The Time for Prayer.

When is the time for prayer? With the first beams that light the morning sky

Ere for the toils of day thou dost prepare, Lift up thy thoughts on high; Commend thy loved ones to his watchful

Morn is the time for prayer!

And in the noontide hour, If worn by toil or by sad care opprest, Then unto God thy spirit's sorrows pour, And he will give thee rest: Thy voice shall reach him through the fie'ds of air :-

When the bright sun bath set, Whilst yet eve's glowing colours deck the skies;

Noon is the time for prayer!

When with the loved at home, again thou'st met, Then let thy prayers grise. For those who in thy joys and sorrows

Eve is the time for prayer!

And when the st rs come forth,-When to the tru ting heart sweet hope

And the deep stillness of the hour gives To pure bright dreams of heaven,-Kneel to thy God-ask strength life's ills

to bear:-Night is the time for prayer.

When is the time for prayer? In every hour, while life is spared to thee-In crowds or solitude—in joy or care— Thy thoughts should heavenward flee.

At home-at morn and eve-with loved ones there, Bend thou the knee in prayer!

Kindness as a Force in the World

Among the unappreciated and unpraised virtues-one might almost say among the despised virtues-stands kindness. Like meekness and humiland weak. With what a different tone which in value can be compared with men say, "He is a kind man," from the privilege of being born again noble man." A certain quality of to be avoided or delayed as long as effeminacy is thought to attach to possible. Few of those who have ex simple kindness. Men may be kind perienced this delightful change will who lack the courage to assert them- be inclined to wonder at this, since push themselves to the front. To say feelings before their eyes were enthat one is kind is like saying apolo- abled to see the truth, the peace, the getically, "Oh! he is very good, but"-

comprehensive as well as one of the most Christlike of the Christian have a type of their own, quite dis- desire or need that it may be stated tinct, for example, from the Greek | in a clear and correct way. and Roman virtues. "Virtue" itself is a Latin word, and means manliness. It is, accordingly, very significant that in the Latin tongue it came to signify His miracles and confessed that He courage, meaning that this the manli- was a teacher come from God, and re est of all qualities. Valor and for itude | crived a strange reply: "Except must be foremost in a race distinctive- man be born again, he cannot see the ly warlike, destined to subdue the kingdom of God." The visitor asked known world.

Jesus' ideal was to subdue by winning love, and not by force of arms, than his transforming physical courage into moral. Bravery is not wanting in Christianity, as often asserted. Let the "noble army of martyrs" bear witness. Nor is it a lost art, as the events of the last six or eight months dom of God on earth and in heaven. in China amply demonstrate. Physical courage never shone more brightly than among the missionaries and native Christians, both in Pekin dur-Boxers wreaked their vengeance upon

foreigners. But this courage antedated Chris- must be born again. tianity, and prevails far beyond its bounds. Christianity evinces its commonly thought to be incompatible with it. For the distinctively Christian virtues are humility, meekness, self-control, and toward others, comprehensively, kindness.

was a pioneer in setting forth kindness as an active virtue, as the most direct and powerful means of elevating and redeeming men. And he taught this more in conduct than in words. All his "signs" of healing, for example, were deeds of kindness. The blind l'lively hope," the "joy unspeakable," saw, the lame walked, lepers were the certainty of having passed "from cleansed, the demonized were re- death unto life," the sonship, and the claimed, at his word or touch. The witness of the Spirit, he can know proverb that was current about him in nothing. The meaning of words can doing good," may be paraphrased to mind, the heart unrenewed, cannot read, "He was always kind."

