

The subject which has been assigned me today is "Communism and the Historic Christian Faith". Before undertaking its discussion, I would like to read three verses of the Scripture, which are quite important to our thinking about this matter, since they describe the purpose of the Church and its destiny.

Matthew 28:18-20 reads, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto ~~the~~ me in heaven and in earth. ~~Go~~ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

I shall arrange what I have to say today about "Communism and the Historic Christian Faith" under six heads.

1. The only real solution for the world's economic and social ills is to be found in the Historic Christian Faith.

Christianity came into a world which was filled with oppression and cruelty. Great masses of people were held as slaves, often brutally beaten, and sometimes killed, simply at the whim of their owners. The Roman emperors ruled in arbitrary fashion over all the nations which they had conquered, often brutally oppressing and torturing, not only members of the conquered nations, but also citizens of Rome as well. Moral conditions were bad, and the social organization was full of ~~a~~ injustice. In this situation, the Christian Church ~~ga~~ began to preach the Gospel of individual salvation ~~thru~~ through Christ, while paying no direct attention to social problems or even to seemingly great moral issues, outside of the church itself. It is amazing to look through the New Testament epistles and see the lack of any attack on political oppression, ~~xxxx~~