

THE SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF UNIVERSALISM

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The Social Implications of Universalism by Clarence R. Skinner

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CLARENCE R. SKINNER

**THE SOCIAL
IMPLICATIONS
OF UNIVERSALISM**

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of Universalism**

BY *Russell*

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Dedication
TO
THE LITTLE LADY WHO HAS
ENCOURAGED ME IN PREACHING AND
TEACHING THE GREATER FAITH



FOREWORD

How to transform this old earth into the Kingdom of Heaven—that's the primal question. For thousands of years sad-eyed men have looked upon this war-racked and greed-broken world, yearning to gather it into their great healing love. Many have gazed with amazement at the sorrow and misery of humanity and have wondered. Some have climbed into the high places, searching the heavens for an answer; others have gone down into the deep places for the secret. Prophets have caught a various vision, their eyes have been lighted by many and devious enthusiasms which have sent them into the world to labor and to serve.

For some the answer has been the individualistic revival of religion stressing the value of emotional excitement and confession. Interest in this method of bringing in the Kingdom of God spasmodically waxes and wanes. It invariably begets ac-

tion and likewise invariably begets a reaction which demonstrates its inadequacy. To others the scheme resolves itself into a program of reform which would solve all problems through the increase of income. This philosophy has been ascending in influence, and is destined to become a potent factor in social reconstruction. But it is a partial program and a reaction is imminent if not already actual. To increasing multitudes the final answer to this perplexity lies between the extremes, in a great religious awakening which is not merely emotional, but which combines spiritual inspiration with the vision of a constructive, working program.

May the humblest of these seekers after truth set forth the talismanic word which fires him with hope and urges him to whatever service he can render. It is Universalism—the universal faith and hope in the universal love. When men have tried all lesser faiths, when all fragmentary trusts have failed, may the world come to see this vast vision of a cosmic religion,

“As lofty as the love of God
As ample as the needs of man.”

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