

Short Talks  
Christmas Demands  
Matthew  
25:31-40

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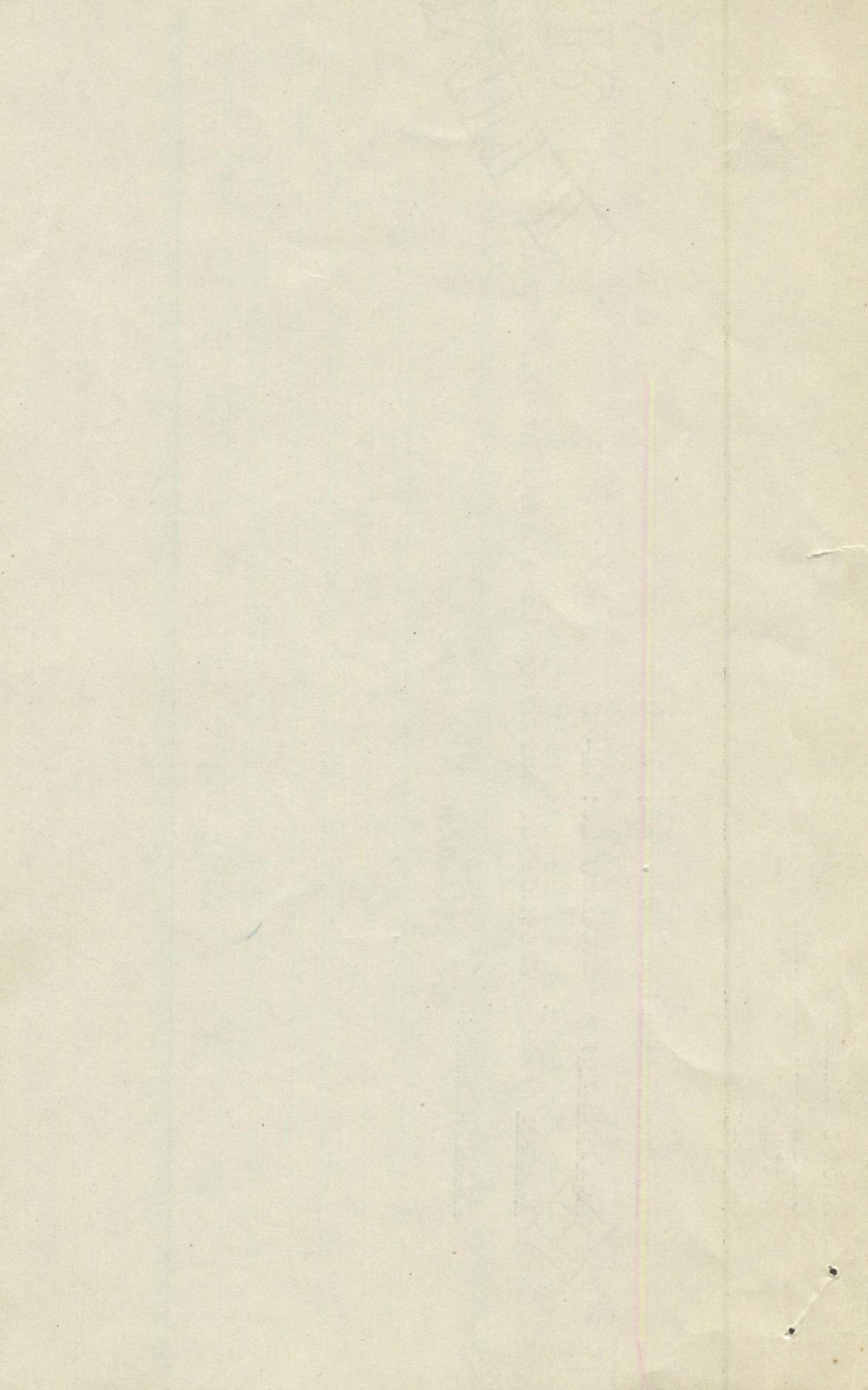
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Date written: Dec. 21, 1946

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-40

Theme: The evidence of our duty to others at Christmas

Places used: Ben Ratan 12/27/46



Christmas stands for many things: for beautifully decorated evergreens in our homes, for exchanging of gifts among loved ones, for the singing of the tunes and words of music dear to our hearts, for reunion of families and loved ones, for rest from the year's work, for feasting and joy and pleasure; for these and other matters dear to our hearts. Particularly this Christmas does it seem that there is reason to rejoice, for not only are we beginning to recover from the disastrous effects of war, but most of our loved ones who participated in that war have returned and are with us. Yes, we are bountifully blest this Christmas season.

"Shortage-Beset Europeans Face Snow, Freezing Weather" is a headline of yesterday's paper (Richmond Times Dispatch, Dec. 21, 1946). The word "Europeans" might as accurately be "Asiatics," or some other term. We might overlook this headline -- except that it's Christmas. But to read a headline like that at Christmas! Christmas is the time when we joyously welcome the King of the Heavens to Earth. But wait: that King was born in a stable on a bed of hay. Wait: that King had something to say to us. At this season in honor of Him, it is appropriate that we let Him speak. The record is from Matthew 25:31-40:



Scripture: Matthew 25:31-40.

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

And before him shall be gathered all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

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