"The One Way Out".


Introduction: All the way through its 66 books the Bible speaks of the "last days", the climax of human history which is yet to be.

Our Lord speaks of that forth coming time in these words: "There shall be sighs in the sun and the moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the waves, men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens and the earth were shaken. If there has been a period in history when the powers of heaven and the earth were shaking, it is the present moment.

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There are two very significant Greek words in this passage of the Bible. The first one is "Sunochē" or distress. The other one is "Anphorēia", which is translated "perplexity". The first word "sunochē" actually means "to be pressured from all sides". Here Jesus is saying that there will come to all the earth a generation that will be pressured upon from every direction.

Today we are being pressed internationally, from South Vietnam to Cyprus to Panama as never before. Each day the crisis multiplies. Each day the solution grows more difficult. Each day we draw nearer the hour of maximum danger. If we are not going on

The population of the world is rapidly increasing and now stands at three billion. In the next 37 years there will be six billion. One half of the entire population of the world is under 21 years of age. They are not going to wait. In the future, at this very hour, we read that the marauding bands of killers are all from 15 years to 28 years of age! Young people are on the march throughout the world. They want a cause to champion, why not give them Christianity? As in Europe, in our country, they are being pressured morally. Most of the rece-
nt magazines are describing the moral condition of
the United States. The publisher of one magazine art-
cle states that the article was published to shock
the American people and to show us how far we have
gone down the road to immorality. President Johnson
has taken note of the immoral conditions in the
nation's capital. A popular evangelist says that we
are as immoral as Rome was when she fell. Our litera-
ture, our motion picture films, our every-day lives
are so riddled with filth, sexual filth, with immor-
ality among the rich and the poor, that we cry out that
if ever we needed a revival, an old fashioned moral
revival, it is now. Our morals would put Sodom and Gamor-
We are being pressed by our social problems. There
is overcrowding in many of our cities. We need to
get further than the capital city of Indiana. We were
shocked to read at Christmas time a fire broke out in
an overcrowded tenement, and that 12 people who were
living in one room were burned to death. That should
never have happened in a nation such as America, the
wealthiest nation in the world. Then there is the
hunger problem; the poverty problem we have an in-
crease in crime. Crime has increased 158 per cent
in the last 20 years, while the population has in-
creased but 34 percent. We have 8 million alcohol-
ics. Seventy-five percent of crime is related to drinking.
Highway deaths are a great concern to our law enforce-
ment officials, but over fifty percent of the deaths caused on
our highways today are caused by drinking. Not only
at home or on street — murder, assault, rape, white slave
then too, we are pressed by the race issue, which
is not going to be solved in the streets or in the
halls of our legislatures. Every day we accounts
where the race issue was being raised. We have had
the race issue in Selma Alabama, on the west coast,
in Philadelphia, in Chicago, there are forces at work
that would cause revolution, and cause our government
to fall. This problem, the race problem, will have to
be solved in the hearts of Christian men and women.

we are being pressured by our mental situation.
Over one half of all the hospital beds in the U. S.
ARE OCCUPIED BY MENTAL PATIENTS, and
pressured by every side
then there are pressures being put upon us by home
problems, health problems, and personal problems.
Jesus said there would be a time in history when men would be pressed like this from all sides. He used the word "amphoria", which translated means "perplexity". He said that there was but one way out. One way out, and only one. He said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." Men are turning today to alcohol, to sex, to every kind of relief, but there is only one way out; and that way is the way we seemingly refuse to take.

Some one has made the statement that "Christianity has failed". The truth is the world has not even tried Christianity. Several of nations are rejecting the remedy. India, China, Russia, and many other nations have closed their doors. If the entire world rejects Christ and His message, then all is lost and there is no hope.

But all is not lost. Christ said so. It is such a simple way. The Word of God teaches us, that when Jesus died upon the cross, he took upon himself our sins and mistakes and pressures. And, as He himself said, "In the world ye shall have pressures, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." The victory is first a spiritual one. What we need in America now is a return to the belief that God's laws of morality and truth are still in force. God's laws have not been revoked. You can break God's laws for a while, but in the end they will finally break you. We need the will to resist the forces of tyranny, and the will to maintain our freedoms when they are being attacked.

The Church has an unparalleled opportunity in this mixed up world today. God is still on the throne, back in the pattern of events, the is working out his infinite, eternal purpose. What we need to do is to hold steady in the crisis and look to Jesus Christ. The time call for sanity and watchfulness. People who call for sanity and watchfulness. People who will risk all for love of God, who see Christ in all human need are out to
establish truth, honor & decency in this world for Christ's sake. That's the challenge God himself is offering.

How about it?

Yes, there is a way out. It is the way our fathers took the early colonists who who came to the shores of the new world. It is the way Washington took at Valley Forge. It is the way B. Franklin took during Constitutional convention when they paused to seek God's help during an impasse in their deliberations. It is the way A. Lincoln took in darkest days of civil war.

Let us as a nation take that way now. While there is still hope. Today the greatest contribution you can make to your nation is to give your life & heart to Christ because when you make your renewal to Christ it is America that you make its decision for Christ to trust in God. This is not a time for despair it is a time to turn to God. How about it?