Nor were his words less explicit. In his forecast of the final disclosure or in unmistakable and expanding soul-lethargy and moral sleep. of human character, and the conse- germs, no man is prepared for heaven, quent adjustreent of destinies, all or could be admitted there without turn upon the bitual kindness or being a disturbing and corrupting ele- sense, till our loyalty to Him, and unkindness of men. The Good Samari ment. For the enjoyments and the even our consciousness of right and tan, who has inspired most modern occupations of heaven are spiritual, charities, was just a typically kind Its society consists exclusively of man. Paul had the spirit of his beings "made perfect." He who has Master when he gave, as the compre- been born again is as a bud, not yet ing incident or shock of misfortune hensive Christian ethic, "Overcome the perfect flower, not wholly unconevil with good."

mental Christian virtue. Whoever | beauty. regards it as rather good, but yet come into sympathy with his spirit.

Yet how few cultivate kindness as cultivating the more robust and fostered. Kindness of speech means incessant watch over the tongue, -James's pet abhorrence. Kindness of manner means eternal vigilance against selfishness. Kindness of thought means unrelenting resistance to jeal ousy, envy, pride, and vanity. Kindness of heart means acceptance from Christ of the divine grace which only can make any human heart genuinely kind toward all men.

And who can ever measure the beneficence of kindness, the happiness and brightness that it brings into human life? It alone can be the basis of enduring friendship. We admire the brilliant man, envy the rich man, emulate the successful man, but, if they lack kindness, we can never love them. It is the kind neighbor to whom we turn in sorrow or trouble. on whom we lean in sickness, who can soothe our fears and melt our hard heart. If we want to be most useful in the world, and spread most happiness, we must be kind. And though we can never be rich or learned or famous, we can, if we will, be always kind. -S. S. Times.

A Dreaded Blessing

No gift except His only begotten ity, it is thought to be rather negative | Son, has the Father given to the world "He is a brave man" or "He is a Yet some look upon it as something selves, or the grit and strength to they recall their own thoughts and joy, and the radiance which center in Yet kindness is one of the most this new creation.

If the theme is not often treated in the press this is a reason for not virtues. And the Christian virtues postponing it when there is a special

CHRIST had the most distinguished caller who sought a private interview with Him. This man acknowledged how this could be. CHRIST assured Nothing more clearly shows that him that it was necessary, because "that which is born of the flesh i flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." That was the same as to say that our first birth prepared us to live in the natural order; but we must have a spiritual birth, or change, to prepare us for the king-

Who is able to keep the law of Gon without this change? We must love Him with the heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbor as ourself. ing the siege and wherever the savage | The law of God includes thoughts, feelings, and words, no less than acts. To qualify him for this every man

A sharp business man said one Sunday that he wished his pastor to side. superiority in actually enhancing it, would say less about the new birth

you have been born again?"

ness of heart," we say, and sometimes only to "the poor in spirit," to those began to scream. "adness of manners." But Christ "that mourn," to those who "hunger The driver looked back and saw her and thirst after righters ress," to "the pure in heart" and to those willing to be "persecuted for righte-

ousress' sake.' Unless one is born again he cannot discern spiritua! things. Of the the apostolic age, "He went about be found in the lexicon; but the carnal did not say so when she knew-knew things are just, whatsoever things are discern them.

slightingly, has not found the funda- afar off, where the King is seen in His

The necessity of being born again is somewhat weak and negative, has the fundamental idea of the Gospel never apprehended the Christ, nor It is something which none can accomplish" in himself, by himself, or for himself. He must turn from sin in compared with those who are actively repentance, must be converted; and these steps come within the range of spectacular virtues. But it must be his choice. While he examines himcultivated. Some natures furnish a self, resolves to sin no more, searches more congenial soil for it than do the word, seeks counsel, the Spirit is others, but everywhere must be moving upon his heart; and its fruits are soon manifest.

child should be taught that he is to be rower did his share of the workbe now passing through it, if now seeking light and feeling after Christ, f haply he may find Him.

Unless this change be both a necesity and a reality, Christianity is only a system of laws which no one ever some arises from their thinking that at unless they are born again; they cannot see or enter the kingdom of God either on earth or in heaven.

