

# Religion and Life

By Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, D.D., L.L.D.  
First Moderator of the United Church of Canada  
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Reality in religion is what men long for, especially when under trial. Dr. James Little once described the Oxford Group's teaching about God's guidance as the first experience most believers have of Christ's presence in their lives. To believe a doctrine is a good thing but it is a long step forward to find Christ's will directing us, and His love taking hold of our hearts.

St. John has a curious way of suggesting the reality of the risen Christ. The cover of his teaching is the full manhood of the Master at the same time His full divinity. He affirms that the Son of God became flesh, and that every spirit which confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God." (1 John 4:2). At the same time, Jesus Christ is the Word of God by whom the worlds were made, and the Author of eternal life for everyone who believes in Him. Then by a change in the ending of an adjective he stresses Christ as the Truth as opposed to the false, and then Christ as the Real as opposed to the spurious or fanciful. A literal translation of 1 John 5:20 would read, "We know that the Son of God has come and has given to us an understanding that we may know the Reality, and we are in the Reality, even in His Son, Jesus Christ. This is the Real God and the Real Life." Here then is the Reality in Religion for which all men seek.

for them? Some experiences are almost too sacred to mention, but there is one.

"The agony and travail of soul of last week is known to you. And when the day of the service came, I did not know how I could endure it. I thought by sheer willpower to control myself. But it is of what followed that I must write. The moment I entered the church a strange and beautiful calm came upon me, enfolded and surrounded me; it had a glow and a radiance, and a comfort indescribable. I seemed to be a part of all that took place, and yet at the same time was lifted above and beyond it all. No one could explain my calm though they felt it. It was not mine—that was the explanation. It was the most strange and wonderful thing I ever felt and those nearest to me marvelled at it."

This case is not unique. I have met a number of them in the course of my ministry. They prove that St. Paul was dealing with reality when he spoke of "the Peace of God which passes understanding." They show that Christ meant what He said in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." This comfort and peace from Christ are open to all.

What about death? For centuries believers have found in Psalm 23:4 a sublime expression of the Christian hope. "Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil; for thou art with me."

Is there reality in this also? Take an example. A promising young minister in eastern Canada, was called to one of the leading churches in Montreal. He had reached the height of his ambition. His ministry had a splendid start, but in a few months he found that a deadly disease had laid hold of him and that he had only a short time to live. For a time everything seemed to go from under him. Shortly before the end came he sent his congregation the following valedictory, "May I say that I came to know something of the awful bitterness that can overwhelm the soul. I dreaded to think afterwards of how my heart raged against God. But what I want to say, and this may be the most effective sermon I ever preached, is that God gave me a victory so wonderful, a peace so deep and sure that I do not know what it is unless it is the peace that passes all understanding. I want you to know that God gave me happiness so wonderful that I found myself over and over again praising God for the strange experience which seemed such a complete frustration of all my hopes. Death lost every vestige of terror indeed I could think of no better description of what happened than the words of the apostle, 'He has destroyed death.' I cannot tell you the effect that it had upon my soul when I realized that the Gospel is true, that it works. Amid all the awesome mysteries of life, Jesus Christ is the truth."

But how can I make this real to the man who needs something which the world cannot supply? We have been thinking lately about the truths which Easter makes "living and powerful"; the centre of all these is the presence of the living Christ. What can I bring out of a long ministry to meet the deepest that the soul can feel? I won't talk about my own experience, but I shall not tell anything about others which I have not found true in many lives.

Here is one of the disappointed, the slave of temptations which he is powerless to resist. He is standing in the rear of the Central Mission in downtown Vancouver discussing with the speaker of the evening message which has just been given. The subject has been the new birth, the change in one's nature which comes through belief in Christ, a change so complete that the sinner turns against the things which he formerly loved and turns to the things which he formerly shunned.

His first word revealed a background of culture and education in spite of his humble brow, his face was a picture of helpless and hopeless desolation. In courteous terms he told the speaker that he just couldn't see for himself the truth of the message given; to him the whole thing seemed unreal.

