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THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPIC

By the Rev. Charles E. Schaeffer, D. D.

November 6th What Should be the Christian's Attitude Towards War?

Matt. 5:9, 38-48.

The Sunday nearest to Armistice Day offers a suitable occasion to consider the Christian's attitude towards war. There have been three great evils in human society. They are, slavery, the liquor traffic and war. By the creation of sentiment and conviction and by legislation we have gotten rid of the first two of three evils. We must now rid the world of the third. The only attitude which a follower of Jesus Christ can take towards war is one of unalterable opposition. It is, however, a singular thing to note that Christians in all ages have not only tolerated war, but have made themselves believe that they found therein lofty principles which caused them to advocate the same and engage in it. The World War has taught the world many lessons and it has opened the eyes of many people. It awakened them to the fact that war never settles anything, that it is frightfully expensive and destructive, that it is unnecessary and un-Christian and altogether contrary to the way of Jesus, so that some leaders in the Church, whose voices have been lifted in rallying our forces during the late war are now declaring that they will never be caught that way again. One of the great preachers of today has said "I never expect to bless another war."

Let us now look at some of the reasons why our attitude should be one of opposition.

1. **War is expensive.** It has been estimated that the grand total expense of the World War was 338 billion dollars. This is equivalent to $20,000 for every hour since Christ was born. The average daily cost of the war was more than 215 millions of dollars, or nine million dollars every hour. The total amount raised by all the Churches in the United States in a given year is less than three days' cost of the war. But this represents only the actual outlay in terms of dollars. There are other costs which were involved. While there were some people who profited greatly during the war, there were whole populations that were utterly impoverished. Millions of men and women cannot be put to the work of destruction for a period of years without entailing tremendous economic loss. All this waste could be prevented and we might apply these marvelous resources to the work of education and the fostering of human brotherhood and use the same in constructive work rather than in destruction.

2. **War is destructive.** The loss of property is appalling and is enough to bring about a financial crisis, but the cost of war in human life is staggering. In the World War there were ten million known dead soldiers, three million more who were missing, thirteen million dead civilians, twenty million wounded, three million prisoners, nine million war orphans, five million war widows, ten million refugees. It is impossible for the human mind to comprehend such figures. The ten million dead soldiers marching from daylight to dark ten abreast two seconds behind each other, would require forty-six days to pass a given point. Or to put it another way the twenty-six millions of dead in the war is the equivalent to one every week beginning a century before the discovery of America by Columbus and continuing to the present hour. It is the equivalent of destroying every human life in a place like Atlantic City every three days during the war. And still people are satisfied to engage in war at the slightest pretext! If there should be another war the destruction of human life and property would be inconceivably greater. The use of gases and chemicals will play the greater part in future wars. We were just beginning to realize the tremendous possibilities of these elements within the closing months of the past war. Just at the signing of the armistice a kind of gas known as the Lewisite gas was produced. It has been thus described. "It was invisible. It was a sinking gas which would search out the refugees of dugouts and cellars and if breathed it killed at once, and it acted not only through the lungs; wherever it settled on the skin it produced a poison which penetrated the system and brought almost certain death. Masks alone were of no use against it. It had fifty-five times the spread of any poison gas hitherto used in the war." With the use of aeroplanes and their control by wireless a fleet of such airships could fly over a city and within half an hour put the entire population to death.

3. **War is futile.** Nothing has ever been permanently settled by war. During the World War the highest motives and ideals were appealed to and we were lead to believe that democracy would be safe for the world and the world safe for democracy. But we all realize now that these hopes were by no means accomplished and that in many respects the last state is worse than the first. We thought the war would put an end to war, but we are discovering that there have never before been as many men enrolled in peacetime armies as during the period since the war; and there never has been as much money invested in the manufacture of armaments during a time of peace as at the present time. It is estimated that the army and navy costs the United States annually five hundred million dollars, almost as much as the Post Office Department, which, however, is self-supporting. So much money was spent on armaments in the United States in 1922 that only 2% of the total budget was available for education. In other countries similar conditions prevail. Nothing is accomplished by war which could not be far more satisfactorily accomplished by conference and good-will.

4. **War is un-Christian.** It is absolutely contrary to the way of Jesus. Jesus taught the doctrine of non-resistance. He lived at a time when war was popular and the little country in which He lived was constantly overrun by invading armies, and yet He never advocated war. The Old Testament is full of wars and bloodshed. Its motto was "an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." Not to avenge a wrong was a sign of weakness and cowardice. But Jesus broke clean athwart this idea and taught the way of kindness and love and forgiveness and brotherhood. The Christian who claims to represent the spirit of Jesus Christ must take the same attitude as He did towards war.

