

## Sermons Preached in St Peter's Eastern Hill

by Canon Farnham E. Maynard

**Editorial note:** *The original notes were typed, with much underlining and some additions written in by hand. The following transcription is as accurate as reasonably possible, although obvious typing mistakes have been corrected: capitalization follows the original and handwritten emendations are indicated by the use of italic font. No attempt has been made to distinguish between Maynard's use of red or black ribbons, or his extensive use of underlining. Scriptural quotations have been given in full, even if only sketched in the original—text and references not given in Maynard's original are enclosed in square brackets, [thus].*

ST. PETER'S MELBOURNE SUNDAY OCT. 13. 1946. 11 A.M.

I. S. John V. 4 – 6.

Exposition:– "Whatsoever ... [is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.]

the new nature abstracted from particularities ... New heaven and earth ....

"Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" [John 16:33]

A new order in which God reigns acknowledged and love i[s] the law, in which sin finds no place

The Church is the instrument to bring in this Kingdom

Baptism ... water

Passion....+ blood

The victory is costly    mortification within  
   suffering without

"Whosoever doth not bear his cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple". (Luke 14,27.)

"This is the victory that overcometh the world even OUR FAITH." [1 Jn 5:4]

The laying hold of the new order ... The TRUTH about GOD,  
   THE UNIVERSE, MANKIND, MYSELF.  
   *VICTORY*

Those who lay hold of this truth DO IMPOSSIBLE THINGS.

THE WINDOW:–

The transforming power of FAITH

It catches up the Natural and raises it to the supernatural

It meets the evil and overcomes it by the technique of the Cross

(It may be right to fight, but that does not convert)

or redeem, or destroy evil. It leaves the root.)

This is the victory .....

I. BEAUTY in Nature. in the Church on earth, in the eternal world.

The Priest looks up to the eternal city.

II. WORK in the world, in the sphere of grace, struggling up

III. SUFFERING, flight, martyrdom of priests and laymen.

The window can be read another way.

Begins with nature, passes through redemption ... to glory

St. Paul writing to Timothy tells who he is ready to endure all things in order that those to whom he is sent "may also obtain [the] salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory."

"It is a faithful saying" he adds "If we be dead with him we shall also live with him; if we suffer we shall also reign with him." (II.Tim ii, 10 [-12])

That is, I think, part of the message of the window.

ST. PETER'S MELBOURNE OCT. 13, 1946. 7.30 P.M.

"This is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith." [1 Jn 5:4]

Faith;— insight, and apprehension of values unseen, immeasurable, Beauty, truth, goodness.

Science initiates us into truth about things ...

Faith initiates us into truth about persons

Science when at work rules out the emotional and volitional elements in man's nature,  
and is an intellectual construction ...

Faith is an integral personal activity which makes use of the intellect,  
the emotions and the will.

the window:—

read horizontally.

BEAUTY: in Nature, in the Church in spiritual world

Puritan reaction against Renaissance .... *St. Bernard*

"My God how wonderful thou art

Thy majesty how bright

How beautiful thy mercy-seat

*Use and snare of ART*

in depths of burning light.

[Hymn by Frederick William Faber, 1814–63]

TRUTH: in work

Truth enables us to "get the good out of life ...."

"For everywhere and always, if we would open our eyes,

"We should find in these beaten footpaths a way to paradise

"Dull earth would be dull no longer, Each clod would sparkle a gem.

"And our hands at their commonest labour would be building Jerusalem."

[From: **Transfigured**, by the American poet Lucy Larcom.

The full poem is reproduced at the end of the notes for this sermon.]

GOODNESS: in sacrifice

"The Good Shepherd giveth his life ...."

(Inscription)

"Sacrifice alone is fruitful"

"Everyone whose wisdom is more than his deeds, his wisdom does not endure."

(Mishna [Rabbi Chanina])

Their wisdom — the truth they had learnt from their Master, Their beauty, —  
the quality of living they had attained to in the Master's school,—

This was shown and sealed by their deeds of sacrifice therefore their work remains

Remains in the eternal world where God gathers about the foot of His Throne those who  
have lost themselves in His service, where Christ acknowledges those who have confessed His name  
among men at cost. Where the Lord of Life rewards with life eternal those who have been faithful  
unto death.

Their fruit remains.

But it remains here on earth also. In the Church Militant their story shall be a perpetual  
inspiration to those who come after.

Those who went forth weeping bearing good seed, — the seed of their own life's blood, shall  
doubtless come again with joy bearing their sheaves with them. [Psalm 126:6]

So we give thanks to God and take courage, as we pray to Him to send forth more, many more,  
labourers into the field to reap for Him the harvest of souls of men.

**Footnote:** Poem by Lucy Larcom quoted by Fr Maynard:

**Transfigured**

Yes, heaven has come down to meet us;  
It hangs in our atmosphere;  
Its beautiful open secret  
Is whispered in every ear.  
And everywhere, here and always,  
If we would but open our eyes,  
We should find, through these beaten footpaths,  
Our way into Paradise.  
We should walk there with one another;  
Nor halting, disheartened, wait  
To enter a dreamed-of City  
By a far-off, shadowy Gate.  
Dull earth would be dull no longer;  
The clod would sparkle a gem;  
And our hands, at their commonest labor,  
Would be building Jerusalem.  
For the clear, cool river of Eden  
Flows fresh through our dusty streets;  
We may feel its spray on our foreheads  
Amid wearisome noontide heats.  
We may share the joy of God's angels,  
On the errands that He has given;  
We may live in a world transfigured,  
And sweet with the air of heaven.

Lucy Larcom, 1824–1893

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL OCTOBER 20. 1946. 7 P.M.

THE WINDOW AT ST. PETER'S

"This is the victory ... [that overcometh the world, even our faith." (1 John 5:4)]

"FAITH" ....

Science initiates us into truth about things

Faith ..... values

Science, when at work, rules out the emotional volitional elements ...

produces an intellectual abstraction ... a map ...

Faith is an integral act of the personality ... makes use of intellect,

emotion and the will

An act by which we at once perceive, desire and commit ourselves to something that

enshrines truth, beauty and goodness ... SOMEONE. supremely God in Christ.

THE WINDOW ... (describe)

reading across 3 strata ... **Beauty** ..

My God how wonderful .. Thy majesty .. How beautiful ..

**Truth**

*WORK*

*if God's work, then it is true*

*some — wood, hay, stubble*

*— gold, silver, precious stones*

"For everywhere and always if we would open our eyes

"We should see in these beaten footsteps a way to Paradise

"Dull earth would be dull no longer, each clod would sparkle a gem

"And our hands at their commonest labour would be building Jerusalem"

[**Transfigured** by Lucy Larcom—reproduced in full above.]

Our labour must be rooted in truth if it is not to

perish as the sand castles by the sea shore.

**Goodness**

*truth and beauty translated into action.*

The Window Texts:

"Sacrifice alone is fruitful"

"Everyone whose wisdom is more than his deeds, his wisdom does not endure."

(Mishna)

Sealed with sacrifice ... *They read the situation in the light of eternal truth.*

*TEXT*

"This is he who came by water and blood ..." [1 John 5:6]

*Let no one say that there are not great things to [be] done — near and far.*

The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church.

The Son of God goes forth to war, [a] kingly crown to gain,

his blood-red banner streams afar, who follows in his train?

[Hymn by Reginald Heber, 1783–1826]