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The Lord of Hosts

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AN EDITORIAL

Some years ago I heard a Korean pastor describe the awful desolation and hardship which took place in his country during the Korean War. His account was a pitiful one. Most of their churches and homes were destroyed. Families were broken up, some members being killed while others were made prisoners of the Communists or forced to flee the country. Finally the war was over and those who survived its ravages began to trickle back to the towns and villages, seeking to salvage what remained of their property and possessions. Spirits were at a low ebb. No one smiled. Hunger and fear had etched deep lines of suffering upon every countenance.

But hope had not died. For among the Christians, hearts glowed with the prospect of a better day, a day of liberty and of increased opportunity to proclaim the Gospel. As Christians met they greeted each other with the words, "The Lord of Hosts Is With Us." This greeting became standard. It was their watchword. It rallied their faith and lifted their spirits. Thousands joined in mass prayer meetings. Revivals broke out. The shattered buildings and the wrecked country-side served but grim reminders of some Satanic fury that had come and gone.

"The Lord of Hosts Is With Us." Here then shines also our brightest star, our surest hope. True, war's devastation has not reached us yet, and in that sense we remain unscathed. But in another sense we too are victims of Satan's deadly devices.

Sin was never so ugly, so bold, so rampant. We stagger under its relentless progress. The tide of evil rises swiftly toward its flood. Even as crime, immorality, lawlessness, and delinquency of every kind become more wicked and more vicious, the Church, generally, was never so impotent. To our shame we watch evil triumph in a grand march across our nation.

In this instance the way out is the way down —down before God in humility and repentance. God has the answer. He holds the key. Must He smite us before we are awakened to our desperate need? As a people we are gravely responsible for those under our care and influence. We have an obligation to be in the vanguard of spiritual advancement. We need a great humbling, a great crying-out for God, a new experience of His holiness, a new urgency in our ministry. Maybe it is not too late. Maybe the cause is not lost. Maybe the tide can yet be turned.

Rev. L. K. Mullen

when dise is drive and soft of modely but wolfsetting body the interview in a contrast of the soft of the district and do the little church at Antioch Markeboli Furstantow Hotphobey were praying and fasting, and apparently the subject of yawaging again had by Let us seek the Lord today. Let us have a revival of righteousness across our land. Let the might of Zion again cause the forces of evil to tremble.

"The Lord of Hosts is With Us."