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Good News

(FORMERLY THE FOOL-KILLER)

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STILL TUGGING AT THEIR BOOT-STRAPS.

There are some elements in the world's political life that would like to do good. But they can't. They waste a heap of energy, but they get nowhere.

It seems to me that the good and evil forces of the world just about cancel each other. The good is strong enough to keep the world from getting much worse, and the bad is strong enough to keep it from getting any better.

And so if any progress is to be made in the right direction, it is a clear case that some new Power must be introduced. Some people will say that the League of Nations is the new Power that will lift us out of the mire and start us out on the firm highway of righteousness.

But I don't think so.

The League of Nations is just one more of man's efforts to lift himself by his boot-straps. Its failure is just as certain as anything in this world ever can be. Man will have to take his fingers out of his boot-straps and reach his puny hands up to God for help before he ever gets out of his present predicament.

A hundred or so of the world's greatest statesmen, backed up by a thousand or so of the world's greatest "experts," have been at work for about six months on a Peace Treaty and a League of Nations Covenant. And in the 80,000 words that they have finally adopted there does not appear the name of the Deity nor any reference to a Higher Power. If ever a set of men did deliberately slap God in the face, those men at Paris have done it.

And when you ask me to believe that such a piece of business will succeed you are asking just a little too much. It may SEEM to succeed for a little while, and there may be a little spell of patched-up peace. But every pillar under it will be a powder-keg, and it will only be a matter of weeks till it blows up. Just about the time they get to crying "Peace and safety!" right big, then sudden destruction will come upon them.

To be sure, Peace and Safety are coming, and that before long, but they are not coming that way.

I have a standing notice to the effect that I do not want postage stamps on subscription. But yet I can and do accept a few stamps all along. And just now I could use a few more than I am getting. So you may send small amounts in stamps for awhile.

A SERMON ON LIFE AND DEATH.

Well, howdy, as the gal said. How do you all come on by this time? Are your appetites getting in tune for some more sermons? All right, you shall have them.

And now, honey, what do you understand the world LIFE to mean, anyhow? Some folks say one thing and some another, but I want to know what YOU think about it. And then, with your kind permission, I am going to cut loose and tell you what I think.

When you have a good light burning in your room at night, there is no darkness in that room.

And the darkness cannot come in until the light goes out.

Blow out the light and see what happens.

There!

The light is gone.

Where did it go to?

Did you see it go out through the door or window and move off to some distant place where it will still be a light?

Could you follow the light that went out of your room and find it still lighting up the place where it went to?

And did you see a square block of darkness come in from the outside and fill the room?

No, of course not.

And person with ordinary sense knows that nothing left the room and that nothing entered the room.

Then what made such a change in the appearance?

Simply this:

The lamp which had been generating the light was suddenly made to cease generating it, and there was no reserve supply on hand. The light was being used just as fast as it was being made. Consumption was keeping right jam up with production, and the very instant that production stopped of course consumption had to stop, too.

The result was:

A condition of LACK, and the LACK manifested itself in just the opposite way from what the SUPPLY did.

Darkness is not a THING or OBJECT having any parts or properties of its own.

It is merely the ABSENCE of LIGHT.

Light and Darkness are direct OPPOSITES, and they cannot both exist in the same place at once.

Now listen to me:

What I have said about Light and Darkness is a perfect illustration of Life and Death.

Life and Death are direct OPPOSITES.

They are just as opposite as Light and Darkness.

They are just as opposite as White and Black.

They are just as opposite as Hot and Cold.

And there is no way in the world that they can be swapped around and one be made to answer to the name of the other.

But there has somehow gotten to be a fool notion in the minds of nearly everybody that these DIRECTLY OPPOSITE things are not OPPOSITE at all.

They will tell you that when a man's life goes out of his body and he SEEMS to be dead, he is not dead at all, but really more alive than before.

They think that the man's life has merely left his body and gone off on a long journey to heaven or somewhere, and that it is still living and knowing things wherever it is.

By the same process of reasoning we would have to believe that the light of a lamp (when you blow it out) merely goes off to some other place, and that you could follow it and find it still lighting up the place where it went to.

There is just as much sense in the one as in the other.

There is just as much sense in saying that a black man is white as there is in saying that a dead man is alive.

The natural processes of the physical body generate and sustain life just exactly in the same way that the burning of the lamp generates and sustains light.

The life will remain in the body just as long as the generating machinery continues to function properly; but the very minute that machinery breaks down and quits producing life, the life stops.

The reason it stops is that the supply is exhausted.

There is not any reserve supply of life on hand that must now go off and hunt some other place to live.

But here they come with their fool questions:

"If a man's life just goes out like a lamp and ceases to exist when he dies, how can God restore it in the resurrection?"

You idiot! How can you light your lamp again after it has been blown out?

Our lives are just little lamps, anyhow, and if God can light them in the first place, why can't he light them again?

After reading your copy of Good News, hand it or mail it to some friend who might be interested in it. In this way every copy sent out can be made to do double-duty. Be sure and do it.

EXPIRATION NOTICE.

If you see the words, "Your Subscription Has Expired," stamped in red ink over this notice, it just means this: If you have not lately sent in your renewal, then your time is out. But if you HAVE sent in your renewal, then pay no attention to the rubber stamp notice, as it refers only to your OLD subscription. The renewal that you have sent will bring the paper right on.

Please send in your renewal very promptly, if you have not already done so, and send along, with it as many new ones as you can.

WORRY ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE, BOYS.

A whole great big heap of hot air is being wasted over the question of what Germany's future is likely to be. The Peace Treaty has undertaken to see to it that Germany shall not be able to become a menace to the world again—soon. But there is always the admission that she might do it in the far distant future. And, of course, from the human standpoint that might be so. No statesman could have predicted the things that have happened lately, and no statesman can predict what might happen in the future.

But those of us who have a better guide than statesmanship are not worrying about such matters. Some of us poor ignorant "heretics" are permitted to know that neither Germany nor any of the other nations will cut much of a caper in ruling the world from now on. There is going to be a new Ruling Power that will not consult Germany nor the Allies nor any of the rest of them, and they will all be just as helpless in His hands as a leaf in a whirlwind.

God told Abraham that his seed should multiply and become as the sands of the sea, so that no man could number them. Now we are in the habit of thinking of the Jews as the only children of Abraham but they have been numbered and their number is about thirteen million. A very small number compared to the rest of the world's population. It must be a fact that somebody else is the seed of Abraham and don't know it. What if it turns out to be us in America and the other English-speaking countries? What if we are among those who will constitute the restored Kingdom of Israel. It is worth thinking about, and it may throw a good deal of light on things that are happening.

Does your mental machinery need oiling? Just a little of my gab will make it run like a new Buick. Try it and see.