

# Religion and Life

By Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, D.D., LL.D.  
First Moderator of the United Church of Canada  
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## COVERED BY LOVE

A severe blow was dealt to the progress of Christianity when the divisions between Christian churches prevented the untouchables of India from accepting Christianity as their way to a higher life.

There were 30,000,000 at least of these suppressed and depressed people searching for the way out of their difficulties and distresses. The story is told that when they were considering their policy, the suggestion was made that they adopt Christianity as their way upward, and this argument killed it: You are moving toward unity; your advancement depends on your unity; Christianity cannot bring you unity because of the divisions among themselves.

Christ prayed just before His passion that all His people might be one in order that the world might be brought to believe in Him as the Son sent by God for its redemption.

Just before His passion Jesus offered the prayer for His followers recorded in John 17. He is just about to leave them, and He begs His Father to keep them in order that they might be one as the Father and the Son are one. At the moment He was looking out on His church in its widest extension, and He realized that as His followers increased in numbers, tendencies to division would increase also, and He pleads with His Father to keep them one. We cannot study that prayer word by word without feeling the intensity of the Master's desire for His Church's oneness in Himself.

The first thing that strikes us is Christ's repeated emphasis on the unity of God the Father and God the Son, as both the example and the ground of the unity of all who believe in Him. Just look at these verses: "I do not pray for these (eleven) only, but for those who are to believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, even as Thou, Father, art in me, and I in Thee, so that they also may be one in us, so that the world may believe that Thou hast sent me." The glory which Thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as We are one, I in them and Thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that

Thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, even as Thou hast loved me." Now that is a tremendous passage from every point of view. The Cross in just ahead; the Son of God is about to give His life for a world's salvation. His crowning desire for those whom He is just about to leave in the world is that they may be one in Him. And to be one in Him is to be one in God.

The unity of the Father and the Son is a unity of nature. It is a unity of purpose and will, but it is far more than that. The Father and the Son are one because their nature is divine; therefore in a mysterious sense beyond our understanding the persons are one. And think of what Jesus asks for us: "I in them, and Thou in me, that they may become perfectly one." In other words, we are gathered into that unity of the Father who sent His Son to save us and the Son who came for our salvation. One writer suggests that the word "perfectly" means a Divine Act. It is God who brings us all together in a vital union with Himself in His Son.

Bishop B. F. Westcott, my favorite religious writer, has pointed out these things in that prayer:—

First, it is a unity of all:—"That they all may be one." All who belong to Christ belong to one another.

Second, it is a unity similar to that of the Father and the Son. "As Thou Father art in me and I in Thee." It is, therefore, a unity of nature. Those who believe in the Son of God have eternal life, and it is this common life in union with Christ that makes them one in Him.

Third, it is a unity realized in the Father and the Son. As Jesus put it:—"That they also may be one in us." Just as the branches of the vine are united with one another through their common life in the parent stem, so believers are one in Christ "in whom we live and have our being." Love is the effect and the outward expression of that unity. St. Paul writes:—"Above all these put on love which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

St. Peter writes:—"Above all, hold unflinching your love for one another, since love covers a multitude of sins." Here is a moral miracle greater than any physical miracle. A physical miracle is a conquest of unresisting nature, while this moral miracle is a conquest of the resisting wills of men. This mutual love of believers is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit whom God has sent to us.

In view of these truths, how utterly inexcusable our divisions and how obviously opposed to the fulfillment of the will of Christ for His church. It is true that this unity is spiritual, and, therefore, inward and vital, but it must have an outward form since it is to convince the world of the Divine mission of the Son of God. And it is this that we are denying Him today.

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BAPTIST MEN'S Supper Meeting, 8:15 tonight. All the men welcome.

HEAR PROF. C. L. BENNETT of Dalhousie University in an Education Week address in P. W. C. Auditorium on Tuesday, March 9th, at 8:30 p. m.

RECEIVED SAD NEWS - Mrs. Patrick Clarkin, North Wiltshire, received the sad news that her youngest sister, Ida, Mrs. Douglas McLeod, died suddenly at her home in Cambridge, Mass. Mrs. McLeod was in her 41st year and died of thrombosis.

