

# new year thoughts

P.S. 29.10

I saw the picture of the great ship "George Washington" the other day on the front cover of a magazine. Beneath the picture were these words, "Outward bound - Jesus bairn pilot me"

This I thought, was a good thought for the new year. We are indeed "Outward bound" and should certainly pray, "Jesus bairn pilot me." (For com. sermon printed in *John's thought of "Outward bound"*) [See Page 37]

For Ill. see H.R. Jan. 1924 p 439-440

There was once a small yacht on the water. Two persons were in it when a storm struck. They found comfort - looking away from the unstable yacht to the stable land.

So any one coming to realize the meaning of the expression of the Psalmist when he said, "The Lord sitteth upon the flood" will find a new sense of satisfaction and security and hope steeking into his heart - a joy of peace within his soul.

Let us think of these words as they apply to the circumstances attending our entrance upon the new year.

A flood is a turbulent scene - it suggests commotion - then past war years or full of commotion.

There is commotion

1. In intellectual world, new discoveries, new inventions, new ways of teaching, new statements of old doctrines in religion.

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1. In moral world, men are facing as never before the moral problems connected with

- a. wealth & poverty
- b. temperance
- c. socialism
- d. divorce
- e. Capital & labor.

3. In spiritual world, unrest in original hearts and in people in sh. who are not doing their duty.

Great movements are being fostered

4. In the Nations of the world.

II. The flood suggests not only commotion but also restless flow. A flood breaks down opposition. The flood of joy has broken down barriers in

1. Intellect

2. Morals

3. Religion - much that is stable has been swept out and people rent and adrift

Whether for good or bad there is in intellect, morals, social affairs, spiritual affairs and amongst nations a continuous outflow that resembles a flood.

III. A flood suggests possible distress, but pessimism except in the order of Christ. He saw danger, a flood may be beneficial but it may be destructive.

But in the midst of the flood of the yrs. there comes that revelation that leads us to dismiss our fears and believe that all things work for good to them that love the Lord. In the midst of the flood we see the tranquil God sitting on the flood a King.

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This God is our God. He by the word of His power can give us tranquillity in intellect, moral, social, and religious life.

And as we enter the new year with much of the turbulent about us let us remember that we have much reason for unfeigned hope in the assurance of His omnipotent arm, ever all.

A We are not to be the same this year as last yr.  
There will be a building <sup>summer</sup> or a delaying of  
character as we float <sup>and</sup> upon the sea of life  
this year. <sup>summer</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>time</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>urgent</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>we</sup> <sup>will</sup> <sup>be</sup> <sup>forced</sup>  
<sup>(to</sup> <sup>rebuilding)</sup> <sup>we</sup> <sup>must</sup> <sup>use</sup> <sup>more</sup> <sup>effective</sup>  
an important thing in building our  
character is the conquest of time. We are too  
un-economical with time.

The result of life is the aggregate of "little".

- a. Bacon made his fame through books he wrote during leisure hours while Chancellor of.
- b. The floor of the U.S. mint is taken up at intervals and swept that the little particles of gold may be saved that have fallen upon it.

In the old Philadelphia mint a man was  
seen wearing an adhesive on his shoes  
and gathered much gold up and carried  
away with him. At that time might  
we not the magic adhesive and  
gather up the golden fragments of  
Emir, that lie like dust at our feet every day!

It is the fashion to find fault with the past, but we shall have to go a long way to find anywhere better rules for the proper care of time. Better rules will not be found in the most modern and efficient office. The thing to notice is the estimate of time, the value placed upon it. We value most of our possessions according to their worth; but do we sufficiently take into consideration how valuable a possession is *time*? Do we not often forget that the precious minutes if properly valued are capable of yielding a grand harvest? There are some people who imagine that unless they can devote several hours a day to any particular pursuit it is of no avail. Whereas, are not hours after all, but an accumulation of minutes? And is it not during some of those precious little minutes which go to form the hours that great works are achieved?

The bee starting in May, working through all the days to October, traversing hundreds of miles, visiting thousands of flowers, and sucking the honey from a million petals and stamens, gathers a little more than a quarter of a teaspoonful of honey. Yet California alone exports hundreds of tons of honey. Of the hundreds of thousands of bees that are massed together in hives, each bee is contributing his quarter of a teaspoonful and the aggregation is the splendid mass of dewy sweetness for the world. When King Alfred was asked how he was able to find time for all his numerous occupations he replied that he "found time by never losing it." Every work, however important, must have its small beginning.

Good sized islands in mid-ocean, or off the shores of continents, have been built by calcareous matter which numerous and tiny polyps have extracted from the sea for the purposes of forming the cases in which to live. By working in partnerships of millions they gradually rear a vast organic structure which ultimately rises above the sea and becomes an island. Myriads of little architects are at work day and night, year in and year out, separating the particles of lime one by one from the surging sea, and uniting them into strong and symmetrical structures, and thus we see their soft little bodies, through the agency of vital laws, overcoming the might of an ocean. Where neither granite nor quartz can survive the surging onslaughts of the sea, the coral reefs stand and are victorious. They resist successfully the might of the sea which neither the art of man nor the works of inanimate nature can resist. What a lesson for us in industry and perseverance in our work of building a character! These little creatures accepted the challenge of life and made conquest! The New Year calls us to that, and we can achieve if we wisely use our time. But we shall also need grit and go. A fine story is told of General Foch. During the war one of his generals in

charge of a division was being sorely pressed by the Germans. He sent word at last to General Foch that the forces could no longer hold the line. Foch replied with this message, "If you can no longer hold the line, then advance!" The New Year spreads out before you nearly four hundred days, and each day will come to you like a purse with twenty-four golden coins inside—hours to use with diligence, persistence, and constant vigilance. Make your life a challenge not a truce! Accept the challenge of time, and conquer.

*We will build best  
by forgetting some things  
of the past and looking  
forward.*

*Let us remember that  
we are "outward bound"  
into new year and  
Jesus must be our  
pilot*

*Paul will urge us  
on with his noble  
words "Press forward -  
toward the mark which  
is before us"*

*Then let us come to new  
year's day with no other  
slogan than this, "With  
Jesus as Pilot we will  
sail on and on"*

1. Know thyself (Socrates)
2. Control thyself (Marcus Aurelius)
3. Deny thyself (Jesus)