Radio Message

By Rev. H. P. Robinson

"Therefore, be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 24:44)

[Editor's Note: This is one of Rev. Robinson's radio messages. For a number of years during his pastorate in East Rockingham, NC (1945-1956), he hosted a radio program that featured singers from his church and usually a brief message like this one. At first, the program aired every Sunday afternoon and then expanded to a five-day afternoon format, each Tuesday through Saturday.]

Good afternoon, friends. This is your Gospel of the Cross hour, which is brought to you each Sunday afternoon by the choir and pastor of East Rockingham Pentecostal Holiness Church. It is our purpose to make this weekly visit into your home a veritable hour of devotion, a program given over entirely to the worship of God. We like to feel that you are worshipping with us; hence, we invite you each Sunday to tune in and join us in our songs, pray with us in our prayers, and learn from the Word of God.

God bless you, friends. We will now get on with the service by giving you songs by the quartet. [Editor's note: We are not sure how long the program lasted and think that the following list of songs that appear in the notes at this point was a list that related to the upcoming message from which Rev. Robinson selected one or two. This list includes the following: *The Glory Land Way, A Home up in Heaven, I am Satisfied with Jesus, Far above the Starry Sky,* and *Our Lord's Return to Earth Again.* Following the song or songs, he gave the message below.]

A recent communiqué from Germany reveals another positive sign of the near coming of the Lord. The idea of temporary marriages is being advocated. Not only is it being advocated, it is being urged by outstanding citizens to be written into the statutes of government. This may be some new thing to our modern thought but three thousand years ago, God's prophet said that this would be a sign of the last days.

To list a few current signs, the Bible states, "Men shall be lovers of themselves more than lovers of God." A casual observer is immediately struck by the absence of love for God and the ever increasing devotion that men are heaping upon themselves. Another example, "Children shall be disobedient to parents." Juvenile delinquency has thrived since this late war. Juvenile courts keep a full schedule. Homes of correction are running over with youngsters gone wild. The head of the FBI has appealed to the churches of this land to help in their losing fight against the outbreak of crime among the teenage boys and girls.

However, the most paramount sign that thunders out to a wicked world that we are standing on the eve of Christ's return is the fact that so few people are looking for him. "Take heed," says the Word, "that that day take you unawares." In all the teachings of Jesus, two features of his coming impress themselves upon the heart of the honest reader. It will be sudden and unexpected. "As the lightening shineth out of the east over toward the west so shall the coming of the Son of Man be." "As a thief in the night so shall he catch away those who look for him."

While this old world is going on its merry way, the Lord is coming.

While unheeding men dash with dizzy speed down the highways of earth, the Lord will come.

While the locomotives thunder down their beds of steel, the Lord will return. While the great factories in our cities hum on, the Lord will come back. While the luxurious ocean liners cruise across the trackless seas, the Lord will return.

While the giant airships mount the floating clouds bearing their human cargo, the Lord will come.

Somehow, someday, while men are sleeping and waking, laughing and sobbing, living and dying, the Lord will mount the onrushing clouds and ride down upon an unsuspecting world to take his people to be with him in a better land. My final words to you today are the words of Jesus, "Be ye also ready for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh."