

6
Broadcasters Meet
Wilmington, Del. — (NC) — The 1954 convention of the Catholic Broadcasters' Association will be held from June 15 to 21 in Wilmington, Del. It has been held at CBA headquarters here.

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THE LIFE OF CHRIST
By BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

THE TRANSFIGURATION

Apostles Ready For Shock of Christ's Death

(Continued from Page 1)

him who came down from Heaven. The wonder was not His momentary radiance around Him. It was rather that at all other times it was repressed. As Moses, after communing with God, put a veil over his face to hide it from the people of Israel, so Christ hid His glory in humanity. But for this brief moment, He turns it aside so that men may see it: the outgoing of these rays was the transitory proclamation to every human eye of the Son of Righteousness. In one brief moment, Heaven seemed to be shining the earthly life, which was the glory of God.

Attempt to Disgust
Peter expressed his happiness that they were there. Attempting to capture this glory which was transient, he suggested building three tents or tabernacles there: one for Moses, one for Elias, and one for Christ. Just one week before, Peter was trying to find a way to glory without the Cross. Peter now once more



"He became transfigured, His face shining as the sun, His garments becoming white as snow."

attempts indirectly to disgust Our Lord on going to Jerusalem to be crucified, and thus becomes the spokesman of all those who would enter into glory without purchasing it by self-denial and sacrifice. Peter with his impetuous character, feels that the glory which God brought down from the Heavens could be tabernacled among men, without ever purchasing it by the Cross of Calvary. But while Peter would have a glory without the Cross, Our Lord is speaking to Moses and Elias of His Death. "And they spoke of the Death which He was to achieve at Jerusalem."

Cloud Over Disciples
His death on the Cross would not be a surprise or an accident, but a work which He came to accomplish and which would be the fulfillment of both the Law and the Prophets. In the moment of His greatest glory, He draws aside the veil of the Divine which is really His and shows Himself speaking of His death. His scourging and crowning with thorns and Crucifixion. At a moment when He seemed to be least a Man of Sorrows, He converses with the Law and the Prophets of the impending tragedy. The Divine Face which was now shining so brightly with the Light of God, must be smitten and split upon the cross of light which now surrounds Him. He would have to be exchanged for being stripped naked on a Hill. "The Sacred Brow which glistened with Heavenly Glory, would have to be studded with thorns, pierced by soldiers curving the thorns that had so lightly pricked their thumbs. While the Apostles were standing at what seemed to be the very vestibule of Heaven, a cloud formed overshadowing them.

"And a voice came from the cloud
This is My Beloved Son;
To Him, then, listen."

lower. God had enclosed His people with His own hands, and prepared them to be a fruitful vine. The letting out of the vineyard to those who tended it meant the commitment to His own people of a responsibility. This commitment began with Abraham who had been called out of the land of Ur; and with Moses who gave his people commandments, and the worship of the true God by which they emerged from the wilderness of barbarism.

The next scene is one in which the owner of the vineyard claims the returns, namely fidelity and love of God. Our Lord describes that the messengers who are the prophets, were subjected to cruel treatment and often murder. The more God pleaded with them, the more bitter they became.

Under figure of speech He is saying that a special Providence which had protected and defended His people against all enemies, should have prompted them to have been grateful. Then Jesus draws the last arrow from the quiver of the parable and said of the owner of the vineyard, Who is His Heavenly Father:

"He still had one messenger left;
His only Beloved Son.
Him He sent to the last of all; They will have reverence, He said
For My Son."
He sets Himself apart from the servants or the prophets and tells His auditors that He comes

from the owner of the vineyard, God Himself. Christ here presents Himself as God's last appeal to the sinful world, a supreme gift of infinite love. The Father hopes that His Son will be counted as standing for Himself, and the gratitude and affection and reverence that are due to Him, will be shown to His Son. And Our Lord, continuing the parable says:

"But the vine-dressers said among themselves, This is the heir, come, let us kill Him.
And then His inheritance will be ours.
So they took Him and killed Him.
And cast Him out of the vineyard."
(Continued Next Week)

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Nuns Expanding Jungle Leprosarium

Dacca, East Pakistan. (RNS) — Three nuns who operate a leprosy hospital in East Pakistan's Madhupur district are supervising the clearing of trees and forest undergrowth to make way for another ward.

Known as Our Lady of Mercy Leprosarium, the institution is located at Jalchatra, about 60 miles north of here, in an area where about one person out of five is said to be a leper.

The nuns, members of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, take care of 12 patients in the leprosy ward's present two wards.

'Atoms Made By God'

Louisville — (NC) — A member of the Atomic Energy Commission reminded an audience here that there is nothing essentially evil in the atom, that God's creation is good, and that it is "silly to charge the scientists with guilt for having opened these doors of discovery."

Speaking at a dinner held by Bellarmine College to present its first graduating class to the business and industrial leaders of the community, Thomas E. Murray said it is only "man's abuse" of the forces of the atom "which determines whether consequences will be good or bad."

"There is no reason in the nature of things," he said, "and, above all, there is no reason in the nature of nuclear physics or the materials with which it is concerned why the atom may not aid in finding peace and improving man's environment."