

SERMON - May 2, 1948 P. M.

*Dr. Wald*

How can we say that this is God's world? It ties up very closely with our consideration this morning, in Genesis. We noticed then that as a turning place in history, told us of something which made this world utterly different than it might have been if Adam had not sinned. The difference between the world and the church or the world and the followers of Christ is something that has been recognized all through the ages. We noticed in the chapter which I read to you tonight, in John, the 14th chapter, how two or three times our Lord distinguished carefully between those who were His own and the world. Peace I leave with you. My peace I give unto you, not as the world gives give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. He distinguished between His own and the world as if the world were something quite different and finally in Verse 30 He made that most striking statement: "Hereafter I will not talk much with you, for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me." Is this, then, properly to be called God's world? Anyone who has had much contact with people in the last twenty years knows that there have been many who have claimed to find it impossible any longer to believe in Christianity or to believe in a God at all because of that in which they saw existing /this world. People have asked the question: "How can God permit a war like this to go on?" "How can a righteous God permit the injustices which we find in the world?" Many folks have said: "How can God, if there is a God, permit me to go through the sufferings and misery which I am going through, which I have not deserved in the least?" How many a person speaks that way! And surely every one of us finds as we go through life that there is trouble, there is misery, there is suffering in this life, in our own life, in our experience and in that with which we come in contact and it is difficult to fit it in with the statements of the first chapter of Genesis where we read every day that God saw what He had made and it was good. Now there is a group in recent years which has found a way out of difficulties. They are the followers of Mary Baker Eddy and they simply ignore that which is evil in the world. They assure us that there is