IS CHRISTIANITY A WORLD RELIGION

Acts 1:1-12

Introduction

Today, when many voices are crying to us that there are vital, worthwhile elements in all Religions, we need to consider afresh the peculiar claims of the Gospel of Christ. No worthwhile, and lasting program of missions can be built apart from the conception of the adequacy of our gospel to meet the needs of human hearts. We must see and feel that Christianity is not a Religion of Race, place or time. The passion of Paul, the early Christian disciples, John and the glorious band of Christians thru the centuries must be our passion. Our gospel is eternal, everlasting and universal. To this cause we dedicate our all. Our confidence is based on an honest comparison with other world religions as well as a comparison with ideal religion, as concerned in the mind of man.

Discussion

II. God-Religion is the relation of men to God. Best religion has best interpretation of God. Moses and Jehovah.

A. God is Holy-man made in God's image but sin came and men since have been making Gods in their image. "Holy, Holy, Holy".
B. God is righteous. Ethics and God bound together. "Shall not the God of all the earth do right?" We must stand in judgment before this Holy God.

C. God is love. Hosea

This Lord gives the life a new soul

This Holiness and love of God displace the need for any other. "Thou shalt have no Gods before thee".

D. God is personal, spirit

II. World -
A. World in relation to its maker
B. Appeals to best in man.

Appeals not only to the heart but to mind and will of man. We never really know anything until we know it in relation to God. Job, "These are the outskirts of his ways".

III. Man
Reveals all wants and woes of man. Shows man what he would not know apart from Divine Revelation. Jesus "Knew what was in man".

Man - Sin and Guilt
Yet men are "possible sons" of God. God offers sonship in his Grace. "Truth makes you free".

IV. Christianity has the only redemption "No man can redeem his brother".
A. Because of the "Redeemer"

Jesus-Joshua-Jehovah saves

Cross - unique
B. Character and method of Redemption
Perfect restoration - cross
"Grain of wheat" "I if I be lifted up". All other leaders must first
save themselves and then lead the
way for others. Others build a
ladder. Jesus lays hold on men
and lifts them up to God.

V. Christianity has the best Ethical
Ideal.

A. Basis of Ethics is the personal
relation of each man and all men
to such a God as the Christian
knows.

B. A religion of universal principles
rather than specific rules.
This makes it world-wide and age­
long.

C. Teachers in highest degree the
spiritual and moral basis of con­
duct. We must be Holy for God is
Holy. We must do right because it
is right.

D. Individual and social ethics.
Kingdom of heaven, Realm of God,
Reign of God.

VI. Christianity offers best grounds of
progress for individual and race.
Christian nations are most progres­sive. Either as cause or effect.
Christianity always has "A Beyond"
for human endeavor. Chief reward
for every achievement is a new
vision or challenge. Great vitality
This resurgence of power comes from
within. (Phoenix-emblem of Chris­tianity every 100 years goes into
fire and a new creature comes out.)
VII. Christianity has the greatest humanitarianism. All are one "in Christ Jesus". Help to overcome "man's inhumanity to man". Hospitals, orphanages, homes for aged, place of women, universal opportunity in education. World wide missionary movement.

Conclusion

Our missionary endeavour rests upon the bulwark of reality. We have a great message and we are seeking to give it to the world. In view of our great heritage, we accept the glorious responsibility to lift high "The torch of truth" that all men may see and believe.