

great gentile and heathen world that lay outside and beyond the pale of Judaism. As a matter of pure historical fact the whole earth was filled with violence. On every hand might was right. Slavery in its most degrading forms was found everywhere. Art and literature were, for the most part, consecrated to the service of the God of this world, and the best philosophy of the time had no more comforting gospel to preach to its disciples than escape from the ills of life by the doorway of self destruction.

Into such a world came the Saviour of men offering Himself as the *one aim* for the human race, the one cure for the universal woe. By the law of the new aim not the rich were to be blessed, but the poor in spirit; not the high and mighty, but the meek; not the cruel, but the merciful; not the Caesars and the war lords, but the peacemakers should be called the children of God. In the light of Christ's teaching things seen and temporal were of small account. In the light of the Kingdom of God, the burning question was: "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul, or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul"?

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The common chronology gives thirty-three years as the period of our Lord's sojourn in the flesh.

During those thirty-three years the ills of society in general were, beyond calculation, more intolerable than social ills are at this day.

Neither then nor now was it recommended to attempt the cure of those ills by an appeal to physical force.

The one aim was to be, and *forever is to be*, pursued by prayer, and patience, and suffering, and *love*; no guns, no swords, no red flags, no dynamite, no threats.

The Kingdom of God is a Kingdom of righteousness and peace.

In the great day of the world's account happy shall they be who in this mortal life suffered and endured for righteousness sake.

Search as you will through the New Testament you cannot find that the Lord Jesus proposed any aim to men save Himself, and that loyal acceptance of Himself included admission to citizenship