

# *"The Sky is Red"*



A Vital Message to  
Christians

BY

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# "The Sky is Red"

"He answered and said unto them, 'When it is evening ye say it will be fair weather; for THE SKY IS RED . . . ye can discern the face of the sky but can ye not discern the signs of the times?'" Matt. 16:2.

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"We are living in one of those rare periods of time from which greatness can emerge through the renewal of the human spirit by a more vital contact with the great Spirit. Such moments, so pregnant with tremendous possibilities, are not often vouchsafed to man. A sweeping movement climbing upward toward the building of the world of our dreams—or, a spiral downward toward disaster, seem to lie just beyond the borders of our day. One cannot view with serenity the possibility of our failing to take advantage of this supreme moment in time. Out of such periods magnificence comes. The Christian Church has an opportunity now, which, if she lets slip through her hands, she may never have again. She must prove herself worthy of the leadership demanded of her. She will serve the modern world with Christian greatness or BE REPUDIATED BY IT. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST WILL NOT LEAVE THE EARTH, BUT HIS SPIRIT WILL LIVE IN INSTITUTIONS OTHER THAN OUR OWN."

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This quoted passage is the last paragraph in Dr. Jean S. Milner's colossal book, "*The Sky Is Red.*" Jean S. Milner is pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. Henry Ward Beecher was once pastor of this same church. Later he moved to Brooklyn and to fame. Beecher's message concerned only the reality and power of the kingdom of God. Milner's message is prophetic. It shines through the darkness as the red light of a semaphore warns of danger along the railroad track, and we have heard the same warnings many times this past year from Doctors E. Stanley Jones, Daniel V. Poling, and other religious leaders.

The man about whom I am writing is not a preacher, and like Abraham Lincoln, is not even a member of any church. Yet, in one year's time his message, concerning the power of the Great God-Realm, went into sixty-seven different countries and today Dr. Frank B. Robinson has followers by the tens of thousands all over the civilized world. You have heard of him and may have placed him in the "atheistic class." If so, it probably was because you did not know the man, his Teachings, or what his heart longs to do for you, for me, and for all others who need to keep in close touch, in tune, and in harmony with the Spiritual Truths of the Power of the Living God.

He, too, is misunderstood and is perhaps the most prosecuted and most persecuted religious leader in America today. Yet, he may have the message some of us most need, which I believe he has.

The warning issued by Dr. Milner awakened something in this man; a seed was sown. The seed has germinated and today, the first tender shoots, nurtured and nourished in the darkness of the sod, are beginning to shoot forth. What size the tree or how precious the fruit—who knows?

Personally, I happen to be a Methodist preacher, named Charles Wesley, though "Who's Who in America" lists me as an educator. Educated at Willamette and The George Washington, I gave my best to Montana Wesleyan, to Gooding College as president, and to Methodism for a full generation of time.

When the Methodist Board of Education changed its policy toward its colleges located in missionary territory, I came to Moscow as director and Bible instructor for the Institute of Christian Education at the University of Idaho, in 1935. It was then I became acquainted with the man about whom I am writing. I have known of this man for the past twenty-seven or twenty-eight years, but was not thrown into intimate touch with him until the year 1935, when he did four times as much as the fourteen churches in Moscow for their Bible chair. No one will ever really know this man. His is a life hidden with God. Yet I think I understand him as well as most people do, for most people completely misunderstand him.

As a Methodist preacher, I am still interested in the church I have loved to serve, the kingdom of God, and what both of them are supposed to be doing to help folks. I am fully aware of the condition of the Protestant Church in America today and, if I had in my power the means and the ability to send out the clarion call, which the man I work with has, I should be ready and eager for the fray. It has been repeatedly stated that unless some Moses does arise to lead the church out of the quagmire into which it has allowed itself to sink, little hope remains. As Dr. Milner says, "SHE WILL SERVE THE MODERN WORLD WITH CHRISTIAN GREATNESS OR BE REPUDIATED BY IT. THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST WILL NOT LEAVE THE EARTH, BUT HIS SPIRIT WILL LIVE IN INSTITUTIONS OTHER THAN OUR OWN."

For ten years, the man about whom I am writing has handled religious truth without "kid gloves." His books are probably the most outstanding books recently written on theology or religion. He has made enemies, thousands of them; but he has made hundreds and thousands of friends. Strange to say, much of the persecution directed against this man has originated in the church—what a pity.



Now to the object of this letter. I am convinced, as I am sitting here, that this man, Frank Bruce Robinson has a message for the Protestant Church in the United States. I am absolutely convinced that this man has prophetic vision. Not only that, he possesses a magnetic power which I believe, comes from the invisible Realm of God, and in my humble way, I want to introduce this man to you.

"THE SKY IS RED." And how red it is. A new vision of God must come to the Protestant Church and new life must be instilled into its arteriosclerotic veins if it is to rise to the magnificent opportunity which now presents itself. But there will have to be a radical change in attitude and there will have to be literally manifested, the divine power of the Spirit of God which, as an army, can and will blast away the black shadows of night.

I am enclosing a little card. It requires no postage. In the interests of the kingdom of God and of this world, please fill out this card, drop it in the mail-box, and we will both be glad when you know more about the man, who has helped me the most.

Cordially yours for the Kingdom of God,

CHARLES WESLEY TENNEY.

P. S. If there is one thing more than another which hurts me, as a Methodist preacher, it is to see thousands finding the power of the Spirit of God entirely outside of the church. And, in my capacity of Assistant to Dr. Robinson, I see that every day. These good souls naturally feel that the church knows nothing whatsoever about the Spirit of God, when, as a matter of fact, the work for God being done by Dr. Robinson, should be done in every Christian church in the land. Either Dr. Robinson or myself will be happy to speak in your church, if you would like us to. We ask no fee—just the expenses.

C. W. T.