

do that kind of thing. We cannot break the inexorable continuity of life; and it is stupid to imagine that men can spend their main energies upon becoming successful business men through life, and then because they have kept on visiting terms with a church be transfigured into first-class saints when they die. Moneybags are not so easily convertible into haloes. The fact is that the scale of values which governs life hereafter must govern life here; and the scale of values which we have accepted in this world will follow us into the next. He is that is filthy shall be filthy still, and he that is greedy shall be greedy still. Only with this difference—that desire remains without the means of satisfaction. That is what Jesus means when He speaks of “where their worm dieth not and their fire is not quenched.” And it is childish to suppose that an eleventh-hour repentance will restore the years that the locust of self-seeking and the canker of greed have eaten. There is but one life, one scale of values, here and hereafter; for there is but one moral order, if so be that there is but one God.

II.—CREATING MORAL PERSONALITY

Conversion is not a magical process by which one qualifies for certain deferred benefits. It is the creation of a moral personality which is forthwith governed by the values of the Kingdom of God. It is—as has already been said—a setting right with God; and this is something more than an empty commonplace. In some evangelical quarters there is a very strong