

A Message For The Easter Weekend

"WHAT is the Word of Life for us?" The answer is in the message of Good Friday and Easter, which will be triumphantly proclaimed from tens of thousands of pulpits this weekend in every country of the world.

The message is very simple: "The Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth". That is the Triumphant Message of Good Friday and Easter.

Sin, evil, selfishness,

cynical opportunism, cowardice, betrayal - all these together had done their worst to silence the voice of God and destroy His sovereignty over the affairs of men. They had done their worst and failed.

On that first Easter Saturday night nobody could have been surer than our Lord's detractors and enemies that once and for all they had disposed of this dangerous and deluded

fanatic - the from Nazareth. Again and again in history great evils have won great triumphs, only in the end to find themselves undone and made fools of. The poet Lowell wrote: "Though the cause of Evil prosper, yet, this Truth alone is strong."

You may crush the truth to the ground, but it will rise again.

On that first Easter Sunday nothing was more certain than that they had

done nothing of the kind. And this Good Friday and Easter Sunday will add to the mounting testimony of the centuries that there is something imperishable and indestructible about our Christian faith. It brought life to a dying world.

Today has dawned upon a world far more dangerous than it has ever been, for it has within its power the means to destroy itself. The same

forces as conspired to crucify Christ are as busy as ever. It would suit them as much today as in A.D. 29 to silence this Voice that persists in proclaiming the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

Easter of 1999 dawns upon a bleeding Africa. The wars in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Angola are destroying countless innocent lives.

I call upon the Christians and believers of other faiths to pray for peace and reconciliation in those war-torn countries on our continent. The Prince of Peace died and rose again that we might turn our swords into plough shares. Our hatred into love and stop fighting evil with evil.

Age after age violence had met violence and kings and statesmen had fallen in futility, and Sa-

tan had never cast out Satan yet.

It was from that vision - that Jesus died, to introduce into the world a new and revolutionary ethic - meet ill will with goodwill, dare to break the vicious circle of evil answering evil, never fight wrong with wrong.

The stage is set for another Calvary, and our Lord will go to another Crucifixion. But He goes not as a scapegoat, a victim, a lamb that before his hearers as dumb No! He goes as the spearhead of God in His divine campaign for the soul of man and his eternal destiny.

Let us again pray for our nation to live a pure life maintaining the highest ethical standards and to create a healthy morally strong society. That can be done if we cling to the Prince of Peace and place our faith in God - He the Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth. Such is the message of Good Friday and Easter. I wish the Namibian nation a blessed Easter-weekend. Drive safely. Be alert. Be sober - for Easter is a Holy Festival and let us celebrate it in the spirit of reverence, peace, love and worship.

Finally, even if this Easter is shadowed by wars, we may still sing, HALLELUJAH!

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