

Parents Can Aid

"Parents can help to shape the future of our nations by considering whether they are fulfilling their duty as parents," said Dr. Nicholson. "The greatest duty, higher than being a great statesman, or great leader, is being a good father or mother."

Dr. Nicholson also drew a comparison in the lowering of the moral standards in Rome during the first century A.D. when a sense of decency, honesty and morality began to disappear. The stability of our community depends on the fact that the majority of the people are decent law abiding citizens, he said.

"From the descriptions we read about what is going on in many of our cities today, it would appear that the barbarians are already among us."

Lost Nerve

By the time of Christ, the people had "lost their nerve", had lost their sense of any eternal order in things, he continued.

"Today we find a loss of interior fire in mankind, Leaders play with great ideas which are meaningless because the higher thoughts governing them are absent."

Dr. Nicholson, therefore, counseled his audience to follow the precept of the epistle of Peter "be ye sober, be of secure mind, and pray."

In its sense of "shunning alcohol" he pointed to the multitudes of people today who resort to strong drink. He also referred to the broader meaning of the word "sober" and "when great decisions are being made for the future, give serious thought."

He also advised his audience to be firm in their faith and not yield the belief that their destiny is in the hands of the Lord. And finally, he pointed to the exhortation to prayer, "prayer in which man appeals for those things most desired, but concluding "Thy Will Be Done."

In closing, Dr. Nicholson recalled the steadfastness of the Covenanter, who remained undaunted in his faith when facing death for defying Charles II and his persecutors.

Dr. Nicholson was introduced by