

## ARE YOU CARRYING A BOMB?

P.F. JENSEN

## "THE CHRISTIAN FAITH"

I remember reading some years ago about a chap who found an unexploded artillery shell in some outback location. Putting it on the back of his truck he cheerfully drove home across the bumpy roads. Apparently he was oblivious of any danger, for when he got it home he took it into his workshop, clamped it in a vice, and tried to dismantle it. You can imagine the result. He literally blew himself up.

Now you and I are, I take it, sensible enough not to do anything like that. We know the dangers posed by unexploded bombs, bullets and other forms of ammunition. But strangely enough this common sense does not prevent us from taking quite foolish risks which are only slightly less dangerous. To take an obvious example, it is mad to mix drinking with swimming or driving.

There is, however, an even greater risk which most people run. They take the chance that there is no such thing as a Day when God will judge the living and the dead. Yet the man who set up the shell in a vice and began to tap it with his hammer was on safer ground than they are; there was, I suppose some chance that the explosive would not detonate. But the Day of Judgment is the fixed denouement of human existence; fixed with all the authority of God, and the only fitting conclusion to human existence. It is that day alone which will fill life with meaning and make our actions, good and bad, count for something.

Of course, it was one thing for the chap to pick up the shell; it was quite another thing to begin tampering with it. Yet many of us even take that sort of extra risk. What I mean is this. It will be one thing for the majority of mankind who have never even heard of Jesus to front up on the Day of Judgment to give an account of themselves. It will be quite another thing for us. Australians live in a favoured land, spiritually as well as materially. The physical riches of our continent are paralleled by the gospel-riches. From the very beginning of European settlement the Christian Gospel has been preached. Nowadays there exists an abundance of books to read; the radio and television have Christian broadcasts, and our churches are open for instruction Sunday by Sunday.

The fact that many of us have abandoned church-going is no excuse. Ignorance is dangerous; intentional ignorance is like playing games with dynamite. Make sure that you're not carrying a bomb!

**THE CHRISTIAN FAITH**  
is broadcast every Sunday at  
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Copies of these weekly broadcasts may  
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