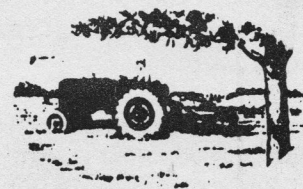




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Psalm 33:12

NEWSLETTER NO. 22

THE HIGH CALLING

VOL. 3, NO. 1

I believe I have heard somewhere a saying, "Fools blunder in where angels fear to tread." I would almost put myself in the former category as I attempt this Newsletter. Most of the time so far, I have studiously tried to avoid references to anything of a theological nature. I realize we come from widely-diversified backgrounds, doubtlessly representing many different religious viewpoints. As a Christian minister, of course I have mine. I do not feel, however, that any of us has a corner on all truth. Like pieces of a crossword puzzle, or gold that God in His wisdom did not place in one great heap, but scattered over the earth, so, to protect us from arrogance and undue self-esteem, He has not concentrated all wisdom in anyone, or in a few minds, but has likewise dispersed this treasure (of so much greater value than gold) among countless individuals and groups. Some day, after the conflict, when peace has been restored, perhaps we shall be able to sit down and learn from one another.



The Common Denominator

If we cannot now see all theological points alike, we still must recognize we need one another. We must work together in the spirit of the America in which we believe, the America that stands for freedom. If a person isn't free to think and have his personal views and convictions, there is no freedom at all. Each of us covets that prerogative for himself, so should feel it no great sacrifice to grant the same privilege to others. We must accept the fact of this liberty of mental and religious diversity (I think most of us do), if we are to be able to cooperate as we must in the crucial struggle ahead. There must be, on the other hand, some basis for our common stand, some common denominator, to bind us together; and there is!



This foundation upon which we unite may be, indeed, the "lowest" common denominator, the very minimum essential. That really works the best, not only in mathematics, but also in life. If we start any higher, our differences will separate us, to the downfall of us all. I believe, as a blessing in disguise, God Himself is forcing us to this place. I have tried to keep close to it in my discussions.

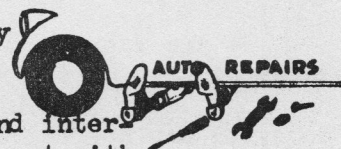


This foundational level, that in which we all believe, is the struggle for physical survival, and not just that which is personal, but including the preservation of this, our God-given country, with all its rich heritage, our America! I further believe that the common struggle in which we must unite shall be so severe that we shall not be left much time or resources to battle with one another over religious views, which so often are so far removed from practical reality they become little more than academic. It is practical business, not prolonged debates, that calls for our dedication and devotion. It is doing, not talking, which takes precedence for most of us as the will of God in the days ahead.



The Divine Call to Leadership

With this attempt to clarify my motive by delineating the area of my foremost and fundamental interest at this time, I take up the burden of the challenge and appeal I have upon my heart. I know I am dealing in a realm little touched upon and concerning which there can be many views and interpretations. I do not profess infallibility and therefore shall not fall out with anyone who does not dot the "i" or cross the "t" just as I. All I can say is I do believe earnestly in what I am saying, and only ask that you give it your careful consideration.



Whether you see everything just as I do or not, I think you will agree that, if I am right, it does make a difference, and that light shed upon what is going on spiritually is very much needed.

The prophet of old said, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." (II Chronicles 16:9) If there has ever been a time in the history of the world when this has taken place, it certainly describes what is going on today. There is a Divine search underway! No crisis has ever existed such as that which shall break upon us, never has so much been at stake, spiritually and eternally as well as earthly, and God needs, must have, a people for leadership!

Though we do not sense it, probably are totally unaware, the call is going out. Many, many are being challenged! In one way or another God is giving a vision of the need and stirring the hearts of people to respond. Does that require each of us to see a visible picture, or, like Samuel of old, hear an audible voice? I think not. True, I did have a dear friend of mine say that one night he heard his name called from an upper corner of his bedroom. Was that this call? I cannot say, but can well believe it was one way God was trying to reach him.

Perhaps my principle reason for writing this is that some of you have called or written me expressing discouragement or doubts concerning your efforts and with the indifference of nearly everyone about you, causing even you yourself to wonder if we are really facing a nationwide collapse and potential surrender to a merciless foe. I want to encourage you to hang on to what you know and not lose the vision God has placed upon your heart and your commitment to the Cause. I would also lift the word of warning regarding what can happen if you weaken and fall by the wayside.

We are not in a popular work! By now you've found that out. Some of you are even standing alone. Hold steady! You can do no less! There is nowhere else to go, no viable options--only slavery or death!

I would not be so conceited to think it is through this work only God is moving and trying to reach people. After all, the Scripture said His eyes "run to and fro throughout the whole earth." We cannot limit God! His search reaches out to many places of which we little dream. His chosen ones shall be gathered "from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matthew 24:31) Taking all that into consideration, I am also firmly convinced this Survival Coordinator work of which we are a part is also an instrument being used to search out and gather. We, who are in the position to know, have been conscious His hand has been in it from the beginning.

God's call is not to be taken lightly, however it comes. The issues at stake are most serious. Friend, remember this, if He calls you, it is because you are needed. Do not, however, get heady. No one is indispensable. He can get along without each and every one of us. And we can fail! Many can, and many will! To be called does not mean you have it made! Far, far from it! All who are called must be tested, tried, proven. "For many are called, but few are chosen." (Matthew 22:14)

If God can get along without us, does it make any difference, then, whether or not we respond? Most certainly; for if we fail, beginning perhaps with our own loved ones, others (how many, how much only God knows) are sure to suffer. You see we are not talking about the universal call to personal salvation, to "whosoever will may come," not an appeal offering something for you, but a call to service. Others, not you, are primarily at stake. Always you must keep in mind it is for their sakes you are called to battle and serve.

We are running out of space. It is very much upon my heart, and, God willing, I hope later to take up the "144,000," the "elect of God," that we may see where all of this is heading. Your many kind responses--maps, materials, and all--, as they are beginning to come in, are a great encouragement, and I do want to be of help to everyone of you.

Yours for God, for America, and His Christian people,

A. Vance Comer