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Moses and Jesus Speak to their Followers Today, 1939.

528
MOSES AND JESUS SPEAK TO THEIR FOLLOWERS TODAY
A Sermon on the Occasion of Passover and Easter

By
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

At
The Temple

On
Sunday morning, April 9, 1939

Passover, my friends, is our oldest festival. Easter is Christianity's most important festival. The founder of Judaism, in one sense, the founder of the Jewish nation, Moses, established the Festival of Passover. The founder of Christianity, Jesus, by his death, according to the tradition of his followers, by his resurrection at the time of the Passover Festival, established Easter.

The Last Supper at which Jesus presided in the company of his disciples, was in all probability a Seder. The bread he gave his disciples, ⁱⁿ all probability, was the matzah. The Church of Rome, to this day, uses an unleavened wafer for the Eucharist because it regards the Last Supper ^{as} having been a Seder. The wine Jesus gave his disciples that night was in all probability the Passover wine. In one place in the New Testament, Jesus has actually spoken of the pascal lamb of Passover.

The churches of Asia continued for many centuries to celebrate the death and the resurrection of Jesus on the fourteenth day of Nisan regardless of whether that day fell on Friday or not, the day on which the Jewish Passover begins. In the Western churches, if the fourteenth of Nisan did not fall on a Friday, the death of Jesus was commemorated on the Friday following the fourteenth of Nisan - Good Friday, and the resurrection on Sunday.

Thus, Passover and Easter are closely related in the point of calendar. They are related also in a deeper sense. Fifteen centuries, approximately, separate Moses from Jesus. Fifteen hundred years of history, a long stretch of time, many cycles have intervened. Yet both Moses and Jesus were Jews. Both belonged to the race of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Both worshiped the same God. Both lived and suffered for the same high moral Jewish principles.

Jesus not only stemmed physically from the Jewish people, but spiritually also. His teachings are definitely within the main stream of Jewish thought, a different emphasis here and there, a different approach here and there; but

essentially they are one with the classic thought of prophetic and pharasaic Judaism.

There are various reasons why the teachings of Jesus in the course of time led to the establishment of a distinct sect in Judaism and led to the establishment of a distinct religion apart from Judaism. But we need not, at this time, go into the reasons for it. What we are interested in at the moment is that sound and impartial scholarship has established without a doubt the authentic Jewish character of the teachings of Jesus, Judaism which in his day enjoyed a high degree of spiritual advance. It was one of the flowering periods in the history of Israel. The different emphases are not unimportant. The different approaches are not of little consequence. Quite the contrary.

Thus the religion of Moses and of the prophets which followed Moses was largely concerned with moral conduct while the religion of Jesus, the teachings of Jesus were largely concerned with personal salvation. Jesus is a mystic. Jesus lived at a time when he and many Jews believed that the world was fast approaching the ^{end} ~~end~~ of its mundane cycle. The world was coming to an end. A new order was about to be ushered in by God. The old order was perishing, and all sinners and evil doers would be caught, trapped, as it were, in the pangs, in the birth throes of this new order which was coming to be; that only those who would purge themselves rigorously of their sins, would cleanse themselves spiritually would be allowed to enter the new order, the new kingdom which God was about to establish. Hence Jesus did not counsel an ethics, a moral code for a continuing world, but rather an ethics for a world in extreme. His was an ethics of escape from the coils of this world.

Jesus counselled his people not to resist evil, because evil would of

itself be destroyed by the merciful intervention of God. What was important was for the individual to purify himself, to prepare himself as quickly as possible for that state of spiritual purity which would admit him to the Kingdom which was coming rapidly. Jesus laid emphasis on the new world, the new order.

Moses was a prophet. Moses was interested, as were all prophets, to succeed in the moral amelioration of mankind of a continuing world. Moses was interested in building a more perfect society here through human efforts and through divine guidance, of course. He was, therefore, not a pacifist. He counselled his people to resist evil, to engage in an aggressive onslaught upon social iniquity. This difference is not inconsequential.

