

Words Have Overtones

"But why should you speak of Jesus that way?" an earnest Christian asked his pastor, for in the translation of Revelation which he had been reading, instead of the more usual word for "lamb" the translators had used a term which meant a "ram." Moreover, this word had the added connotation of one which is sexually impotent. How the error ever crept in, one does not know. Undoubtedly, the translator had thought he had the right word, but he had overlooked the possibility of overtones—or "undertones."

Jesus' Words Still Cause Riots

"But must we love the Turks?" an Armenian demanded. "Does that mean we should love the Jews?" an Arab exclaimed. And within a short time there was an angry mob trying to storm the gates of the mission school in Aleppo, Syria, in order to destroy it.

All this occurred last year because a German pastor had explained to the student body that Jesus taught men to love their enemies. Words we take for granted as a noble ideal, but which in the tinder-box climate of the Near East were used by scheming men to arouse the anger of the mob—even as the ancient enemies of our Lord twisted His words so as to denounce Him as a dangerous revolutionary.

The truth is that Jesus is still the greatest of all revolutionaries, for He knew that the only revolution which could save the world was the one which was more radical than any other—the revolution in the human heart—the complete change, or as He said, "Ye must be born again."

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