaska and Cuba also sent their representatives. These servants of God from the regions beyond, all came in the power of the Spirit to magnify the grace of Jesus to save those of every race, color and tongue.

The convention was blessed with the presence of two great missionary statesmen, Drs. Glover and Paige, both of whom have spent fifty years in China. Dr. Glover is always serious, informing, eloquent and inspiring. He compared conditions as they are in China today, with those that confronted him fifty years ago. Then the doors of most of the provinces were absolutely closed to the missionary, while in other provinces the door stood only ajar through which the missionary had to force his way to meet the most stubborn prejudice, and bitter opposition. Colleges and universities—students in general—looked upon the Christian religion with contempt, and regarded the missionaries as white devils who had come in to take possession of their country under the guise of religious teachers.

And they had a right to be suspicious for had not England, France and Germany taken Chinese territory? The darkest blot on England's national escutcheon is that she forced opium upon the Chinese under the pressure of Armstrong guns.

Some fifty years ago China was ruled by the cruel Empress Dowager. She, like Jezebel of old, was determined to extirpate the Christian religion. It was she who precipitated the Boxer uprising in which foreign missionaries were killed and many native Christians slaughtered. But, said Dr. Glover, as of old, the blood of the martyre was the seed of the church. The heroism of these missionaries and Christians did more to open closed doors in China than had many years of missionary endeavour. But look at China today! Some eight years ago Japan began to carry out the plan she had fostered for many years to conquer China. Korea and Manchuria had already been conquered. Japan saw that China was making marvelous progress, industriously, politically, educationally and religiously. She knew full well that China could soon defy her power. Japan precipitated the conflict, and the barbarity of her onslaught beggars all description. Colleges, universities, hospitals and churches, which Japan regarded as hostile centres, were destroyed. Defenseless cities were bombed without mercy, and planes swept low to mow down men, women and children in fiendish glee. Japan thought by her terroristic methods she could subdue the Chinese. What was the result? The scourged people by the millions, gathered up what belongings they could carry and started for the hinterland. They not only carried household effects, but they carried factory machinery, and what books they could save, and there, far from the Eastern Coast, they made their homes, built up factories and opened schools and colleges. Their sufferings have been terrible, but they have had a faith and a courage that has lifted them above it all. Today as never before, Christianity and missionaries have prestige in China. In spite of all the horrors of war, multitudes in China have been converted the last few years. The schools and colleges that remain, welcome Christians to their faculties. Multitudes of students turn from the study of Confucius to the study of Jesus and His power to save. All doors swing wide open, and today China has in her government more strong Christian men, who testify to a personal experience, than any other nation. What hath God wrought? Dr. Glover said: China presents or will present, after the war is over, and Japan has been defeated, the most wonderful opportunity for missionary enterprise in all the world. No wonder this old warrior wished he were young again, and could go back to China to help in the sweep of victory. I have given you just one epitome of his great address:

Dr. Paige, an Englishman, has all the humor of an Irishman and the eloquence of a Welshman. He is a most captivating speaker. One great address was on "Love, the great compelling power of the missionary."

Another wonderful address was by Missionary Playfair from Africa. As soon as Haile Selassie was restored to his throne, Mr. Playfair, who had never labored in Ethiopia, in company with two former missionaries from that territory, flew across Africa to call upon the Emperor. They had heard of a wonderful revival that had taken place in one of the

provinces since the war. They requested the privilege of visiting that territory. At first the King declined because of the unsettled state of the country, but finally he consented.

Mr. Playfair said when they landed near that town, the news was soon noised abroad that the missionaries had come back. People flocked from far and near. They lifted their hands and their eyes to heaven, wept tears of joy and gave thanks to God. The Italians had come in and had driven out the missionaries. They endeavored to get the Christians to kiss the Crucifix but in vain. Many of them were cruelly beaten and cast into prison. But a wonderful revival broke out that swept far and wide, all under the preaching of native Christians. The missionaries had left a handful of believers. When they came back they found thousands rejoicing in the Lord. Mr. Playfair declared it to be one of the most marvelous demonstrations of God's power since Pentecost.

I should like to tell you of the leper work in Central Africa carried on by Dr. Hellarsberger, a Texan. The horrors of this disease were portrayed by the pictures thrown upon the screen. And amongst these wretched folks this man of culture and skill was laboring with joy.

Dr. Decker, of New Guinea, another Englishman, told of the triumphs of the Gospel down where our boys have been fighting the Japs. Many of the American boys have been tremendously impressed with the fruit of the Gospel on that Island. Some of them said, "We never imagined that Missions could do the like of this." Our soldiers coming on native villages suspected they might be running into cannibals, but found praying, singing and rejoicing Christians. All the other missionaries sounded the note of victory.

The last Sunday, the 22nd, was the crucial day, when the offering was taken. Park Street Church had raised \$42,000.00 last year and supported 40 missionaries. Dr. Oswald Smith, of Toronto, was the presiding genius, and told the people Park Street wanted to add ten more missionaries to the number she now supports. When the pledges for the day were totalled up, they amounted to \$47,000.00. Since then the amount has reached \$50,000.00. It means fifty missionaries for one Church. Much of the credit for this great increase in interest and support of missions by this church is due the pastor, Rev. Harold Ocknega. This church a few years ago was raising about \$6,000.00 for Foreign Missions. I am happy to say that one of the new missionaries that will go to Mexico is my niece, Mary A. Smith, a registered nurse. She is the daughter of my brother, Watson T. Smith, of Fredericton. But I must close. I have written this hurriedly hoping it may broaden the vision and awaken more enthusiasm amongst our home people for the cause of Foreign Missions.

W. EDMUND SMITH

P. S.—Dr. Smith told us his Church in Toronto last year pledged \$115,000 and actually paid \$117,000. His people had rather invest their money in missions than put it in the bank. Amen!

To live for today is in the noblest sense to live for eternity. To be my very best this very hour, to do the very best for those about me, and to spend this moment in a spirit of absolute consecration to God's glory—that is the duty that confronts me day after day.—David J. Burrell.