

Jesus Christ, the Coming King - March 30, 1946

Isaiah 32:1 - "Behold a King shall reign in righteousness."

Probably all Americans admit today that the time when this country can be isolated from the rest of the world is completely at an end. We can no longer gather our skirts about us and forget the rest of the world, secure in the protection of our two oceans. The world has become a very small place, and upheaval or injustice in Patagonia or Afghanistan may have repercussions which affect the peace and safety of dwellers in New York and Kansas City. After going through the misery and turmoil of a great World War we have no desire for another. We would like to see a world in which peace would be triumphant everywhere.

In recent months, as new misunderstandings and differences of opinion have developed among leading nations, many people have begun to fear that permanent peace is not assured. When representatives of various nations meet around the council table, it is alarming to find many of them apparently seeking the prestige or advantage of their own nation, ^{instead of} rather than trying to legislate for the welfare of the world as a whole. Often men from one nation are led to suspect that those of another are impelled by motives of greed or selfishness, and the onlooker sometimes fears that the accusation may be true. A short time ago it was widely hoped that war and fear would be outlawed, and liberty and justice made universal. Now we wonder if these hopes were mere illusions. Must the world be torn by intermittent periods of war and chaos? Will each advance of science mean new and more terrible methods of destruction? Or will an era of permanent peace be attained at last?

No human being is competent ^{by himself to find} to decide the answers to these questions. Effort after effort of human beings to predict the future has proven futile.

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