

life, but I believe in none of these societies is it possible to do the work so well as it could be done in the Christian Church, for nowhere else on earth are foundations laid so widely and so well as in that organization, which more truly than any other represents Christ's kingdom on earth. When we see our duty and do it, we will lay hold on the life of the young in all its branches of activity and give it a home in the Church; in a word, we will relate life to God.

My word to noble-hearted young people, whether in or out of the Church, is that "God wants to redeem the world through you." Mankind will be redeemed by a divine word, and God will give that word through His prophets, and these He finds among the young. The older can be priests, but the

religious activity. Commerce is crushing the highest aspirations out of thousands of young men. If these are to be won, the Church must appeal to the heroic in them and offer a full-blooded, enterprising and extensive Christianity. Spiritual mindedness must more and more show itself to be real manliness. The strong personality will win men, and if the Church can show her holy men to be strong men, she must win many to God. The salvation of America depends on the young, and the Church ought to feel it her duty to fit young men for this work.

If the principles of the Sermon on the Mount are ever to be applied to the social and industrial life of the day, it must be done by young men who have dared to believe the word of



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young will be prophets, for youth is the time of visions and ideals which give to the common grey of life "the gleam that never was on sea or land." "Not failure but low aim is crime," and youth believes in noble achievement and hopes for high things. Your lofty ideal is that which links you to God. Cling to it in spite of the sneers of men. God can find prophets among you, because you believe in the worth of life. Youth has not declared "all is vanity"; life is not a treacherous April day, a cheat and a snare, but a divine thing and full of the divine, since it gives glorious opportunity for nobler manhood and womanhood.

Open your hearts, young people, for all God wishes to teach. You have dreamt great things in innocence. These dreams were visions of God and can be made real only in righteousness. Because your hearts are pure you can believe great things. Hold to your vision of righteousness and God will give you a word for despairing and sinful and sordid men; a word which will mark you as a prophet of God. Happy is the Church in which the young have learned that noble ideals can only live in the atmosphere of purity in which they were born, and that, working with righteousness, these can be transmuted into the pure gold of noble deeds.

But not only will God find His prophets, but also His heroes, among the young. You are not called to ease, but to strenuous endeavor. God appeals to the heroic in man; the Church often fails because she does not. We are not preaching to men who have lost all hope in this life, and who can only be spurred to righteousness by the promise of a life beyond, but to men of vigor and hope—men full of enthusiasm, who believe in this life, and who believe themselves capable of doing something here and have no desire to escape the responsibility of an earthly existence. The trouble is that the strength and enthusiasm of present-day manhood has gone into commercial enterprise and not into moral leadership and

Christ, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." It is for the youth of to-day to cure some of the evils of political life. Young men must stoop to this burden; they must feel as responsible for public questions as for personal conduct. It is not that we are merely to be indignant with the crimes of slavery and bribery in our economic and political world, but to let the needs of greedy, licentious, sin-cursed humanity take hold of us and burn into our souls a fierce patriotism such as possessed heroes in all the ages of oppression and ultimately broke the chain of every tyrant. He is a hero indeed who can suppress himself and constantly yield his life in service for others, and this is just what God demands. Young life cannot reach its best unless it denies itself and strives for others. Let us beware of softness and indulgence. There is some hope of a nation, even when engaged in a perilous war, which exhausts its treasury and drains the life-blood of thousands, but no hope when given over to ease and luxury. So, too, every individual who will live for self alone is doomed to corruption and death. Choose then your profession, not for the honor or ease or money it brings, but for the opportunity it offers of ministering to men. This may mean hardship, but God is looking for heroes, and I pray God the heroic in your soul may respond.

Who shall inspire the young for prophecy but the God who long ago touched the lips of a young man and gave him a message which he could not withhold? What shall be the strength by which these heroes shall conquer? "They shall endure as seeing Him who is invisible." "By faith they shall quench the violence of fire and escape the edge of the sword, and out of weakness be made strong." Prophets, apostles, martyrs, these all have responded to the heroic call, and in the battle have been encouraged by the voice of their leader, Jehovah of Hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.