

**This the transcript of a sermon Sister Amy preached March 12,1939
Given at Angelus Temple, in Los Angeles, California**

This morning, our subject: "This is my task." The song is familiar to most of us: To love someone more dearly every day To help a wandering child to find his way To ponder o'er a noble thought and pray And smile when evening falls This is my task To follow truth as blind men long for light To do my best from dawn of day till night To keep my heart fixed in His holy sight To answer when He calls This is my task And then my Savior, by and by, to meet When faith hath made her task on earth complete And lay my homage at the Master's feet Within the jasper walls This crowns my task

The song has become one of those dear, familiar ones to our heart. But I would like to call your attention to several Scriptures this morning and "stir up your pure mind by way of remembrance" that you may serve and glorify the Lord.

Luke, the second chapter, 49th verse: "And Jesus said unto them, How is it that you sought Me? Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" Bless the Lord.

Also, John the 4th chapter, 34th verse: "Jesus said unto them, my meat, the thing I live on - my meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work. Say not ye, there are four months and then cometh harvest. Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look upon the fields, for they are white already to harvest. He that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal," - you'll be paid! - "that both he and the sower, and the sower, and he that reapeth may rejoice together...I sent you to reap whereon ye bestowed no labor: other men labored and you will enter into their labors. 'My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish My work.'" This morning by no means do I feel that my work is finished. I feel it's just started. Never in my life have I felt stronger or clearer mind, keener vision, or filled with inspiration, with ten thousand and one things to do, than I am now!

In the world, you know, they use slang once and a while, and they say, "The world is my oyster." Well, I wouldn't put it that way. But the world is my little problem. "It just seems so big!" Some people say, "The world's a big place!" I never think of it that way - it sits in my hand, there - you could hold a ball. And my task, as I see it, is to interest you folks to help me, to help them, to join the line right around the whole world! Not only to help the heathen abroad, but to help the heathen in Los Angeles. In America, too. By God's grace, if we can see our task and join hands and get together, we can spread the gospel around the world.

It's for your good! You have no business being sick - everyone of you should get well and get up and go to work, huh? Get up and go to work and earn some money and help send the gospel out! Amen! If these dear students, bless their hearts, are called to struggle and strive and pinch pennies and make their way through school and go out and lay down their lives for Christ, then certainly it's no harder to ask us to get a good job and work at it, and not give a tenth, but give the whole business, except just what we need to keep ourselves alive. That's what they'll be doing out there - what's the difference? Am I right or wrong? I believe that I am! "Wist ye not I must be about my Father's business?!" **THIS IS MY TASK!!**

What is my task? To get the gospel around the world in the shortest possible time to every man and woman and boy and girl!

You say, "Well, Sister, you won't make much headway in Tibet, I'm afraid - that's kind of a closed country yet." Well, I don't know ...by God's grace we're gonna back a short-wave radio station right up against their border and shoot her over - and get the men there to pick it up and to amplify it. I never saw any one of those people in those countries who didn't like to hear a phonograph, to play over and over and over and over, or like to hear a radio. You say, "Well, maybe the government won't let you!" Well, how 'bout letting the government broadcast the weather report and the things they want to do certain hours and then we have certain hours. I think there's a way that anything can be done. Oh - I just feel my task this morning!

Remember that funny little ol' song? If you've any mountains to be clumb If you've any oceans to be swum Uh, count on me!

I feel that way this morning! With God, I can do all things! But with God and you, and the people who you can interest, by the grace of God, we're gonna cover the world!

You say, "Well, Sister dear, we're looking for Jesus to come." I know we are. "But how long is this going to take?" It shouldn't take long. These are days when you can go around the world in less than a week in an aeroplane. These are days when we listen by radio. Did you happen to be awake last night? I just couldn't sleep - I had to listen to, at least, an hour or so of that broadcast from Rome. I thought it was so interesting, when the new Pope was being put in office. That was this morning. It was certainly impressive. I have never been brought up a Catholic - I mean, a Roman Catholic - we're all Catholics, aren't we? We're Protestant Catholics, whether we're from Methodist or Baptist or what. But I couldn't help being impressed with that ceremony. Especially the part where they set him aside and put oil on his hands and anointed him. They gave him the communion. I said, "Well, my, from now on when I ordain my young people, I'd love to see their elders anoint their hands with oil, that they may go out and lay hands on others. I believe that many of the early Catholic traditions are handed down from apostolic days, don't you, before the days of Martin Luther. Take the Lord's Supper that they may go - give it to others. We do not agree that there's just one mediator between God and man, and that's the Pope. We don't agree with that at all. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Mediator of all. But we cannot help but admire, the respect that is paid to the Lord Jesus. Certainly in this day we're out to preach Christ. But to hear that coming over, and I thought, "My.....!" They described how the people cheered, and they said the nuns even took their handkerchiefs and waved and cheered and clapped as the cardinals went by, leading the Pope.

