

Sermon May 2, 1948 P. M. 2

due to the inanimate object that they're mixed up? I don't know which it is, but there's something wrong in the universe and a good part of it is the curse that God has laid upon it. But that's not all. That is not all--there is another element that confuses us as to knowing how much of this world you can say is God's world and how much is permitted by God and is something entirely different. We have a very strong instance of that in John 14 in that wonderful chapter of the provision which Jesus Christ makes for His own. We noticed there that He compared His followers with the world as on two opposite sides and He spoke of someone who is coming as "the prince of this world", the same one, you notice, this is who in Genesis 3 tempted Eve, the same one who introduced the trouble upon the earth. He has become the prince of this world. That phrase occurs several times in the Gospel of John. Look over at Chapter 16, verses 8 to 11, "and when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged." I couldn't help wondering this morning as I preached and thought of people listening over the radio, as I mentioned Adam and Eve, and as I mentioned Satan, the tempter, how strange those terms sound to many people in the world today who have completely given up any belief in Adam as a real man or Eve as a real woman, or in the full existence of Satan, but we have just as much reason to believe in the existence of Satan as we have in the existence of God. Satan is taught in the Bible as a real person, a person whom we have to face and when we have faced him to fear him. How can we evade him if you will take some portion and notice how many times in the New Testament there are references to Satan, to the devil or to the prince of this world. Christianity recognized Satan not merely as some sort of imaginary being but as a real being, just as real as any one of us and he, we are told, is the prince of this world. How could this world/ever get into such a situation as it is/in today if it were not for the existence indeed the prince of this world. of this world. A new book has just come out by Professor Toynbee, the noted of one who is/