

God puts in our hands with the rest of the world. By helping others we will grow strong ourselves. By forgetting others we lose vital power necessary to Christian development.

There must be boldness to surrender to the will of Christ. Throughout our land there are young people and there are young ministers of the gospel, young doctors and nurses who realize full well that their lives could be of vast significance if dedicated to the will of Christ. Do you dare follow Christ? Do you dare accept

Him as your commanding officer? Do you dare say to your Lord, "I will place my life without any reservation in thy hands and will do without question thy will?"

If Christian people are to fill the role in today's world that is necessary for us there must go forth a new surge of boldness in following Jesus Christ. May God help us so to yield ourselves to God that the power of the Holy Spirit may make us bold to do the will of Him who died on the cross.

## THE NIGHT COMETH

BAPTIST HOUR

June 23, 1957

Scripture: John 9:4

The words of this scripture give us an awareness of the urgency which characterized the life of Jesus. There was no rush, flurry, tension, or frustration in that magnificent life, but there was the powerful drive of a majestic purpose moving on to tremendous destiny. Our Saviour said, "We must work the works of him that sent me while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work."

That same sense of urgency characterizes the followers of Jesus as we minister in his name throughout the world. We are aware that we are at work in the world with God. We are ambassadors of Christ calling mankind to turn unto him who alone can save from sin.

### CHRIST LOVES ALL

The world in which we work is filled with people dear to the heart of God. Let us never overlook the fact that while millions of people throughout the earth differ from us in language, culture, racial and national backgrounds, they are just as dear to the heart of God as we are. Let us know that Jesus died on the cross for every one of them, for the rich man in his luxury yet poor in his soul, for the humble villager in his mud hut with thatched roof untouched by education or what is commonly called civilization. Christ died for all. He loves all. These are the people for whom he went to the cross.

The world in which we are at work is filled with tragic spiritual darkness, idolatry, ceremonial religion without any

knowledge of a living Christ, empty materialism leaving void and hungry the hearts of men, blinding and crippling superstitions that bring upon those who are held by them sorrows indescribable. Burden-hearted fathers and mothers carry their loads not knowing of the love of Almighty God. Children and young people look out upon life with its confusion and perplexities not knowing of the Saviour who is able to bless.

People gather at the graves of their loved ones and know nothing of life eternal. This is a world in spiritual darkness. It is a world for which Christ died. It is a world in which we are his ambassadors.

This world is filled with heartbreak and misery. Even amid the bounty of America, there is misery. Poverty can be found among us here. Frustration in homes, sorrows which grow out of wrong living and straying from the pathways of righteousness characterize our own land.

But outside our country how different is human life. In the main it's like walking through a desert land, parched, barren, dry. The world is filled with poverty, illiteracy, homelessness, misery, sickness, hopelessness.

The world in which we live is in imminent peril. Over everything that man holds dear, there hovers a cloud of overwhelming tragedy which may burst upon his civilization. If the gospel of Jesus Christ is the truth, it is the truth for the whole wide world. If it is the power

lead men in the ways of peace, that power is needed now more than ever before since mankind began to walk upon the face of the earth.

### HIGHEST URGENCY

The work committed to us is of the highest urgency. We must share with the whole world the truth of redemption in Christ Jesus. There is no other way for man to come to God. This is the word of our Saviour. He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me."

The scriptures say clearly, "And in none other is there salvation, for neither is there any other name unto heaven that is given among men, wherein we must be saved."

The Apostle Paul said, "I am debtor both to the Greeks and to the barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish; so as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you also that are in Rome."

The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every man that believes. The scripture says, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?"

Do we believe the words of our risen Lord? Our Saviour said, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments."

His sovereign command is, "All authority is given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye, therefore, to make disciples of every nation baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you all the way even to the end of the age."

There is no question concerning the marching orders of the church. There is no question concerning our ministry in the world. Ours is a world task to share with all men everywhere the truth that God has sent his only begotten Son to die upon a shameful cross and be raised from the dead that mankind might be saved.

### TRANSLATING CHRIST

We must cross the world to witness to men everywhere that Christ can trans-

form human life. This means that we must incorporate in our living in a vital and significant way the meaning of Jesus Christ as Saviour. We must translate into human relationships, in the family, in business, in our churches the ideals of Jesus Christ. We must go across the world not to preach ourselves, but to preach Him who has transformed us and given us life and hope.

We must share with all the world ministries of love and mercy that in the haunts of wretchedness wherein live millions of our fellow men there might flow out the loving kindness of Jesus Christ. Our Saviour would say to us, "What do ye more than others?"

What means the parable of the Good Samaritan? What does it mean that a man going down toward Jericho falling among robbers, lying there wounded by the wayside being avoided by the priest and the Levite, and then being ministered unto by the Samaritan. What means the parable of the Good Samaritan? Does it not mean that Jesus commended the man who ministered to the broken, fallen, unfortunate man? Whereas he had nothing to say in commendation of the priest and Levite who scorned his responsibility.

Our Lord would have us in today's world to demonstrate the love of Christ in ministries of love and mercy that the world may know that Christ cares for all.

We must release in the world the dynamic that can change humanity's lot. Let us not think for a moment that mankind need go on his way without hope. There is hope in Christ Jesus. There could come throughout the world a great spiritual awakening whereby the hearts of men would cry mightily unto God, and there could come transformations in the world situation brought about by spiritual power which would bring into harmony the relationships of men to men and nation to nation. We should settle it that in this lies our only real hope for world peace. God help us to share with mankind everywhere the Word of Life that can bring to this world peace and harmony.

### ABSOLUTE OBEDIENCE

The supreme significance of our lives is found in absolute obedience to the will of Christ in a world task. It is in the will