There was also a sharp difference in the temper and destiny of these two great spiritual figures who stand at the head of two great religions of mankind. Moses was a revolutionist. He wanted his people to throw off their yoke of tyranny. He was an emancipator. He was a nation-builder. He was a statesman and a law-giver as well as a great religious genius, who actually guided the destiny of a nation for forty years and brought them to the threshold of the Promised Land.

Jesus was no political figure at all. He occupied no official position of leadership either in the political or religious life of the nation. He was an independent religious and moral teacher of extraordinary spiritual sensitiveness, of extraordinary ethical insight. He was a messianic figure, an apocalyptic dreamer, as it were, who shed his brief but piercing radiance, for he died very young. He was a man who had a glorious vision of a reborn society in a new order which God had established, after the collapse of this old world order.

One associates with Moses power, wedded with great humility. One associates with Moses majestic austerity, a strong sense of justice, loyalty, self-sacrifice. With Jesus, one associates an extraordinary measure of pity, compassion, tenderness and love for the poor, the humble and the handicapped, for the down-trodden.

When you have said all this, when you have brought attention to the differences in temperament, in destiny, when you have said all that, the facts still remain that both belong to the extraordinary galaxy of world-shaping personalities which Israel gave to mankind. Both molded history. Both had and have millions of followers today. Both, and the teachings of both are being widely attacked today and widely repudiated in the world today. The followers of Jesus today are numerically far greater. They make up one-third of the earth's population. They make up practically the entire population of Europe. It is they who are determining the affairs of the world, practically the entire world with the possible exception of the Far East.

And yet the world has never witnessed such a complete repudiation of all the things that this man of sorrow lived for, suffered for, as on this Easter morning of 1939. Look about you in the world today and you will be frightened by what seems to be a complete moral debacle, a sickening sight, a horrible mess. There never was a more wicked and faithless age. Everything that the loveable and tragic Jesus lived for, died for, is being trampled under foot by those who bear his name, by those who pay lip service to him.

On the very day of his crucifixion, on Good Friday, Italy, a Christian, Catholic country, the seat of the Universal Catholic Church - on Good Friday,

this Christian land chose cynically and contemptuously to invade a small neighboring country, shed innocent blood and to subjugate free and innocent people. And on this Easter morning, this great Christian country is jubilated over this triumph of might over right. This is not an isolated phenomenon. If it were, it would be sad enough. But unfortunately, it is not. It is only a symbol of universal practice in the world today. It is part of a program of power politics which has become so popular in the world today. It sacrifices peoples and groups with total cynical disregard, robs and loots and destroys, breaks treaties, fills the air with lies, poisons hearts with hate and proclaims the return and triumph of force and terror - Satan in the world.

In Christian "Spain" today fierce and brutal reprisals are taking place against all those who are defeated in a bloody civil war which lasted nearly three years, a civil war in which Catholic Christians slew Catholic Christians, in which one million men, women and children were slain. There are two million men who have been blacklisted by the victorious government as criminals - in other words, as proper victims of force and brutal reprisal which is now on the way. These men will be destroyed, imprisoned in the name of the Catholic Religion which has seemingly triumphed with General Francisco Franco. Count Romanones, one of the triumphant leaders of Catholic Spain declared recently: "We must mistrust Humanitarianism" and in so doing, he echoed the words of that of Berlin, Goebbels: "Talk of Humanitarianism and morals is simply disgusting to us."

The teachings of Jesus have been replaced by the teachings of these spokesmen and exponents of power politics in the Western World today. So

during the year, Austria, Czecho-Slovakia were ravaged. One country after another is being put under the rule of "Heil".

Today the highways are being choked with tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands of refugees who, because they belong to the religion to which Jesus belonged, have been uprooted from their homes, stripped of their possessions and cast out as pariahs, wandering on the face of the earth seeking homes, with no place on which to rest their tired heads. Nineteen hundred years after this gentle Jesus proclaimed to the world his mission of peace, his followers have converted the whole world into one vast arms producing factory. The wealth of nations is being converted into arms for killing. The skill of man is being converted to the artistry of the most skillful instruments of destruction. The whole energies of nations is being harnessed into one task of producing weapons of war. Arms are being piled mountain high. And upon the brow of this gentle Jesus in 1939, another crown of thorns is being pressed, a crown of bayonets. Incense is being offered up to him - incense of poison gas!

