

"The Christian Dynamic."

Text:- 1 Cor. 1:24. "Christ the Power of God"

The church has seldom been accused of being inactive. Surely the church has been active. She is in a fever of activity at this very hour. It is, however, one thing for a church to be active, and quite another thing for a church to display a spiritual power which gives evidence of a Divine presence.

I. The Need of a Dynamic Sensed.

The church is well aware that a dynamic is needed. She has long been seeking one. At one time it was felt that the needed dynamic had been found in "a program", and much was heard of "the program of the church". Again, it was thought that the dynamic was to be found in "a slogan", and we were earnestly searching for a slogan that would arrest the attention of men. Yet again the dynamic was sought in "an ism", "a doctrine", or in "a dogma", and today many are saying that the dynamic that the church needs will be found "in unity". Yet in spite of this earnest and constant search, the church today stands in the midst of a confused world without the assurance that she has found that needed and sufficient dynamic.

II. The Dynamic of the Apostolic Church.

The dynamic of the Apostolic church was a "crucified and risen Lord". The passionate preaching of this simple fact was a sufficient dynamic to "turn the world upside down"; to convert thousands and add them to the church; to plant a church in almost every city of importance in the world that day; and to, within a few centuries, make the religion of Jesus Christ the religion of the mighty Roman Empire.

All that it got it kept
And fast did hold.

All tributary streams
Found here their grave,
Because that sea received
But never gave

Oh sea that's dead! Teach me
To know and feel
That selfish grasp and greed
My doom will seal.

And help me lord my best
My self to give
That I may others bless
And like thee live".

Truly, it is only he, who lives unselfishly that shall know the
superlative satisfaction of living and he who gives unselfishly, ~~who~~
shall lay up treasure in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy
nor thieves break through and steal.

III. Jesus the Dynamic for Today.

Jesus Christ is "the same yesterday, today and forever". He is still "the power of God". He still has "power on earth to forgive sins". He is still the only hope of a sinning and struggling world. He will still, "if he be lifted up, draw men unto him". The supreme fact in history is still "that Jesus died for our sins", and "not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world". "To know nothing among men, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified", is still the greatest dynamic the church can have.

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Has the church too largely lost this fact, out of its thought and life? Does the church today impress the world that it is "seeking to save" if it is not seeking the lost through the preaching of "Jesus Christ, crucified", then she has lost her only adequate dynamic. Let us believe that "Jesus is the power of God."