

5/31/29

"Jesus At the Door"

Bailey Chapel 58

Scripture Lesson:-

Text:- Revelation 3: 20. "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me!"

Introduction:- Jesus Christ is represented in many different attitudes in his relationship to the race of mankind, for whom he gave himself as an atonement for sin. He is represented as the Good Shepherd, Bread of Life, Vine, Light of the World, the Water of Life, Sin Bearer, Royal Guest, and the one standing at the door.

In all of these striking and important attitudes which Jesus takes in relationship to mankind there is none more striking, more impressive, more beautiful, more tenderly appealing, than this attitude of Jesus standing at the door.

As we read the Scriptures we cannot but be impressed with the fact that Jesus knocks at the door of cities, nations, races, and civilizations. We are therefore led to believe that it is only logical to raise the question, "What would happen if Jesus had his way in America?"

The same question might be asked concerning Japan, Russia, Germany, Italy, England, France, Spain and China, and all the rest of the nations of the earth. We are naturally more deeply concerned and more intimately responsible for our own nation. What would happen if Jesus had his way in America?

I.

Jesus Christ is standing at the door of our nation, of our institutions, of our social fabric, of our business life and political life. It was undoubtedly the purpose of Jesus Christ to enter every phase of human living and human activity. We have been greatly concerned about our nation in recent years.



From many quarters we hear the cry coming to us for a return to God. Even from certain secular publications comes the cry for a return to God. An editorial appeared in a certain magazine as a call to repentance, faith and prayer. Let me quote in part from the editorial; "Never before in the history of the world has there gone up from the wildered soul of humanity an appeal for the renewal of faith. The time is ripe for a spiritual revolution." Still another paragraph says, "No nation ever rose to power without the help of religion. A godless country wallows in an atheistic pig trough. It can never be long sustained. Nature is naturally selfish and avaricious. At birth we are not much more than little barbarians, with the savage instinct to get what we want by any means, fair or foul." "The passing years bear witness to the truth of the religious teaching, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Yes, Jesus Christ knocks at the door of America. His knocking is now being recognized in the heart cry, and confessions in a wide range of publications, both secular and religious. Just what would happen if Jesus had his way in the life of America.

## II.

If Jesus had his way in this nation we would have a mighty spiritual awakening, a turning to God of multiplied millions of people. We would have the reversal of the tides of evil including drunkenness, gambling and sensuality that is now sweeping the land with a devastating effect.

We would have a new sense of honesty, integrity and fair play in the politics of the nation. We would have a bridging of chasms between capital and labor, between the rich and the poor, between the great and the small. The people of this country would find themselves knit together in bonds of common brotherhood and fellowship, faith and good will.

If Jesus Christ had his way in America we would have our churches filled with worshippers and the things pertaining to Christ and his kingdom would



become the common topic of conversation whenever people met together.

III.

If Jesus had his way in America, we would have a new awakening in the churches of the nation. The pulpits would be set aflame with a new spiritual message which would grip the hearts of the people. We would have an awakening that would reach the neglected classes in the out of the way places. It would touch the factories and the sweat shops, the jails and the prisons, and would go into the mountains and country places, and the highways and the byways with a message of redeeming love that would call multiplied millions of people to repentance, faith, hope and love, with an assurance that their names are written in the Book of Life.

If Jesus Christ had his way in America, we would have an awakening that would touch our homes, would establish family altars and circles of prayer. Such an awakening would save our country from the terrible plague that now infests it of a hundred thousand divorce orphans being made in the divorce courts every year.

Jesus Christ is the one and only hope of the world, the only hope for mankind, the only hope of our nation, the only hope of our institutions and our social order, the only hope of bringing peace out of chaos and confusion that broods over the earth.

Conclusion:- In this tragic hour, let us earnestly pray: "Blessed Jesus, Savior of mankind, we turn our faces unto thee praying that thou mayest move with thy spirit upon the hearts of the people of our nation, that we may open the door and let thee have thy way; that our nation may be saved, and that we may become a Godly people, and a righteous people instead of a people deserving thy righteous judgment, and bringing ourselves to increasing chaos and ruin. In thy name we pray. Amen.



But if the Christ, whose knocking we have witnessed and are witnessing, knocks at our own hearts, what will the answer be? He is knocking at the door of many hearts today. He knocks, but that is all. He wants to let man open the door. The latch string is inside. Jesus can not open the door. Sometimes he is knocking very persistently. He feels that you are going to open the door. When you do not open the door, he is sorely disappointed. He turns away, his face lined with sorrow.

There will be many a person who will in the last few hours of his life, wish that he had accepted Christ's knock on his heart's door, and let him. But it will be too late.