What was it that he taught his followers? Contrast his teachings with the practices of his pupils, followers today. How contradictory and what a shameful betrayal! He said unto them: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth". Jesus was the meekest of men. Humility - that was one of the supreme virtues ~~of~~ attributed by Judaism. Today the air is charged with all kinds of crimes - arrogance, national chauvenism racial conceits are rampant - that racial conceit which in Italy ^{would} make this man, Jesus who is this morning being worshiped in every church in Italy, an outcast because he was a non-Aryan Jew. "Elesed are the meek". How cynically this preachment is being disregarded today.

He said: "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." "Right, Justice". Where is right and justice in the conscience of the Christian nations today?

He said: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy!" Where is this Christian charity today? In the contration camps of Germany? In Spain today? In Albania?

He said: "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." Our age is full of impurities; lying propaganda fills the air. Men's hearts are poisoned with hate, intrigue, stealing, trickery, plotting against one another.

He said: "Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God." Today it is terror that rules the world. And yet, these teachings of Jesus, my friends, all of the Jewish teachings, are the eternal truths - humility, righteousness, mercy, purity, peace - they alone bless us. All else is a malediction. All else is a curse - and that is the curse of our age.

And I am wondering what Jesus would say today to his followers if he looked over his world from the Cross on Calvary. I think, first of all, he would be inclined to say, Ye hypocrites! Ye betray me every day! Ye crucify me again and again. Your battlefields and your hates are again my Via Dolorosa. Your inhumanities are again my golgotha! Your myriads of churches in which you chant hymns in my honor are a lamentation unto me and an abomination for they are a rebuke to the blatant faithlessness of yourselves and to my utter strive for a defeat. He would then urge them to spiritual regeneration, for a cleansing of their hearts, for the day is fast approaching for the end of the old order which will perish in blood and suffering unless men repent and change their ways.

But it is not likely that the world in 1939 will listen to him as it has not listened to him now for nineteen hundred years.

And what would Moses, the faithful shepherd say unto his pupils today, his people who are wandering across the face of the world suffering? I think that he would say unto them. Remember the day that Ye went out

of Egypt? There was persecution then and slavery and terror and torture. There was a Pharaoh then, cruel, relentless, bound to destroy the Jews, bound to destroy their children. You groaned then under his yoke. Remember the Feast of Passover in Egypt, "loins girded, shoes on their feet, staffs in their hands" ready to move forward into the wilderness, into exile - refugees, but for whom exile turned to freedom and the wilderness turned into a Promised Land. Remember the ancient promise which never failed. I am removed from you by thirty-five centuries....Remember. Look at the pyramids which were built in my day. That civilization is perished. Their faiths are a hollow superstition. Their race is gone. Their language is gone, dead. You are alive! You the descendants, who helped to build those pyramids of the dead, are alive and your faith is still challenging the world, and you, your sons, your daughters will achieve today greatly, mightily, in every field, oft-times to the envy and despair of your enemies. You are rebuilding today, after three exiles, with vigor, faith, with new courage your ancient homeland. Yours is a far nobler generation than the one in which I lived. You have no reason to despair my children, I believe Moses would say, from the top of Mt. Nebo where he stood at the close of his long and critical career. He would admonish us to pay close heed to the words which we read in the Seder story. "In every generation it is incumbent upon every Israelite to regard himself as if he actually had gone out of Egypt.. not only our ancestors did the Holy One, blessed be He redeem, but also us did he redeem with them."

