

The Message of Christmas

By CARDINAL GIBBONS.

ODAY the whole Christian world prostrates itself in adoration around the crib of Bethlehem and rehearses in accents of love a history which precedes all time and will endure throughout eternity. If asked to explain the rapturous influence which controls us we have no other words than the exangel of joy which the angel gave unto earth, "For this day is born unto you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

The blessings resulting from our Christian civilization are poured out so regularly and abundantly on the intellectual, moral and social world, like the sunlight and the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth, that they have ceased to excite any surprise, except to those who visit lands where the religion of Christ is little known

Before the advent of Christ the whole world, with the exception of the secluded Roman province of Palestine, was buried in idolaltry. Men worshiped the sun and moon and stars of heaven. They worshiped everything except God only, to whom alone divine homage is due. Christ, the Light of the World, proclaimed unto all men in its fullness the truth which had hitherto been bidden in Judea. He taught mankind to know the one true God, a God existing from eternity unto eternity, a God who created all things by his power, who governs all things by his wisdom and whose superintending providence watches over the affairs of nations as well as of men. "without whom not even a sparrow falls to the ground."

The message of Christmas day is intended for all men, for all times, for all conditions of existence. Only by stern adhesion to the principles therein contained can individuals and nations hope to share in that peace which has been promised to men of good will. To violate them is to reverse the order established by God, and disorder is the synonym for sin and strife.

The Greatest Gift.

Christmas stands for one thing-our Father's wondrous love to us, his erring and unworthy children, in send ing his only begotten Son into this world to die for our sins and to rise again to be our Deliverer each day from sin and selfishness.

Jesus Christ himself is the great Christmas gift. The only true way to keep Christmas is by first of all accepting for ourselves this wondrous gift of our Heavenly Father and then to show our appreciation of this won drous gift by giving ourselves and all that we have for others.

It is a true instinct that leads us to give to others Christmas presents, but too eften in following out this instinct we g. 'e these Christmas gifts to the wrong persons. We give to those who already have too much and forget those who have not enough

God gave his great gift to the needy. to those who had nothing to return for his gift. Let us follow him. Let us find the needy and give to them out of our abundance. Every one who is in comfortable circumstances should find some family that is really in need, some family where there will be little Christmas brightness unless others come to their belp and give to this family a real Christmas, including a good Christmas dinner and some appro priate gift to every member of the family down to the youngest child.

Don't do it through some society. What is most needed is living and sympathetic personal contact between rich and poor. Do this and you will have as merry a Christmas as you ever knew .- Rev. R. A. Torrey.

CHRISTMAS SONG.

By EDMUND HAMILTON SEARS. Calm on the listening ear of night Come heaven's melddious strains Where wild Judea stretches far Her silver mantled plains; Celestial choirs from courts above Shed sacred plories there. And angels with their sparkling lyres

Make music on the air.

The answering hills of Palestine Send back the glad reply And greet from all their holy heights The day spring from on high. O'er the blue depths of Galilee There comes a holier calm, And Sharon waves in solemn praise Her silent groves of paim.

"Glory to God!" The lofty strain The realm of other fills. How sweeps the song of solemn joy O'er Judah's sacred hills!
"Glory to God!" The sounding skies Loud with their anthems ring. Peace on the earth, good will to me From heaven's eternal King."

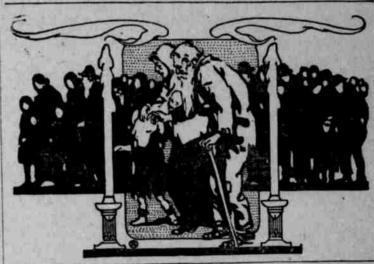
Light on thy hills, Jerusalem! The Saviour now is born. More bright on Bethlehem's joyous

Breaks the first Christmas morr And brighter on Moriah's brow, Crowned with her temple spires, Which first proclaim the newborn light, Clothed with its orient fires.

This day shall Christian lips be mute And Christian hearts be cold? Oh, catch the anthem that from heaven O'er Judah's mountains rolled When nightly burst from scraph harps The high and solemn lay, Glory to God; on earth be peace; Salvation comes today!"



In religious symbolism from very early times red and blue were sacred to the Mother of Christ. Red expressed heavenly love and aspiration; blue, truth, constancy, purity. In pictures representing the Assamption the Virgin is clad in white. In pictures termed the Immaculate Conception she is arrayed in white. This subject was not treated in early art.



A Prayer For Christmas. him who comes to bring God to man holy and may we welcome shew thy holy child! Hosanna! Blessed be he and man to God. We bless thee for the tribute that we can pay to him Amen—Osgood.

Almighty God, we give thee thanks ence and that our own hearts can so for the mighty yearning of the human answer from their wilderness the cry. heart for the coming of a Saviour and "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." In the constant promise of thy word that us the rough places are to be made he was to come. In our own souls we smooth, the crooked straight, the repeat the humble sighs and pauting mountains of pride brought low and aspirations of ancient men and ages the valleys of despondency lifted up, and own that our souls are in dark. O God, prepare thou the way in us ness and infirmity without faith in now, and may we welcome anew thy

Powell Butte.

Powell Butte, Dec. 21. Miss Mabel Allen arrived home Saturday from Bear creek where she has charge of a school and will spend the holidays on the farm. Mrs. A. W. Bayne has been ail-

ing for the past several weeks. Mrs. Hall Sr., came up from Portland Sunday for an extended

visit with her son, E. N. Hall. C. M. Charlton has been visiting Mrs. Charlton and the boys in Prineville the past few days.

Guy Sears has been on the sick list for several days.

Geo, Eisler sold a team, wagon and harness to a Terrebonne man recently.

A telegram telling of the death of their mother came to George and Lee Hobbs Friday morning and they left Friday evening for their former home in Glendale,

Born-December 17, to the wife of Ross Bussett, a daughter. Bob Smith of Prineville has

moved to his Powell Butte farm, music. H. Patton Hall, minister. Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Smith, Mr.

George and Frank Kissler and John Tuck attended the Hall sale at Terrebonne Thursday.

"Grandma" Brown has been ill for the past few days.

George Morgan and Reeves Wilcoxen were Prineville visitors Sat-

A large number of cellars out this way are not proof against the 11 below zero weather which has been visiting us recently and as a consequence there are lots of frozen potatoes.

The Union Sunday School at Wilson schoolhouse is preparing for their Xmas program and treat at the schoolbouse Thursday evening. A good time is anticipated,

Baptist Church

Bible school at 10 a. m. Classes

Preaching, 11 a. m. Subject, Am I a Saved Man."

Junior B. Y. P. U., 2:30 p. m. Senior B. Y. P. U., 6:30 p. m.

Preaching, 7:30, subject, "Seven New Things." All welcome, Special

For chapped hands and face, sunand Mrs. V. O. Humphrey, Mr. burn, etc., use our Velvet Skin Loand Mrs. G. C. Truesdale, Messrs. tion. 8-20 PRINEVILLE DRUG Co.