

Christianity and Social Reforms.

CHRISTIANITY is decidedly revolutionary in its mission. It finds everything in disorder, and aims at restoring harmony. It turns the world upside down. Right is inherent in the nature of God. The universe is constructed on the principles of righteousness. When right reigns, peace and prosperity flourish. When sin entered, it dislocated the universe, and turned everything into confusion. Christianity comes to restore all things.

Jesus Christ was a great Reformer. He announced that all human religions were false, feeble and insufficient to meet man's needs. He taught that Judaism was degenerate. In the Sermon on the Mount, He showed the weakness and the worthlessness of traditionalism, and undertook to restore religion to its original Divine conception. He proclaimed war against all existing evils in the Church and the world. He assailed the dignitaries of the Jewish Church, and came in open conflict with their teaching and conduct. He assailed all wrongs in individual, social and national life. It was in this way that He came to send a sword on the earth. He determined to put down, crush out and destroy evils in all their multifarious forms. Christianity struck at the foundation of slavery. It taught principles which, when carried into practical life, rendered the existence of this cruel traffic an absolute impossibility. It struck at the foundation of polygamy. This unnatural practice had grown up under the fostering care of all false systems of religion. Christianity shows that it is unnatural and contrary to God's original design. Though tolerated amid the weakness and darkness of former ages, it never received the Divine sanction. Christianity assailed the prevalent and pernicious practice of divorce, and restricted the sundering of the marriage tie to a