

Temperance Column

A LIQUOR TRAGEDY

In a Northwestern city a preacher sat at his breakfast table one morning. The door bell rang; he answered it, and there stood a boy about twelve years of age. He was on crutches, his right leg off above the knee, shivering with cold, and he said: "Please, sir, will you go up to jail with me and talk and pray with Papa? He murdered Mamma. Papa was good and kind—but whiskey did it! Will you come and be with me and my three little sisters when they bring him back? The governor says we can have his body after they hang him."

The minister hurried to jail, and talked and prayed with the unfortunate man. He had no knowledge of what he had done. He said, "I don't blame the law—but it breaks my heart to think that my poor children must be left in a cold, heartless world—oh sir, whisky did it!"

The minister was at the hovel when the undertaker's wagon drove up with the body. They carried the pine casket into the little house. They led the little boy up to the casket; he leaned over, kissed his father, sobbed, and said to his little sisters:

"Come on, sisters; kiss poor Papa's cheeks before they grow cold"—and the hungry, ragged, whisky-orphan hurried to the casket, shrieking in agony. Police, whose hearts were adamant, buried their faces in their hands and rushed from the house. The minister fell on his knees, lifted his clinched fists and tear-stained face toward heaven, and took an oath before God that he would fight the cursed business until the undertaker should carry his body out in a casket.

You can vote liquor for money, make liquor for money, sell liquor wholesale and retail for money, blight human beings for money, but, remember, you are on your way to judgment and doom. Death is not going to change your wicked, selfish, money-loving soul. The teachings of our Lord Jesus compel us to believe that Hell is a fearful place of torment and that ETERNITY is such a LONG TIME. When you awake in that HORRIBLE PLACE and spend MILLIONS OF YEARS there, will you think you got the worth of your liquor money?

"Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."—Gal. 6:7.

"He that covers his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."—Proverbs 28:13.

Reader, do you know that Christ has already taken the punishment of your sins, so that you can escape the damnation of hell? But unless you come to Him as a poor, lost sinner and put your trust in Him, all that he suffered for you will only increase your eternal misery. Oh, turn to Christ from sin now.

AWAKE, CHURCH OF GOD! IT IS NEAR TWELVE!

St. Paul, in his letter to the church in Rome, said, "You know what time it is. It is high time to awake out of sleep" (Rom. 13:11).

The slowness of Christian people to realize this is, in itself, startling and distressing. The scientific world appears to be more concerned over the situation than the religious world. Outstanding scientists, with their knowledge of the danger of atomic destruction, said recently that it was eight minutes of twelve.

Since the Korean conflict, some of them have moved up the hands to four minutes of twelve but the church still sleeps!

The sweeping conquest of atheistic communism is alarming. It has spread so rapidly that one cannot help but wonder if the way is not being made for the anti-christ to step in and take over. But the church still sleeps!

The creeping paralysis of the spirit of this Laodicean Age is having its deadening effect on spiritual people. Instead, it seems, of the church realizing this, and guarding against it, doing something vital about it, she still sleeps!

The trouble with this church of the Laodiceans was its complacency. She said: "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing." God said: "Knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." The church was neither cold nor hot; a sickening affair to God. (Rev. 3:14-18).

We listened to a broadcast a few hours ago, a broadcast contacting the great centers of population in America, seeking to know what preparations are being made to cope with probable atomic bomb attacks. The revelation as to what has been done and what is being done is heartening indeed; but the conclusion as to the probable loss of life during such attacks was most distressing, around fifty percent provided a warning had been given. In the case of sneak attacks, the percent of loss would greatly increase. I could not help but wonder what the churches in such centers are doing about the greater loss, that eternal loss of the immortal soul, unless they are led to Jesus Christ the Saviour! Who is concerned about this? But for a few earnest Christian people here and there, the church still sleeps!

Beloved, if you have not a deep concern over present conditions in the world and in the church, will you not ask God to put it on your heart? People who are truly baptized with the Holy Spirit have the concern! Will you not ask God to give you a new vision of the need and the possibility? Then, act!

What is the time? and what are we going to do about it?

The very fact of God's visitation here and there both in America and in Japan reveals the fact of God's willingness to pour out His Holy Spirit in mighty revival power. But will the church really awake to this fact, awake to this opportunity that presently may pass, never to return? Will she? It is true "that in the last days perilous times shall come" (2 Tim. 3:1-5), and it seems clear that "the last days" are here; but it is equally clear that "in the last days, saith God, I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh" (Acts 2:17). We are still living in one of the "days", "The last days" of which the day of Pentecost was the first, and during which days God has promised to pour out His Spirit!

Read the challenge of the Almighty: "If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people;" "if I; **if my people**, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chr. 7:13, 14)). "And being let go, they went to their own

company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. And when they heard that they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and the earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against His Christ. For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, for to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done. And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave down to business for God!

all" (Acts 4:23-33).

PETER WISEMAN.

ALL-OUT PRAYER FOR REVIVAL

It is time to call the people to PRAYER—not to discussion about some hair-splitting point of doctrine, for, with all our doctrinal discussions, debates, surmisings, contentions, —souls are not being saved—or even convicted of sin in the way God wants them to be. It is high time to call the people to PRAYER,—not to talk about prayer, but to PRAY, not to talk about God, even, but to SEEK the Lord until He come and rain righteousness upon us (Hosea 10:21).

"Gather My saints together UNTO Me; those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice." Psalms 50:5. Are you ready to sacrifice your heated doctrinal contentions on the altar of an all-out prayer for REVIVAL? Are you willing for God to wean you from the skirts of your denominational pride, and to draw you from the breasts of your boasted experiences—that God may do a fresh work of Revival in these days? (Isa. 28:9).— W.C. Moore.

PERHAPS WE OUGHT TO TAKE AN INVENTORY

(Continued from Page 1)

do's in God's book. They are very simple and yet becoming, and you good sisters won't need to patronize the barbers or so-called beauty parlors any more.

Oh, you say, I give a tenth of my income to the church. You may indeed do that, and still not sacrifice anything for God: Our tenth is only our rental or debt which we owe to God. If we don't give more than a tenth we don't give anything in money at all.

When we begin to do without things that we need to make us comfortable, house furnishings, clothes and food, so we can save some money to use in sending the gospel, and food and clothing to the suffering souls in heathen lands, then, and not until then, do we begin to sacrifice for Jesus' sake. And finally, dear one, do you ever wonder why you have so little desire to pray or witness for Jesus in public? Ask Him. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. Mat. 12:34. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart O God, thou wilt not despise. Psa. 51:17.