Passover 1939 - Easter 1939. They are not happy holidays today for Jews or Christians. There is very little to celebrate today. The fate of Moses and the fate of Jesus is the fate of the religion of Israel which both symbolize. Both look beyond the hour, the moment, the present. The

future belongs to them. The future belongs to these two men of the spirit who held aloft to their generation and to all succeeding generations - light, a vision of redemption, peace, blessedness to the habitations of men. Humility, righteousness, purity, brotherliness, forgiveness, reconciliation, peace. "Blessed are the men and women in this troubled day of ours who remain faithful to their vision. Blessed are these people. Blessed are those who hunger after righteousness. Blessed are the meek in heart. And blessed, too, are they who are persecuted for ~~the~~ righteousness' sake - for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake." Blessed are all those who believe, and believing, serve in faithfulness. Amen.



1/ $\pi\omega\omega$ = our oldest festival

Easter = Christianity's most important festival

Founder of Jud. + of J. nation - established $\pi\omega\omega$. to trad. & his followers
" of Christ. - by his death & Resurrection, at the time of $\pi\omega\omega$ -
established Easter.

J's Last Supper = Seder -

Bread = $\pi\omega\omega$ - Church; Rome uses unleavened wafers for the Eucharist
Wine = Passover cups. b.c. it represents last supper - as Seder

He is actually called the "Paschal lamb" - $\pi\omega\omega$ - in N.T.

the churches of Asia for centuries celebrated ~~Easter~~ on
death & resurrection of J. on 14th of Nisan, regardless

of whether it fell on a Friday or not. - In West. churches
if 14th of Nisan did not fall on a Friday - they celebrated ^{the death} on
Friday following - "Good Friday" - and the resurrection on Sunday.

Thus $\pi\omega\omega$ + Easter are closely related in point of calendar.

2/ Related in a deeper sense:

15 centuries separate Moses at Mt. Sinai, and J. at Calvary.

1800 years, history - a long stretch of time - with many cycles of change
intervening.

Yet both were Jews - both belonged to race of Ab. Isaac & Jacob - both
worshipped same God. Both lived and suffered for the same moral
principles.

Physically J. stemmed from Israel. Spiritually his teachings are
~~by and large~~ with in the main stream of Jewish teachings, a diff.
emphasis here and there, a slightly diff. approach, but
essentially on with the classic thought of prophetic
& Pharisaic Judaism.

There are various factors which contributed to the later
rupture bet. Jew. & Ch. - into which we need not enter now.

Our associates with Mr. ^{wished to meet humbly} ~~power~~, ~~with~~ ^{modesty}, ~~modesty~~, a strong
sense of justice and loyalty, to and self-sacrifice.
With J. an ^{extraordinary} ~~extraordinary~~ measure of pity, compassion, tenderness
and love for the poor, the humble and the handicapped.

5/ Both belong to that extraordinary galaxy of world-shaping
personalities which Israel gave to mankind. Both wrote
history. Both have millions of followers in the world to-day.
Both - and the teaching of both - is widely accepted
and devised in the world to-day.

6/ The followers of Jesus are immensely by far the stronger.
They make up a 1/3 of earth's population - Practically the entire pop. of
Europe. They determine affairs, practically everywhere - with exception
of far-East.
And yet the world has never so completely refused
nearly all the teachings, its acknowledged works as this
Easter morning of 1939.

What a horrible man! What a complete monst
delusion! What a sickening right! There never was a
^{worse wicked and faithless age!}
Every thing that lovable and good is J. lived for, died for -
is trampled under foot - by those who bear his name!

① On the day of his crucifixion - Good Friday - Italy -
a Catholic country - the seat of universal Christian Church -
cynically condemned invades a neighboring
country - sheds innocent blood - and subjugates a
free independent people -

but exploited phenomenon -
but this has become the practice in the Empire ^{to} Part
7 a program, "Power politics" which makes shreds / all
morality - occupies peoples and fills with refugees
of usual disregard - rob - loot - destroy - fills ^{breaks & makes + widely spread} are
with lies, and poison hairs with both effects &
enumerates not for nothing in intention and
conspiracy, and sanctifies the reign of Free-Terror
and Satan in the world -

② In Christian "Spain" - force and brutal refusals
- after World and war - 11% starve -
Pope has blessed Gen. Francisco Franco - invoked
divine assistance for him

"2 M. are black listed as criminals -
Persecution in name of Catholic religion
Count Romanones - of Nation about Spain - "We must
mistrust Humanitarianism" - echoing
Goebbels: "Talk of Humanitarianism and morals is simply
disgusting to us"

③ Austria & Exile flow - ranged - our country after
another - under heel.

