The Climax of Apostasy

(*Continued from page* 1)

the heathen, his wonders among all people. . . . For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the Lord made the heavens. Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. . . . Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: . . . O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

What a travesty and abomination this service for the United Nations was in the light of this truth. Where was there any "beauty of holiness" with these pagan religions participating on a par with the Christian representative?

A modernistic Protestantism will join with pagan religions in a service of public worship; and inclusivism, represented in the ecumenical apostasy, for the sake of peace and prayer will unite with pagan religions. It has been done in San Francisco!

II—WEASEL WORDS

The first hymn of the program is entitled, "God of Our Fathers." Imagine all the representatives of these various religions standing together and unitedly singing, "God of Our Fathers"! The word "God" in that title meant something different to each particular adherent of each of the various faiths. The words of the hymn were the same, as all sang, but the content of those words was different to the various participants. Or, if we want to reverse the thought, we can say that they made of the glorious hymn, "God of Our Fathers," a hymn of weasel words. Since the name of Jesus Christ does not appear in that hymn it could be, as it was, sung within the context of these various faiths. A Mohammedan can sing, "God of Our Fathers," and mean Allah. A Christian can sing, "God of Our Fathers," and mean the Trinity. A Buddhist can sing, "God of Our Fathers," and have in mind the supreme Buddha.

If there ever was a dishonest use of words, it was just here, and it should be observed that it is just this type of play upon words that is used in international affairs as we are now dealing with the communists. We talk about democracy; they talk about democracy. We talk about freedom; they talk about freedom. We talk about liberation; they talk about liberation. The same words are used, but in fact the words cover up the differences between freedom and tyranny, truth and error. When this type of thing is being done in international affairs between the nations and the leaders of nations, and then we see it done on the part of religious leaders of the world, what possible standard of morality can there be? Here, "A Festival of Faith," presenting to the world a religious service. with an order of worship, is used to confuse and to cover up the basic differences existing between the religions.

The next order on the program is "Opening Remarks" by O. Frederick Nolde. He is a representative of the World Council of Churches, director of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, an organizational setup of the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council, of which latter organization Dr. John A. Mackay is the president. Here was a World Council of religions, not a World Council of churches, with Nolde presiding.

III—PAGANISM

"Responsive Reading" stands out. One looks down the various statements of the responsive reading and notices how all the people united in these various statements. There is nothing in any statement which would be offensive to any of the particular religions participating. But in all of the statements there are words which can be used in various senses, as we have seen by the hymn, "God of Our Fathers." Since this is a service of prayer for peace, and the people are united in saying "Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God," we have here in the responsive reading the emphasis that they are all the children of God, and this runs through the various prayers and statements presented to the United Nations.

The statements in the prayers reveal how a de-supernaturalized Christianity, which turns its back upon the unique, distinctive tenets of the Christian religion, sounds so much like the pagan religions. A modernistic Protestantism is simply another form of paganism and takes its place properly alongside of the other pagan religions.

The Buddhist, in his prayer, speaks of the ultimate reality and the enlightenment of the supreme Buddha. The Baha'i prayer sounds actually Christian, if it could have had added to it the testimony of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As it stands it is unitarian, and the Jew could make it. The Hindu prayer speaks of "Thou God Transcendent." The Moslem prayer is "In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful," and "In the Name of Allah the Gracious, the Merciful."

The Secretary of State gave the address, "The Moral Foundations of the United Nations." He did it on a platform where morality was bankrupt, where honesty and adherence to Christian doctrine had been flagrantly violated.

IV—BLASPHEMY

One reads the hymn about "a loftier race." Are these various religions going to blend and produce this "loftier race"? And then we see the choral benediction,

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Elijah

(*Continued from page* 1)

the United Nations is to depend upon the assistance of these gods, and if world peace depends upon their answering, there will be no more of an answer than there was from Baal.

Men today in their desperation for peace are willing to blaspheme the name of the living and the true God to try to get it, and they are willing to seek the assistance of pagan deities which do not exist in order to marshall sentiment for their world peace program. Peace will never come by going down this road!

JUNE 19, 1955, 3:30 P. M. SAN FRANCISCO COW PALACE

A FESTIVAL OF FAITH

A SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR PEACE AND DIVINE GUIDANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Established in 1945 in San Francisco

Order of Service

THE REVEREND O. FREDERICK NOLDE, D.D.

Director, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, Presiding

Which God?

of World Council of Churches and International Missionary Council

Processional . . . (Choir and Clergy)

Invitation to Worship . . .

RABBI MORRIS GOLDSTEIN Jewish

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found,
Call ye upon him while he is near:
Let the wicked forsake his ways
And the unrighteous man his thoughts.

(Old Testament)

Give me your whole heart
Love and adore me,
Worship me always . . .
In me your refuge

Fear no longer
For I will save you
From sin and bondage.

("The Bhagavad Gita")

Great art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised;
For Thou has formed us for Thyself,
And our hearts are restless till they find rest in Thee.

(Augustine)

Hymn . . .

"GOD OF OUR FATHERS" ? . . . . *(Music on Page 3)*

Opening Remarks . . .

THE REVEREND O. FREDERICK NOLDE, D.D.

Welcome to Delegates of the United Nations . . .

MRS. WILLIAM LISTER ROGERS —
Chairman, "A Festival of Faith"
President, San Francisco Council of Churches

affiliated with N.C.C.

Anthem . . .

"A VISION OF THE WORLD" . . . . . *Ward*

(Commissioned for the Festival of Faith)

Dr. William R. Ward has arranged Tennyson's great poem the last lines of which read:

"I dip't into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be;
Till the war-drum throbbed no longer, and the battle flags were furl'd
In the Parliament of Man, the Federation of the world."

Responsive Reading . . .

THE REVEREND HOWARD THURMAN, D.D.

Leader: Loving hearts find peace in love.

People: What I do not wish to have done unto me, I likewise wish not to do unto others.

Leader: All hangs on faithfulness and fellow-feeling.

People: Seeking light for itself, love enlightens others.

Leader: Love is to conquer self and turn to courtesy. Could we for but one day, all mankind would turn to love. *(1)*

People: Nought of good can spring from mutual slaughter! Lo, I hate triumph and domination.

Leader: Yet the right act is less, far less, than the right thinking mind.

**People: How blest the happy solitude
Of him who hears and knows the truth.** *(2)*

Leader: Swerve never from the path of truth. *(3)*

People: You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.

Leader: Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteouness: for they shall be filled.

People: Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God *(4)*

Leader: Praise belongs to God, the Lord of the world, the merciful—the compassionate.

People: Guide us in the right path, the path of those Thou art gracious to; not of those Thou art wroth with; nor of those who err. *(5)*

Leader: Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

People: Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord of hosts. *(6)*

(1) *Confucian (The Sayings of Confucius)*
(2) *Hindu (The Bhagavad-Gita)*
(3) *Buddhist (Selected Readings)*
?→ (4) *Christian (New Testament)*
(5) *Moslem (The Koran)*
(6) *Judaism (Old Testament)*

The Offering . . .

FOR THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

Anthem . . .

"THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING" . . . . . *Haydn*

Calls to Prayer

Bahai—Mr. Arthur L. Dahl, Jr.
Buddhist—Dr. Paul F. Fung
Christian—Rev. Paul S. Finfinis (Eastern Orthodox)
Rev. John A. Gardner, D.D. (Protestant)
Hindu—Swami Ashokananda
Judaism—Rabbi Elliot M. Burstein
Moslem—Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Radwan

Silent Prayer . . . (by the worshipers)

(The prayer for each faith follows)