Easy to Follow the World, Declares the Rev. Dr. Sheen In Weekly Talk Over Radio

Three Great Civilizations Saw Our Saviour Suffer and Die—Modern Religion Marches Beneath the Cross and Looks Up to the Church Crucified.

"It is easy to come down and follow the world, but it is nobler to remain suspended and draw the world to oneself. It is human to come down, but it is divine to hang there," stated the Rev. Fulton Sheen, instructor in philosophy at The Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C. in his weekly sermon over a national broadcast sponsored by the National Council of Catholic Men, Sunday, March 13, speaking on "The Crucifixion."

"Will there never be a reconciliation between the world and the Church? Must the one always be hanging on the Cross, in apparent defeat, and the other walking the earth in apparent victory? There is the possibility of a reconciliation and it resides in the words of forgiveness pronounced the first time by Our Blessed Lord on the Cross and now repeated for the thousandth time by the Church of the Cross — words that fall in a voice calm and low, heard above the shaking of dice, the moans of dying thieves, the sobs of a Magdalene and the sighs of a Mary—a prayer heard in heaven and earth: Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.

"The three great civilizations of the world saw Him hang and suffer and die, for He was crucified in the language of Hebrew, Latin and Greek, in the civilizations of Jerusalem, Rome and Athens, in the name of religion, law and morality, in the name of the good, the true and the beautiful. Jerusalem was the city of religion, and it condemned the One Who brought it religion; Latin Rome was the city of law, and it condemned the Lawmaker; Athens was the city of morality, and it condemned the Sinless. Representatives of each of these civilizations passed beneath the banner of the Cross and hurled the challenge each in their own language, 'Come down from the Cross and we will believe.' What happened in those terrible moments of hate was not something that would pass into history, like the battle of Marathon; what was happening was the first scene in an abiding drama, the curtain of which will not ring down until the crack of doom. It is not the Mystic Christ, or the Church, which is hanging on the Cross and today just as twenty centuries ago, she is being crucified in the modern civilizations of Jerusalem, Rome and Athens in the name of modern religion, modern law and modern morality.

Beneath the Cross

"Modern religion marches beneath the Cross, looks up to the Church crucified thereon by an unbelieving world and who is there who has not heard it say at least a thousand times: 'Come down from your belief in infallibility. Come down from your belief in the primacy of Peter. Come down from your attachment to the Divinity of Christ. Come down from your devotion to the Virgin Mary and the Saints. Come down from your belief that you are the one, true, unique spouse, the Church of Christ. Can you not see that there are other crosses on Calvary besides your own? Come down and we will believe!'

"And next modern law, modern in the sense that it has broken with Christian tradition, takes its stand beneath the Cross, and who is there who is not already familiar with its taunts and pleadings: 'Come down from your belief in the law of eternal justice. Come down from your belief in hell. Come down from your belief that the laws of Christ are more sound than the laws of the State. Come down from your belief in the law of mortification, for who is there in the pagan world who wants your penance and your suffering? Look to the sorry and it has brought you now. Come down from your Cross, and we will believe!'

"And finally, the third of the enduring civilizations, the teachers of modern morality, advances beneath the same Cross and who is there living in this great era of carnality who has not heard its taunts a thousand times as it sneers at the Church: 'Come down from your belief in the sanctity of marriage. Come down from your belief in virginity and celibacy. Come down from your age-long opposition to divorce. Come down from your opposition to sex, when all the world is sick with sex. Come down from your opposition to birth-control. Can you not see that the acids of modernity have eaten away your age-old morality?

Hated by the World

"Every true follower of Christ knows he must be hated by the world. 'I have taken you out of the world,' said Our Blessed Lord, 'therefore the world will hate you. If I had not yet in the world, the world would have loved you. Remember it hath hated Me before you. The servant is not above his master. We must be hated even as Christ Himself was hated. We must be despised as Christ Himself was despised. We must be prepared to be called [illegible] over that we are ignorant because we do not know that modern psychology has discovered it real, that we are benighted because we do not know that modern biblical criticism has destroyed the authenticity of Scripture; [illegible] because the immoral intellectuals [illegible] that we are [illegible] because we [illegible] evolution has [illegible] to be a myth; [illegible] because we do [illegible] has divorced [illegible] with God and with

"Yes, we are ignorant! Ignorant of the false wisdom of the world; ignorant of the wisdom of the age; ignorant of all that false wisdom which would blind us to the lightening truths of the Eternal Sun; ignorant of modern pagan ways. Oh, Holy Father in Heaven, we thank Thee! It is not the wisdom of the those things which keep us from Thee! It is not the wisdom of the world that saves—it is ignorance.

