Separation Series Part IV

5/4/76

In recent chapels we have been paying particular attention to Eph. 6:11-13. I will read those verses again. (Redding text) "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but particularly against Satan." Satan comes today like a roaring lion in communist countires where Christians are suffering as severe persecutions as ever in history. Who knows it may come here within the next few years. If it does, we will be surprised how many will secumb. And how many who seemed weak to us, perhaps, will stand strongly, and suffer bravely for the cause of Christ. But at present most of us don't have to worry about persecution. We have the wiles of the devil to think of, and they are ever active and often successful.

One hundred years ago most of the Christians of the U.S. were in 5 or 6 large denominations. These denominations might differ on secondary points, but they agreed that this Bible was the Word of God. They agreed that no one could be saved except through the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. They agreed on the denity of Christ. These great fundamental teachings were taught in all of these major denominations from coast to coast, and they would often unite for evangelistic campaigns in various areas, and bring sinners to the knowledge of Christ. Today just about every one of those organizations that 100 years ago was a great center for the spread of God's Word is shot through and through with unbelief, so that in leadership a far greater number are denying the Word of God than are supporting it. The result is that the hungry sheep look up and are not fed. Many a fine family of earnest Christians cannot understand why their children have drifted away from the church, because the change has come all so gradually that they have not sensed what has happened.

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