No man can explain the way of the Spirit in regenerating human hearts. No one ean speak of it with convincing orce and melting pathos unless he has been the subject of it, or is consumed with anxiety concerning his wn spiritual condition. If any who content themselves with routine invitations to their friends to come to Christ were to meditate on this theme till they should feel that all who are not born again cannot see the kingdom of God-wonderful might be the re-

Yet must it be remembered that Christ had other modes of presenting truth. Nicodemus was content; he came to have himself approved and his views confirmed. A self-distrustful suppliant might have heard: "Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me for I am meek and lowly in heart and ye shall find rest unto your souls, For My yoke is easy, and My burden

Being born again is not to be dreaded; but to live or die without experiencing that divine change is dreadful.—Chris. Advocate.

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Kind Severity.

The Christian Intelligencer records this beautiful incident of a stageeoach trip in Western Montana, twenty-five years ago. A mother and her infant child were the only passengers. A sudden change of weather subjected the woman to more exposure than she was provided for, and before the journey was half over he freezing cold had begun to creep ato her blood. She could protect her babe, but her own life was in danger.

As soon as the driver knew how severely she was suffering he gave her all his extra wraps, and quickened the pace of his team as much as possible, hoping to reach warmth and refuge before her condition became serious. His passenger's welfare was now his only thought, and by frequent inher safety.

oyer her, and when no answers were returned to his questions he stopped, and tore open the coach door. The woman's head was swaying from side

Instantly he took the babe from her, while bringing to the front virtues and more about the Sermon on the and bestowed it as comfortably as he could in a furry bundle under the To this the reply was, "Do you shelter of the seat; then, seizing the think you can obey that sermon unless mother roughly by the arms, he dragged her out upon the frozen Unless one is born again every ef- ground. His violence partly awakened Nor is it as a quiet, unaggressive fort he might make to obtain the her, but when he banged the door virtue only that kindness shines in blessings promised in that sermon together and sprang to his box and the Christian system of ethics. "Kind- would be futil. They are promised drove on, leaving her in the road, she

running madly after him. "My baby! my baby! O my baby The horror of her loss made her forget the cold. By and by, when certain that she had warmed her blood into healthy circulation, the driver slackened the speed of his horses, and allowed her to overtake him and resume her place in the coach

with her living and unharmed child. that he had roused her and brought

When the sordid care and selfish testant. success are deadening every spiritual wrong, are being chilled to death, a sudden terror is often the surest as well as the quickest rescue. A warnmay be the salvation of a character, the hot working day, the cool evening taminated by its surroundings, but the restoration of a life worth living. hours are drawing near when you may Whoever, therefore, looks disparag- capable of expanding into perfection Such discipline is not God's cruelty. rest from your labor, and then they ingly upon kindness, or speaks of it when transplanted to the land that is It is his kindness.

The Prayer-Meeting.

A church without prosperity and spirituality is a public nuisance; it is like an unrented building, costing taxes, losing value, bringing no income. Prosperity and spirituality depend upon the faithfulness of the members.

A church is not like an ocean steamer, where a few can do the work of running the machinery, preparing the food and taking care of the state rooms, while most are passengers Great is the privilege of being born enjoying transportation. It is rather again; it should be magnified; every like a Roman trireme, where each a subject of this change, that he may broken oar, an unshipped oar, a sleep ing rower, delayed the boat.

It is the duty of each member o the church to be present at every prayer-meeting so far as possible. There is no obligation on the pastor that is not on every member. First, did or can obey. The indifference in then, plan to be present, count your presence a business obligation; let any time they can begin a Christian this duty push aside social functions. life; whereas they can do nothing If neighbors call in, invite them to come with you, or excuse yourself. If a friend had telegraphed you to meet him at the station you would not urge as an excuse for not meeting him that a neighbor called in just as you were leaving the house. As a member of this church you have made a weekly appointment to meet the Master at the midweek service. Make it your business to keep your appointments.

