

a mighty navy will not save us; it did not save England. Industrial efficiency will not save us; it did not save Belgium. Genius will not save us; it will not save France. Jesus Christ saves. So there is a "Way". Our fathers ignored it a century and a quarter ago when they officially left Jesus Christ out of the nation's law. The nation has copied its law by denying him the supreme place in the nation's life.

"He commandeth by men that they should all everywhere repent."

He is calling from the deserts where the bones of the slaughtered Armenians are whitening in the sand. He is calling by the desolate hearts and broken homes of Europe and by the graves of her murdered manhood. He is calling from the sea which has swallowed up its dead and the wrecks which it has buried. He is calling to us by all the blessings that America has known and all the judgments she must dread, to repent and be saved from the judgments of a righteous God.

"Be wise now therefore, O ye kings; be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and ye perish from the way, when His anger is kindled but a little". "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do

evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool". "The men of Ninevah shall raise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and, behold a greater than Jonah is here". "Repent; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

A CALL TO NATIONAL REPENTANCE

What caused the World War? Not the murder of the Hapsburg heir at Sarajevo; not the question of supremacy in the Balkan Peninsula and in Mesopotamia; not the dominion of the sea. Neither was it caused by the desire of German Aristocrats to crush Democracy and Socialism. All these causes were present and active, but only as symptoms of the major cause.

Back of all these, as the hand on which all these were fingers, was the efficient cause: Sin.

Individual sin was the cause of the first murder; national sin was the cause of this last and greatest murder which we call the World War.

Now the nations long for peace,—a real, lasting peace,—which will not be a feverish preparation for another war. The world hates war. But what the people must come to hate, with a passionate hatred is the sin which is the cause of war. War is an effect; sin is the cause. While the cause remains the effect will be imminent, or actual.

WITNESS COMMITTEE

GLENSHAW, PA.

The Hague Conference did not end war. The League of Nations,—a dream of a better era,—has not ended war. If these things had ended war the governments of the world would not be bleeding their people white in their preparations of the tools of war. Every submarine, every military aeroplane is a threat of war, by an apprehensive government. It is so much capitalized distrust.

We believe in the Hague Conference. We believe in the League. But they are dealing only with symptoms. Treating symptoms does not cure disease. It was in the midst of a world dream of peace that war blazed out in 1914 in every Continent, in nearly every land.

Herein lies the reason. While sin rules in national life, war will rule as a policy in the national councils. "The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God". There is a hell that God made for the devil and his crew. And there is a hell that man makes for man. This is war.

What are the sins that bring judgments like war on a nation? The Civil War was the culminating sin of human slavery. The World War was caused by distrust of men and God. Lloyd George said that the liquor traffic was more to be dreaded in England than all the powers of Germany. It is the same sinis-

ter interest that is enthroned in our own large cities, that breathes sedition in Conventions, that strikes at the nation's heart. The country has outlawed this curse of the ages, but has never repented of the sin. Another sin which threatens national life is the disregard of the Lord's Day, that day given by God for man's use in rest and worship, defrauding men of the first and God of the second. In every State man's lust is recognized in law. Witness the statute age of consent and the plans for easy divorce.

Truly the great issue in America, the national sin that leaves us naked before our enemies, is the failure to recognize the fact that Jesus Christ is King, the Lord of the nation's life. Centuries ago the Jew cried, "We have no king but Caesar," and hurried Jesus to the cross. In this the so-called Christian nations have followed the example of the Jew. They must give to him either the cross or crown. We must own him as Lord, or ignore his claim to our loyalty. The United States finds no place in her supreme law for the authority of Jesus Christ, but has written instead, "We the people do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States," excluding all recognition of the law of God and of his appointed King. When we declared our independence of the king of

England, we should not have added our independence of the King of kings.

How shall the nations get right with God? There is a way. Jesus Christ is "The Way". The nation that accepts the Way and walks in it will be safe. And the entrance to the Way is through repentance for sin. The only authoritative code of ethics in existence says "except ye repent" ye shall never find the way. Individual repentance gets a man right with God; national repentance gets a nation right with God. God brought us to our knees in the Civil War and President Lincoln, at the suggestion of the Senate of the United States, called for a recognition of this fact in a day of national humiliation and prayer. President Wilson did the same in the World War. What God has done twice in America, he can do again.

"The times of ignorance God overlooked; but now he commandeth men that they should all everywhere repent." This will mean sorrow for sin; it will mean turning away from sin, the greatest sin of all, the rejection of Jesus Christ in our national life and administration. In such repentance is real national defence.

Turning America into an armed camp will not save us from the judgment of God; it did not save Germany. Building