

and he were cast into the sea. They would say they didn't believe any of these things about Jesus and then they called on the Jubilee singers. The singers would come forward and sing: It's the Old Time Religion, It's the Old Time Religion . . . and it's good enough for me.

Then another speaker would come and say how we should be thinking about heaven, ==we should not be thinking about heaven. We should be thinking about this earth and what we can do and how we can make a better world. When he finished they would come forward and sing: We're inching along, inching along. Jesus is coming someday." Thus it seemed we have the of it in the meeting. But how much affected them I don't know.

I just wonder what is ahead with this teaching being given to our young people. I remember 50 years ago--I guess it was before that--the Methodist church was such a great center for evangelism. They won so many to the Lord. They presented so much of the truth. Then they got bishops into the church who if anyone stood for the Word of God he was put off into a little church somewhere where they had no opportunity to reach any large number of people. Today there are some who have a real witness in Methodist pulpits, but there are comparatively few (such) left today. And great numbers of people in the churches wish to stand for the Word of God, and wish to have the hope the Bible provides, but instead of the truth they are given a stone. It is sad. Very sad.

I remember fairly recently, there was a pastor of a large Presbyterian church who gave wonderful messages. He was a great student of the Scripture. He was one of the least combative people I've ever known. He simply presented the truth. But he stood solidly for the absolute integrity of the Word. He felt that his time in that church had finished and he candidated in another large and influential church. The elders told him they felt quite sure that the people would call him. Then, they got letters from all over the country from other Presbyterian ministers telling them that this man was a fighting fundamentalist who always split his churches. So the church did not call him and he stayed in the church where he had been, where he had an influence, for the rest of his life.

Hope in Christ. Christ has a purpose in all that comes in the lives of any of us. Beyond whatever may be ahead we know that His will will be done. It was Jesus Christ who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising its shame and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hope should give us freedom from anxiety. HOPE should give us confidence. The ability to move forward steadily and effectively. Hope should give us perseverance. that we can push forward vigorously in order to accomplish God's purposes. Hope can lead us to look forward beyond all that may come, and know that blessed hope is true, that Christ controls all things now and He controls the future, and He is indeed going to return to this earth.

Oh may God give us faith so important in the truths we know now and have confidence in. Give us love--so important in our relation to others--love to man and love to God, love that makes us ready to put His purposes ahead of everything else. May he give us hope, not merely a wish or desire but a solid confidence that He holds the future in