Then he pointed to a man standing near the platform, and added, "But I cannot question its effectiveness in that man's case. Two weeks ago he was just where I am and look at him now." Talk of anyone being "clothed and in his right mind," that man was the very picture of radiant faith, set free from the habits which had been threatening his ruin.

Stories of the Gospel on this continent give examples without number of men and women who were delivered completely and finally from destructive vice. I knew a number of them personally; their emancipation was a crown of glory. They prove that the living Lord is present and powerful now as He was when the writer, to the Hebrews declared, "He is able to save to the uttermost all who come to God through Him." (Hebrews 7:25.)

I have before me as I write examples of the heart-broken cases in which death has struck down one on whom all their hopes were built. What has the living Lord got

for them? Some experiences are almost too sacred to mention, but there is one.

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### AUTONOMY

Ceylon emerged as an independent nation in the Commonwealth of Nations on Feb. 4, 1948.

### CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Miss Florence McInnis, R. N., express their thanks to the Reverend Sisters, Doctors, Nurses and to the clergy, their many friends for their kindness during their sad bereavement; also to those who sent Mass Cards, Spiritual Bouquets, Flowers, Letters of Sympathy and Telegrams.

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## THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

This column is reserved for news of local interest, but advertising of a new way nature may be inserted at \$10 cents a word, strictly payable in advance.

COOK'S for Photographs.

HOWARD McINNIS FOOT-WEAR at 175 Queen Street.

RUMMAGE SALE Trinity Social Hall, Saturday, May 20 at 3 o'clock.

REGULAR MEETING Alpha Rebekah Lodge No. 10, I.O.O.F., tonight, 8 o'clock initiation.

DRAMA FESTIVAL FINALS — Empire Theatre, three nights, commencing May 29th.

SALE OF JUNIOR STYLE Cotton Dresses, size 9 to 15, \$3.50. Sumter's Ladies' Wear.

SHOOT POSTPONED—The 22 shoot scheduled at the Armouries tonight has been postponed until Thursday.

DON'T FORGET the auction sale of machinery at George MacMillan's Sea-Side Inn, Covehead, tomorrow at 2 o'clock.

FOR THE BEST IN MEAT COOLERS and Refrigerated display counters call or write Storey Electric, Charlottetown.

A HOT MOTOR causes engine wear and unnecessary expense. Have your radiator flushed at Mallett's Battery Service.

ODDLES OF FUN at the big dance sponsored by the Y's Men's Club at the Y. M. C. A. on Thursday evening. Variety dances, ballroom and music by Don Messer and his Islanders. Tickets only \$1.00. So don't miss this grand musical treat.

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CITY POLICE COURT — At the Stipendiary Magistrate's Court yesterday, five men charged with being drunk and incapable appeared. One was sentenced to 10 days in jail, another five days in jail, while two were fined \$5 and costs or 10 days each. The remaining drunk was fined \$10 and costs or 20 days in jail. A man charged with having care and control of a motor vehicle while intoxicated was remanded until today.

### United Baptist District Meets At Tryon

The United Baptist P.E.I. District meeting convened with the Tryon Baptist Church recently. The meeting opened with a most helpful devotional service led by Rev. C. Howlett of O'Leary. Rev. J. D. Davison reported progress for the United Baptist "Advance" Campaign Fund for \$295,000.00. The response is most encouraging. The Rev. C. A. Britten urged all the churches to complete their allotment for denominational funds before June 30th. A message of sympathy to Rev. E. J. Barraes in his serious illness was sent. Rev. H. Barber of North River gave a searching address on stewardship, speaking from the words "See that ye abound in the grace also." The afternoon meeting was under the auspices of the U.B.W.M.V. at which Miss Zella Clark gave some interesting and inspiring details of the mission field. In the evening a most inspiring evangelistic service was conducted by Mr. Byron Howlett of Hazelbrook. This concluded a very inspiring District Meeting.