ENGAGEMENT - Mr. and Mrs. John Bulman, Charlottetown, wish to announce the engagement of their youngest daughter, Helen Melvina, to William George, youngest son of Mrs. Kate Gillis, and the late Mr. James N. Gillis, Alderwood, Ontario, formerly of Ulgus, P. E. I. Marriage to take place in the near future.

RECEIVES HOLY HABIT - Sister Esther Clarkin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Clarkin, North Wiltshire, and former student of Brynalye, P. W. C. and Notre Dame Academy, has received her Holy Habit and name in the chapel of the Mother House of the Congregation of the Notre Dame Sisters, Montreal. Sister Clarkin's name in religion is Sister St. Patricius.

FUNERAL AT HUNTER RIVER - The funeral of Mrs. Angus Nicholson was held Feb. 25 with a short service at her late residence followed by a service in Hunter River United Church. Rev. Howard Christie and Rev. Mr. Waterworth conducted the services. Pall bearers were Messrs. Stephen Bertram, Harold Bagnall, Ralph MacFadyen, James Brown, Borden Bagnall and Everett Taylor. Interment was in the Hunter River cemetery.

## IN MEMORIAM

In fond memory of my husband, Theo Taylor who passed away two years ago, Feb. 29, 1952.

The month of February again is here. The saddest month of all the year. For it took you from our home, And left me here in grief alone.

Lovingly remembered by his wife Emma.

## IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Mrs. George A. MacDonald, who passed away on March 1, 1953. To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.

Always remembered by Husband and Family.

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## Seven Days A Week

(By Anne Shannon)

1. MONDAY: "Share happily and reap endlessly" is an old, old saying and eight young women are living up to this ideal. These eight are the wives of famous Hollywood personalities and call themselves Share Inc. They seek out individuals and small groups who need aid. Share's origin was simple. One day Mrs. Gordon MacRae, Mrs. Gen. Nelson and Mrs. Dean Martin were lunching together. These three decided to ask a few friends to join them in charitable activities. So Mrs. Forrest Tucker, Mrs. Sammy Cohn, Mrs. Jeff Chandler, Mrs. Robert Blythe and Mrs. William Orr rounded out the group of eight.

The mothers' first thoughts were about needy children. So they sought out little-known institutions, gathered toys and clothes for them. When they found their friends generously co-operative they became more ambitious. They bought a new school bus for a boy's home.

For another home, they are providing a consulting doctor and teachers to aid slightly sub-normal children. And they have bought toys, crayons and equipment for various nurseries. Even more important is the women's personal interest in the kiddies they have befriended. They take turns driving them to and from doctors and dentists; they plan and attend motion-picture shows for children on Friday nights; they arrange and join birthday parties. And so these eight young women, living in one of the gayest spots in the world - Hollywood - are never too busy to respond to a call for help.

They are truly "sharing happily and reaping endlessly!"

2. TUESDAY: And of things Hollywood. The novel From Here To Eternity, by James Jones, was bought by Columbia Pictures in 1951 for the sum of \$82,500. Now this in itself is not remarkable but when you realize that the fact of "mice" that every major studio in Hollywood turned down this novel except Columbia, then the picture changes! It brings to mind the truth of the old saying, "Never say die!"

James Jones went out west himself for six weeks to write a screen treatment that would remain true to his book, and yet clear ninety-seven assorted censorship hurdles! But the screenplay of the movie is true to life and is produced by Buddy Adler an Army Reserve officer, and directed by Fred Zimmerman, famous for pictures like High Noon, and when ever it appears, it smashes box office records. Mr. Jones thinks that everyone concerned did a good job, including Burt Lancaster, Montgomery Clift and Frank Sinatra. First the book was edited at the selling price of \$4.50 per copy - sold about 250,000 copies. Then the \$1.95 edition sold about 1,000,000 copies and after the movie opened, a paper-backed reprint was published and in the two months following 1,700,000 copies were sold. The author of this book is thirty-two, lives quietly in a writers' colony in Illinois, is unmarried, and at present is working hard at producing his next novel. He starts work at seven in the morning, works five hours without a bit of rest, then after lunch goes right back to writing. For those thousands who wouldn't:

3. WEDNESDAY: Saw a little item the other day entitled "Parties for Pleasure or Profit?" and decided to pass along some of the ideas contained therein. One group put on a World Friendship Dinner Party. They used this dinner party to help a family of foreign background feel at home in the neighborhood. The family in question were Italian and for the dinner party they prepared a spaghetti with real Italian sauce. They also planned a program of instrumental music and singing and gave a demonstration on basket making, which later resulted in a class.

