

The Freedmen and the Slaves of God

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In First Corinthians 7 the Apostle Paul set forth the equalitarian principle which he thought should prevail in the new Christian groups. A slave who was baptized became a "freedman of the Lord." A free man who accepted Christianity became a slave of Christ. This meant that differences in status could have no significance within the Christian communities. Each convert had been bought at the price of Christ's sacrifice; and each one was to submit himself to God as a slave, whatever the actual social status which he had at the time of his conversion. At times Paul also speaks of himself, with genuine humility, as a slave of God; and this idea has come down in the

Church, in the bulls of the Popes, in which they speak of themselves under the humble title of *servus servorum Dei*.

The Greek temple organizations might have slaves; but the Greek gods did not have them. The Semitic gods, on the other hand, *did* have slaves. In the Greek city-states, particularly at Delphi, a system had arisen by which a slave might redeem himself through a trust purchase made by the god. When the god bought him, automatically the slave became free because the god had no slaves. The new freedman often contracted to serve his former owner for a time. This form of service, and the labor contract which covered it, was called a *paramone*. Paul had this legal formula of the Greek world in mind when he spoke of the freed man of the Lord. The idea, however, of the free man who became the slave of God was not Greek but came from the Semitic background of Saul of Tarsus.

Obituary

Ellsworth Huntington

1876-1947

Yale's Prof. Huntington was such an earnest, energetic searcher after truth, so desirous of making the best possible use of available information, so bold in presenting challenging hypotheses, and so skillful as a writer that his passing will be widely mourned. His early geological work was so notable that he was starred as a distinguished geologist in *American men of science*. He received medals from leading British, French, and American geographical societies for geographic exploration in little-known areas in Asia, and the "Distinguished Service to Geography Award" of the National Council of Geography Teachers. He served as president of the Association of American Geographers, the Ecological Society of America, and the American Eugenics Society, and as associate editor of the *Geographical Review*, *Economic Geography*, *Ecology*, and *Social Philosophy*. Numerous historians, economists, anthropologists, meteorologists, climatologists, physicians, and many others have frequently cited one or more of his numerous publications and acknowledged his stimulating influence in their fields. His several geographic textbooks have been widely used, serving students on all levels from grammar school to postgraduate work. An extensive investigation made a decade ago revealed that he was the most widely known American geographer—known not only by people interested in the earth sciences but by educated people generally. Several of his books have been translated into other languages.

Huntington is known especially for his researches in seven great fields and for the presentation of findings

so attractively that reading is a pleasure. His prolonged studies of past climates established that there have been highly significant changes of climate and that these were pulsations, not cycles or progressive. He proved by numerous factual studies that climatic conditions have profound influence upon man and his culture, upon other forms of life, and upon geologic processes. He also proved that the changes of weather, although brief and erratic, affect man's health, attitudes, and achievements and even his energy and longevity. He assembled convincing evidence that the distribution of "civilization" over the earth corresponds with that of climate. The climate best suited for intellectual activities is one having frequent changes of weather, well-marked seasons, and enough warmth and rainfall to permit extensive agricultural production, but not too much warmth. He concluded that temperatures above 68° are uncondusive to thought, while frequent drops below 50° are distinctly stimulating. His theories that changes in the sun are major causes of terrestrial climatic changes and that frequent, relatively intense, cyclonic disturbances, "storms," are conducive to intellectual progress have stimulated much discussion and ever-widening adoption. One of his several stimulating theories is that not only has civilization shifted northward into cooler climates as mankind has advanced in his culture, but for each of the chief crops and types of farm animals there has been a northward improvement (in the Northern Hemisphere) in yield and quality almost to the poleward margin of the crop's or animal's range.

Huntington, although sometimes considered to be an "extreme environmentalist" by persons who have not read his works carefully, was keenly aware that the

physical environment generally is of secondary or indirect significance for mankind. The great influences of selective migration and of the intermarriage of certain types of people are stressed in his *The character of races* (1924) and elaborated upon at length in *Mainsprings of civilization* (1945). In his *Human habitat* (1927) this subject is attractively and briefly presented.

