

Easter Again Finds World Groping Along Edge of Valley of Death

Editor's note: This is the fourth and final article of a series by leading Protestant and Catholic theologians on the meaning of Easter.

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Written for United Press

New Haven, Conn.—(U.P.)—The return of Good Friday and Easter this year finds the world once more groping its way along the edge of the Valley of Death.

Not that this is new or strange. Men have always lived within arm's length of the grave. But it seems new, because for 150 years, except when major war was going on, we have felt increasingly safe behind a growing technological screen against death.

Now we are not sure whether

our newest machines are more to be trusted or dreaded. And we have the uneasy feeling that "we may never be sure about them again.

One thing is sure. This anxiety of ours is not to be quieted by acquiring more factual knowledge, better tools, bigger social and political organizations. The real tap root of our anxiety is mistrust of our neighbors, and of ourselves. We men are the main reason the world is once again so frightening.

Machines 'Giant Foes'

Partly our ignorance and weakness, partly our aggressions, crudities, deceits, and evasions, partly our corroding and unnerving fears themselves keep the machines from being trusted servants and make them

too often giant foes. These human weaknesses and corruptions, moreover, are beyond our power to eradicate or even to control. They are built into the massive structures of society and history, until whole nations—all nations, as well as individual persons and groups are sick with their poisons.

Our science and technology, our national and international organization are new. But our fundamental human plight, our bondage to our own weaknesses and faults, terribly magnified in fast growing world society—is very old and very tough. The Roman world in the first century was in a similar plight, with despotism on the rise, old sturdy virtues in decline, and the world clouded with darkening fears.

Will of God

It was to that world that the first Christian preachers cried out their new message of challenge, of hope: that in the obscure province of Galilee, and on a galloway outside Jerusalem, God himself had entered decisively into the human plight, broken the power of death, and turned the cross itself into a promise of life, for all who would bear each his own cross in faith and love.

That unlikely story, that gospel, evangel, "good news of God," struck root in the pagan world and grew in defiance of all worldly expectation. It has continued through 19 centuries, vital and irrepressible, through the rise and fall of empires, cultures, and civilizations, through times of strength and times of woeful weakness among its own preachers and servants. That gospel, of God's doing and not primarily of man's, is now more than ever the needed word to a world in bondage to fear and death; the word of life and unconquerable hope.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a woman's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Peggy G.—I want to buy peace with my husband.

Mrs. E. F.—Peggy should insist on a showdown.

Peggy G.—I was married a few months ago and I have not been very happy because my husband has been nagging me about certain things in connection with our wedding. He and his mother are very angry that certain friends and relatives of theirs were left off the guest list, while certain of my friends and relatives (whom he doesn't like) were invited.

My husband has also been very disappointed in the wedding gifts we got from my family. He claims they are wealthy enough to have given more. I think that's true, but he should not say it.

Just the same, I want peace in the family, so I've decided on a plan. My husband wants a color TV set. I've offered to give my favorite aunt the money to buy one for us. She's not one of the rich relatives and was planning to give a small gift. She says she'd do anything for me, but this doesn't seem right to do. I would buy peace at any price.

Mrs. E. F.—I love my niece and I want to help her get a good start in her marriage. If this gift of the color TV set would solve things for her, I'd be glad to play along, but I feel it would only make things worse. Peggy's husband would only expect things from the family all through their married life.

I feel that Peggy should, instead, give it to her husband straight from the shoulder. She should tell him that if he married her for her wealthy relatives, he can just go packing. She should insist on a showdown. Either he loves her for herself or not.

I don't believe in spoiling a man. Peggy is getting off on the wrong foot by catering to his every whim. Besides, she has her mother-in-law to contend with. She should put up a good fight now and let her husband know that she is a person to respect. Otherwise he'll walk all over her.

The Council: There must be another way. Neither "peace at any price" nor a "showdown" is called for in this commonplace early marital disagreement.

Mrs. E. F. sounds like a woman who enjoys nothing better than a good fight and, with her temperament, she may have found it a very successful way of dealing with difficult husbands. But Peggy has an entirely different temperament and is not equipped to carry off the "showdown" fight.

Combat is not required for Peggy to explain to her husband

that no couple has a right to put a tax on relatives for wedding gifts. She can let him know that it is pretty petty and childish of him to demand gifts—which are supposed to be voluntary donations. As for his reviewing the wedding gift list at this late date, Peggy should totally ignore his comments. He'll get tired of talking to himself after a time.

When a man or woman is filled with trifling complaints and irritations in the early stages of marriage, it may be that he or she is just reflecting some of the strains of adjustment to married life. It is likely to wear off after the couple gets comfortably settled.

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Ike's Plan Could Increase Capital To Small Business

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower will urge Congress soon to approve a tax plan which would start a flow of new capital to hard-pressed small businesses, it was learned today.

The aim is to take some of the risk out of small business ventures for wealthy investors.

Under the plan, anyone who invested in an established small business and did lose would be allowed to deduct his loss—or part of it—from his income tax return in a single year. This would save him literally thousands of dollars and make such investments much more attractive.

Can't Get Capital

Small businessmen have complained they cannot get capital needed to help their firms growing in an expanding economy. Early last year the President created a cabinet committee on small business to study the problem.

Last August the cabinet committee reported it was "studying a proposal to help small concerns attract capital by allowing investors to deduct from their ordinary income a limited amount of losses, in the event that losses are sustained from investments in small businesses."

An administration official who has been working on the proposal told the United Press the plan has been worked out and put in the form of a bill. He said the President will submit it to Congress soon.

