

because you need to know . . .

## By Archbishop Lipscomb



Finally, and once again back “home at the ranch” here in the deep South, some of you have asked for a copy of my remarks made on the occasion of an ecumenical peace worship service and march held in Mobile two weeks ago. I was only one, of twelve speakers who touched the need for peace in our time from as many different bases. I only wish I had their texts as well to share on a subject and effort that should be taking first place these days in all our lives.

*“Man has cried down the ages: “Peace, Peace” — but there is no peace. The world alone does not give peace — though it strains and hurts for the lack of it. The kingdom of man is not a peaceable kingdom. The sum of our common humanity has brought us to the anguish of nuclear confrontation and the threshold of nuclear extinction.*

*It is not enough that we protest the use of nuclear arms — expecting the world to change while we ourselves remain unchanged. In a free society governments are the macrocosms of their citizens. And so we should face the question that is closer to our own lives: Am I willing to change for the sake of changing the world.”*

*History tells us and our own experience convinces us that alone human genius is not equal to the task — and so we turn to God for help. Ours must not be idle words as we make bold to take His hand and walk toward the peaceable kingdom. Our path will be along the way of justice safeguarding basic human rights for all, neighbor and stranger, friend and foe, born and unborn. This means that self-interest, pride, comfort and convenience will cede to higher values. For man alone this may be impossible, with God, all things are possible.*

*Let our actions follow our written and spoken commitments, our deeds, with God’s help, follow our words spoken in His name. When this happens then we will see the beginning of a world promised to those with the courage and strength to take Him at His word:*

*‘They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.’ ”  
(Is.2,4)*