

"Our civilization cannot survive materially unless it be redeemed spiritually." —WOODROW WILSON

A Race The Russians Can Never Win

Here, from the U.S. Secretary of State, is a stirring challenge . . . to the Soviet world . . . and to us

By JOHN FOSTER DULLES



During this cold-war period, there has been much talk about "the battle for men's minds." We often wonder just which side of American life is most likely to appeal to people in other lands.

To my mind, the answer was suggested some 2,000 years ago, when Jesus pointed out that the nations of the world had failed because they were giving priority to material things. He called upon men to seek first the Kingdom of God. Material things might then be added, but if so, they would come as a by-product, not a primary goal. It is important to keep this distinction in mind today, when America faces serious challenge from an atheistic Communist society which has gambled everything on material values.

The American people are naturally competitive, and that is a good thing. But we must not let competition sweep us away from our true spiritual moorings. In the competition among nations, we will never win if we rely only on sales talks about the number of our automobiles, radios and telephones. The world has learned to expect more from us.

From the beginning "the great American experiment" in freedom caught the imagination of men everywhere. And if we have failed to hold the respect of the world today it may be because we have attempted to make our society appealing without regard to the great spiritual concepts which make it work.

The answer, I believe, is to go back to the beginning — to rediscover the spiritual basis of our society, to reanimate it. And this is a job for each of us as individuals. For only individuals by their conduct and example can make freedom a dynamic, persuasive and wanted thing. How do we do that? By remembering always the importance of moral, religious and spiritual values in our daily lives. Woodrow Wilson summed it up when he said: "Our civilization cannot survive materially unless it be redeemed spiritually." And then, in his next sentence, he brought this point home when he said: "Here is the final challenge . . . to everyone who fears God and loves his country."

FOR A
BETTER AMERICA

This Week
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