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CHRIST ABOVE ALL.

"And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." Colossians 1:17.

Deutschland uber alles, the German war song, was but a wild boast of the day when Germany would rule the world. In English it means Germany over all. A few God fearing Germans tried to tell the godless war party to put Christ over all. But the majority turned a deaf ear to such warnings. They followed the war party to defeat and ruin. If America follows the same road Germany traveled, it will come to the same end.

When Queen Victoria asked Kipling to write a great war song to match the German son, he wrote his immortal

Recessional:

"God of our fathers, known of old--
Lord of our far-flung battle line--
Beneath Whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine--
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget--lest we forget!

If drunk with sight of power, we loose
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe--
Such boasting as the Gentiles use
Or lesser breeds without the Law--
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget,--lest we forget."

Kipling's rebuke to the martial spirit of his country cost him the honor of being Poetlaureate to his Sovereign.

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But the Recessional has become one of the immortal songs of men. It has given Kipling an honor that no political office ever could have given him.

Which will we choose? America over all or Christ over all? America today has the greatest military power any nation ever had. If we use it to gain a fleeting triumph over other people we will come to the same end Germany came to. If we use to enthrone Christ in the hearts of men, if we use it to make the world a better place to live, if we use it to give justice to the black man, the yellow man, the red man, if we use it to raise the standard of living for all men, we will be called a Christian nation. We will show the world what a Christian power is like. Will we do it?

"I took a day to search for God,
And found Him not. But as I trod
By rocky ledge, through woods untamed,
Just where one scarlet lilly flamed,
I saw His footprint in the sod." Bliss Carman.

Abraham took a day to search for God. He looked up into the starry heavens and found God's footprints up there. God was pleased with Abraham's faith. He asked him if he could count the stars. When Abraham stood speechless before their number, He said, "So shall thy seed be." The children of Abraham are to be as the stars for multitude.

Moses took a day to search for God. He found His footprints in the burning bush. God said, "Moses, take off your shoes. This ground is holy." God sent Moses to lead His people out of bondage.

Hannah took a day to search for God. She found His footprints in the starry eyes of a little babe. She gave

him to the Lord all the days of his life.

But one day, in the fullness of time, God saw that the gulf between God and man was still too wide. Men still did not know what God was like. Some said he was a God of war. They said he loved the sound of martial music, the blast of the trumpet the roll of the drums, the tramp, tramp, tramp of marching feet. Some said He was a God of wrath whose anger was terrible to the offender. Some said He was like a woman with a thick veil over her eyes and a pair of scales in her hands. She gave justice, but blindly. She took no account of man's weakness or infirmities. So they wrangled from age to age. But no one could give an answer to what God is like.

That there might be a closer fellowship between God and man He sent His own son to live with men, to share man's sorrows and man's grief and joy, to live such a life as had never been lived on earth before. The gulf between God and man was bridged. Never again will men need to ask what God is like. He is like the Man of Galilee.

Paul was afraid of placing other Gods by the side of Christ. In the first place men did not need any other. He was more than sufficient for all man's needs. Any lesser god only caused men to be less loyal to Him. They added nothing and took away much. Lesser gods could get between us and Him and hide His perfection and beauty.

When Leonardo da Vinci painted his immortal masterpiece the Last Supper he put two golden cups on the table. When he saw that these were attracting the attention of a visitor, he painted them out of the picture with one stroke. " Not that---It's the face; look at the face," he cried. One thing that the world needs more than anything else is

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a sight of that face, in all its beauty and holiness. One sight of that face could do more to quiet the turbulent spirits of men than any thing they could see.

During the French Revolution the people had overthrown the monarchy and established a republic, ^{they} ~~the~~ discarded the cumbersome system of weights and measures and established the metric system in its place. Then they said, Why not have a new religion? They went to Voltaire about this. He asked them if they had a Christ for the new religion. When he told them the kind of a Man it would take, they were speechless. They had not thought of that.

Bishop McDowell says, "There will never be any need for a new religion until some one has lived a better life than the one lived by Jesus of Nazareth."

Some would have us believe He was just another good man. They cannot find anything wrong with His life. But they say there were many good men. He was just one more.

Some would have us believe He was just another great teacher. They have to admit He was one of the greatest of teachers. But there were many others. He was just one more.

Some would have us believe He was just another prophet. There were many great prophets in Israel. He was just one more.

He was all these and infinitely more. He was prophet, teacher and friend. But ^{He} ~~it~~ was more, much more. The prophet Isaiah says, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." That is God with us.

A little boy said, "Daddy, girls get in my hair." His father said, "You like Mommy, don't you?" The boys said,

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"Moms is tops. But she's not a girl." His daddy said, "She was a girl one time." The boy looked thoughtful a moment, then said, "They sure do change, don't they?"

Immanuel is the one power that can change people from bad to good. His is the only power great enough to turn hatred into love, to change dishonesty into honesty, to calm the war-like spirits of men, to turn the world's shadows into sunshine. No other power is great enough to meet the world's needs.

"In the beauty of the lillies Christ was born across the sea,

With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me:

As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,

While God is marching on."

Battle-Hymn of the Republic