

To this end was I born & for this
Cause came I into the world - JOHN 18-37 ^{that I should} ^{bear witness to}
The truth.
"Matthew 2:8:19.

Across the stage of human history, many great men have passed and made their contribution to the welfare of the world.

Some like a meteor shine brightly for a moment, but when they have passed on, the world is just as dark as if they had never lived and died.

Others appear in the firmament like a star and never go out. They may cease to live and move among men; but they will never cease to speak.

By Each man in his own sphere and own order, made his contribution and by some trait of character, some talent possessed, or some task well done, distinguished himself from among his fellow men, making him immortal.

By carefully studying the lives of the Great, we can almost without exception discover the source of his greatness and the ~~key to his secret~~ ~~characteristic~~ *to his success.*

In Abraham, it was his FAITH

In Job, it was his PATIENCE

In Joseph, it was his INTEGRITY

In Daniel, it was his courage and conviction

In David, it was his devotion

In Jeremiah, it was his compassion

In Jesus Christ, it was his love.

These men had one impelling force in common...
a commitment to a CAUSE.

Paul, like these men, was a man of commitment to a Cause. Before he met Christ on the road to Damascus, he was committed to the cause of stamping out Christianity. When the light of the Gospel shone into his sin-darkened life, he immediately committed his life to ~~Christ~~ the promotion of the Cause of Christ.

Throughout his life, the motto by which he lived, and the key to his magnitude is contained in the words that he himself penned, "I AM READY,"

What a rebuke and challenge was this sort of philosophy of life to a sleepy, lazy, drowsy Palestine.

To read the Book of Acts is to thrill with the aggressive quality of the early Christians. Not only did the apostles and disciples feel an urgency to spread the glorious message of the resurrection of Christ and the Pentecostal Power, but the laymen took the cue and echoed the truth wherever they went.

Both men and women felt the fire burning on the altar of their hearts, and they went everywhere preaching the Word.

Stephen the deacon was not content alone to serve tables; as he fed the hungry widows and orphans, he lifted up his voice to preach Christ to men. On and on he preached until the flying stones stopped his burning lips and silenced his eloquent tongue.

Phillip, another Deacon, went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ unto them. A revival swept that city.

The people who spilled down out of the upper room that morning of the 50th day were all preachers. Men, women, handmaidens, and servants. They all had a story to tell... a testimony to give. They felt that they must tell it or die.

It has always been so. When people catch fire with the enthusiasm and power of Pentecost, they must tell it or die. They are committed to a Cause.

The Apostles and members of the early church faced persecution, trials, imprisonment, and hardships of every kind... but the more they suffered for Christ... the more they spread out to carry the Gospel.

The Church of this day has grown careless, lazy, cold, increased in goods, and self-sufficient. Great satisfaction is achieved in carrying out the Church program...while men everywhere are dying without God. Gone is the urgency of carrying the Gospel to every Creature. Gone is ~~the urgency of carrying the Gospel to every Creature~~ the commitment that once made the Christian experience so sweet.

In the enlightened age of our time, over one billion four hundred million souls exist without knowledge of Christ or salvation. *No man has a right to hear the Gospel twice until all men have heard once.* yet Seven hundred fifty million souls during the last generation died without Christ.

These figures could not be a reality if every person who professes an experience with Christ were committed to the CAUSE.

If our own people of the Pentecostal Holiness Church were fully committed...we would multiply rapidly in the home land, and our Missionaries would pour into all parts of the world to carry the glorious Gospel. *There would be no shortage of workers - no shortage of funds - for every member would be a worker*

If each of you were fully committed to this cause, many of you would not be sitting there in your seat calmly enjoying this service, and feeling that you had done your duty for the Sabbath Day because you had attended church and paid your tithes. *a contributor*

No, some of you would be preaching the Gospel... others would be carrying the Word to the remote places of the world...and the rest of you would feel a compelling urgency to witness in some manner to everyone you come in contact with.

If we could but ~~see~~ envision the tragedy of our times...if we could see the dark days ahead...if we could realize how short is our day, and how long eternity...if we could sense the nearness of the coming of Christ to this world to catch away His bride and the enchoachment of the terrible days of the Tribulation, we would be moved out of our complacency to pray, to dedicate, to work,

and to witness for Christ.

The hope of the world hinges on Christ. Can we be justified in our silence while the Great Commission rings on our ears... God ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.

The commission, though spoken many years ago to only a few, still encircles the globe and reaches out to every ~~Christian~~ person who has shared the light of the Gospel.

No Christian is exempted from the binding obligation of this duty. We must in some manner carry the message of the same salvation that we have received.

To obey this command, we must: *consecration*

1. Make a personal commitment. God can use effectively only those who are wholly resigned to His will.

a. Seek God's will for your life. Do not wait for a call to preach... be a volunteer to get the Gospel out. God will show you his way and his will for you. He will make a way for you to do your part. Be quick to obey Him without excuse.

b. Pray for the Cause of Missions. This should be a part of our daily prayer.

(1) Pray for our Missionaries... this is a ministry that we may all share in. This should be done with fervency, as we identify ourselves with our Missionaries. Make your prayers specific. Ask God to inspire your prayers and make them meaningful and effective.

(2) Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send forth laborours into His harvest. This should be a cry from our souls... that young people may be converted and called into His service. Then be ready and willing if he should call you... or one of your loved ones. This is the greatest honor Christ can conferr on any mortal. *to carry His Gospe*

Let pray for the spread of the printed
word. AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY - 5000

c. Pray that financial needs for promotion of the Gospel may be supplied. God owns the wealth of the world...but He chooses to support His cause through the love and devotion of His... people to the Cause. What we give...our time, our talents, our money, our sons and daughters, our heart's yearnings...all will be treasures laid up in heaven.

Paul said: I am a Debtor, both to the Greek and to the Barbarians; both to the wise and the unwise...so ~~much~~ as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to them that are at Rome also.

He was ready to ~~preach~~ carry the gospel to ~~preach~~ in Rome because of what the Gospel is:

It is the power of God unto salvation. It is
the Bread of life to the hungry
Water to the thirsty
Life to the dying
Hope to the hopeless
Peace to the troubled
light to those in darkness

He was ~~ready~~ ready to carry it to Rome because of what it would do for the people of Rome if they would accept.

1. It was Rome's only hope.
2. Somebody needed to carry it to Rome

He knew that he might have to die for the Gospel because of the persecution...yet he picked up his pen to write..."I am ready to go to Rome.

~~He~~ The Christian people wept and begged him not to go because of fear for his safety...but he answered them that he was ready to suffer and to die for the name of Jesus.

This is one of the tests of real Christian commitment

Are you ready to suffer for the Cause of Christ?
Are you ready to be misunderstood, criticized,
bear the burdens of others? Are you ready to
suffer inconvenience and even hardship to get the

Gospel to others?

This is the Cause nearest to the heart of God
...the Cause for which Christ gave his life on
the cruel Cross of Calvary.

If we are to please God...we too must commit
our all to the Cause of Christ.

PROMOTION

Oh Zion haste, thy mission high fulfillin
To tell to all the world that God is ligh
Tell to all nations the Saviour is not
willing

One soul should perish lost in shades of
night

Give of ^{thy} Sons to bear
the message glorious
Give of ~~yo~~ thy means
To speed them on their way
Pour out thy soul to God in
Prayer. victorious.
And all thou spendest
Jesus will repay

Publish glad tidings, tidings
of peace
Tidings of Jesus
Redemption & release