

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

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THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

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**THE THOUGHTFUL
ATTITUDE.**

Most of the present concern is with our own attitude towards our war efforts. There are a good many people who feel that the war is not to be pushed as vigorously as it should be in view of the seriousness of the enemies which we face. In the minds of these critics there seems to be a growing feeling that the present generation of warriors is not as enthusiastic as it should be regarding the destructiveness of the war. They seem to feel that there should be more of the "War Whoop." Americans for the most part are not expressing their hatred as they should. Perhaps all these critics are well founded, but they do not win wars or measure the attitude of people engaged in war. Our country being what it is, everyone of us can indulge in privileges of criticizing. Yet, when we study the situation we can find that considering the distances of our far flung battlefields, and the fact that we have never considered war the proper duty of man, the progress that we have made today is to be commended. In less than three months, even though we are caught without our full armor on, we have to give very hard blows to our enemies in battle, as well as to continue to give aid to our friends. This indicates the direction that we are finally going when we shall have completely armed ourselves.

The duty of every good American is, therefore, one doing all he can to be sure that he does his part. This can be accomplished in some of the following ways: First, by working as efficiently and effectively at whatever job he has. Second, by saving food, money and materials so that war production can be maintained at a very high level; and third, by refusing to hate an enemy even though we are called upon to destroy him. By busying ourselves with these points of view, our opportunities for criticisms will be reduced to a minimum and we will be going a long way towards realizing the chief aims of our task, that of complete victory.

**EDUCATIONAL OP-
PORTUNITIES.**

Never before in the history of this country has there been such a great demand for trained people in the various endeavors which are designed to supply our great defense needs. Almost any person who is trained in the skill arts can get employment in his particular training. Since we have suffered so long by having a large number of people who were not especially trained for any special thing, it seems that great efforts should be made to impress upon the minds of adolescence of this generation the necessity of a thorough, well-rounded, training in a particular field so that we could develop the type of skill for which he could be paid a salary. The training program should not end with the youth of the land, but it should be carried among the adults so that they will become skilled workers to take care of all the future needs of the country. The nation realizes more and more that trained well-informed people are the most valuable assets that it can possess.

If we could have seen this idea long ago, the cost of making a program of education universal would have been expended and it would greatly be paid for itself by the type of worthwhile people that would have been produced. All of our edu-

cators should, therefore, think seriously of our future teaching so that this need for skill training will be anticipated by having programs and other provisions for it in all communities of the country.

Education has ceased to be a luxury or a hit and miss program for a few people and has now become a necessity for all people.

HOW TO GET WORK DONE.

For a long time the President of the United States has tried to make the war effort democratic by allocating the duties among various departments such as Reconstruction Finance Corporation and Federal Reserve System, etc., but has been discovered that only a strong armed individual like Donald Nelson can be depended upon to carry forward such work. While under a democratic system, the majority of us should approve or disapprove of a proposition before action is demanded, the work of the world is usually carried on by a few individuals who have the courage to carry out the will of the majority.

The history of American politics is the history of leadership in this direction. This leadership, in spite of our democratic system, has made it possible for certain men in our nation to stand head and shoulder above the others. What is needed always, whether in peace or in war, is a good executive to coordinate the various resources and opinions into an effective mould for the benefit of all concerned. We believe now, that the war effort under this type of arrangement will go forward by metes and bounds, and that our production will reach heights heretofore unrealized.

**THE NEGRO'S ATTITUDE
TOWARDS THE WAR.**

It is now hard for any one observing the averaged Negro in the United States, as well as the result that come from various reported studies about the Negro in World War II, to see that large numbers of Negroes are indifferent to the war effort. This is true also among all Americans because there is a feeling that the war is far away and we are not in immediate danger. Regardless of their attitude, it should be stated emphatically that indifference and inaction should be discouraged because the daily accounts of the war shows beyond a shadow of doubt that this war is serious business and that we should enter it by doing everything possible to hasten its conclusion with complete victory for the democratic way of life.

If we are inclined to forget about the seriousness of this war, a little thought on the following subject should help us to remember: (1) The freedom which human beings have been struggling for since pre-historic times to the present age is the result of great effort. First, against Nature and now against other human beings who feel that oppression is a natural lot of large parts of the human race. (2) We should remember that while democracy is imperfect as all present day human institutions are imperfect, it nevertheless, represents the best efforts has made man towards the goal of individual respect and development.

