

Can I Believe In God?

Our Problem of Belief

① The Korean Brain-Washing

- The Communist Directive

- American doesn't know why he's here.
- No deep sense of right and wrong.
- Shallow sense of loyalty.
- Wants to belong to a group at any cost.

- The Results of Three Years of Imprisonment.

- 4 out of every 10 died in five months.
- Almost all the Americans became informers on each other.

② Our Confusion About Belief.

- We become so tentative we have no deep convictions.

- Many of us have never really worked out our own faith.

- We are immature in spiritual ^{convictions.}

- Many of us are opposites about our faith in God.

- We live as if God did not exist.

The Obstacles To Faith In God

① The Uned to full of Irrational Suffering

- If there is a God, why doesn't he stop it?
- The big war, the painful disease or the death of my child.

② The Crass Materialism of Modern Man

- We live by our senses, and by cause and effect.
- So God seems like a rather harmless idea.

③ The Basic Spiritual and Intellectual Self-sufficiency of the Modern.

- This makes difficult the Basic Humility necessary for Faith.

To Believe or Not To Believe Is A Basic Assumption

① To Believe is Life's Basic Assumption.

- Ronald Hankey from Feathers in 1914

"Faith is betting your life there is a God."

② To Not Believe in God is Life's Great Negative Assumption.

"The odds are all against you, the shells screaming
over your head seem to mock at you, and there
are comrades at your side who smile at you for a
simpleton, but you hold on. You refuse either
to give in or to give up, for you know that to
surrender faith is to make the final surrender.
It means subscription to the judgment that there
is no sense and no purpose in life or history,
that the whole tangled story of the race is a
tale told by an idiot, full of sound and
fury, signifying nothing."

3.

The Reasonable Way To God

- ① That the Order of This Universe Calls for an Order-Giver.
 - The timing of the base solar system to the hatching of a chicken calls for Order.
 - The argument of the watch.
- ② That the Inner Purpose of the Universe calls for a Giver of Purpose.
 - Amazing operation of the body.
- ③ That the Meaning of Mind Calls for a Supreme Intelligence.

The Inner, Spiritual Way To God

- ① There is A Deep Restlessness Which Can Only be Satisfied when a man's life is Centered in God.
- ② That there is a Deep Sense of Right and Wrong, Shame and Guilt, Which can Lead A Man To God.

③ True inwardly we know Jesus to be
about God.

- Call God "Your father"

- Trust Him.

- In prayer, daily living and dying.

When We Have Said All This, Do We Know God?

① Difference Between Intellectual Acceptance and Inner Knowledge.

- Swimming or Friendship or Love.

② It is the Simple-Hearted, Not the Intellectually Sharp.

- Pure in Heart shall see God.

- Sacrifices of the Lord - Broken and contrite spirit.

- Way, the Truth and the Life.

③ This is the Great Argument of The 139th Psalm.

- That we cannot escape or avoid the face of God.

What Difference Does This Make?

① That He Gives Me Deep, Fundamental Purpose.

② That I Have A Source of Truth.

③ That I Have A Understanding for Right and Wrong

④ That I Can Become Like God.

First Baptist Church

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

September 11, 1960

Eleven O'Clock

Broadcast on Station KELO

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life: of whom shall I be afraid?”

ENTERING THE TEMPLE

Organ Prelude—“Fantaisie in A Major”.....Franck
(Congregation in Silent Prayer)

Choral Call to Worship—“The Lord Is in His Holy Temple”

Processional Hymn—“Lead On, O King Eternal”.....363

Invocation

Lord's Prayer and Gloria

OPENING OUR LIVES TO HIS PRESENCE

Reading of the Holy Scriptures—Psalm 139

Choral Call to Prayer—“Hear Us, Our Father”

Pastoral Prayer

Choral Response—“Lord, Give Ear to My Prayer”

Anthem—“Lead, Kindly Light”.....Buck

Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom, Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home; Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see the distant scene—
One step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou shouldst lead me on;
I loved to choose and see my path; but now lead Thou me on!
I loved the garish day, and spite of fears, pride ruled my will:
Remember not past years.

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on,
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till the night is gone,
And with the morn those angel faces smile;
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile!

