

# WORLD DOMINION

The World Dominion Movement advocates Informed Continuous Co-ordinated Evangelism to reach everyone at home and abroad. Its basis is belief in the Deity and Atoning Death of the Lord Jesus Christ, the World's Only Saviour, and in the Final Authority of Holy Scripture.

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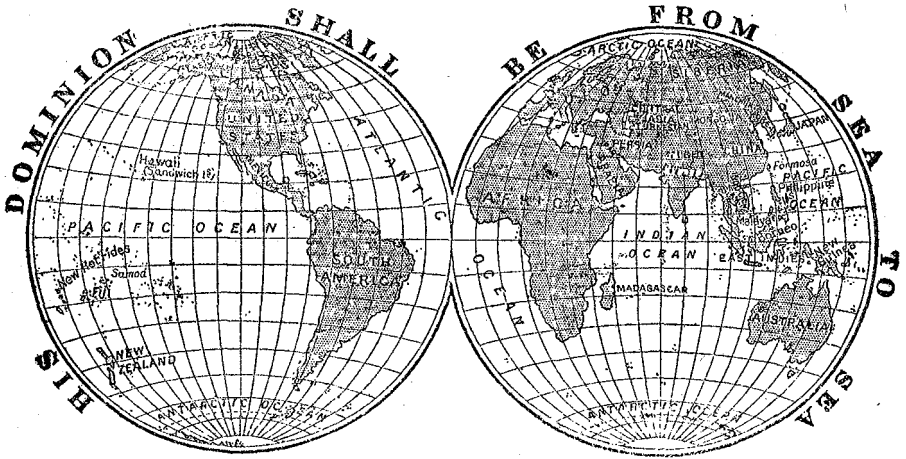
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# World Dominion



## EDITORIAL

### The Place and Power of Faith in the World To-day

Address given by the Editor as Chairman of the opening meeting of the Sixty-Sixth Mildmay Conference held in April.

**F** AITH is that which stands upon something which, without faith, could bear no weight. It was faith that enabled Peter to walk upon the water, and when his faith failed the water yielded to his weight. One of our favourite hymns is: 'Standing on the Promises of Christ My King . . . Standing on the Promises of God.' Faith rests upon the intangible which, however, is paradoxically more tangible and solid than the everlasting hills. A promise of God, the Word of God, the 'Let there be . . . and there was,' is the greatest of all mysteries. It is the immaterial creative force by which all material things have come into

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existence. It brought the universe into being. It turned water into wine. It multiplied the loaves and fishes. It made you and me and can, through us, move mountains and cast them into the sea.

The place of faith is the first place. Without faith it is impossible to please God. The power of faith is limitless. This limitless power was never more needed than in the world to-day.

There are individuals whose names immediately occur to us as those who, perhaps unwittingly, are serving the devil's purposes and are influencing the whole world. Has God, whose power is greater than the devil's, any servants who, in the faith of which the eleventh chapter of Hebrews speaks, will influence the world for good? Such faith is only possible to those who are utterly surrendered and, therefore, willing to sacrifice everything, even life itself.

We have many examples of this abandon to ideals far below the Christian ideal: the ideals, for example, of a narrow nationalism. It has been told (I do not know whether the story is true or not, but it is an illustration of utter devotion) that a Japanese ambassador to Russia purposely disgraced himself. The Russians promised that if he returned to Japan and kept them informed of Japan's plans they would not divulge his disgrace. He returned to Japan and sent meticulous details of Japan's plans to Russia. The Russians doubted his veracity, but, to hoodwink them, he asked his Government to execute him for treachery: they did. His father, in order further to confirm the impression made upon Russia, committed suicide over his son's disgrace. Russia thus believed the plans to be genuine and disposed their forces in the Russo-Japanese War accordingly, only to find two Japanese regiments against their one at the places which the plans indicated as undefended. The result of the war changed the course of history.

The call to-day is for the exercise of an all-powerful faith by an increasing number of men and women. It is for that reason that we have been having frequently a

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night of prayer, one of which was held here last Friday. It is suggested that we should have an International Night of Prayer, by enlisting prayer partners throughout the world to spend the last night of 1938 in this way.

It is said that when Allenby came to Jerusalem in the Great War, being unwilling to damage the city, he cabled to King George for his advice. The advice came back: 'Call a meeting for prayer,' and while they prayed the keys of the city were handed to him. Prayer truly changes things.

We want to see a great world-girdling night of prayer about the present world situation, and a preparatory heart-searching by all who take part: and there could be no better preparation than for each prayer-partner to make the fifty-first Psalm an utterly real prayer to God.

As a boy I was greatly influenced by a godly minister in a Scottish church and I have never forgotten some of his teaching. When he preached he always had a word for both saint and sinner. For the saint his word was usually a test and in my opinion the acid test to apply to our spiritual condition is the extent to which fruitfulness results from the witness of life and lip. To how many people have we witnessed during the last few months, and have we won any to Christ?

The place and power of faith will be displayed in and through us in direct proportion to the quality of our spiritual life.

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### Christendom takes Counsel

In December of this year a meeting of the International Missionary Council, of more than usual importance, will be held in Madras. The Christian Church to-day faces a most serious situation throughout the whole world. A united affirmation of the Christian faith is urgently demanded, and a note of conviction must be sounded over against the chaos of a world adrift from spiritual and moral realities. The Lordship of Christ over all that is human has to be asserted with no uncertain voice, and a determination must be shown to pay the price of sacrifice and loss, which obedience to Him may entail.

The association of members from the younger Churches in Asia, Africa and South America in greater numbers than those representing the older Churches will give an added significance to the message of the Conference. In the unity of this unique fellowship Christ will be declared to humanity as its only Lord. May men realize in Him their Creator, Redeemer and unfading Hope!

A. McL.