Now, what can we do to rid the world of this grim monster that stalks abroad with death and destruction? First, we can declare ourselves and refuse to sanction or participate in any future war. If war is sinful then we must take an attitude of opposition to it. The late William Austin Smith, the Editor of "The Churchman," a few months before his death, in an address, made this statement:

"I am not contending that war was a sin five, ten or one hundred years ago. I am contending that henceforth war is a sin. It has now been fully revealed to us what war is made of, what are its unclean causes, its substance and its results. I maintain that if God has made anything clear to the mind of Christendom He has revealed to us the sinfulness of war."

Then we must create sentiment, educate the people. We must create a conscience that will not permit conditions to develop into war. Most wars start from economic or diplomatic reasons. We must see to it that those in authority will be Christian men who will be actuated by Christian principles.

Then we must take an attitude to outlaw war. At the present time we have legalized it. War is not a crime in the sight of the law. The individual is punished when he kills. The nation is frequently exalted when it puts its enemies to death. War must be stamped as a crime and Christian men and women cannot blink at nor tolerate a crime. More and more must we seek to install the mind and spirit of Jesus Christ into every relationship of human life. When He, the Prince of Peace, shall reign then peace will come. But as long as men and women live in enmity and hatred and fear so long war will not cease. It is only when every heart and every community and every country are applying the spirit of Jesus Christ that "swords shall be beaten into plough-shares and spears into pruning-hooks" and "nations shall learn war no more."

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Notice!

The Board of County Commissioners of Carroll County, Md., will be in session for Payment of Road Bills on the following dates and request the Commissioners and Supervisors to present their Bills with affidavits attached. Dates for Districts follow:

Districts 1, 2, 3 & 4 November 9, 1927
Disricts 5, 6, & 7, November 10, 1927
Districts 8, 9, 10 and 11, Nov. 11, 1927
Districts 12, 13, 14, Nov. 16, 1927

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.
Charles W. Melville President
10-28-2t

Improved Uniform International

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D.D., Dean Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
(©, 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Lesson for November 6

AMOS PLEADS FOR JUSTICE

LESSON TEXT—Amos 5:1-27.

GOLDEN TEXT—Let judgment run down as waters and righteousness as a mighty stream.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Treating Everybody Right.

JUNIOR TOPIC—The Kind of Man God Hears.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—A Squaring for God Against the Crowd.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—The Conditions of Divine Approval.

I. Israel's Desolation Predicted (vv. 1-3).

Amos lamented over the doom which was to overtake the nation. Israel is called a virgin because she had never been subdued by any foreign nation (see Isa. 23:12). Her falling to rise no more sets forth the utter desolation and helplessness to which the Assyrians subjected the nation. From this captivity Israel never returned. Those who came back from the Babylonian captivity were largely from Egypt.

II. The Call to Return to God.

God through the prophet says, "seek ye me and ye shall live." The implication is that while the divine judgments are not executed, an opportunity is offered for them to turn to God. In their turning to God they were to renounce:

1. Idolatry (vv. 5, 6).

They were to turn away from the places of idolatry—Bethel, Gilgal and Beersheba. God's judgment was to strike these places.

If they would not come to Him for life He would be their destroyer. "Our God is a consuming fire." The only one who can give life to those who seek Him is the one who shall destroy.

2. Cease to pervert judgment (v. 7).

"Turn judgment to wormwood" implies the bitterness of the perversion of justice to the injured.

3. Cease to dethrone righteousness.

"Leaving off righteousness" is thought to mean that unrighteousness was allowed to take its place. In this third exhortation the Lord's name is given with the following statement of some of His works:

1. "Maketh the seven stars and Orion;" 2. "Turneth the shadow of death into morning;" 3. "Maketh the day dark with night;" 4. "Calleth for the waters of the sea and poureth them out upon the earth," both in rain and deluge; 5. "Strengthened the spoil against the strong."

III. The Sins Committed by the Wicked Nation (vv. 10-13).

1. They hated the judge who condemned their wicked practices (v. 10).

2. They abhorred him that spoke uprightly (v. 10).

This most likely referred to the prophets themselves who told them of their sins and urged uprightness of life.

3. They trampled upon the poor (v. 11).

The rich built magnificent houses out of the proceeds extorted from the poor.

4. They afflicted the just (v. 12).

This they did by taking a bribe.

5. They turned aside the poor in the gate (v. 12).

Because they had no money the poor were turned aside.

It was most difficult for the poor to get justice. The times were so evil that the prudent would best keep silence.

IV. The Conduct of the Righteous (vv. 14, 15).

No condition in the world, religious, social or political can become so difficult that the righteous are shut off from help. The righteous can:

1. Seek God (v. 14).

Those who seek good shall have with them the Lord God of Hosts.

2. Hate the evil (v. 15).

Evil must be hated. The sin question must be settled before God can bestow His blessings.

3. Establish judgment in the gate.

It was the custom in that day for the courts of justice to sit in the gate of the city. The prophet urges upon them the responsibility to place honorable men in charge of public affairs.

