

Memorial Service At Columbus

April 30, 1941.

4 P.M.

Prayer;;;

Our Dear Heavenly Father look down upon us Thy children and forgive our sins. We have so much to be thankful for and it all came from Thee. We thank Thee for our noble fathers and mothers who have gone on to glory. Help us to live in such a way that their names will be honored by us and not dishonored. Bless the U.D.C's as they work so faithfully to keep burning in our hearts the love we should all have for those of our ancestry who have gone on to heaven. We ask in the name of Jesus, Amen.

It does my heart good to be here this afternoon and have some small part in this Memorial service for the beloved dead. I feel honored above that which I deserve.

The first time I ever heard of Columbus I was but a little boy. The one who told me about it said that it was a beautiful town. He saw it back during the years of the Civil War and it must have been about this time of the year from his description of it. He was a Confederate soldier. I loved him better than any man I ever saw...He was my father.

So after hearing him speak so beautifully about Columbus. And since he was a Confederate Soldier you can imagine how it stirs my heart to come to a Columbus Memorial Service where we honor the Confederate dead.

I want to read to you some Scripture. Over in the 6th chapter of Deut. we read: "And it shall be when the Lord thy God shall have brought thee unto the land which He swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities which thou buildest not, and houses full of good things which thou fillest not, and wells digged which thou diggest not, vineyards and olive trees which thou plantedst not, when thou shall have eaten and be full, then beware lest thou forget the Lord which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."

In Joshua 4:7 "And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever."

In Luke 16:25 we read, "Son remember."

From these passages we see that people come into possession of things they do not plant or build.

Our fathers worked, they planted, they fought for a cause they thought was right. They did not look upon slavery as we have been taught to look upon it. Slaves were not looked upon as cattle but there was an affection toward the race. The old Black Mama was an honored some body and loved and taught the white children many things and loved the white children very deeply. Uncle Ned is a dear name to people of the old South. Old Black Joe is a song much loved. Galleries were built in many churches for the slaves to come and worship in. You do not build galleries for cattle. Our fathers were reared with the belief that some how the colored people were a part of the south and owning the slaves and caring for them and providing religious worship for them prevented them from looking on them in the sense that we have been proagandised to think of slavery. When the North decided to break up all of that relation ship our fathers honestly felt that it was disturbing their private homes and private affairs. So they went out to protect what they conscientiously thought to be their private property and their homes. They starved through a dreadful war and died at Vicksburg, Corinth, Shiloh, Gettysburg, and a thousand other places...to day friends...here are the stones.

Although they lost the war they did not lose the fact that they fought bravely for a cause they thought was right. They lost the war but did not lose the courage and the manhood to rebuild the South and hand to us orchards we did not plant, houses full of good things that we did not fill, wells that we did not dig.

Son remember...The son who forgets what his father did, or the people that forgets what its fathers did to give us what we have smacks of ingratitude. That is one of the major sins of our day. They were giants in those days and we should honor them as long as we live, not only with flowers but with lives that stand courageously for the right.

And these stones shall be a memorial to the Children of Israel forever. So should these stones here constantly remind us of the gratitude we should keep in our hearts for our brave fathers of the Gray. They lost the war. Maybe it was best...but best or not best here are the stones that cry out a type of bravery not surpassed any where in this earth.

Long ago the war was over and these who lie here would not have hold a grudge. Most of the Blue and the Gray have fallen. I can see them in heaven now. I see not no Blue nor Gray...they are all in white...They vote unanimously for heaven

"Home Sweet Home."

our dying loved thy precious blood shall never leave  
+ ... it is sacred