

Must We Always Learn The Hard Way?

In 1941, the Nazi death camps went into full operation. Gassing began late in the year and other extermination methods were put to effective use on thousands. London was under attack. Two major bombing attacks consisted of 490 and 500 heavily laden bombers, respectively.

Here is an extract from a letter written by a minister in Bournemouth, England and reprinted at the turn of the new year in January 1942.

- We have been a pleasure loving people, dishonoring God's day, picnicking and bathing. NOW the seashores are barred - no picnicking, no bathing.
- We have preferred motor travel to church going. NOW there is a shortage of motor fuel.
- We have ignored the ringing of church bells calling us to worship. NOW the bells cannot ring except to warn of invasion.
- We have left churches half empty, when they should have been filled with worshippers. NOW they are in ruins. (*editors note: actually now they are being converted into mosques and the mosques outnumber the churches.*)
- We would not listen to the Way of Peace. NOW we are forced to listen to the Way of War.
- The money we would not give to the Lord's work NOW is taken from us in taxes and higher prices.
- The food for which we forgot to thank God NOW is unobtainable.
- The service we refused to give to God NOW is conscripted for the country.
- Lives we refused to live under God's control NOW are under the nation's control.
- Nights we would not spend "watching unto prayer" NOW we spend in anxious air raid precautions.
- The evils of modernism we would not fight; NOW - see what Germany, the seat of this teaching has produced.

- taken from THE AMERICAN CHRISTIAN REVIEW, January 13, 1942

The cry of nations under siege and recognition of God's power has been going on since families first became nations. Wouldn't we be better served to do service to God NOW, to do our praying NOW, to practice our devotion NOW, while we might still affect the Lord's favor and mercy.

Carl McMurray

