



## THE JOY OF BRINGING GOOD NEWS

Gerold Frank describes the human interest dramas to be witnessed daily in telephone exchange X at an East Coast debarkation point. From this barracks-like building, returned soldiers day and night send out an "endless stream of impassioned and delighted speech to parents and wives and sweethearts in every part of the United States." The switchboard girls never have an idle moment, but they tell you: "We wouldn't change our jobs for anything. You see we always bring the folks at home good news."

There isn't any question about it. One of the most pleasant things of life is to bear good tidings to someone. In a pre-eminent sense this applies to the Gospel messenger. It applies to those who bring you this brief item of reading, The Evangel.

Is it not a piece of joyful news that the God who created all things has sent a message of hope and grace to the world that rebelled against Him? Is it not news to be joyfully held that in this message, the Bible, is disclosed the way a just God can justly forgive sinners and accept them at last into Heaven? What is more pleasant to repeat than the story of the love of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, for lost men in whose place and for whose sake He offered Himself up on the cross of Calvary a sacrifice for their sins? What a high privilege it is in Christ's stead to plead with men to be reconciled to God! May the joy of the messenger be matched by the joy of the reader of these tidings. Let him receive the message, believe it with all his heart and enter into the joy of salvation.

# Weather-vanes

Weather-vanes are useful and sometimes decorative. They show which way the wind is blowing. Men and women are often like weather-vanes in that they turn with the prevailing winds of opinion. They like to be up to date; it would mortify them to be thought of as mid-victorian or pre-scientific. Instead of being weather-vanes merely, they would do anything to be barometers and hold opinions today which their neighbors will not have until twenty-four hours later. Such people are of some use, in that they show which way public opinion is moving.

But a weather-vane is of no use as a compass. A compass must point always in one direction, if it is to be a good compass. The people may not want to walk in that direction, but a

good compass cannot follow the crowd. In a crowd of weather-vanes a compass might feel lonely; it might even be thought mid-victorian and pre-scientific. But if it is a good compass it does not change to keep up with the prevailing winds of doctrine. If loose divorce was wrong in 1850, it will remain wrong in 1950. If it was proper and needful to worship Almighty God and believe and study His Word in the nineteenth century, it is no less needful in the twentieth century.

Prevailing winds may be adverse. They may blow people away from God, away from the Bible, away from morality, and away from Heaven. But a true Christian, like a true compass, will not change his direction because of wind.

G.H.C.

(136)