For that reason, we should think long and hard before deciding there is nothing to fight for in this war. (3) We should remember that if the world war is to be made better, we ourselves, must help to make it that way. It is still true that if justice, is to be had it must be planned for, worked for, and organized, and it will give us those benefits, for which we struggle. If we could remember these three points of view it would be easily seen that the war effort should be taken very seriously by all of us. There is no time to put personal feeling and worn out institutions about the real issue that is now facing us. Two worlds are at war, two points of views are in conflict and one cannot tolerate the other. If we are to win, we must do everything possible by saving our energy and materials, thinking correctly and believing in the ultimate victory of our cause.

The last world war did not give us the things it promised. It did, however, give a measure of freedom heretofore unknown. And after the

next war, there will be a larger opportunity to develop a full measure of those democratic principles which must come to our group. Yet, these larger freedoms will not come if we are not trying to promote them by a true belief in democracy. Our attitude should be to work as hard as we can to make democracy for ourselves, now. This can be done.

**THE PRESENT STATUS
OF RELIGION.**

One of the popular targets of the present age has been the religious belief of man. Since the Russian Revolution of 1917 religion has been tested as never before in recent times.

Following the evils of Russia, came the great happenings in Germany against the Jews, and now the coming of this world war II finds religion again on the altar of sacrifice. The conflict is primarily one about who shall control the things in which man is to believe. For in that control, a large measure of the efforts of two conflicting ways of life are organized in desperate struggle.

Under the totalitarian system, one's beliefs are regulated by the state or by various individuals in important positions. This growing control of beliefs has tried the Christian religion more than any other. It has made a large number of individuals feel insecure in their long standing principles of conduct and relations with their God. It has shown us that many of the things which we consider essential are now passing away. This has made us ask questions about our conditions more than ever before. This growing conflict to determine the things in which we shall believe, has called on the best minds of Christians to reassert the known truths that have proved that right and justice are the continuing principles of this world regardless of what might seem to be succeeding now.

Sometimes the triumph of a way of life which rest in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man must be a reality. This can be done by aged Christian living daily and fully going to get times for which he is solemnly preached himself. It can be done by emphasizing in deeds as well as thoughts. The fundamental principle that the love of the fellow-man is the higher good. A dedication even on the part of the busy business of war and more effectively of the war is under the real assert of the higher places the religion should comply in the lives of men. One principle which should dominate and that is the destruction of hate and revenge. Evil and injustice should be destroyed without our hating individuals who are respectable for the conditions in the world today.

**INTERNATIONAL
SUNDAY SCHOOL
LESSON****Doing Mighty Works**

Golden Text: What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him? — Matthew 8:27.

Stilling the Storms

Who will still the storm? Who can master the confusing conditions of life? Jesus is the answer. After telling how Jesus taught, Matthew goes on to describe his power to control nature and man. The stormy night on Galilee and the wild demoniac of Gerasa may well typify for our thought the trying situations that confront us in individual experience and in the social order.

Conflicting forces within ourselves drive us out of our course, arouse our fears, disturb our peace. We cannot make headway. We are baffled and defeated. We need the steady voice of One who can rebuke the wind and say unto the sea, "Peace, be still"; and to the unclean spirits, "Come forth."

We are asking with a new and deeper interest: What is the power of Jesus in the world today? What is His worth and meaning for our troubled time? By what authority does He claim that our lives, our institutions, our governments, should be controlled by his spirit? It is our

Christian belief that Jesus is still the master of every situation. He is the solution of all our problems.

What Jesus does for the individual he can also do for society. This Christian social order Jesus calls the kingdom of God. It will supplant competition with co-operation. For greed and selfishness it will substitute love and sacrifice. In place of race prejudice and national egotisms it will encourage a brotherhood that will transcend our narrow distinctions and antagonisms.

Now and then, on the rising tide of some significant movement toward social understanding, industrial justice, or international good will, we hope we are headed for it. Then, again, we have misgivings and wonder if our civilization will ever identify itself with the kingdom of God. But we may be sure that some age will realize it.

What we call our civilization may go down in the storm because it was not wise enough to accept Jesus' way of salvation; but there will come a day when some civilization will discover that the way Jesus preached and lived is, after all, the only certain way of salvation.

When we permit the spirit of Jesus to dominate all relationships, building his principles into law and custom, into business, industry, and government, we may expect sanity, peace, and order.

It is the only way of life that seems to warrant any promise of deliverance. It is the only road that leads out of the tangled chaos in which we find ourselves.