### FREE VACATION MONEY

**\$75.00 \$400.00**  
every week June 6  
Just send your name and address to "FREE MONEY"  
Palmolive, Toronto 8  
If your entry is drawn from the mail received in any week, you win \$25 CASH—TRIPLED TO \$75 if your entry contains 2 black bands from Palmolive Soap or a Fab boxtop. All weekly winners, plus 25 more entries from each week's mail, will be held for the June 6 Grand Prize of \$1000 CASH—TRIPLED TO \$3000 if the winning entry contains 2 black bands or a Fab boxtop. EXTRA \$100 will be added to the Grand Prize if the winning entry contains black bands from Bath Size Palmolive or a boxtop from Giant Size Fab—making this prize \$4000!  
Enter each week! The more times you enter, the more chances you have of winning each weekly prize as well as the GRAND PRIZE OF \$4000!  
Winners announced on the Happy Gang card mailed by mail. List of winners mailed on request. Prizes awarded upon the answering of a claim question. Contest open to residents of Canada except employees of Palmolive.

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**MEAN CASH FOR YOU**

For weekly winners listen each Tuesday to the "HAPPY GANG" CBC Network

JIMMIE'S TAXI, Phone 525.

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VISIT TAYLOR'S costume jewelry bar for Mother's gift.

MRS. JOHNSON'S LADIES WEAR Special clearance sale.

FAST AND SLOW battery charging. Mallett's Battery Service.

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DON'T MISS the Merry Minstrels from Charlottetown in North Rustico Hall, Thursday night.

FLIGHTS DAILY except Sunday to New Glasgow and Halifax. Phone Maritime Central Airways Limited 2061 or 540.

L.P.U. CARD PARTY — The following are the winners of the L.P.U. weekly card party held at the L.P.U. Hall last night: Ladies' first, Miss Annie Joseph; second, Mrs. Arthur Gormley; Gents' first, Mr. Stan Ryan; second, Mr. Alfred Kerwin. Freezout, Captain N. MacLean and Mr. H. Gaudet.

THE BEST PLACE TO DANCE.—The Y. M. C. A. Don Messer's Orchestra. Novelties. Spot Dances. Tickets \$1.00. Lunch included. The Y is your community centre. Come and enjoy yourself. A Y's men's project Thursday, May 18th, 9 P.M. Tickets at Miller Bros., Henderson & Cudmore, Duvax's Garage or from any Y's man.

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### Near Tragedy In Brudenell Fire As Barn Burned

A barn fire at Clarence Campbell's in Brudenell on Saturday brought trepidation to the hearts of the many Brudenell residents as they could foresee serious consequences. The disaster of several years ago when the woods stretching from the Brudenell road to Brudenell point were consumed in flames.

Of unknown origin, the fire broke out in the barn, while Mr. Campbell was absent from home. Two young children were playing in the barn and one managed to reach the house to tell his mother, who frantically ran to save the other child, which she was able to do. Undaunted she again entered the burning barn to save the cow, and after a ten-minute struggle succeeded in removing it from the barn. However, none of the farm equipment was saved. With a loft full of hay to feed it, the fire soon became serious, whipped to greater intensity by the strong south-west wind. With the burning out of the roof, the wind carried burning particles a quarter mile up the road to start a new blaze in a dry grass field, and then into a small woods, from which more sparks made the next jump of one-half mile to cross the road and start the fire in another grass field and in the woods from which it could sweep clear to Wood Islands.

Few from the community seemed to realize the imminent danger and not much was done to assemble the people to help until the siren was finally sounded. This brought the people, and cars and trucks were loaded which headed for the scene. However, the people of the district had not been held up, but had begun to plow land strips to stop the advance of the ground fire. Many more worked in the midst of heavy smoke to stop the tree-top advance, and were finally successful late in the afternoon in bringing the fire under control. To those people who prevented a most serious conflagration, a great deal of commendation is due.

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**NORTH RIVER HALL**  
**DRAMA FESTIVAL PLAY-OFF'S — 2 NIGHTS**  
FRIDAY, MAY 19—Senior Plays from Clyde River, York and Hunter River.  
TUESDAY, MAY 23—Junior Plays from York and Clyde River; Senior Play from Brackley.  
PERFORMANCES WILL START ON TIME—8:15 SHARP  
ADMISSION 50c & 25c  
Late Comers Not Admitted While Any Play is In Progress

### IN MEMORIAM

**WALLACE M. HENDERSON**  
The death occurred on April 27, of Wallace M. Henderson at 75 Dorchester Street. Although not in very good health, his death was a great shock to his family and friends of the age of fifty. Besides his widow there are left to mourn one daughter, Audrey, Mrs. W. W. Ince, Vancouver, B. C., two sisters, (Frances) Mrs. Colin Love Borden, (Florence) Mrs. Fred Orchard, Woodstock, Ontario, two brothers, (Frederic) in Brookline, Mass., U.S.A. and Joe at home in City.