V. The Judgment to Fall (vv. 16-20).

There is coming a day of retribution. Justice and right shall be vindicated. This will be realized in the day of the Lord (II Thess. 1:7-10; James 5:7). All wrong shall be righted at that time. May we earnestly pray, "thy kingdom come."

VI. Worship Without Holiness of Life an Abomination to God (vv. 21-27).

Sacrifices, observance of feast days and singing, when the heart is out of fellowship with God, is most displeasing to Him.

Two Different Things

The love of God and the world are two different things. If the love of this world dwell in thee, the love of God forsakes thee; renounce that, and receive this; it is fit that the nobler love should have the best place and acceptance.

House Not Made With Hands

The tent-life is the true life until the building of God, the "house not made with hands," is reached.—Phillips Brooks.

CLEAN HOUSE IS FIRST ESSENTIAL

A [illegible] is the first essential in [illegible] management. The [illegible] be done before the [illegible] the house for the [illegible] to John Vandervort [illegible] of Illinois. Clean, [illegible] cannot be expected to [illegible] are placed in a filthy [illegible] is likely to harbor [illegible] disease germs, he [illegible].

"[illegible], water dishes and [illegible] should be taken out of [illegible] cleaned and then left [illegible]. Dropping boards [illegible] and all litter and [illegible] from the floor. The [illegible] and ceiling should [illegible] after which the interior [illegible] house should be thoroughly [illegible] with hot water containing [illegible] the rate of one pound to [illegible] of water. No disinfecting [illegible] be done until after the house [illegible] thoroughly cleaned and [illegible] to dry out. The final step [illegible] replacing the fixtures and [illegible] litter on the floor and [illegible] in the nests. Houses [illegible] and fresh material put in [illegible] monthly."

Preparing for Eggs in Cold Weather of Winter

With [illegible] coming of colder weather and the [illegible] of getting the pullets [illegible] winter quarters, poultry flock [illegible] again are confronted with the [illegible] which ones to keep. Pullets should be well grown and healthy. Pullets [illegible] are undersized or stunted are [illegible] ever worthy of their feed. The [illegible] of the flock between hens and [illegible] will be determined by [illegible] as the number of pullets [illegible]. The average is about two-[illegible] pullets and one-third old hens, [illegible] being kept for winter egg [illegible] and the hens for breeding [illegible].

As [illegible] against an outbreak of colds [illegible] in the poultry flock, good [illegible] and proper management of the [illegible] better and more reliable [illegible] medication or any other medical [illegible]. Providing plenty of room [illegible] poultry house is necessary [illegible] health and productivity of the [illegible]. Three to four square feet is [illegible] proper amount of floor space [illegible] bird.

Prevent Fall Troubles in Farm Poultry Flock

One [illegible] most common diseases of the [illegible] during the autumn is roup. [illegible] disease is often found in damp [illegible] ventilated houses and is [illegible] contracted by birds that are [illegible] developed and of low vitality. [illegible] of this type frequently [illegible] the means of spreading it [illegible] the flock. Obviously, [illegible] should consist of eliminating [illegible] from the flock and [illegible] that will be dry and free [illegible], but well ventilated.

[illegible] prevention against this [illegible] is the following: Add as much [illegible] permanganate as will remain [illegible] surface of a dime to each [illegible] of drinking water and keep [illegible] fowls. This acts as an antiseptic [illegible] will help to keep the birds [illegible] condition. An attempt to cure [illegible] of roup is not advisable [illegible] in the majority of cases [illegible] may be an apparent cure, [illegible] of reinfection is great and [illegible] such birds cause the disease [illegible] throughout the flock.

Don't Wash Eggs

[illegible] egg packers condemn the [illegible] of washing eggs with either [illegible] or vinegar, most severely because [illegible] do not stand up in storage. [illegible] fact that the eggs thus treated [illegible] be detected allows [illegible] to go into storage with the [illegible] when they are taken out of [illegible] next fall and winter [illegible] quality will result in lessened [illegible]. So don't wash eggs [illegible] National Poultry, Butter and [illegible] Bulletin.

Teach Chicks to Roost

[illegible] make a mistake in not [illegible] the young chickens to roost. [illegible] usually advisable to do this [illegible] chicks are from eight to [illegible]. When they are allowed [illegible] on the floor it is difficult [illegible] them clean and there is [illegible] for them to crowd on cold [illegible] which often results in loss [illegible] chicks can usually be taught [illegible] by putting perches close [illegible] floor and placing one or two [illegible] with them.

Whitewash Formula

Here [illegible] standard formula for exterior [illegible] which has been found [illegible] Dissolve 12 pounds of [illegible] of powdered alum in [illegible] of hot water. Add 1 [illegible] molasses. Make a thick cream [illegible] by mixing 50 pounds (1 [illegible] hydrated lime, or 38 pounds [illegible]) of quicklime, thor[illegible] and screened before use, with [illegible] 7 gallons of hot water. Add [illegible] solution to the lime, [illegible].