④ Refugees - choking - strife - no home -

⑤ Arms - wealth - Mountain-high -
skill -
energy -

Crown & bayonets - pressed down upon his head
men stand up to them - Parson Isas!

7/. This is what he taught his followers: ~~to~~ contrast their
teachings with their practices to day - How contradictory! What
a betrayal! (Just),

8/ And yet these are the Eternal Truths: Humility - Rightness,
Mercy - Purity & Heart - Peace!
They alone lead to Blessedness. All else is a unwholesome
and a curse!

9/ What would I say to this follower to-day?

What would I say to this perfidious Jew
Ye Hypocrites! Ye betray me every day! Ye crucify
me again and again! Your hate - are my blood
Your humanity - are my Golgotha!
Your Megachurches and Catholics are a lamentation
unto me. They are a standing rebuttal to your faithlessness
and my defeat.
Return before it is too late!

① To his crucified fellow-Jews to-day, he would say (John)

10. And Moses - the Faithful Shepherd - what would he say to his
wandering & suffering brothers:
"I have been a Fool & Fool" - There was

handcuffing & supplying brothers
 "Remember the day that I am want out of Egypt" - There was
 persecution then - & slavery - and tears - and torture! There was a
 Pharaoh then - vowed to destroy - children - You promised them
 Remember the First Passover - in Egypt - "Lois's child, show us
 their feet, staffs in their hands" - with Exile - into wilderness -
 But actually - to Freedom and the land / promise -
Remember promise - I am removed from you by 35 centuries.

~~There~~ a vast span, time - Many nations have come upon -

- plon p'lo p'lon p'lon p'lon p'lon p'lon -

Look at the Pyramids which your ancestors helped to build on my day -

That civilization is perished. Their faith is ^{fallen} ~~dead~~ ^{superstition} -

Their race ~~gone~~ ^{dead}. Their language dead.

You are alive! - Yard faith still challenges the world -

You are achieving greatness, in all fields - opposed to every

hate, their enemies.

Rebuilding Homeland - what vigor - what faith - what courage

my ^{brave} ~~great~~ descendants! A noble generation than any -

who would hardly listen to me - אין אמת ואלו דברים -

"an faith, spirit and cruel bondage"

11) Pay close heed to what you read in your Haggadah

"In every generation it is incumbent upon every Israeli to regard himself as if he actually had come out of Egypt. Not only our ancestors did the Holy One, blessed be He redeem, but also we did he redeem with them"

A symbol for your future!

1- "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth"

Comfort - Amoyawee

Nat. Channun

Race concert -

which would make Jews -
an outcast - non-Aryan -
- was in Springer & No. 1st.
+ a Ch. 9 Feb. today

2- "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after right-
eousness, for they shall be satisfied -
- Right is Right -

3- "Blessed are the merciful - for they shall obtain mercy"
- Treatment of Jews -
- "Christian Charity"

4- "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God"
by my Propaganda - My story -

5- "Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the
children of God"

Comfort for this fellow-Jews

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake -
for theirs is the Kingdom, Heaven."

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you,
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake"

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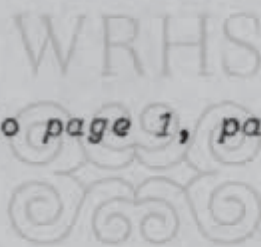
MOSES AND JESUS SPEAK TO THEIR FOLLOWERS TODAY
A Sermon on the Occasion of Passover and Easter

The Temple

April 9, 1939

Passover is our oldest festival. Easter is Christianity's most important festival. ~~The founder of Judaism, in one sense,~~ ^{The} founder of the Jewish nation, Moses, established the Festival of Passover. The founder of Christianity, Jesus, according to the tradition of his followers, by his death and resurrection at the time of the Passover Festival, established Easter.

