

Meditation Knox United Church
Binscarth, Feb. 4 1968.

Isiah 53:1-6
Ezekiel 34:11-16
Luke 15 :1-7.

WHY CONTINUE TO PREACH TO ADULTS

Why continue to preach to adults ? Everywhere, by press , radio , television we are constantly reminded that this is the world of youth, the "WAY OUT" generation and if one rebels at accepting that fact you are a square, in other words you don't fit into the circle, you don't "BELONG."

This is not a meditation against youth. It is more a challenge, that in bygone years the church has not accepted, as the church of Jesus Christ, ^{or,} as the church of God. The duty of being in the vanguard, of being God's prophet in a world to which God is giving, through man, everything that man can possibly want in a material sense. In a spiritual sense we as a church are failing in that we do not use our God-given talents to ensure that all peoples in God's world share in the bounty He has provided for us and that through science has become more plentifully available than in any other period in history.

Beyond the boundaries of the churches we come to the boundaries of Nations. In our Old Testament reading from Ezekiel we find the prophet acclaiming what God will do for the lost house of Israel. Isiah, in Ch. 53:1-6 makes a similar statement in prophesying the role that Jesus will play in the world. In Luke 15:1-7 Jesus himself tells the

Parable of the lost sheep.

All those that listened to Jesus knew of the problem of lost sheep. Here , however Jesus wanted them to think for themselves. Wanted them to realize that they were lost sheep as a Nation. We have a parallel in our own day. All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned everyone to his own way . Each follows his own inclination and satisfies , or tries to, his own desires regardless of the cost or effect on others. We refuse to change. We have set our minds on a certain track and will not move from it, does it carry us over a precipice and to death.

So why continue to preach to adults, why not forget all about them and let the church and it's ministers put their full force to guiding youth. The answer is best given by Jesus. It is found in the parable of The Lost Sheep.

Jesus grew up in a time of deep unrest among his people. An unrest that at times seemed to reach a guilt complex. The Jewish Nation was looking for a Messiah ~~thx~~ who would lead them out of their difficulties and make them once more a powerful kingdom.

We live in the same sort of times. We live in the perplexing time wherein we see Christian nations, or nations that professedly call themselves Christian, mass murdering other peoples whose ideas are different from theirs.