Fate of Men Trapped On Barge To Be Known

New Orleans—(U.P.)—Two huge river cranes moved into position today to right a capsized oil barge and reveal the fate of nine missing sailors.

There was virtually no hope that the nine men were still alive. Some 30 relatives of the missing crewmembers maintained a night-long vigil at nearby Buras, La.

The two big cranes moved in on the capsized barge in the north of the Mississippi river, where the huge oil craft turned turtle in squally gulf waters Wednesday as it was being towed into the sanctuary of the river.

There were 15 men aboard the barge, but six were rescued by tugs that were pulling the barge.

EASTER PLAY SCHEDULED

"Beyond Good Friday", a one-act Easter play, will be presented at the First Church of God Sunday, at 7:30 p.m. The five characters in the play enact a scene of how Easter changes a rather drab, poor house into a pleasant home of love. Estella will be played by Dollie Taylor; Rosita, by Helen Noss; Orselio, by Fred Taylor; and Carl Curtis will be played by Darold Jones; and Mrs. Romero, by Cora Hoover. The public is invited to attend.

Southern State Dorcas Meet Sunday

Members of the Dorcas Welfare society of the Medford Seventh-day Adventist church will be hostesses Sunday to a group of delegates from seven sister societies comprising the Southern Oregon Dorcas Welfare Federation.

The session will be held in the I. O. O. F. hall, 221 West Sixth st., starting at 10:30 a. m. and until 3 p. m. with a pot-luck luncheon served at noon. Representatives will be present from Ashland, Cave Junction, Eagle Point, Grants Pass, Klamath Falls, Valley View, and Williams churches.

Mrs. Bliss Hudson of Ashland president of the federation will open the session. At the meeting will be Elder C. J. Ritchie of Portland, home missionary secretary of the Oregon conference and Elder George Liscombe, newly elected missionary secretary of the North Pacific union conference who will be guest speaker.

Reports from member societies will be made by local presidents. Mrs. B. B. Blank and Mrs. Hortense Miracle are co-leaders of the Medford society, with Mrs. H. Dunlay serving as secretary.

Farewell Services Set for Missionaries

Easter Sunday will be farewell to the United States for Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Stark and their three children, Linda, John and Helen Anne. Members of the First Church of the Nazarene will hold special services of dedication Sunday beginning at 7:15 p.m. when they will hear Dr. Stark and his wife for the last time before they sail this week for their field in the back country of Africa. The Starks are members of the local church. Mrs. Stark is the former Miss Anne Scheel of the valley.

The Stark family arrived this week from Canada and will spend the week end visiting with relatives and friends before leaving from San Francisco after Easter.

The Starks have already served a five-year term. They operate a hospital at Acornhoek, Transvaal, South Africa.

babies honored

Rosebuds will be on the altar at the three services of worship on Easter Sunday, at 8 and 9:30 a.m. at the church, and at the Community Easter service at Hedrick Junior high at 11 a.m., sponsored by the First Methodist church, Medford. They will be in honor of Gina Lynette Rae, Sandra Kay Harrison, Andrea Rene Huntley, Allen Lee Perrett, Debra Marie Phillips, Marlowe Oliver Bates, and Laura Elizabeth Parke. Mrs. Anne J. Gorbey, minister of membership, is in charge of the arrangements for this recognition.

COMBINED SERVICES

There will be a combined Easter service of the Sunday school hour and morning worship service Sunday at the Pilgrim Holiness church, corner of Pine at Sixth st., in Central Point. The service will begin at 9:45 a.m., at which time the Sunday school will present a program, "He Lives". The singing of the "Price of Betrayal" will be turned into an "Offering of Love" in the special Easter offering for missions. The pastor, the Rev. H. James Kreider will bring the Easter message, "Because He Lives."

EASTER CANTATA

Central Point — The church choir of the Community Bible church, Central Point, will present the Easter Cantata, "The Glorious Galleon," Sunday at 7:45 p.m.—The choir, directed by the Rev. Paul O. Kroon, pastor of the church, will be accompanied by Miss Dorothy Lawton at the organ and Mrs. Elsie Kroon at the piano.

2,000 Students Are Expected to Attend Music Contest Here

Medford will host more than 2,000 southern Oregon elementary, junior and senior high school students April 26 and 27 at the annual Southern Oregon Music contest.

The district extends as far east as Lakeview and as far west as Brookings. Students will receive ratings of superior, excellent, good, fair or poor in musical performances.

The Friday daytime session will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Medford High school auditorium and the boys' gym. Class AA and A groups will perform starting at 7:30 p.m., Friday, in the Hedrick Junior High school auditorium.

Saturday Events

Saturday events will take place at the senior high school auditorium. All sessions are open to the public for a charge of 50 cents for each day and 50 cents for the Saturday night performance.

Judges at the meet are Ira Lee, University of Oregon; John O'Connor, Oregon State college; Glenn Matthews, Southern Oregon college; Dean Geist, Willamette university; Oscar Bjorlie, Southern Oregon college; and Stanley Glarum, Lewis and Clark college.

Elmer V. Ayres of McLoughlin Junior High school is chairman of the contest.

Dr. Kreisman to Speak at Seminar

Ashland—Dr. Arthur S. Kreisman, chairman of the Southern Oregon college humanities division, will speak on "Courtly Love" at the third of a series of educational seminars sponsored by the college student council.

Townpeople as well as students and faculty have been invited to attend the seminar which will begin at 7 p.m. in the library, room 2, Tuesday, April 23.

Dr. Kreisman, in addition to his professional duties at the college, has been appearing for the past two years on the educational television program, "Adventures in Literature" which is telecast weekly over station KBES-TV, Medford. The program is sponsored by the general extension division of the Oregon state system of higher education.

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