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Nyack Heritage

12 March 2023

### Final Response Paper

I joined this class as a requirement and didn't think much of it, but it has been such a blessing to my life and I'm grateful for everything I learned. A.B Simpsons Four Fold Gospel was a very fulfilling and informative read. The lectures and questions asked in lectures really got me to think deep and look within myself in ways that really matter. I learned a lot that I have been and will be applying to my life.

In the beginning of this class I learned about A.B Simpson who was the founder of Nyack College and Alliance Theological. Simpson was a faithful follower of Christ Jesus from a young age. In 1865 he was ordained, preached his first sermon and got married to Margaret Henry. They then had children and his church began to grow. His mental health crisis in 1871 caused him to take time out and go to Europe in order to recover. Hewas inclusive and brought together pastors and organizations for revival, even speaking to the mayor. He sent missionaries to China to preach the gospel and wrote a solemn covenant between himself and God.

He then started Alliance to send ministries for evangelism. His health began to decline but he then experienced divine healing. His church didn't agree with divine healing and they didn't feel comfortable with people of different classes coming to the church so he peacefully resigned.

A.B Simpsons Four Fold Gospel is very informative and goes into the fulness of what the gospel is. Many christians including myself, haven't been taught all the benefits of accepting Jesus and the entirety of how good it is. This Four Fold Gospel explains that in detail. It starts off with speaking about how Jesus Christ is our savior and what that means exactly. It taught me that God's salvation delivers us from an evil conscience which is the source of all sin in our lives. It also explains how we are saved from the curse we deserve for our sin. For me this is something that I've always known but to read about it deeper was freeing because I realized that my fear of being punished by authority figures was hindering my relationship with God. The Four Fold Gospel also teaches in detail about how Christ is our sanctifier, our healer, our coming Lord, it teaches us about our walk with God and how we are kept.

Simpsons life was a very inspiring one. I find it very interesting and useful to know the lives of Christians and how their walk with God evolved and the hardships that they have overcome. This is because our lives aren't so different from each other. Although we have different struggles in life, we know and have

the same God living it out with us. Something that I was surprised by was A.B Simpsons struggle with mental health. This surprised me because of how successful he was in his life and his closeness with God. I have dealt with mental health issues myself and I have heard many people say that it would all “go away” if I was right with God but I could never figure out what I was doing wrong. I also have a hard time imagining myself with a successful marriage and family in the future due to my mental health as well. I have to constantly remind myself that if God calls me to be married He will also see me through it and everything will work out for the good. It’s inspiring to know that A.B Simpson was a christian that had the same struggle as me but was successful in his walk with God and ministry nonetheless. I feel like we should all look at other christians lives to learn and also be comforted to know that they were normal people with the same great and good God we know and live for.

I have always been a very prepared person. Always organizing and preparing. When I became a Christian it was very difficult for me to give up control, especially control over my future. When I finally was able to allow God to take control I still found it difficult to not know the entire plan ahead of time. The thing with God is He will not show you the entire plan. God's word says He is a lamp unto our feet, He will absolutely show us what our next steps should be but that does not mean He will show us the end result. I don’t know what God has

planned for my future but I know it's good and it's to prosper me and to give me hope. God did send me to Alliance University and I took a leap of faith and obeyed. With my past I never thought I could succeed at college, let alone attend college. It was my biggest dream to be “normal” going to school, working and interacting with others. I never thought it was possible but now I’m here and I’m accepted for the first time. I'm a dean's list student and respected. I've made real friends for the first time. He has definitely given me hope and a future, He is prospering me.

I know that my primary calling is to be in a good relationship with God. To know Him, praise Him in Spirit and in truth and to be in fellowship with Him because that’s what we were created for. Our secondary calling is an extension of our primary calling because I bring God with me wherever I go in whatever I do. Also I’d only be doing this because He sent me there. I think my secondary calling could be to give guidance, encouragement and correction to the youth especially the youth in my city. Maybe I will have an organization that will work together with middle school and highschool students to do so. Or I might also work in a high school or middle school. I know that God wants to speak through me to others and that I’m good at teaching, organizing and I like psychology. I'm interested in seeing what His plan is and what the next step He will have me take is. Currently the step I have had to take is to join the lacrosse team. It is terrifying and doesn’t

really make sense to me because I've never seriously played a sport before and now I'm in division two lacrosse. I don't understand the int and it feels humiliating most of the time but I've stepped out enough times to know that I will soon understand why He told me to do this and it will give me hope and prosper me.

Learning about A.B Simpson's life and his Four Fold Gospel has been very eye opening, informative and encouraging. It was inspiring and helped me learn more about God. The things I learned in this class have helped me grow and I absolutely will carry them with me.