Unused Power

The ministry of Jesus was a ministry of power. He exercised his power in every realm — physical, mental, spiritual. He healed the sick, raised the dead, cast out demons, stilled the storm, forgave sin, rehabilitated wrecked lives.

The ministry of Jesus was a ministry of power, and that power continues to be exercised today in the moral and spiritual life of the world. A standard of right has been established, and it is undeniably the work of Jesus. The wickedest man measures his delinquencies by the extent of his failure to practice the principles of Jesus; and even non-Christian nations offer no moral code of their own as superior to the Christian code. Their chief criticism against it is, not that it is wrong, but that it is impracticable. That criticism has no force with those who have really tried it.

The existence of the church itself is proof of the mighty working of Jesus in the life of today. This institution, small at first, encountering difficulties from within and persecution from without, betrayed at times by its professed friends and outlawed by its enemies, has persisted until today it is established throughout the world and is the vital religious force in every country. There are those who say the church has failed; but it maintains its activities, gains multiplied thousands of adherents every year, and constantly carries on an aggressive campaign against evil of every kind. The church is manifestly a part of that "working whereby he is able even to subject all things unto himself" (Philippians 3:21).

But the most direct proof of the wonder-working power of Jesus in the present day is to be found in the lives of multitudes who have been redeemed from sin, regenerated in nature, and kept consecrated to the service of God and humanity by their faith in this same Jesus. Their lives have been changed, not superficially and temporarily, but radically and permanently.

The surpassing wonder of the miracle is, not only that these lives have been changed, but also that they are not content merely to enjoy the blessings of salvation for themselves alone but are under compulsion to spread the good news and bring others into the same joyous experience. A power is working in these lives—the same power that enabled Jesus to do mighty works.

So "the day of miracles is not passed." Jesus exercises his power now, as he did then. We rejoice in the world recognition of the Christian standard of righteousness, in the vitality and growth of the church,

and in the sure testimony of countless men and women to the saving and keeping power of God. In all this we see evidence of the coming of the kingdom of God on earth.

But there is tragedy in the realization that vast reservoirs of power made available to his followers by Jesus are still not drawn upon. The situation resulting from unused power is not far different from that caused by lack of power. Money that is buried in the earth serves no useful purpose. Electric energy that is never released lights no lamps, carries no messages, turns no wheels of industry.

If the church could release and utilize its potential strength, it could evangelize the world intensively as well as extensively. If it could command its unused resources, it could banish war, overthrow the liquor traffic, purify politics, destroy racial and class prejudices, and establish real brotherhood among men. It could not eradicate sin, but it could correct many of the evil conditions that sin produces.

The tragedy of the church is the tragedy of the individuals that compose it. Lives are weak, not because of power, but because of unused power. "Ye would not!" (Luke 13:24) is one of the most pathetic utterances of Jesus.

**Poetry In
Everyday Life****WAKE.**

They'll march the streets with jaunter stride
Henceforth wherever they go
They'll tell their tales with a bit more pride
When the hair of them turns to snow.
And whether it's land or the sky or the sea
They are ordered their posts to take,
The Marines forever will braver be
For that glorious fight at Wake.

There's a little more bulge to that coast of blue
Than has ever before been seen,
And a little bit more for each boy to do
As a U. S. A. Marine.

For whether it's ocean or sky or sea
Where the shells about them break,
The Marines will carry the memory
Of that glorious fight at Wake.

Just a little more lustily now they'll sing
Their rousing, marching song,
And a little more courage to duty bring
When they battle' to right a wrong.
For wherever there's need of them,
Lang or sea,
"Or sky with the flag at stake,
The Marines will fight with the memory
Of that glorious stand at Wake.

SPIRIT OF AMERICA,

It was on the seventh of December
The Japanese began to fight,
It's a day we'll long remember
But Uncle Sam will make it right.

Our country is for freedom,
Our next best word is peace;
And the love we have for the U. S. A.
I am sure will never cease.
The boys that are in our army
Stand ready for their call—
With our soldiers, sailors, and marines
Our country cannot fall.

With ships and guns and airplanes,
planes,
We will let the Japanese know
That when the U. S. makes it stand
They will be our conquered foe.

The axis will be next in line
To feel our full-thrown force,
The Italians then will follow suit
Along our chartered course.
The Japanese did start it—
But Uncle Sam will win!
The Stars and Stripes will forever
wave,
With the spirits of our men.
—Lucille Bray,
Greensboro, N. C.