Medical Mission Day Is Observed On March 18th

New York, Mar. 18—The annual Medical Mission Day, of which the celebration is promoted by the Catholic Medical Mission Board, 8 and 10 West 17th Street, New York City, has been transferred from October 18, the feast of Saint Luke, the Physician and Evangelist, to March 18. This change was expedient because October is the month of so many celebrations, while March 18, coming as it does in Lent, is a much more suitable time for the Medical Mission Day celebration.

The Catholic Medical Mission Board, through its director, Rev. Edward F. Garesche, S.J., earnestly suggests that the celebration of Medical Mission Day this year be conducted with special fervor and solemnity by Catholic parishes, societies and individuals. As the times, and the appeals which come in to the Catholic Medical Mission Board, both for prayers and material aid, are numerous and urgent, both prayer and work are the purpose of Medical Mission Day. It is requested that special prayers be offered up in churches, institutions and private homes on that day for the Medical Missions. The following prayer has been especially approved by His Eminence Cardinal Hayes for recital by the faithful:

Prayer for Medical Missions

Lord Jesus Christ, Who during Your life on earth, so loved to heal the sick and to relieve suffering, both of body and soul, help by the love of Your Sacred Heart, the workers in the field of the Medical Missions. Bless, dear Lord with a special blessing, and fill with Your choicest graces, all priests, brothers and sisters and lay folk who are working in the Medical Mission field. Help and strengthen also the devoted men, women and children at home who work and pray, according to their opportunity, for the spread of Medical Mission activities. For the love of Your Divine Majesty and because You are so good in Yourself and worthy of all our love, we will do our utmost to help the medical side of the missions. Thus may be most effectively promote the spiritual and corporal works of mercy and deserve to hear from You, on the last day, those words, "Amen, I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these My least brethren, you did it to Me." Amen.

God refuses neither His holy love nor Himself to anyone who seeks Him with all his strength.

That moment, which will decide on your eternity, will come more quickly than you think, and so it is well to take measures in good time, that you may go to meet it well prepared.

Salutations To St. Joseph

By ST. JOHN ENDES

Hail, Joseph, image of God the Father.
Hail, Joseph, Foster-father of God the Son.
Hail, Joseph, Sanctuary of the Holy Ghost.
Hail, Joseph, beloved of the Holy Trinity.
Hail, Joseph, most faithful helper in the great plan of Redemption.
Hail, Joseph, most worthy spouse of the Virgin Mother.
Hail, Joseph, Guardian of holy virgins.
Hail, Joseph, exact observer of holy silence.
Hail, Joseph, ardent lover of holy poverty.
Hail, Joseph, example of meekness and patience.
Hail, Joseph, mirror of humility and obedience.
Hail, Joseph, Patron of the Catholic Church.
Blessed art thou amongst men.
Blessed are thy eyes which saw what thou hast seen.
Blessed are thy ears which heard what thou hast heard.
Blessed are thy hands which handled the Word Incarnate.
Blessed are thy arms which carried Him Who upholdeth all things.
Blessed is thy bosom on which the Son of God most sweetly rested.
Blessed is thy heart, inflamed with most ardent love for Him.
Blessed is the Eternal Father Who elected thee.
Blessed is the Son Who loved thee.
Blessed is the Holy Ghost Who sanctified thee.
Blessed is Mary, thy spouse, who loved thee as a spouse and brother.
Blessed is the Angel who was thy guardian.
Blessed forever are all who bless thee and love thee.

Amen.

(100 days indulgence for recital of above. Cardinal Bourne, Aug. 25, 1916.)

Knights of Columbus Have New Degree of Honor Added To Ritual for Older Members

Members Who Are Sixty-Five Years of Age and Who Have Been in Order Twenty-Five Years Are Eligible for Reception of New Degree.