On another occasion this same group had a "World Friendship Dinner." There were several tables, each representing a different country. The meals were typical of that country and guests specified beforehand just which table they were going to eat at, so that proper quantities of food could be prepared.

It was a nice thought to have the new citizens playing host instead of being on the receiving end. Recipes of favorite dishes were typed on small cards and sold for ten cents each - for the good of the cause. This get-together gave both newcomers and "solid citizens" a better understanding of each other - native costumes, flags and folk dancing helped make the party a success too. So in a community where there are strangers from many lands this kind of an entertainment could easily be undertaken. On a small scale it will lead to better understanding of the problems of other nations.

4. THURSDAY: A salesman for a junior encyclopedia, his foot in the doorway, was fast-talking the young mother of a five-year-old boy and refusing to take "no" for an answer. This "talk me" of the questions your child will ever ask," he said glibly, patting the boy on the head. "You'll never be at a loss for an answer when you have these books!" Then he drew the boy into the act. "Go ahead, sonny," he went on, opening one of the books and asking a question, any question, and I'll show your mother how easy it is to answer by looking in the book.

The little fellow thought for a few seconds, then he asked, "What kind of a car does God drive?" Without a word the salesman folded his brief case and faded down the street.

5. FRIDAY: For supper today, how about making some tasty golden brown Salmon Croquettes? 1/3 cup condensed cream-of-cel-

ed, who has this zany idea! He spends hours in the shop window, just gazing out at the tiny rivers and ponds of water that eddy and flow in the yard - March, with its wild gusty winds and uncertain weather is here - Snow may come but we know it's duration is short lived for the sun will have new warmth soon. "Is it ever cold up here by times," says Paul, writing from the army camp where he is "taking his basic". "What a lot of questions he asks!" says Mary, re-reading his letter - "How's Bimbo?" is one of them - for that's what he nicknamed baby Garth. "The teacher-son comes home for the week-end up the long hill - and how glad we are to see him. The gray Hillman is covered with

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6. SATURDAY: Have been requested to repeat the recipe for Butterscotch Cookies so now is as good a time as any. After all this is Saturday's doings and what better time to bake a batch of these cookies than here and now!

1/2 cup brown sugar, 1/2 cup shortening, 1 tsp. vanilla, 1, 4-ounce pkg. of butterscotch pudding, 1 egg, 1 cup sifted flour, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1/2 cup rolled oats. Cream together sugar, shortening and vanilla. Beat in pudding mix and egg. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt, add to creamed mixture. Stir in rolled oats. Form into balls and place on a well-greased cooking sheet. Flatten with a fork. Bake in a moderate oven (375° F) for twelve minutes. Yield about 3 dozen cookies.

7. SUNDAY: The rain comes down in silver sheets and it's like living on a small island surrounded by shimmering gray curtains. When the rain eases up a bit the fogs and mists move in from the shores beyond the hills and take up guard duty - shutting out the world beyond from our view.

"Perhaps that's what happened Tom Tuffy," says Mavis pensively. "He walked out into that fog and lost his way. But maybe he found his way to some nice warm barn full of hay where there are lots of mice." At any rate Tom Tuffy won't be back - we know that for sure now. So Kon Tikki and Mama Cat-Cat come in for an extra share of loving from their small mistress. I never can get my knitting down for a moment: within reach of Kon Tikki. There will be no needles in it when I next pick it up! Why he gets such a kick out of pulling the needles out of an unfinished sock or mitten, I'll never know. He is the only cat we ever own.

How Much Does Hearing Loss Cost You?

Some hard-of-hearing people give the impression they are dull and backward because they refuse to wear hearing aids. What's the price of such false vanity in business? Often, failure to win a promotion. Possibly dismissal!

The tubeless, 3-transistor "Royal-T's Zenith Hearing Aid" is the answer. Air conduction model, only \$135; operates for 18 1/2 months, 10-day money-back guarantee. See classified telephone directory for nearby dealer or write for literature and local dealer list: Zenith Radio Corporation of Canada, Ltd., 1165 Tecumseh Rd., East, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

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