

5443a

were you ever attacked (a State)?

I wish to talk again about the Mission of the Church
at the start. + God's Promise to it.

I am talking about:

Our congregation - role in Fort Gary

The young people in our S.S. Group work.

70 Babies are baptised each year

you and me -

what my ministry is supposed to do for you

Our Congregational life - SX us all for

what in the Eyes of X you are parents for.

what in the Eyes of X you have neighbors for

so we can have the ministry of Reconciliation

This Pass. Y.P.O.

Babies - baptised

This Congregation

The congregation you

each help to

congregation help

ful us for

eyes of X - in faith for

in eyes of X - what you

had faith in

for

The predicament of everyone is due to the fact that he attempts
to live - without acknowledging God.

Get to the root of any human problem - and you will find
a failure to live by Grace.

a basic attempt to attack the fault in existence

in his own strength

or to attack it with that our which he can retain kindness.

- instead of acknowledging God's

There is not a soul around - that does not need
the Ministry of Reconciliation.

This ministry is given to the Church

This ministry of reconciliation man to God is yours & mine.

It is with reference to this ministry that X promises to the Church words

"The Gates of Hell shall not prevail against it"

For years I failed to hear the meaning of this promise.

have you ever had a sermon preached on this text?

I have heard this + I have preached this.

Do you know what I heard & meant?

that the Church is God's Church and even Hell can't overcome it!

that no matter how dark it gets, no matter how feeble the

church gets. - Hell can't do it in!

a moment will be unconquerable!

How did these words come to mean that?

The Gates of Hell won't be successful in their attack on the
Church.

Fort Gary UC.

Jan 25th 1958

AM.

W.P.O.

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Have you ever attacked a State?

TRUTH Sep 16 1962

I wish to talk again about the Mission of the Church
at the start. + God's Promise to it.

I am talking about:

Our congregation - role in Fort Gary
The young people in our S.S. Group work.
70 Babies are baptised each year
you and me -

What my ministry is supposed to do for you
Our Congregational life - 57 us all for
what in the Eyes of X you are parents for.
what in the Eyes of X you are neighbors for
so we can have the ministry of Reconciliation

This Pass. Y.P.O.
Unions - represented
This Congregation.
The congregation you
each help to
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ful us for
in eyes of X - in families for
in eyes of X - what you
have faced +
neighbors for.

The predicament of everyone is due to the fact that he attempts
to live - without acknowledging God.
That is the root of any human problem - and you will find
a failure to live by Grace.
a basic attempt to attack the fault in existence
in his own strength
or to attack it with that our which he can retain hardship -
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There is not a soul around - that does not need
the Ministry of Reconciliation.

This ministry is given to the Church

This ministry of reconciling man to God is yours & mine

It is with reference to this ministry that X promises to the Church words which
"The Gods of Hell shall not prevail against it"

For years I failed to hear the meaning of this promise,
have you ever had a sermon preached on this text?
I have heard this + I have preached this.

Do you know what I heard & meant?

That the Church is God's Church and even Hell can't overcome it!
That no matter how dark it gets, no matter how feeble the
Church gets. - Hell can't do it in!
a movement will be inconceivable!

How did these words come to mean that?
The Gates of Hell won't be successful in their attack on the
Church.

were you ever attacked by a gate?

I have had a gate prevail against me -
this meant it didn't let me through!

The meaning of Gats that can't prevail is that they are
unable to withstand the attacks of an enemy.

The promise of X to the Church is that Hell cannot withstand
the attacks of the Church - that the Church can sweep Hell

No Hell can withstand the ministry of Reconciliation!

Everywhere around us are people in Hell.

i.e. afraid to grasp reality: self imposed attempt to
grasp reality has led into an escape from reality.

Living pasted lives - the real ones are too much for this

Real existence - dark - mysterious threat.

Don't dare grasp it - not what you can put your finger on
won't shape after your own design
can't see it what you can be master of.

The only way you can grasp reality - by trusting it - in spite of
its threat.

Trusting that Behind its darkness is an accepting Love

You can have life by Faith alone
not by establishing it yourself.

By Being Reconciled to God - not by assuming God has for yourself

The masses you have a family. } minister this reconciliation to others
neighbors. } & receive it from them

when you visit a neighbor - to whom reality is a dark frightful threat.

you visit him in X - not when you paint his clouds with
a silver lining.

only real clouds can be painted

Not real ones -

your ministry is to sustain him - he can accept the clouds
grasp them.

Be found of a courage to do this.

I can't - too fearful - keeps fearful
you can't - God can - His way to the heart is
through fear: - Trust for your ministry of reconciliation.

Eng who around us - People destroyed by Guilt.
 some - extreme state of self condemnation
 some - in state of morbidly aggression
 some in frantic zeal to be themselves neighbors

Wish of all - they want to live their own lives at all
 living living lives.
 driven by the need to justify themselves.
 because the law says to be their own justifiers.
 without accepting God's justification

Do not want to minister to those neighbors -
 by telling them they are not guilty: - ~~some cheap justification~~
 Courage to accept ^{reality includes} guilt: knowledge of God's forgiveness
 Witness to the joy & power of God's Forgiveness

Enguine - there are people destroyed by loneliness:
 who are victims of their own attempt to conquer loneliness.
 Loneliness has driven them to win their acceptance.
 the better frustration of this has driven them to escape
 into an artificial community in which they are very
 loved their ever.
 need to know God's acceptance
 first need that acceptance which cannot be earned
 but given.

dependence on acceptance that can be won
 Trust method for reconciliation.

Need ministry of Reconciliation.

you don't minister to those who are proud
 another kind of artificial community
 only in the coverage of accepting the reality - includes tension
 - in spirit of the tension;
 only in the community of love.

Every where there are people deluged by Doubt.

Victims of their own attempt to conquer doubt

they are afraid to Grasp Reality because it has
too many questions unanswered.

Down to a meaningless epistemy :- are afraid to doubt.

Live in an unreal world - manufacture the questions
and answers and therefore feel secure in them.

~~but Doubt has a way of remaining where we are,
when we shut ourselves up in~~

it takes courage to doubt :-

This is the meaning of honest doubt - ~~it is the door to faith~~

- in some measure faith has preceded it -

or moved on even close to doubt.

and it is ~~steps~~ the door to deeper faith.

it is the Door to Trust for your justification
acceptance
means

Those who are afraid to Doubt.

need the ministry of Reconciliation.

the courage to grasp a mysterious reality.

courage to live

courage to be

this is the ministry - not of telling them the necessity of doubt.

not of an aggressive approach of your conviction

but in your courage to let them doubt.

to ~~show~~ show the doubt.

in releasing them in in the acceptance of the Doubt

in your courage to trust that Doubt is the door to Faith.

I Don't know enough ? - have this ministry - you don't.

why you should be studying - study yourself

- so humble about a church in it study

doubt in its ministry -

new fully know

now - when you have new skill - trust ministry of reconciliation

The real crisis is :- if course you are afraid -

what a promise " the Gates of hell can not prevail against it "