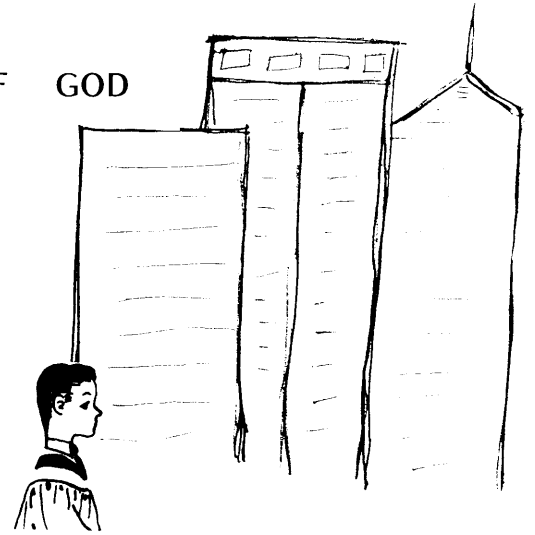


# RISE UP, O MEN OF GOD



These tall city buildings make me feel small and unimportant – and there’s so much noise and confusion everywhere I can hardly think!

Dr. William Pierson Merrill was pastor of city churches in Philadelphia, Chicago and New York for over 45 years. As he stood amidst the misery and anxiety and suffering, he felt the tragic need for men of God to “Rise up”, “Bring in the day of brotherhood”, and “End the night of wrong.” Can you find these phrases in his hymn?

When Dr. Merrill tells us to “Give heart and mind and soul and strength”, whose teaching is he repeating?

(Matthew 22:35-40) \_\_\_\_\_ What are some ways we can serve

God with our hearts? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are some ways to serve God with our minds? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are some ways to serve God with our strength? \_\_\_\_\_

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In the third verse, Dr. Merrill reminds us that *you and I* are the Church! It is our strength and service that makes the Church alive and effective as an instrument of God – or it is our weakness and indifference that makes the Church just a building with a program of recreation, fellowship, and other miscellaneous activities with no concern for the needs of those outside her walls. Ask yourself, if everybody worked for the Church as I do, would it be strong or weak in serving God’s purposes?

Everybody has some major symbol toward which he strives during his life! Some people have a big car or house as their symbol of success. Other people want to be famous or powerful. Copy the words of the 4th verse of Dr. Merrill’s hymn that tell us the symbol of a person whose life is committed to serving Christ:

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This symbol does not mean that we must die on the cross as He did, but that we must sacrifice wanting riches or fame or success and “Tread where His feet have trod” by helping persons – whenever and wherever we find them – in kindness and love as “brothers of the Son of man.” Can you think of some way

you could help someone as Christ did? \_\_\_\_\_

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This is a hymn I’ll sing the next time I stand amid those tall, city buildings – and if you’ll sing with me and *live* by the words, SOMEDAY GOD’S STRENGTH WORKING THROUGH US WILL MAKE THE CHURCH GREAT!