> Come prepared, bring your mind with you, bring it full of thoughts. Surely the stream of time, flowing over your life for a week, must have some golden deposit of truth that you can cast into the common treasury, Think before you speak and speak after you have thought. You expect the new convert to relate an experience-did your experience step when you accepted Christ? You can at least bring a passage of scripture that has strengthened you during the week and tell us what it has done for you.

Come in a spirit of prayer, come from the closet, bring spiritual power with you. You cannot promote the spirituality of the church by always seeking power from others. You cannot ride on the street-car without paying a nickel; why should you expect to be carried to heaven "on flowery beds of ease?" Come! Come prepared! Come to help!-Dr. O. P. Grifford.

For the Young Preachers.

If I were young again I would strive to be, not in low, vulgar, selfish sense. but in the high, self-forgetful sense, a popular preacher. I would toil for this as I would for virtue itself. I graces of speech would make me such. I would cultivate these. If youthful enthusiasm would draw men to me, I would keep my heart fresh and young for a hundred years. If simplicity of style and manner would effect it, would practice the severest simplicity. If going among the people would help me, I would fling aside all convention. alities and reclusive habits, and go from shop to shop, and tenement to tenement, till my soul was saturated with the thoughts and feelings of lowly men. If a new baptism of power quiries he sought to assure himself of were needed, I would plead for that till I received the anointing. But the fatal drowsiness had stolen would exhaust all possibilities that I might win the scattered, listless multitudes to listen to the gospel I was ordained to preach - Bishop Ninde.

Your renewal this week, would greatly

Fault-Finding.

The world will never be much improved by continual and severe criticism. If this were potent in bringing about better conditions, it would long ago have become a veritable paradise, inhabited only by beings without a single fault. Find fault with every little mistake of your child, impress him that he is bad, and you will soon perceive a decided change for the worse; but praise his good traits. show your appreciation of his worth and a decided improvement will be perceived.

Everlasting fault-finding begets discouragement, failure, and wreng, while honest commendation generates success, strength, encouragement, and right. "Finally, brethren, whats Was the man cruel? That mother ever things are true, whatsoever pure, whatsoever things are lovely, her back to life. He had done as God whatsoever things are of good re-In the absence of these, in fullness does sometimes, to shake us out of port; if there be any praise, think on these things."-Methodist Pro.

Dr. Maclaren says: "Never mind whereabouts your work is. Never mind whether your name is associated with it. You may never see the issues of your toils. You are working for eternity. If you cannot see results in wil! follow you."

At the Door of the Heart.

The Master, with the shadow of the Cross falling on His soul, was comforted by a woman's insight and a woman's love. Her own heart taught her the secret of sacrifice; her heart anticipated the longing for sympathy, and so beautiful in its grace and spiritual delicacy was her act that Jesus declared it would be told to her praise wherever the Gospels were

Forever this Friend of man, hungering for love and friendship, passes down the paths of life, and knocks at the door of the heart. Blessed are they who hear His voice and give Him welcome, who are not ashamed of Him or of His cause, who serve Him with their best, and pour upon His head the riches of their love. -- John Watson.

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Rubbing the Corners Off.

A Poor Indian was asked one time what his conscience was. Putting his hand over his heart, he said: "It is little three-cornered thing in here-When I do wrong, it turns around and hurts very much. If I keep on doing wrong, it will turn until it wears the edges all off, and then it will not hurt any more."-Bible Advocate.

Touching the Leper. - Some rude children in Madagascar were one day calling out, "A leper! A leper! to a poor woman who had lost all her fingers and toes by the dread disease. A missionary lady, who was nearby, put her hand on the woman's shoulder and asked her to sit down on the grass by her. The woman fell sobbing, overcome by emotion, and cried out: "A human hand has touched me. For seven years no one has touched me!

The missionary lady says that at the moment it flashed across her mind why it is repeatedly recorded in the Gospel that Jesus touched the lepers. That is just what others would not do. It was the touch of sympathy as well as healing power."—Mission Worker.

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