

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES  
15 Park Row, Rooms 411, 412  
New York 7, N. Y.

BIBLE MESSAGES  
Broadcast over A.B.C.  
11.15 a.m. E.S.T.  
March 30, 1946

#### BIBLE MESSAGE

### JESUS CHRIST, THE COMING KING

By the Rev. Allan A. MacRae, D.D.

Isaiah 32:1 - "Behold a King shall reign in righteousness."

Probably all Americans admit today that the time when this country can be isolated from the rest of the world is completely at an end. We can no longer gather our skirts about us and forget the rest of the world, secure in the protection of our two oceans. The world has become a very small place, and upheaval or injustice in Patagonia or Afghanistan may have repercussions which affect the peace and safety of dwellers in New York and Kansas City. After going through the misery and turmoil of a great World War we have no desire for another. We would like to see a world in which peace would be triumphant everywhere.

In recent months, as new misunderstandings and differences of opinion have developed among leading nations, many people have begun to fear that permanent peace is not assured. When representatives of various nations meet around the council table, it is alarming to find many of them apparently seeking the prestige or advantage of their own nation, instead of trying to legislate for the welfare of the world as a whole. Often men from one nation are led to suspect that those of another are impelled by motives of greed or selfishness, and the onlooker sometimes fears that the accusation may be true. A short time ago it was widely hoped that war and fear would be outlawed, and liberty and justice made universal. Now we wonder if these hopes were illusions. Must the world be torn by intermittent periods of war and chaos? Will each advance of science mean new and more terrible methods of destruction? Or will an era of permanent peace be attained at last?

No human being is competent to decide the answers to these questions. Effort after effort of human beings to predict the future has proven futile. The only One who can tell with certainty which is ahead is the God who has created all things. In His Wonderful Book, the Bible, He has revealed much. Can we find in the Scripture an answer to our problems?

It does not take a long search to determine that the Bible has definite information on this subject. The fourth chapter of Micah assures us that the world will not always be rent with war. It contains a beautiful picture of a time when a great ruler will establish righteousness throughout the earth, and fear of aggression will be permanently exiled. Listen to its third verse: "And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

This promise is repeated in the second chapter of Isaiah, and is touched upon in many other passages. The eleventh chapter of Isaiah adds further details of the idyllic peace and justice which is promised, and ends its ninth verse with the words: "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." Isaiah declares that just as there is no square inch of the ocean which is not covered with water, so there will be no section of the world in which the knowledge of the Lord will not be present. All external danger will be at an end in this glorious period. The mouth of the Lord has promised it. Therefore, let us not despair, but look forward with joy to the realization of our desire for peace and happiness for every human being in this world.