

Tuesday evening
August 23, 1949

NEW LIGHT ON THE OLD TESTAMENT - Dr. Allan A. MacRae

I would like to read the last three verses of the first chapter of I Peter. "Being born again, not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible, by the Word of God which lives and abides forever. For all flesh is as grass and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withers, the flower thereof falls away; but the Word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."

About twenty years ago, I attended a series of meetings about two blocks from this spot. It was an Association, but quite different from the one whose meetings I am attending now. It was announced that the purpose of the meeting was to bring together science, education, and religion and that the leaders in all three of these fields would be present in order that we could bring together the material from these fields and to give us the best of all of them. I remember that for religion they had the Fiske Jubilee Singers there, and their singing was indeed beautiful. But it was rather comical sometimes to see how what they considered the best in science and the best in religion seemed to clash. Thus they would have science represented by a man who would speak and who would tell us that Jesus Christ was born just like anyone else; He never knew anything but what He learned at school; His death had no more meaning than that of any other one who was executed, and when He died that was the end. After these men representing science gave us these which he presented as scientific facts, the Fiske Jubilee Singers got up and they sang, "It's The Old-Time Religion, It's The Old-Time Religion, It's The Old-Time Religion And It's Good Enough For Me". Then I remember another speaker who told us that this old-fashioned idea of trying to save people individually was out of date. He said that we would never make a better world that way; we must go out and we must improve conditions and we must fix up social things and improve race relations and do away with war and all that, and thus we would built a great, wonderful, new world. When he got through, the Singers came forward and they sang, "Keep A Inching Along, Keep A Inching Along, Jesus Will Come Someday". Then a third speaker told how the old out-of-date idea was to be talking always about the future life. We don't know whether there's any future life, he said. All we've got is what's