I thought, "My, won't it be wonderful when our High Priest, Jesus Christ, comes back again." Oh, if we do our task! I'll tell you, even you stiff-folks might bend and wave our handkerchiefs that day, when the Lord comes back. Amen?! Glory be to God!

I was so interested (in this radio program). I awakened the young lady at our house and I said, "Listen to this!" When Joanne came, it came to the part about the nuns even waving their hands and the people all cheering, I told of an experience of mine in Illinois where we were in a Foursquare church that had just been opened and the power was falling. Right next door to us was a convent. The sisters became so interested in the shouting and people praising the Lord, that they came over to see what it was all about. They had such sweet faces - in these black and white headgear. People had been falling under the power of God! Just going down under God's power all around. Do you know, that God's power struck them and they went down just the same way! Under the power of God! By and by, the Mother Superior came in to see what had happened to their daughters, and the power of God struck her. Why, we're all the same! I mean, we all have a heart, we all have tears, we all have sins, we all need a Savior, we all need the blood, and every one of us can work for Jesus. Whether we go across the ocean or whether we stay at home, this is our task. Lord, make us soul-winners, every one of us.

Yes! Glory to God! Rise - do the will of Him that sent you. Sleep no longer. Quench not the Spirit, but let the love of God be spread abroad upon all the face of the earth. For the days are short and the work is so great. Let the Word of God be preached in simplicity and power and Christ be exalted. Everyone say Amen! Let's all lift our hands. All over the building - everybody - say, "Lord, send the Word around the world! Lord, send the Word around the world! That is the desire of our heart!"

What is my task? First of all, my task is to be pleasing to Christ. To be empty of self and be filled with Himself. To be filled with the Holy Spirit; to be led by the Holy Spirit. Perhaps, students, you could put into words for me, could you, "I'll be somewhere working, for my Lord." Will you do it? Will you sing it right now? For the radio audience and the recording.

(The congregation sang and clapped to the following song) I'll be somewhere working, I'll be somewhere working, I'll be somewhere working for my Lord! (repeat) When He calls me, I will answer, When He calls me, I will answer, When He calls me, I will answer, I'll be somewhere working for my Lord....everybody singing: I'll be somewhere working, I'll be somewhere working, I'll be somewhere working for my Lord! (repeat) Oh, to be filled with the Spirit means to be filled with a burning desire to see other men and women saved, and to carry the gospel around the whole world. There are so many people who could - but they won't.

I heard a story this week of a man who wanted a gardener. He advertised and his friend sent a beautiful recommendation concerning a certain man and he said, "He's just a wonderful gardener!" He said, "He's capable of planting a kitchen garden. He's capable of nursing bulbs and bringing them up to fruition. He has the infinite patience of a gardener. He's able to put in a formal garden, and old-fashioned garden." The man began to say, "My that's just the man I want!" He came to the end of the page, turned it over and there were just three words there: "But he won't."

This man could do it, but he wouldn't. My, how many people are here that could pray in

that Prayer Tower, but they won't? They could fill the last row in the choir, but they won't! They'd rather sit out there and see. They could be in the illustrated sermons, but they won't. They could be an usher, but they won't. They could fill-up the orchestra, but they won't. They could join the new club I'm talking about, "I Am Sending," but they won't. You say, "What is that club?" It's to pay \$35.00 every six months or even one semester; to pay the tuition of a student through school, but they won't. They could draw from the bank if they had to - a good many people could do that - and buy one short-wave radio station, and say, "Sister, go to it! If you have this, this desire in your heart, God bless you and, more power behind you and prayers." But they won't.

He's a wonderful gardener. He can plant a kitchen garden, he can plant a formal garden, he can plant an old-fashioned garden, but he won't. Let us be the different kind and say, "He will!" Maybe we can't do it as grand as that man would do, but we will, hallelujah! Maybe we're not as oratorical as some, but we will. Maybe we haven't as strong a body to out to the foreign land with gospel, but we will. Friends, it means a great deal to be willing, doesn't it? Glory to God!

You all remember, perhaps, the story of a little girl who some time ago discovered a broken rail on a certain railroad track. She had wits enough about her to run to a telephone and call the superintendent, or rather I should say, the man at the depot. And he said, "Little girl, the train's already passed the station ... stop it some way!" She never thought to argue. She said, "I'm little, but I'll do my best." She ran so fast and she waved her apron so hard, that the train stopped, and every life was saved