

'TRUE EVANGELISM IN CHRISTIAN SCIENCE'

Lecturer Proclaims "Gospel of Peace"

Friends:

On behalf of the members of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Wilmette, it is my privilege this evening to extend to you a most cordial welcome.

Public lectures on Christian Science are maintained by The Mother Church The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass., through its Board of Lectureship, and, as provided in the manual of The Mother Church, their purpose is to present the subject of Christian Science correctly and to bear testimony to the facts regarding the life and works of its discoverer and founder, Mary Baker Eddy.

We are privileged to have with us this evening a member of this board who will thus speak with authority and also from the standpoint of personal experience.

In the tenth chapter of his epistle to the Romans, Paul says, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bringings of good things."

This evening you will indeed hear of that "Gospel of Peace" which is today unfolding to yearning hearts throughout the world the "Glad tidings of good things."

I now have the pleasure of introducing to you, Dr. John M. Tutt, C. S. B., of Kansas City, Missouri, who will address you on the subject "Christian Science; True Evangelism."

Not long ago, I read in a metropolitan newspaper a list of no less than a dozen evangelistic campaigns going on in that city. That was both impressive and typical. Since the day when the priest Zacharias foretold of his infant son that he should give knowledge of salvation to the people; since the day when Mary's concept of Truth became to her the living Christ, and she cried: "My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour;" since the night when the angel Gabriel, the message of divine Love, proclaimed to the shepherds: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people:" all the way of Christendom, men with the vision of Christ in their faces have striven to turn that white blaze of Truth upon darkened and stricken humanity. Christians are one as to the propriety and necessity of this glorified service. "Do the work of an evangelist," said Paul, and with that injunction all Christianity agrees. "Make full proof of thy ministry," Paul added, but with that Christian Science alone agrees.

What is true evangelism? Many religions have arrogated to themselves the answer to that question, but it is obvious that only the master Evangelist, Jesus, could determine authoritatively what true evangelism is and define the work of an evangelist. Paul must have meant: Do the work Jesus declared to be that of an evangelist. Luke asserts that the Master sent his disciples "to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick." Again, Jesus instructed the students of the memorable class of seventy: "And heal the sick...and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you." And finally he said to all Christians for all time: "Go...teach all nations;" "These signs shall follow them that believe;... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

It is conceded by all that the spiritual healing of physical disease was a proof of Jesus' Messiahship. But that is an incomplete explanation. His works were truly an important part of his mission; they proved not only his divine authority; but also the power of Christ to destroy all evil. Theology has taught that these works

were possible to Jesus and his early students because of a special dispensation, and were utilized to establish Jesus' claim to be Christ, and later, for a limited time, to establish the church. Granting that the people of those days were influenced favorably by these exhibitions, is it not evident that the people of to-day still need to turn to Christianity? Do they not need to be healed of disease and sin? Does not the gospel need to be established in the hearts of men now? Then why, in all reasonableness, should God withdraw the healing power, after three centuries of successful practice of Christian healing by the thousands of early Christians? Today, Christian Scientists, mighty hosts out of all nations, swell a joyous jubilation that the gospel of the kingdom remains, as of old, a full salvation. Christian Science embodies true evangelism. It proclaims and produces the "good tidings of great joy." It makes full proof of its ministry; and only that religion can be truly evangelical which, through Christ, through spiritual power, saves men, both mentally and physically. Paul says, "Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body."

Dr. John L. Ralston announces that Dr. Melvin B. Hasbrouck is associated with him in the practice of Osteopathy at 353 Park Ave., Glencoe. Tel. Glencoe 43 and 564.

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