

Yuma 12/14/47
Duba " "

413 - Crouch
Bethel 12/28/47
BEING BORN

Luke 2:11... "For unto you is born this day."

Isa. 53:11... "He shall see of the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied."

There have been literally billions of human births in this old world. But Jesus' birth was different from all the rest in that He had always lived in eternity before He was born and yet human beings never lived before. Though this be very true it is true also that in each birth a personality comes in to being to, from NOW on forever. Just think, no soul that has ever been born has ceased to be. So there must be a large crowd of souls some where in, around, or beyond this universe.

Have you ever stopped to think how big a thing thing is of being born? The estimate to day is that we have at present ~~two~~ billion and nine hundred million people in the world. You can safely say that each hundred years all people pass off the earth that were here at the beginning of that hundred years.. then we would have to add to nearly two billion at the beginning of any century hundreds of millions born and who die after short span of life. It would be safe to say that those living short span of life would make it average two billion per century since the birth of Christ to say nothing of those who lived before His day. Then some thirty five or forty billions of human souls are some where...so being born is one of the really big things of connection with the human race.

Of all the tens of billions of times it has been said to day a child was born to Mr. and Mrs. so and so there was one time when it meant more than any other and that was when it was spoken some two thousand years ago by heavenly voices who said, "For unto you this day is born...a Savior."

With birth there is the coming of life...that something that none of us can explain...something that is known only to God from whom it springs. The highest form of life is human life...When human life appears it is always accompanied with suffering...agony...we call it travail.

Whether physical or spiritual ^{life} or physical there is pain. The sinful soul that experiences the new birth does not do so without first ~~seeing~~ ^{seeing} in conscience.

suffering

(2)
of physical birth

But out of this travail, there comes joy and there comes satisfaction...picture the happiness...joy...and satisfaction written on the face of the mother when, after the travail, the little innocent life is laid in her arms.

Jesus will not stop being born. Every time a sinner is saved Jesus comes out of travail into satisfaction over being born again in the human heart. Along with the dark clouds that sin spreads over the earth Jesus is continuously being born in human hearts and is being satisfied.

Aside from these individual births physically and spiritually there is being brought about another birth...it is the birth of a KINGDOM. This Kingdom is to be after God's own heart. In other words we are moving toward a day when time will have given birth to the kind of a world God wants...a time when He will be able to say as in the beginning "GOOD."

Let us repeat

But with birth there is pain...suffering...and travail. Why is this...what is the cause? We are taught that it was because of the sin of Adam and Eve that travail has become the lot of mothers in perpetuating the race. So sin is the cause. This same thing is true in connection with the birth of the sort of world God wants...there is much pain and travail.... Selfishness, prejudice, hate, jealousy, envy, war are travail accompanying this birth....Sin causes the pains...sins not of God's making but concocted by the father of lies and the father of all sin, the devil.

But a beautiful morning is His approaching and a great day is coming when the race will be able to say..."God's Kingdom is born today and there has come to pass the saying that was written...'He shall see of the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied.'"

(See other side)

"Oh Holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today
We hear the Christmas Angels the great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us, our Lord Immanuel."

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**But travail does not prevent birth.*

Princes Street, Edinburgh, is one of the most ^{distinguished} famous in the world. On one side are goodly buildings...on the other are lawns sloping up the hillside. On top of the hill is the ancient pile of Edinburgh Castle. When the Scotch planned to make a memorial for all their soldiers who died in the World war they chose an unused wing of that Castle and called it the Caledonian War Memorial.

As one enters he finds the whole story of the struggle retold in carved stone, painted glass, and molten bronze. So beginning at the door and going around the story of the struggle is brought to remembrance. In the middle, the floor stops and a great rock rises. On that rock is the shrine that contains the names of all the dead for all time.

J. Edgar Park wrote a story, in Religion In Life, a year ago about visiting that hall. Just in front of him was a blind soldier who lost his eyes in the war. An Oxford student led him and would lift his hands so that he could touch the wondrous story in carvings...Having been in the struggle the blind man saw more with his hands than others did with their eyes. One could see his hand pause at the barbed wire, the mice, the canary called the tunnelers friends.. these things so horrible when he experienced them in war were now to him a work of beauty... The concluding scene was a prophesy of the ending of the war...the broken sword. The right hand held the broken hilt, the left hand the broken blade and together they made a CROSS through which could be seen a peaceful valley, of the world where all men lived in kindness, peace had come and war was no more.

^{the Oxford student} Now that young man transmuting to the blind soldier the horrible experiences of life into terms of eternal beauty is for us the picture of what the church should be...lifting our our blind hands of uncertain faith and dimmed vision to feel and to see all lifes bitter experiences transmuted and glorified by some magic skill.

Our hands, the hands of common men and women, engaged in every day tasks...some discouraging tasks...are lifted by the church to feel that through the experiences of every passing day, there do pass these lines of eternal beauty...culminating at last in something seen through a broken sword...
and an uplifted cross...a land of eternal beauty...a Kingdom just like God wants it.