Go to page 1, paragraph 2--"The last Supper---"



Moses Jesus...
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4-9-37

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The teachings of Jesus have been replaced by the teachings of these spokesmen and ~~exponents~~ ^{naked} of power politics in the Western world today. ~~So~~

chose cynically and contemptuously to invade a small neighboring country, to shed innocent blood, to subjugate free and innocent people. This Easter morning, this Christian country is celebrating the triumph of might over right. This is not an isolated phenomenon. It is part of a program which sacrifices peoples and groups with total cynical disregard, robs and loots and destroys, breaks treaties, fills the air with lies, poisons hearts with hate and proclaims the return and triumph of force and terror--Satan in the world.

In "Christian" Spain today fierce and brutal reprisals are taking place against all those who were defeated in a bloody civil war in which Catholic Christians slew Catholic Christians, in which one million men, women and children were slain. Two million men have been blacklisted by the victorious government as criminals--in other words, as proper victims of the brutal reprisal which is now underway. These men will be imprisoned and destroyed in the name of the Catholic Religion which has seemingly triumphed with General Francisco Franco. Count Romanones, one of the triumphant leaders of Catholic Spain declared recently: "We must mistrust Humanitarianism" and in so doing, he echoed the words of that Satan of Berlin, Goebbels: "Talk of Humanitarianism and morals is simply disgusting to us."

The teachings of Jesus have been replaced by the teachings of these spokesmen of naked power.

During the year, Austria, Czecho-Slovakia were ravaged. One country after another is being put under the rule of "Heil".

Today the highways are being choked with ~~tens of thousands and hundreds~~ of thousands of refugees who, because they belong to the religion to which Jesus belonged, have been uprooted from their homes, stripped of their possessions and cast out as pariahs, wandering ^{TO} on the face of the earth seeking ^{asylum} homes, with no place ~~on which~~ to rest ~~their tired heads~~. Nineteen hundred years after this gentle Jesus proclaimed to the world his mission of peace, his followers have converted the whole world into one vast arms producing factory. ~~The wealth of nations is being converted into arms for killing.~~ The skill of man is being ~~converted to the artistry~~ ^{CONCENTRATED ON THE BUILDING} of the most skillful instruments of destruction. ~~The whole energies of nations is being harnessed into one task of producing weapons of war.~~ Arms are being piled mountain high. And upon the brow of this gentle Jesus in 1939, another crown of thorns is being pressed, a crown of bayonets. Incense is being offered up to him ^{the} - incense of poison gas!

What was it that he taught? ~~his followers?~~ Contrast his teachings with the practices of his ~~followers today.~~ How contradictory and what a shameful betrayal! He said unto them: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth". Jesus was the meekest of men. Humility ~~that~~ was one of the supreme virtues ^{taught} ~~of attributed~~ by Judaism. Today the air is charged with all kinds of crimes - arrogance, national chauvenism ⁱ racial conceits are rampant - that racial conceit which in Italy ^{would} make this man, Jesus who is this morning being worshiped in every church in Italy, an outcast because he was a non-Aryan Jew. "Blessed are the meek". How cynically ~~this preachment is being disregarded today.~~

He said: "Blessed are they ~~which~~ do hunger and thirst after ^{check?} righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." "Right, Justice"! Where is right and justice in the conscience of the Christian nations today?

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Today the highways are being choked with thousands of refugees who, because they belong to the religion to which Jesus belonged, have been uprooted from their homes, stripped of their possessions and cast out as pariahs, to wander the face of the earth seeking asylum, with no place to rest. Nineteen hundred years after this gentle Jesus proclaimed his mission of peace to the world, his followers have converted the whole world into one vast arms producing factory. The skill of man is being concentrated on the building of the most skillful instruments of destruction. Arms are being piled mountain high. And upon the brow of this gentle Jesus in 1939, another crown of thorns is being pressed, a crown of bayonets. Incense is being offered up to him--the incense of poison gas!

