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We Face Tomorrow Without Fear

sermon index

Every new year is an uncharted and unknown sea. No ship has ever sailed this way before. The wisest of earth's sons a nd daughters cannot tell us what we may encounter on this journey. Familarity with the past may afford us a general ide a of what we may expect, but just where the rocks lie hidden beneath the surface or when that tempestuous wind may s weep down upon us suddenly, no one can say with certainty.

Conditions over the world are so grave that no one who thinks at all is able any longer to maintain a spirit of optimism. T he world's philosophers have long ago ceased to preach peace, except as a goal toward which the nations should frantic ally struggle even while they have but little hope of attaining it.

The best brains of the world have gone into the production of tools with which to destroy the world. And if they do such t hings in the green tree, what shall they do in the dry?

When Pharaoh was faced with trouble, he sent for Joseph; Nebuchadnezzar in distress called upon Daniel. These enlig htened men of God knew the scoreâ€'they could predict the future and point the way to safety. They were wise with a wi sdom not of this world and so were able to face the future with cheerfulness even when they knew how dark and trouble d that future would be.

Today also there are a few men and women who can face the coming year without discouragement or terror. They are C hristians. They are not smiling optimists who draw their comfort from a denial of the facts or base their hopes upon false expectations of peaceful intentions among nations. Rather, they are of all men the truest realists. They will have nothing to do with fantasyâ€'they demand to know the facts, whether those facts are good; or bad. They insist upon squaring the ir beliefs with the truth, and do not hesitate to face up to any truth wherever it is found.

Now more than at any other time in generations, the believer is in a position to go on the offensive. The world is lost on a wide sea, and the Christian alone knows the way to the desired haven. While things were going well, the world scorne d him with his Bible and his hymns, but now they need him desperately, and they need that despised Bible, too. For in th e Bible, and there only, is found the chart to tell us where we are on this rough and unknown ocean. The day when the C hristian should meekly apologize is overâ \in 'he can get the world's not by trying to please, but by boldly declaring the trut h of divine revelation. He can make himself heard not by compromise, but by taking the affirmative and sturdily declaring , "Thus saith the Lord" (Exodus 4:22).

Whatever the world does in the years ahead, and whatever happens among mankind, true Christians have no cause for worry. They are safe forever by a covenant of blood and are dearer to God than the apple of His eye. No night can be da rk enough to put out their light, no fire hot enough to burn them, no flood severe enough to drown them on their journey. The winds and waves are their friends and the stars in their courses fight for them. God is at their right hand, and they s hall not be moved.

Let us then face tomorrow with praise and song; let us live in a state of perpetual worship. For are we not kept by the po wer of God " unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time " (1 Peter 1:5)? And the "last time " may be nearer than we think.