

ing down from the mountain of true faith, it so dispelled the darkness round about him, that he could see the huge boulders of wrong that lay in their path, impeding their progress ; and gathering a little band about him, he sought to show them the errors of their way, and lead them by a better route up the mountain. And so another church would be formed, and another creed builded. Thinking they had found the true faith and the right doctrine, they would call their church and creed *Orthodox*. Still there were obstacles in the way, caused by the imperfections of their early teaching, and the heedlessness of their own impetuous natures, and though they reached a plane higher than the others, they were still far from the summit ; yet, seeing they left behind much that was wrong, and thinking they had really found the right faith, many clung to it ; still there were some who could see the glimmer of a light that was higher, and a plane to stand upon higher than their own, so they pressed *outward* and *upward*, leaving behind, what to *them*, seemed wrong, and striving for something better, until, thinking they had gained the desired goal, they called *their* faith Orthodox. And so many churches have been formed from time to time and many creeds ; yet, most of them stumbling on this one error: They were taught to believe that their God was an angry God, punishing their errors with intense suffering, and they lost sight of his tender loving kindness, and so thought that in promoting the welfare of His cause, they must be angry with all who disagreed with them in doctrine, and punish with cruelty or death all who differed with them in faith. When Jesus Christ dwelt among men and walked with them in the body, he tried to rid the world of this error, and tried to teach the people that God is perfect love in mercy correcting his erring children, even more tenderly than an earthly parent could. He tried to establish the doctrine of peace and good-will

among all peoples and churches yet to be, to do away with wars, cruelty and bloodshed, for in his great heart so full of boundless love and divine inspiration, that suffered intense anguish for the mistakes and sufferings of mankind, he could see, as with prophetic vision, the beauty and loveliness and joy of a world where war could never enter, because of the outflowing love of each toward all, as living in harmony with Divine Will, like children toward a loving parent. He could see that such a thing might be possible, even upon this earth, and at some distant day the beautiful vision might be realized. It was for this end the labors of his earthly life were spent ; for this he suffered all the tortures that the cruelty of the world could inflict upon him, hoping that men's hearts might be touched to turn from the darkness and error of such human passion unto the pure and perfect light of heavenly love. That he might not violate his testimony for peace, but rather prove it possible to be so filled with divine love and resignation as to be willing to suffer torture and death of the body, rather than raise a hand to harm another, and so mar the beauty of the spiritual life.

Not only was Jesus' testimony against war as with nations, but he also taught individuals to "love thy neighbor as thyself," to "do unto others as you would that they should do to you," and one of his most earnest injunctions was : "See that ye love one another."

All down through the ages His words have  
been ringing,

Urging to duty, inviting to peace,  
Prophetic of times that to earth will be bringing  
The pruning-hook symbol that bloodshed  
will cease ;

And in His great name have risen up churches,  
And many have builded them Orthodox  
creeds,  
Each one for his doctrine the Sacred Book  
searches,

And thinks he has found the Christ all the  
world needs.

Yet many of these creeds contain doctrines in direct opposition to the teachings of Jesus, and for centuries