

(4) An outgoing love. The presence of Jesus meant, and means, a love that goes out to all men, to our critics and enemies, not merely loving the lovable, no only seeing what is lovable, but, seeking no reward, a love which is creative enough to *make* something lovable in all men ... (251).

Now Jesus never said or implied that religion was an insurance from catastrophe. If it were, we should be bribed to be good. Life would lose its power to educate us. Jesus never said or implied to His followers that His presence would mean immunity from disaster, nor does He promise this to us (253).

[footnote] : Cf. Dr. W. R. Maltby: 'In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus promised His disciples three things—that they would be entirely fearless, absurdly happy, and that they would get into trouble (253n).

[cont'd] They did get into trouble, and found, to their surprise, that they were not afraid. They were absurdly happy, for they laughed over their own troubles, and only cried over other people's' (*Christ and Human Need*, p. 196) (253n).

[repeated] Jesus never said or implied to His followers that His presence would mean immunity from disaster, nor does He promise this to us.... Indeed, He rather implies the opposite. To His own men He said that not only would ordinary dangers assail them, but that other horrors would be added just because they were His (253-54).

Jesus does not say, 'I will deliver you from the waters,' but something infinitely greater—'When you pass through the waters I shall be there too' (254).

and enhance the power to love and be loved.

13 Teach all believers that those who enter the kingdom are not thereby rendered immune to the accidents of time or to the ordinary catastrophes of nature.

Believing the gospel will not prevent getting into trouble,

but it will insure that you shall be unafraid when trouble does overtake you.

If you dare to believe in me and wholeheartedly proceed to follow after me, you shall most certainly by so doing enter upon the sure pathway to trouble.

I do not promise to deliver you from the waters of adversity, but I do promise to go with you through all of them.

14 And much more did Jesus teach this group of believers before they made ready for the night's sleep. And they who heard these sayings treasured them in their hearts and did often recite them for the edification of the apostles and disciples who were not present when they were spoken.