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He said: "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." "Righteousness, Justice"! Where is right and justice in the conscience of the Christian nations today?

He said: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy!" Where is this Christian charity today? In the ^{concentration} ~~concentration~~ camps of Germany? In Spain? ~~today?~~ In Albania?

He said: "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." Our age is full of impurities; lying propaganda fills the air. Men's hearts are poisoned with hate, intrigue, stealing, trickery, plotting against one another.

He said: "Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God." Today it is terror that rules the world. ~~And yet~~, these teachings of Jesus, ~~my friends~~, all of ^{these} ~~the~~ Jewish teachings, are the eternal truths - humility, righteousness, mercy, purity, peace - they alone bless us. ~~All else is a malediction.~~ All else is a curse - ~~and that is the~~ curse of our age.

~~I~~ I am wondering what Jesus would say today to his followers if he looked over his world from the Cross on Calvary. I think, first of all, he would be inclined to say, "Ye hypocrites! Ye betray me every day! Ye crucify me again and again. Your battlefields and your hates are again my Via Dolorosa. Your inhumanities are again my golgotha! Your myriads of churches in which you chant hymns in my honor are a lamentation unto me and an abomination for they are a rebuke to the blatant faithlessness of yourselves, ~~and to my utter~~ ^{strive for a} ~~defeat.~~ He would then urge them to spiritual regeneration, for a cleansing of their hearts, for the day is fast approaching ^{when} ~~for the end of~~ the old order ~~which~~ will perish in blood and suffering unless men repent and change their ways.

But it is not likely that the world in 1939 will listen to him as it has not listened to him now for nineteen hundred years.

~~And~~ ^{What} what would Moses, the faithful shepherd say unto ~~his people~~ ^{and suffering} ~~today~~ his people who are wandering across the face of the world ^{suffering?} ~~suffering?~~ I think that he would say unto them: "Remember the day that I went out

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What would Moses, the faithful shepherd say unto his people who are wandering and suffering across the face of the world? I think that he would say unto them: "Remember the day the Ye went out

of Egypt? There was persecution then and slavery and terror and torture. There was a Pharaoh then, cruel, relentless, bound to destroy the Jews, bound to destroy their children. You groaned then under his yoke. Remember the Feast of Passover in Egypt, "loins girded, shoes on their feet, staffs in their hands" ready to move forward into the wilderness, into exile - refugees, but for whom exile turned to freedom and the wilderness turned into a Promised Land. Remember the ancient promise which never failed. ~~They~~ ~~removed from you by thirty-five centuries....Remember.~~ Look at the pyramids which were built in my day. That civilization is perished. ~~Their faiths~~ ~~are a hollow superstition.~~ Their race is gone. Their language is gone, dead. You are alive! You, the descendants ^{of those} who helped to build those pyramids of the dead, are alive and your faith is still challenging the world, and ~~you~~ your sons ^{and} your daughters will achieve ~~today~~ mightily in every field, oft-times to the envy and despair of your enemies. You are rebuilding today, after three exiles, ^{and} with vigor, faith, ~~with~~ new courage your ancient homeland. Yours is a far nobler generation ~~than the one in which I lived.~~ ~~You have no reason to despair my children; I believe Moses would say,~~ ~~from the top of Mt. Nebo where he stood at the close of his long and~~ ~~critical career. He~~ would admonish us to pay close heed to the words which we read in the Seder story. "In every generation it is incumbent upon every Israelite to regard himself as if he actually had gone out of Egypt.. not only our ancestors did the Holy One, blessed be He redeem, but also us did he redeem with them."

Passover 1939 - Easter 1939. ~~They~~ are not happy holidays today for Jews or Christians. ~~There is very little to celebrate today.~~ The fate of Moses and the fate of Jesus is the fate of the religion of Israel which both symbolize. Both look beyond the hour, the moment, the present. The

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