

## WHEN WILL LASTING PEACE COME?

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In the midst of war and suffering many people are looking forward to the end of this war and hoping for the establishment of a new world order. They are longing for a time when wars will cease and peace will cover the earth. Many of them, we are afraid, forget the fact that universal peace is impossible without righteousness and justice. Where there is injustice, war and trouble is bound eventually to come. Wherever fallen man lives, there is certain to be injustice. The only way for us to seek to secure righteousness and peace on this earth is by the spread of the Gospel.

When we consider how many years the Gospel has been in the world and how comparatively few of the people of the earth today are born again believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, it sometimes makes one despair of there ever being a time when righteousness shall cover the entire earth as the waters cover the sea. Every new generation has to be won for the Gospel. Satan is ever actively seeking to lead men astray. Every age has new errors and new vices to be combatted. Every age has new allurements to lead men away from belief in the Cross of Christ. Much progress has been made, and the Gospel has been carried to the ends of the earth, yet there remains very much land to be taken before it can be said that righteousness covers the entire earth. A great war such as this one leads many people to feel that the task of setting up an order in which righteousness, and justice, and peace shall prevail universally is almost hopeless. Indeed, it is true that human effort -- even the effort of preaching the Gospel -- is insufficient to establish universal peace and righteousness on this earth. Shall we then give way to despair?

The answer to this question must be an emphatic "NO!" If