

A SUPREME NEED OF THE COUNTRY

It Is A Nation-Wide Revival of the Old-Time, Genuine Prayer-Meeting Religion.

(By R. H. EDMONDS, Editor of the Manufacturers Record.)

The supreme need of this country is a nation-wide revival of the old-time, genuine prayer-meeting religion.

A religion that makes men realize that the same Divine authority that tells us there is a Heaven also tells us there is a Hell. If we accept the belief in a Heaven, we must accept from the same authority the belief in a Hell—

A religion that makes men realize that every act of evil is recorded on their conscience and that, though it may sleep for a while, it can never die—

A religion that makes an employer understand that if he is unfair to his employes and pays them less than fair wages measured by his ability and their efficiency and zeal, he is a robber—a robber of his employes and a robber of himself of honor—

A religion that makes an employee feel that if he does not give full and efficient service to the extent of his ability he, too, is a robber—a robber of his employer's time and a robber of his own character—

A religion that makes a farmer who packs bad fruit at the bottom, to deceive the buyer by the good fruit on the top, realize that he is a thief just as much as the one who robs a hen roost at night, and is thereby destroying his own character—

A religion that makes a man who robs a railroad of its fare or freight bill know that he not only robs the road, but that he also robs himself of all right to feel that he is an honest man—

A religion that makes a man realize that by driving too hard a bargain with his servant, his employer or his merchant, he can be just as much a robber as the seller or purchaser who swindles by false weight, false packing or false claims—

A religion that will teach church members who fail to contribute to the extent of their ability to the support of religion that they are robbing God and man alike, and compels them to recognize that if they are paying their pastor less than a living salary they also are robbing God and man alike—

A religion that makes the minister of the Gospel realize that he has not been called by Heaven to preach on economic questions about which he knows very little, but to preach in all its fullness "Christ and Him Crucified," and else the blood of the lost will be upon him—

A religion that will make labor men who by threats or by actual violence endanger the lives of other laboring men or the property of others realize that at heart they are murderers, for they are seeking to murder the liberty of their fellow-men, and are murdering their own best individuality and character—

A religion that will make a politician who yields principle to his party politics, who worships at the feet of any class to secure votes and sells his soul for preferment, not only know that he is a coward and a poltroon and unworthy of the respect of any decent man, but also will make him see that he is helping to murder human liberty—

A religion that makes every newspaper worker feel the tremendous responsibility of

the press to help mold and shape for good the people of this land in this day of wild turmoil in thinking and acting that he may appreciate his high calling, or prove recreant to God and humanity—

A religion that will make every man who professes to be a Christian realize that if he violates the laws of the land, whether it be the Prohibition laws or others, merely to gratify his own views or desires, he is to the extent of his influence breaking down all law, and has no right to expect that his family and his friends will not violate any law, moral or statute, which does not suit their convenience—

A religion that is active, not passive—

A religion that gives a man backbone to stand for the truth, however great may be the dangers that he may have to face in upholding the right as God gives him the power to see the right—

A religion that will make men realize that the most stupendous event beyond all human comprehension is that the Creator of the vast universe, the study of which staggers the human mind, so loved mankind in all its waywardness that He "gave His only Begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." No finite mind can possibly love, nor of the death upon the grasp the full meaning of this Cross which followed for the salvation of the world—

A religion that literally burns itself into the brain and the heart and the soul of every man who professes to be a Christian, and makes him realize that the one supreme thing in his life and in the life of those with whom he comes in contact is by his life to uplift the Cross that men may be drawn unto Him who, upon that Cross, gave his life for sinners—

In short, we need a revival of that soul-searching religion which will make men and women strive in every act of life to do that which on the great Judgment Day they will wish they had done, as with soul uncovered they stand before the Judgment Seat of the Eternal.

Until the people of this nation accept and live this religion, there will be strife where there should be harmony; there will be strikes and lock-outs and murder where there should be co-operation and

peace; there will be law violation where there should be law obedience; there will be hatred where there should be friendship and love.

With the Golden Rule followed in the fullness of the spirit of this kind of religion, there would be found a solution for every business trouble. There would be created friendship between employer and employe. Capital and labor would work harmony and with efficiency of the capital and efficiency of the labor, with profit to both.

Religion of this kind is not measured by the hope of Heaven hereafter nor the fear of Hell, but the full fruition now of "peace on earth to men of good will." It is not merely the chanting of hymns or the offering of Pharisical prayers, but it is in the recognition and full application by rich and poor, by learned and unlearned, that each one is indeed his "Brother's Keeper," that we can bring this country and the world back to safety. A nation-wide acceptance of this, in heart and in life, would bring peace, and world peace, where there is now turmoil, and men would then cease to seek to gain their ends by lawless acts of immorality, but would, in spirit and in deed, follow the Divine command:

"All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."



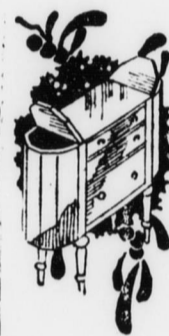
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