

# The Church in Conflict and Conquest

By

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Text: *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God"* (Ephesians 2:8).

[Editor's Note: I thought it would be interesting to put up some of Rev. Robinson's sermons in original form. Most of them are not in good enough shape to scan like this, but this one works well as a scan. You will see typos and misspelled words and notes penciled in, some of which are illegible. Although he typed many of his sermons, the typewriter he used was quite primitive and makes the copy hard to read, especially with the aging of the paper, but it does give you a glimpse into his sermon preparation and delivery. Enjoy.]

## THE CHURCH IN CONFLICT AND CONQUEST

The house shall be a house of prayer and ye have made it a den of thieves.

Among the many complications and interruptions occasioned by sins entrance into this world was a bitter conflict between right and wrong and an eternal challenge to a lifelong conquest; a conquest that demands ~~every~~ the courage of the brave and a conflict that ~~will~~ lasts from the cradle to the ~~grave~~ door of the tomb. Humane beings are so constituted with a two fold capacity that they can give themselves entirely to evil or lend their capacity to the cause of good. The tragic drama that was enacted in the fading shadows of the age of innocence by the two sons of Adam and Eve stand on the fly leaf of this old worlds long and sinful history. When we open the book of human history we see the first page stained with the blood a murdered man but we also see the red blood of a victim on an altar who died to satisfy the faith of righteous Aba. In the first great struggle right is on the scaffold and wrong is on the throne. The church lies prostrate on the ground while the world goes out to to marry wives, build cities and fill the earth with wickedness. Evil had a head start, good was left far behind, But while the earth was being filled with the sons of Cain there came a Seth, an Enoch and a Noah. The conflict was on in earnest. There was one man walking with God while a hundred was selling out to the devil.

The remarkable thing about this universal pattern of conflict is that it was ordained of God and set in motion by the eternal council, that through the ministry of blood, sweat and tears God could redeem to himself a holy people, and on the battlefield of the ages could be proven the unquestionable fact that good is destined to win and evil to fail.

*seems to be*

There seems to be this pattern interwoven into the universe, that God has pitted Good in man against evil also there is this underlying principle that good and evil cannot be reconciled. ~~They~~ are opposites in nature and character. One is night the other is day. light and darkness. In a word we have the church and the world.

evil

It is the business of the world to propagate evil and the task of the church to save the world. This is not an impossible task for the church if she will follow the divine procedure that God has given. It is hinted at and referred to again and again in the old testament. It is that simple plan of complete separation. The first indication is the sons of God and the daughters of men before the flood-- Married--and Gods spirit ceased to strive and then the deluge.

~~Isr~~ Abraham told his servant not to get Isaac a wife from among the Caananites but from his own people.

When Israel left Egypt they were not to marry among others.

Poor old silver tongued Balaam gave a true testimony of the Church. They shall not be reconed among the nations. Lo the people shall dwell alone. The Lord his God--

Samson said do not fall on me ypurself. Balaams advice to Balaac.

On and on the warning came as long as Israel stood together alone the world couldnt destroy her. To her it was a matter of life or death. She joined the world and died.

~~for~~ years of darkness and gloom the old world with the death rattle in her throat was on the way to the scaffold. Until one day a tall gaunt man from Galilee stood at the temple door. the money changers dropped their eyes before his withering gaze. dumb founded they listened ~~ashim~~ speak as never man before spake. Hear him as he cries. My house shall be called a house of prayer and ye have made it a din of thieves.

Inn no uncertain terms Jesus defined the position of the church in the world. He said ye are light to the world. A city set on a hill. The salt of the earth. The leaven that leavens the whole lump.

2

In this is found the Miracle of the ages. This contains the impossible product of love. It is an impossibility for one person to assume the guilt of another.

One may die for another. One may take the punishment that is due another. But to actually assume the guilt of another, it is impossible.

The Lambs and goats died on the Jewish altar but the bible plainly states that the blood of bulls and goats could never take away sins.

The scape goat in type. He in symbol took on him the sins of all the people, and bore them away to an uninhabited land. But in reality this was not true. For this had to be repeated again and again.

Jesus actually took our sins in his own body on the tree. He became a sinner. He was made responsible for our sins. Jesus under the weight of this responsibility went to Calvary.

Take the purest, whitest, holiest, most innocent virgin on earth. Take the vilest, most profane, sordid, filthy, drunken, immoral murderer,

Let them exchange places. Place the guilt of the vilest of men on the purest of women. Let the purest soul go down under the weight of a shame that is not her own. Let the scorn of the world exile her until the sheer shame and horror of it crush out her very life. Let the sinner go free and receive the love and approval of the world.

It was the case of the parable-  
Throw him in jail until he pay the debt.  
That would be impossible. He could not pay the debt in jail. That is the condition of the world. They have been thrown in jail until the debt of sin is paid.

Thus Jesus the purest soul who ever lived accepted willingly the responsibility for the sins of all the world.

sin stained garments. dressed himself in them  
and from his own stainless, sinless, spotless  
soul he gave to us the righteousness of God

For by grace are ye saved through faith, and  
that not of yourself. It is the gift of God.

*Eph 2:8*

