

Sermon May 2, 1948 P. M.

of Tennyson's in which he reports nature, . There is a balance in the universe today, the world in which we live, there is a balance but it is a balance of suffering. Today, in Palestine, a balance is being sought out between Jews and Arabs and British, and many are the innocent homes which are being left bereaved, suffering,

because from those homes have gone through an area where people are shooting or have been attacked with bombs and have lost their lives in their attempt to restore the peace. The radio has had some very touching instances of Jews who have in this way lost their lives there and tell their history and background and I feel the utmost sympathy for each one of them, but the same is true of the Arab families there and the same thing is true of the families of the British policemen involved. There is a situation there in which a balance is being worked out in a way that is hard to reconcile with what you would expect a good God to have effective in His world. Recently I enjoyed very much reading a novel by C. S. Lewis of Oxford University. It's called a novel. It really is a presentation of ideas in the form of a novel, and there is one page of it which impressed me tremendously. The story which Lewis tells is the story of three men, two men, rather, who have a space ship in which they go from this planet to another planet and they kidnap a third man and take him along and this third man is a philologist and after he gets there he escapes from them and learns the language of the place there. Now this other planet differs from this one. It has people there, intelligent people, but these people don't look like our people and there are three different species of them and they are not as advanced culturally as our people are in some parts of this world but its great difference from this world is that in that world there never has been a fall of man and there never has been a curse. There is an angelic being who rules over that world, according to the concept which Lewis has in the book; it is just like this world was prior to the fall of Adam, and the people there live their lives, they live out their full span, there is no disease. They come to the end of a normal period of