

EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE

A Radio Message given on April 14 over station WVCH, by

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Psalm 127.1, "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." This verse has great relevance to our present time. We live in days of tremendous need, both of building and of guarding. Each of us desires to build a life. Many of us desire to build homes. All of us must strive to guard our civilization from utter destruction.

In these activities it is essential that all relevant factors be taken into account. I once lived in a city which was growing rapidly but where there was an appalling lack of careful planning. Frequently one would find representatives of the water department digging up a recently paved street in order to lay water mains beneath it. An essential factor had been overlooked. In planning our lives, it is vital that we take into consideration all the factors of importance. Omission of a primary factor may easily lead to disaster. The verse with which we began our meditation this morning pointed to such a factor--one stressed from the beginning to the end of the Bible. "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." The power and control of God cannot be left out of account, if we expect to build a successful life, a family, a nation, or a world.

Our civilization has tended in recent years to become secularized. It has become quite prevalent to leave God altogether out of account in planning our lives or in planning our world. Even when religion is mentioned as a factor, we