New Haven, Mar. 18—The new Degree of Honor, recently added to the ceremonial ritual of the Knights of Columbus is distinctly honorary in character and is reserved for older members of the various councils. It is to be known as the "Degree of Honor" and is not to be a numbered degree, as are the first four degrees.

Members eligible for the Degree of Honor are those who have attained the age of 65, and who have been members of the Order for 25 years. They will be known as honorary members, and, upon application, will be exempt from further dues or per capita assessment, except for the payment of $3.00 per annum, payable quarterly in advance. A member who has attained the age of 75 and who has been a member of the Order for 25 years is eligible for the Degree of Honor, and will be known as an honorary life member. Those in the latter class will be exempt, upon application, from all dues and per capita assessments.

The Degree of Honor was authorized at the national convention held in French Lick, Ind., last August. The ritual for the degree has been prepared by John H. Reddin of Denver, member of the Supreme Board of Directors, and Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree, and has been approved by other supreme officers of the Order. Many councils of the Knights of Columbus all over the country are conferring the honorary degree upon their older members, and it is meeting with hearty approval.

By the perfect exercise of one virtue a person may attain to the height of all the rest.—St. Gregory Nazianzen.

Irish Doctors Organize Guild, Catholic Action

Dublin, Mar. 18.—Catholics of the medical profession in Ireland have formed a Guild for doctors and students called "The Irish Guild of St. Luke, SS. Cosmas and Darian."

The association will work solely in the cause of Catholic Action, and one of its most important objects is the study of the relations of medical theory and practice to Catholic theology and philosophy. It is felt that the time is opportune for the formation of such a Guild, in view of the important current moral problems associated intimately with the medical profession.

The Catholic Truth Society of Ireland lent its premises here for the Guild's meeting at which Dr. J. Stafford, well-known Dublin medical specialists, was appointed Master of the Guild.

The guild numbers as members many notable doctors from all parts of Ireland. The Most Rev. Edward J. Byrne, Archbishop of Dublin, has appointed the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Cronin, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Dublin, as chaplain. Monsignor Cronin is noted for his standard work called "The Science of Ethics."

Fordham Youth Oratory Winner In Big Contest

New York, Mar. 18.—Martin T. Tracey of Fordham University was selected recently over the representatives of 13 other colleges, universities and normal schools to represent New York State in the national oratorical contest to be held at Washington next month as a feature of the Washington bicentennial celebration.

Second place went to Abraham S. Guterman of Yeshiva College, while Miss Mary Gleason of D'Youville College, Buffalo, was third. All three received medals.

Portland Boy Winner

Portland, Ore., March 4.—Bryson Hays, a freshman in the College of Business Administration of Columbia University, conducted here by the Holy Cross Fathers, won first place in the finals of the State oratorical contest. Mr. Hays will participate later in the regional contest, after which the winners of the various regional contests throughout the country will compete in a national contest to be held in Washington, D. C

Religious Prejudice Resented In Hiring Pennsylvania Teacher

Wilkinsburg, Pa., March 18.—A permanent civic organization to conduct an investigation into the management of borough government and alleged religious bias of the school board in this former hotbed of Ku Klux Klanism, is being formed here as the result of charges made by a non-Catholic that his Catholic daughter was barred from appointment as a teacher in the public schools on religious grounds.

In answer to a statement that the board never appointed anyone not graduated from a Wilkinsburgh high school, J. H. Ake, a freight and passenger agent, asserted that a Miss Virginia Blair, who attended a Wilkinsburgh high school for only two years, had been teaching in the schools for the past two years.

Ake quoted Dr. C. Edgar Toner, a member of the board, as having told him previously that he did not want to be the first to vote for a Catholic, a statement that Dr. Toner denied. Ake was corroborated by a witness.

Ake further pointed out that the board has never appointed a Catholic as a teacher in the last 25 years, although, he said, 25 per cent of the residents of the borough are Catholics.

Religion can not have a substitute. It is like the family; like government. There is never an overthrow, only a set-back. Endeavor has been made to pluck it out of the human heart. Religion is so bound up with human experience that the inheritance of it has come into the blood.

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