

did former generations that a large part of the evil of the world is super-personal, and must be charged against the group, the community, the nation. It becomes characteristic of the mass, and infects, with some exceptions, the individuals within the group. We may place different constructions upon the terms "original sin" and "the natural depravity of the human heart," but common sense teaches us that many sins are bred in us by infection, from the environment in which we are born, and brought up, and in which we carry on the activities of our lives.

Let us glance for a moment at a few of those super-personal sins which constitute the kingdom of evil, against which the spirit of our dead bids us marshal our forces and arms us to fight for the Kingdom of God.

1. The Spirit of Militarism. This is the spirit which made the world-wide war possible, which spilt the blood of those we think of to-day, as it did of many millions of others, innocent of any criminal intent. Up to this time this spirit has been, throughout the world's history, the supreme national spirit of evil. It was the military power that arrested Jesus, stripped Him, beat Him with leaded thongs, pressed into His brow the wreath of thorns and drove the spikes through His hands and feet. We may hope and pray that the ocean of blood shed in this war has quenched that evil spirit; but it is not really so. It will lift its head again. The spirit of our dead calls to us to strive against that evil spirit as one of the chief citadels of the kingdom of evil.

2. The Mob Spirit. The mob spirit as we ordinarily understand it is the social spirit gone mad. The social spirit acts so powerfully upon individuals when the restraints of self-control are withdrawn that the crowd becomes drunk on its own emotions. At the present time the mob spirit is the most dangerous of the powers of evil in almost every land. We usually associate it only with the labouring class. But this is a great mistake. It may break out among trained and disciplined troops. It may show itself in a great university, or even among school children. It may be found among associations of leaders of industry and combinations of capitalists. It is present wherever the deliberations of any group of men are controlled by passion and the determination to conquer at any price. It was the mob spirit that shouted for the release of Barabbas and for the crucifixion of Jesus. It is Hell let loose for assault upon the Kingdom of God.

3. The Spirit of Covetousness. Greed of gain is in the beginning an individual passion. But it becomes a super-personal spirit when it animates a group of men who combine for the