HUMAN MORALITY

Certain things are fundamental to human morality. Wherever you find man you will find a basic agreement on certain aspects we call morality. Honesty, courtesy, and neighborliness. Perhaps the most basic agreement that can unite us is the idea that God exists, and that He is the sovereign Majesty in the heavens. Along with that basic belief is the belief that we must go back again to God for the final judgement for the deeds done in the body.

The Bible tells us "Here is the conclusion of the whole matter: "Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgement, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil". There is a lot of difference between the man who is convinced that this is true, and the man who doubts it or does not believe it at all.

If we believe that we must fear God, and that this is our whole duty, and that God shall bring every work into judgement, whether it is good or evil, there is going to be a difference in the way we view God's moral law. Human morality rests upon this belief: "There is a Majesty in the heavens. Any view that excludes the possibility that we come from God and that we shall return to God will have a detrimental effect upon human morality".

So have faith in God and build on this rock. I believe that when we arise in the morning, it ought to be in a mighty strength, believing in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

The Bible teaches that creation is a universe, one vast single system embracing matter and spirit and life and mind and time and space, and all beings that are in it. The Bible teaches that these are not separated. They are not independent of each other. They are united and working harmoniously.

According to medical research, cancer is simply a condition in which cells no longer take orders from the rest of the body. A cancer is composed of free cells, anarchic cells; they are not subject to the balance and order of the rest of the cells of the body. They go wild, and soon they have brought the victim to death. If everything in the world were independent of everything else, you would have a universal cancer throughout the vast universe. So, God brings everything together, interlocks them and makes them interdependent.

Every organization must have a head. If you organize anything, even a simple literary Guild consisting of a half dozen women, they will always have a president. And the president must preside. This goes right on up to the largest empire that ever touched the world. Right on up to the great nations of the world. Every organization must have a head. That is logical.

If any organization must have a head, is it not logical to believe that somewhere in this vast universe there is a throne where somebody runs it? I believe that is true. And I believe that the one on the throne is God, the Majesty of the heavens. The Bible refers to the center of control as the throne of God. And from that throne, God governs His universe according to an eternal purpose.

We have the Majesty in the heavens, sitting upon His throne. Someone is sitting on the right hand of that throne. He is Jesus Christ, the Minister of the sanctuary, which God made, not man. The reason for His being there, in brief, is this: a province revolted in what we call the universe.

In this interrelated, interdependent, interlocking universe, one province revolted and said "We don't want to be ruled by the head. We will not be ruled from the throne. We will rule ourselves. We will build this great Babylon up to heaven. We will not have God rule over us". That province we call "mankind", and mankind inhabits the little rolling sphere we call "the earth".

What will God do about this rebellion? God could, with a wave of His hand, sweep that province out of existence. But what did He do? God sent His only begotten Son that He might redeem that province and bring it back into the sphere of the throne again, back into the sphere of the Kingdom of God. When a man is converted, he is born again into the Kingdom of God. Then he admits there is a throne, which he did not admit before.

No sinner admits to the throne of God as being valid and the right of God to rule over him. He can talk about God, and he will appeal to God, and he will use the name of God, but he will not obey God. That is why he is what he is. That is why he is a sinner and why he is called a sinner.

That is why it is said that he will perish unless he repents and is born again. When he repents and he is born again, he leaves the old world, the old

province that revolted, and moves into the Kingdom of God and comes under the rulership of the triune God again. That is how simple it all is.

You cannot get there by being baptized, though we all ought to be baptized, according to the teaching of Jesus. We do not get there by joining a church, although we all ought to join a church. You do not get there by praying. You can pray to the end of your life, 24 hours a day, and not get there.

It is coming into the Kingdom by an act of the will, through Jesus Christ the Lord, that gets you out of the old, revolted province and into the Kingdom of God and under the rule of the throne of God again. God became Man in order to rescue sinful men. This He did by forfeiting His own life, that He might bring back to God again those who had revolted. This, Jesus Christ our Lord did, and now we have Him sitting on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens.

"God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through Him, as you well know. But God knew what would happen, and His pre-arranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless gentiles, you nailed Him to a cross and killed Him. But God released Him from the horrors of death, and raised Him back to life, for death could not keep Him in its grip". Acts 2:22-24 NLT

There is a throne. And the one who sits on the throne is one of us. Jesus Christ. And the world has revolted against that throne. Christianity says to the world that they can come back to the throne through Jesus Christ the Lord. This is what excited and thrilled the early church, as described in the second chapter of the Book of Acts.

They were excited about God on the throne. They were thrilled about Christ on the right hand of God the Father, and His coming again in clouds of glory. They were intoxicated with thoughts about the glorified Christ who would soon return. Above all things, they talked about the man who sat on the throne. "This man whom you crucified" they said: "He is at God's right hand, alive forevermore, and He is one of us".

Christ is a man. "For there is one God, one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus". Jesus is a man. He is at God's right hand, and He sits on the throne. We worship this man as God. We worship no other man, but

we worship this man as God. And this man was believed to be God by the early church, and they worshiped Him as God.

We are living on the very outskirts, the far margin of the Kingdom of God. We are in it, but we are just barely inside the door. Christians ought to recognize that our nature has been joined to God's nature in the mystery of the Incarnation. When Christ died on the cross and rose again, and began to join individual Christians to His body, He meant that we were to have the same victory He had. He meant that we were to have the same high privilege He has at God's right hand.

One of the primary missions of our Lord was to convey to unbelieving people that they occupy the same place as He does in the heart of God. We are there because of the absolute worthiness of the Lord Jesus Christ who is our head. He is the representative of us before God. He is showing what kind of man He can make. He is the model man after which you and I are patterned. That is why the Lord will not let you alone.

I recommend that we raise our eyes to God, the Majesty of the heavens, and that we look long and hard and reverently at Him in faith, and see at His right hand One of us, and say if He can be there, I can be there. If He is accepted of God, I am accepted in Him in the Beloved. If God loves him, He loves me. If He is safe, I am safe. And if He has conquered, I can conquer. And if He is victorious, I can be victorious.

We have a Great High Priest who has sat down at the right hand of the Majesty of the throne, of the Majesty in the heaven, being a Minister of the sanctuary, which God built, and not man. The revolt of man is overturned by the redemptive action from the throne on high. God has paved the way into His presence and never winces in the face of man's revolt.