

IS THE CHOSEN NATION

AMERICAN CIVILIZATION DESTINED TO DOMINATE THE WORLD.

Great Struggle of the Twentieth Century Will Be Between Protestant and Greek Faiths.

Rev. J. W. Bushford, D. D., president of the Ohio Wesleyan University, of Delaware, O., delivered a sermon last night at Centenary Church, East Ninth and Pine streets, on "The Twentieth Century Forward Movement." He handled the subject in an able manner, which showed a deep insight into national affairs. The speaker took an optimistic view of conditions in the United States, holding out the idea that the Republic has been chosen to become the leading nation. He said:

"History repeats itself. The children of Israel were well situated for progress along the best lines. Likewise, we of America have a situation that can help to mold and shape civilization in all nations. We occupy a middle position, and I believe God has called America to repeat the history of Palestine in its best phases.

"Civilization springs up near bodies of water, as this means a great influence. Commerce is a potent civilizing influence. The first type of civilization was river civilization, because men could cross the river and trade when it was impossible to venture upon the ocean. The second type was when men could cross the Mediterranean, and that gave birth to a wider civilization. With Columbus' discovery of America there sprang up the Atlantic basin civilization, and undoubtedly the next type will arise in the Pacific basin around our new territory. In years to come the Pacific Coast, instead of being the back door, will be the front door of civilization. The East and the West shall meet, and then what religion and civilization shall prevail?

"At this time Russia is ambitious. She has reached the fighting, or military stage. I pray God we have gotten beyond that stage, and I think we have. The Russians are a great military power in the world and are striving to become the China what England has for India. Russia wants to be the overlord, as it were, of China. A great struggle, then, will come in the 20th century between the Protestant and Greek faiths. If our power becomes poorer, if we grow more self-indulgent, yielding more and more to our vices, it is possible that God is training these hardy Russians for the purpose we should fill. We cannot fill it, however, if we allow our civilization to decay. The battle is not with the people of the greatest populations, so much as with the nation of the greatest wealth and highest civilization.

"The most striking fact in history is the growth of the English colonies. The colonies have had a growth of 50 per cent. This led the German Emperor to plead for a navy so that Germany might also become a world power. It was this that made the Russians build their Siberian Railway. The struggle of the open British land power by increasing trade. During these years the United States had a growth of 60 per cent. So I say that God has given us a potential growth and situation. Where will the growth of population take place? In North and South America, Australia and Africa. In our country the growth will probably be greatest, and our civilization will be our education and civilization, we shall be able to rule the world. England's touch is ever a civilizing one, but great as her work has been, yet I think the Nation is the chosen one. It is progressing yearly and the star of empire has steadily taken its way westward and will continue that way until the nations meet on the Pacific Slope. The struggle of the 20th century then becomes a question of the predominance of what race, what religion, what language and what civilization? God, I believe, has raised us up to carry the open Bible, the influence of our Christian homes and our civilization to all the peoples of the world. It is our place to do this or we shall sink to a low depth. We are coming to the end of the end and a great struggle awaits us.

"It was only the fulfillment of our Christian duty when we took up the cause of Spain's oppressed people. We will give them an education. We shall have to make them mind for a while, and perhaps punish them a little, but we will educate them and better their conditions. We must prepare ourselves for our coming position as a ruling Nation by more Christian education. Parents, see that the children have religion along with their education. I look forward to our Christian education. Give a man Christian culture and you have a man fit for the responsibilities that will come upon American citizens. There is no other National affairs. There is no other nation prosper in vice, and this Republic cannot prosper half drunk and half sober. Last of all, we must stand for an upright and apostolic life. Our life and be honest with ourselves and the territories we are now holding. There should also be an application of the golden rule in all our dealings, great and small."

GOD'S LOVE ETERNAL.

Attainment of Jesus a Forethought.

Rev. J. A. Frost, of Los Angeles, Cal., one of the ablest ministers of the Baptist denomination, preached to a large congregation yesterday morning at the Second Baptist Church, East Ankeny and Seventh streets. His theme was "Love," from the text John 13:1: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Dr. Frost emphasized the eternity of God's love, saying in part: "Martin Luther used to call this text a little Bible, because it was so simple and yet it was the whole plan of salvation. Trust and belief in it will save every one. It is the superlative of the Bible, and love in the superlative degree is the highest source; second, love in the greatest strength; third, the same love in the widest scope; and fourth, the same love in the most perfect form. These are the superlative degrees of a superlative text.

"Probably the greatest mystery to man's finite understanding is the self-sufficiency of God; the Creator who never began to be. Everything else had a definite beginning, but you may go back ages upon ages, eons upon eons, and almost said, eternities upon eternities, and yet never find the time when God began to be. This is the profoundest mystery that ever confronted the human mind. So the love of God, as God is love, began to be; it has always existed. From everlasting God is love, and from eternity he has loved you. He fills immensity and inhabits eternity. His love is the highest source—a love that never began, will never cease, and will never change. This love is the constant attribute of God's being, and his love is both finite and infinite. Furthermore, all the attributes of God flow out of this wonderful love.

"Now, as this world is finite, everything in it is finite, can be counted and estimated, except God. He is infinite, and that isn't all. He loves us just as much in this world as he will in the next. He gave himself for the whole world—not for an elect few, but for every soul. His love, therefore, is broad and comprehensive. The height and depth and length and breadth of God's love can be measured only by eternity. It is infinite, and so high that we can never scale its lofty summit.

"Why did God love the world? Because God is love. The answer is in itself. The best definition of love is self-impartment. So, because God loved us, he gave himself to us, he consecrated his whole being to the salvation of man. The attainment of Jesus Christ was not an afterthought on the part of God, but a forethought. Through all the ages of eternity God

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