The funeral was held on April 29 from Cutcliffe Funeral Home. The service was conducted by Major Ernest Hutchison of the Salvation Army. The hymns sung, "Abide With Me," "Shall We Gather at the River?" The pallbearers were six cousins, Ted Chandler, Bruce Chandler, Willard Chandler, Arthur Chandler, George Chandler, Fred Chandler. He was tenderly laid to rest beside his son Keith, in the People's Cemetery.

Flowers  
Pillow, Wife.  
Wreaths, Audrey and Bill Ince; Florence, Mrs. Orchard.  
Sprays, Joe, Kay and family; Warren, Marion and family; Uncle Fred Chandler and family; Lloyd Head and Bud Hughes; Jack McLean; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Craig; Jennie and Watson Craswell; Stewart's bowling team and the boys.  
Cards of Sympathy, Mr. and Mrs. George Purze; Mrs. Norma Edwards; Mrs. Bea Henderson.

### IN MEMORIAM

**MRS. WILLIAM JACKMAN**  
On Tuesday evening, March 28th the Hand of God beckoned and the pure soul of Mrs. William Jackman answered his call. She went to abide with him whom she loved so much in this world. Mrs. Jackman's maiden name was Cecilia Cullin. She was born in Alexandria seventy-four years ago. The daughter of the late John Cullin and his wife Sarah Mullin. Forty-three years ago she married Mr. William Jackman of Village Green where she lived until five years ago. Owing to ill health she came to town to reside with her daughter. Although able to be up and around her condition did not seem serious until last May when she suffered a severe stroke which confined her to bed. Although suffering she never complained, was always praying that she would soon recover her health. But God willed otherwise. Six weeks before her death she suffered another stroke but still remained bright and cheerful. Four days before her death she took a turn for the worse and kept getting weaker and on the above mentioned date she gave up her long struggle in her quiet way realizing her earthly life was over. She was tenderly cared for during her illness by her loving daughters who did everything to try and help their dear mother in her suffering. During her illness she was frequently visited by the Redemptorist Father Rev. Patrick Hennessy C. S. S. R. who administered to her the last rites of the Roman Catholic Church of which she was a devoted member. She leaves to mourn her loss, her sorrowing husband, three daughters Eileen residing in Pasadena, California, who came home and stayed with her mother for six months.

### FOR SALE

House and lot size 42 by 89 in a very desirable location. House contains six rooms. Hot water heating, furnace almost new. Hardwood floors; modern. Large garage and work shop. All in good repair. Immediate possession. Apply  
**M. A. FARMER**  
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### CAR FOR SALE

1947 Chevrolet Special De Lux Sedan. Privately Owned. Driven two summers (no winter driving). Equipped with heater, underseal, spare wheel and fire, also radio. In A1 condition. Looks like new. Call at 11 Belmont St. or phone 1783-J.

### MOUNT ALLISON CONCERT PARTY

Featuring soprano, baritone and piano solos  
**HEARTZ MEMORIAL HALL**  
THURSDAY, MAY 18th, at 8:30 P.M.  
Admission — 50 cents  
Proceeds for Boys Work

### TENDERS

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned for the building of new schools in Central Royalty, East Royalty and Winsloe Station. Plans and specifications may be seen in the Unit Office in Parkdale School.  
**GORDON M. RICE, Secretary,**  
School Unit No. 1.  
Phone 2711-R

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Approximately 1,539,000 Canadians were materially helped last year by the personal services of the Salvation Army in its:  
Maternity Homes  
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Old Folks' Homes  
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Children's Homes  
Children's Summer Camps  
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For the support it needs in this endless task, it depends on YOUR dollars. Again The Army appeals to you—with confidence.

**Give... with gratitude!**

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