Huntington was the author or co-author of more than 25 volumes, contributed a chapter to each of about 20 other books, and wrote more than 130 articles, more than a score of which were in magazines of wide circulation. His books include *Explorations in Turkestan* (1905), *Pulse of Asia* (1907), *Palestine and its transformation* (1911), *The climatic factor as illustrated in arid America* (1915), *Civilization and climate* (1915, 1924), *World power and evolution* (1919), *The red man's continent* (1919), *Principles of human geography* (1920–1940), *Principles of economic geography* (1940), *Climatic changes: their nature and causes* (1922), *Earth and sun* (1923), *The character of races* (1924), *West of the Pacific* (1925), *Quaternary climates* (1925), *Pulse of progress* (1926), *Builders of America* (1927), *Weather and health* (1930), *Living geography* (1932), *Tomorrow's children* (1935), *After three centuries* (1935), *Season of birth* (1938), and *Geography of human affairs* (1947).

Mainsprings of civilization (1945) is a monument not only to his exceptional erudition, energy, and persistence but to American science. Indeed, *Time*, in its recent obituary, characterizes it as surpassed only by Toynbee's classic in breadth of scholarship, wide interest, and literary attractiveness.

Dr. Huntington was born in a manse in Galesburg, Illinois, went to southwestern Asia upon graduating from Beloit College in 1897, returned again to Asia for further extended exploration after two years at Harvard (1901–03), and carried on years of field research in southwestern United States and Mexico. Later he did extensive field work in Europe, Africa, Australia, and South America. No other geographer has made such prolonged and varied foreign field studies, and none has shared his observations so attractively. *West of the Pacific* is considered by some competent persons as a "gem" of descriptive geography, but most of his works include effective descriptions. His death, from a heart attack on October 17, 1947, terminated his work on *The pace of history*, a supplement to *Mainsprings of civilization*. Undoubtedly Huntington's influence will be considerable as long as our civilization continues.

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NEWS and Notes

Bernard F. Riess, professor of psychology, Hunter College, has been appointed research associate, Department of Animal Behavior, American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Riess, who is spending a year at the Museum as a Guggenheim Fellow, is investigating biochemical factors affecting behavior in mammals.

Ernst Antevs, formerly of Harvard University and the Carnegie Institution of Washington, has been appointed research associate in glacial geology, Chicago Natural History Museum, and **Ch'eng-chao Liu**, professor of zoology, West China Union University, Chengtu, has been appointed research associate in the Division of Reptiles.

Jay McLean has resigned as associate professor of surgery, Ohio State University, to become director, Bureau of Cancer Control, Health Department

Government of the District of Columbia, Washington, D. C.

Hayse H. Black, formerly officer in charge, U. S. Section, International Joint Commission Boundary Water Pollution Investigation, Detroit, has been appointed associate professor of sanitary engineering, Department of Civil Engineering, State University of Iowa.

Laurence H. Snyder, dean of the Graduate College, University of Oklahoma, has been giving talks at various institutions on the general subject of human and medical genetics. On October 23 he spoke before the student body at Hollins College, Virginia; on October 28, before the Fort Henry Academy of Medicine, Wheeling, West Virginia; on December 5, before the Terre Haute Academy of Medicine; and on December 11, at the annual initiation ceremonies of Phi Sigma at the University of Texas.

Willard Rouse Jillson, geologist and engineer, Frankfort, Kentucky, and formerly director of the Kentucky Geological Survey, has been appointed professor and head, Department of Geology, Transylvania College, Lexington, Kentucky.

Walter Buehler, a graduate of Purdue University and past-president of the American Wood Preservers Association, has been appointed consultant in wood technology and preservation, School of Forestry, University of Florida.

Sidney Q. Janus has been appointed part-time professor, and **A. S. Glickman** as instructor, in the Department of Psychology, Georgia School of Technology.

Grants and Awards

Six new grants for research in mental health under the National Mental Health Act have been recommended by the National Advisory Mental Health Council and approved by Thomas Parran, Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service. Institutions receiving the grants, and their project directors, follow: University of California, Berkeley, **Karl M. Bowman**, professor of psychiatry and medical superintendent, and **Jurgen Ruesch**, research psychiatrist and lecturer in psychiatry, Langley Porter Clinic; Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons, **Abner Wolf**, associate professor of neuropathology; The Roscoe B. Jack-