

# WAY TO SHILOH

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## “What Then?”

When the great factory-plants of our cities have turned-out their last finished works,  
When our merchants have sold their last products, And sent home the last of the Clerks;  
When our banks have transacted their business, And paid out the last dividend;  
When the Judge of the Earth calls a reckoning, And asks for a balance -WHAT THEN?

When the Church choir has sung its last anthem, And the preacher has made his last prayer;  
When the people have heard their last sermon, And the sound has died out on the air;  
When the Bible lies closed on the pulpit, And the pews are all empty of men,  
When each one stands facing his record, And the Great Book is opened - WHAT THEN?

When the actors have played their last drama. And the mimic has made his last fun,  
When the film has flashed its last picture, And the billboard displayed its last run;  
When the crowds seeking pleasure have vanished, And gone out in the darkness again,  
When the trumpet of ages is sounded, And we all stand before Him - WHAT THEN?

When the bugle-call sinks into silence, And the long marching columns stand still;  
When the captain repeats his last orders, And they've captured the last fort and hill;  
When the flag has been hauled from the mast-head, And peace seems to reign among men,  
When those who rejected the Saviour Are asked for a reason - WHAT THEN?

Anon

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; we spend more on possessions, but have less substance; we buy more, but enjoy it less; are more entertained but less fulfilled. We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more experts, but more problems; more medicine but less wholeness. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often. We have learned how to make a living but not a life; we have added years to life, but not life to our years. We have been all the way to the moon and back but have trouble getting of the couch to church. We know more about the creation and less about the Creator. We have cleaned up the air but polluted the soul; we have split the atom, but not our love of sinning. We have higher incomes, but lower morals; we have become long on quantity, but short on quality.

These are the times of tall men and short character; steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the times of free love but expensive mistakes; more leisure, less joy; bigger supermarkets but less nutrition, we feed our appetites but not our souls. These are the days of two incomes, and more divorce; liberation from everything including self control but not peer pressure; we see less wrongs taught in the classroom but more evils in society; more sex less responsibility; we permit everything except preaching; we call attempts to avoid families, family planning; relationships are the things you do more but get less good at. A time when technology can bring you this message & also open the devils eye to view ten thousand evils from men's hearts. A time when we've never needed to run to God more, but get on treadmills down the gym instead of walking to the house of prayer. A society of beauty parlours & treatments and ugly behaviour. A time when we pretend to be saved by heroes on the big screen but ignore the one in the Good Book.