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

Christian Greetings

Receiving our Tithes and Offerings

Organ Offertory—“Adagio” (Third Symphony).....Widor

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

THE PREACHING OF THE WORD

Vocal Duet—“O Lord, In Thee I Trust”.....Hammerel
Mrs. James Smart, contralto
David Sorenson, baritone

Sermon by Pastor Fredrikson

“Can I Believe in God?”

IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIM

Hymn of Dedication and Decision—“All Creatures of Our God and King”.....157

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

This morning Pastor Fredrikson will greet folks at the side door, Rev. Babcock at the main door and Rev. Rowe at the balcony door.

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7:30 P.M.

Prelude

Call to Worship and Invocation

Period of Hymn Singing

Scripture—II Corinthians 5

Prayer

Greetings and Announcements

Hymn

Offering

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"Ministering to a Procession"

Hymn of Invitation—"Are Ye Able?".....360

Benediction—Closing Moments—"Beneath the Cross"

Postlude

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY, 5:00 p.m.—Student Reception in Fellowship Hall

6:00 p.m.—Brayton Case BYF (Junior High)

6:00 p.m.—Deacon's Training Class

8:45 p.m.—Hi Fi at the home of Barbara Tiezzi, 1410 S. Summit

8:45 p.m.—Afterglow in the Youth Room

TUESDAY, 10:00 a.m.—XYZ Club in the Parlor

7:30 p.m.—Budget Committee Hearings

WEDNESDAY, 4:30 p.m.—Junior Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m.—Fellowship Supper in Fellowship Hall

7:15 p.m.—Midweek Prayer Service

THURSDAY—Women's Mission Society Group Meetings

Group I—Mrs. Roger Fredrikson, 1516 S. Park

Group II—Mrs. E. O. Dietrich, 2704 Wood Drive

Group III—Mrs. C. J. Dye, 1509 E. 26th St.

Group IV—Mrs. H. Sarver, 1900 S. Walts

Group V—Mrs. Ernest Hoffman, RR#3, Go west on Highway 16 to tank road, 1¼

mile south to Terry Drive, charcoal house on east side of road.

Group VI—Miss Ellen Swenson, 415 S. West

Group VII—Mrs. Dale Lokke, 1309 S. Spring

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Group IX—Mrs. Maurice Paulsen, 3201 Carter Place

7:30 p.m.—Budget Committee Hearings

7:30—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY—Junior High Leader's Retreat

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Rev. Albert H. Babcock.....Christian

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Rev. James E. Rowe.....New Life

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Dr. Maynard Berk.....Organist

Mr. Harold Wortman.....Youth

Miss Lois Harchanko.....Children

Sextons:

Mr. Frank Weins

Mr. Warren Dolan

Mr. Lamont Reichelt

Mrs. Hilda Bockelman

Ministering To A Procession

- Students coming and going - Procession
- Clinics Ministering to you -

Memories of Sioux Falls College

- ① The Contribution of Teachers
- Dr. Harold M. Jordan - Orations
 - Dr. M. F. Martini - Debates
 - Dr. A. W. Fougere. - Plays

② A Fellowship Where You Are Accepted

- Plain simple young people.
- George Collins, Bob Wehling, Bob Raley

③ There are the possibilities of Discovering Yourself

- Many creative Decisions.

Discoveries About This Church

- ① Characterized by Pioneering Spirit.
 - Its beginnings, its difficulties.
 - Willingness to try new things.
- ② Characterized by Strong Personalities.
 - Mrs. Charles Updon
 - Mrs. A. W. Palmer.
 - Anne Dargenson.
- ③ Characterized by Deep Inner Unity.
 - Many differences, but a basic commitment to Jesus Christ.

3.

Possible Criticisms of Canner

- ① Large so it is unfriendly.
- ② Might be Modernistic.
- ③ Might be full of rich people.

Our Call To Everyone

- ① Deeper Understanding of The Bible
- ② Higher, Holier Understanding of Worship.
- ③ Deep Involvement in the Fellowship
Small Groups
- ④ Engaged in Our Primary Task.
- Ministry of Reconciliation.

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