

THE SOWER

A Weekly Department of Religious and Secular Thought Contributed by REV. JAMES A. TURNER, Pastor, M. E. Church, Patton, Pa.

WHY DID JESUS DIE?

Dr. Richard LaRue Swain, in his chapter on the subject of why Jesus died, says: Jesus died because his leading countrymen could not endure him. His teachings and conduct so irritated, angered, and frightened them that they had Him put to death.

He could have escaped martyrdom by making himself agreeable or by going away from them; but his character would not permit Him to live differently, and His love would not let Him go away from those who needed Him. "If I go away ye shall die in your sins."

Jesus was put to death because He was like God. If He had been like His enemies, they would have been greatly pleased with Him. If His enemies had not desired to kill Jesus, His death would not have been necessary as a preparatory means of saving the world.

It would have been comparatively easy for God to have saved the world that was not blind enough and wicked enough to kill Jesus and the Prophets. There would have been no need of blood—if no one had been wicked enough to shed blood.

History plainly shows, however, that God's human approach to the world has been stubbornly resisted from the beginning until now. When God lives in human lives, He immediately comes into contact with selfish interests and false ideas.

When God gets expressed in human word and deed, He appears so differ-

ent from the popular and foolish notions of Him that many will not believe that it is He. Hence, they seek to crucify the living God, and continue to worship their false ideas of God.

When God is no more to them than an idea, He causes selfish men very little trouble; but when he confronts them as a man, He either saves them from their sins or else He irritates them to the point of madness.

Since Jesus went away, we later generations have inclined to treat Him as a pleasing idea, merely one that comforts without disturbing too much. A selfish person does not want the real God; he wants to retain his perverted idea of God and his distorted idea of salvation.

Many who think they are sure that they would like to live with God in Heaven when they die, despise and reject Him when He tries to enter their pleasures and business here. They love Jesus away off in Heaven but would not love Him, rather hate Him, for interfering with their whole way of life if he lived in their city under some different name.

A man in our midst who would speak God's mind concerning us and everything we do, would be bitterly opposed by the Pharisees in business, state and Church; He would be looked upon by many as a fanatic and not as a saviour. All this explains why it costs to save.

We stupidly think we could enjoy God in Heaven because there is no serious business on hand there; no work to do; no desires to curb, nothing but singing, rejoicing, and flying about. Those who think that there is such a heaven will simply be disillusioned when they die. As sure as there is a Heaven, there will be serious business on hand for us there.

When Jesus went away, he left disciples who bore his likeness; but most of them were put to death because God dwelt in them. There are still multi-

tudes among us who praise the Christ of history, but despise the history making Christ of today. Of late, the killing seems to be more frequent, and the resistance to God and all good, just about the killing line, is tremendous in its pressure and vast in its scope.

Hence the suffering and sacrifice that God and His co-operating sons must still bear in the work of winning and transforming the world. If in His God were never resisted by anyone at any time, how the burden would be lifted for those who try to teach, do business, and manage political affairs in a Christian way.

Lip service done a fanciful God at a distance does not count in the face of the rejection of the real God when He comes to us in the practical affairs of daily life.

Why did Jesus die nineteen hundred years ago? For the same reason that the prophets were stoned; for the same reasons that the true aggressive disciples of Jesus today suffer and sometimes die—because men do not love the company of God when He comes too near; when He does some plain speaking with them in human language and human deeds.

In the early days of the Christian era, it was dangerous to be much like Christ. Though conditions are not so bad now, yet one who occupies an influential place in the affairs of the world and is wise, will prepare for opposition and possible death, if he stands by the will of God as unwaveringly as did his Master.

There is still great opposition to God when he tries to enter fully into our business, political, and social relations.

Some would like to see God confined to the Church edifice; in practice they prefer a Godless world. All disregard of truth and love in human relations is a rejection of God.

Let us hope that we shall give Him more reverence in the life to come. He will certainly appreciate the change if we do.

ALIENS TO BE REGISTERED AT EBENSBURG FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER

Permission to use one of the offices of the county treasurer in the court house at Ebensburg was granted last week to Lewis G. Hines, state secretary of labor and industry by County Commissioners John Thomas Jr., Frank P. Hollern and Lillian D. Keller for the purpose of registering aliens in Cambria county. The work will begin December 1st. The Alien Registration Law, enacted at the last session of the Legislature becomes effective January 1st. It is likely that in addition to aliens being registered at Ebensburg that other registration places will be established in the county.

The county treasurers are the official licensing agencies for the state, according to Mr. Hines, and consequently are being asked to cooperate with the department of labor and industry which will have charge of alien registration.

Under the act, all aliens except certain exempted classes will be required to register before January 1. Aliens coming into the state after that date will be required to register within 30 days.

The following exemptions are made under the law: Aliens under 18 years of age; aliens who have filed declaration of intention to become a citizen and whose papers are in such shape that they can complete their naturalization within 3 years after the first declaration; aliens who are father or mother of a son or daughter who served the United States during any war and aliens who have resided continuously in the United States since December 31, 1908 and who have never been convicted of any criminal offense in any court of record.

The annual registration fee will be \$1. Registration cards must be carried at all times and exhibited on demand of any police officer or agent of the labor department.

Those failing to register will be subject on conviction to a fine of not more than \$100 or be imprisoned for not more than 60 days or both. Failure to carry the registration card or to exhibit it when requested will subject the offender to a fine of not more than \$10 or imprisonment for 10 days or both.

Aliens who fail to register cannot be arrested unless they fail to appear for a hearing after first receiving notice from a justice of the peace or an alderman.

No alien will be permitted to register an auto in his name or obtain an operator's license unless he is registered or exempted by law.

PATTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Church school at 10 A. M. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. every third Sunday. Epworth League, 6:30 Sunday. Mid-week Bible class Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

The Bible Study class resumes its sessions on the Wednesday evening of November the first. A splendid class of people sat in on the study of Dr. Lewis' book, "Great Christian Teachings," during the three weeks of the Standard Training School, and enjoyed the discussion immensely, as well as profited by it mentally and spiritually. Why not sit in with us during these coming Wednesday evenings and study another intensely interesting book to the same profit of mind and spirit? In the years to come you will be glad you did.

The Standard Training School closed with a splendid record in attendance, interest, enrollment and accomplishment. A promise for still greater achievements in the years to come was seen in the increased interest taken and the large advance in enroll-

FOR RECORDER OF DEEDS



CLARK POWELL
Will Appreciate Your Vote and Support

Elect Eddie McCloskey

As One of Your County Commissioners. He Will Protect Your Interests! He's Honest, Capable, Efficient!

THE FOLLOWING NEWS ITEM IS TAKEN FROM THE JOHNSTOWN DEMOCRAT OF OCTOBER 21:



We'll agree with the evening paper that no one ever obtained a penny of county funds from Controller Cannon 'unless he or she was entitled to it.'

Since Mr. Cannon is dropping the watchdog role, why wouldn't it be just ordinary common sense to replace him with another watchdog; or, if possible, with two watchdogs? That's the matter we want to discuss in this installment of our Cambria comment.

Your Prosser Hollow Correspondent has also carefully noted statements to the effect that after Mr. McCloskey ceased being mayor, Johnstown began spending money in more vigorous fashion.

It, therefore occurs to your Prosser Hollow Correspondent that, notwithstanding past differences, The Democrat would be willing to concede that Mr. McCloskey would fit into the picture at Ebensburg—if placed in a position where he could watch what was going on, oppose all unnecessary expenditures—and keep the people informed as to what was happening.

Four years ago there wasn't any vacancy on the board. Hollern, Keller and Thomas were all seeking re-election. This year there is a vacancy. It is this vacant post to which McCloskey is aspiring.

Your Prosser Hollow Correspondent is convinced that neither the Johnstown Democrat, the Tribune, nor any reputable Republican or Democratic leader in the county can deny that Eddie McCloskey was the best "watchdog of the treasury" Johnstown ever had. Moreover, as a minority member of the board, the best McCloskey could do, if elected, would be to object to expenditures he considered unwise. He couldn't block anything and he couldn't put anything across—unless the stand he took met with the approval of the general public.

Taking all in all, therefore, your Prosser Hollow Correspondent argues that The Democrat, never having questioned Mr. McCloskey's fitness for the watchdog role, should take off his editorial coat

roll up its editorial sleeves and give Mr. McCloskey whatever benefit may accrue from its support.

Now, let's face the facts. The next controller will, at first, be new on the job. He will function as a "watchdog of the treasury" to the best of his ability; but, being new on the job he may need some help. What about having another watchdog over in the Commissioners' office? Why not cast the minority member for that role—or better yet, why not elect a man who will cast himself for the watchdog part?

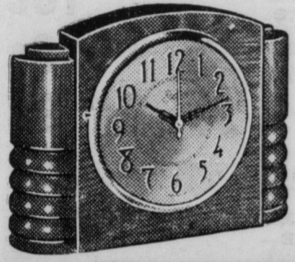
The Democrat has, at various times in the past, disagreed with Mr. McCloskey about various matters. However, your Prosser Hollow Correspondent has re-read the record very carefully. We do not find that the Democrat has at any time accused Mr. McCloskey of dishonesty. It never accused him of being a grafter. Indeed, the record does not show that the Democrat ever accused Mr. McCloskey of any mis-step or mistake which in any way involved "moral turpitude." In fact we note that the Democrat on a number of occasions specifically stated that all the evidence indicated that Mr. McCloskey was personally honest.

Moreover, there is another point your Prosser Hollow Correspondent has carefully noted. The Democrat has stated on a number of occasions that, functioning as a watchdog of the Johnstown City Treasury, Eddie McCloskey, while mayor was a conspicuous success. The record indicates that while Mr. McCloskey was mayor even the farmers in the remotest sections of Cambria County knew what the Johnstown City Council was saying and doing. There was sometimes disagreement as to methods, but, as the Democrat has pointed out, everything that was done was done in the open during the McCloskey regime.

If McCloskey is elected, his principle mission will be to keep the people informed as to what is going on. With Henry Cannon out of the picture in Ebensburg, the people will need an observation post at the county seat. Cannon has been the only man who has served in that capacity.

HIS ADMINISTRATION SAVED JOHNSTOWN ONE MILLION DOLLARS EDDIE McCLOSKEY AS COUNTY COMMISSIONER WILL SAVE MONEY FOR CAMBRIA COUNTY

Contributed by Friends of Eddie McCloskey.



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Come in—see how you can get this full-size (9 3/4 inches wide, 7 inches high) Walnut finished Sessions Electric Clock absolutely FREE during our Celebration Sale. Offer limited—hurry!

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EASY TERMS * BIG TRADE-INS

An Open Letter to Every Voter in Cambria Co.

For the past four years I have been your public servant in the Register of Wills Office. During my first term of office I tried earnestly to return to the people who elected me, a maximum amount of helpfulness. We were honest and fair in every phase of our duties, and we believe we have been capable. At all times we tried to be courteous and gentle.

To those distressed souls whose unhappy lot it is that the Great Sorrow crossed the thresholds of their homes, and who came before us, we administered to them with sympathetic understanding.

We seek re-election. I want to serve you identically the same in the future as in the past.

My platform is simply: GOOD COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

To that end I earnestly solicit the favor of your good will support and influence.

Michael J. Hartnett

