

The result was that these ministers sent their sons there to get trained and their sons came out from there not believing the truth of the Bible. When these sons got into the churches the people in the churches didn't know what was happening. They didn't understand what was wrong. The old folks loved the church and the younger folks were losing their interest in the church, and the churches to quite an extent were dying out. Yet the organization became very active in it, various types of social work and various other types of activities.

Then Yale U. was eventually taken over by unbelief and thus it went on. Each institution that was taken over by unbelief has many graduates that would not believe that had happened, and who consequently sent their children there and who consequently came out not believing as their fathers had. Thus we had a situation 50 years ago in which all our great denominations had become honey-combed with men who all had lost their belief in the great essential teachings of the gospel.

These men, however, had had a strong evangelical upbringing. Most of them had been brought up to believe in heaven and hell and in the importance of Christ and belief in him and in loyalty to Him. The result was there was a large well of emotional feeling which had to find an outlet. It couldn't find an outlet any more in telling people to believe in Christ and showing people the way of salvation because they were very skeptical as to whether there was any future life at all. But it found its outlet in two directions and one of them was this: We don't know what's after death; we don't know if there's any life after death. But we're here in this world. Why can't we make a heaven on earth here? ~~Only~~ Our only heaven needs to be here! Let's build the kingdom of God on this earth.

So these men were filled with enthusiasm for what they expected to accomplish soon to build a heaven on earth right here. They set to work. The first thing they == that struck them as important was to do away with the use of alcohol. So they had great campaigns against alcohol. They had it required in most states that all the children be given instruction on the evils of alcohol. They worked to get the use of alcohol as a beverage abandoned, and forbidden. So we had prohibition. And once we had prohibition many breathed a sigh of relief and said, Now we have done away with the evils of alcohol; now we're going to have ~~more~~ heaven on earth!

But they didn't realize that in order to get heaven on earth, they had to get heaven in the hearts of the earthly people. If people went to heaven who still had sin in their hearts, heaven would soon become hell. So the result of prohibition wasn't at all what they expected. Instead of it making everything fine, it made a situation where we had bootleggers, where we had criminality increased because we were trying to get at the externals instead of trying to get at the heart. But they didn't realize that. By that time they had gone on to think of other ways.