

24 CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIALISM

when Martin Luther revived the doctrine of justification by faith and as when John Wesley revived the gospel answer to the question:

"How can a sinner know
His sins on earth forgiven?
How can my gracious Saviour show
My name inscribed in Heaven?"

Thirdly, when the newly-discovered truth is first proclaimed it arouses intense and bitter prejudice and opposition, and it marks the dawn of a new era for mankind; it is the beginning of a spiritual uplifting and of a moral and social reformation; and our Lord's words are again fulfilled, "Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division," or "a sword." (See Matt. 10: 34, and Luke 12: 49-53.) And as these are the characteristics of the Christian leaders, so they are the characteristics of genuine Christianity whenever it reappears after a period of moral and spiritual decline.

WILL THERE BE ANOTHER REVOLUTION?

But it may be remarked that our illustrations have been taken from the past, and it may be