

## The Christian Life.

### BE STRONG.

Be strong!  
We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;  
We have hard work to do and loads to lift;  
Shun not the struggle; face it; 'tis God's gift.

Be strong!  
Say not the days are evil; who's to blame?  
And fold the hands and acquiesce—oh, shame!  
Stand up, speak out, and bravely in God's name.

Be strong!  
It matters not how deep-intrenched the wrong,  
How hard the battle goes, the day, how long;  
Faint not, fight on! Tomorrow comes the song.

—Thoughts of Everyday Living.

### UNHEEDFUL COUNSELLORS.

A contracting builder had just warned his workmen of a dangerous place in a house they were erecting. A hatchway was temporarily obscured by some tar paper that had been thrown over it. A moment after, he hurried across the room, stepped on the dangerous spot, fell, struck on some timbers, fractured his skull, and died in a few minutes. His warning to others was all right. His failure to remember and heed cost him his own life.

This is not the only case of the sort. Many a person has given excellent counsel to others and has himself been destroyed, or has met with severe loss, by means of the very thing against which others were advised. This does not argue against the counsel which was all right in itself, nor does it prove that it is useless to give advice. If that counsel is an advantage to others, or saves them from loss and grief, let them be thankful for it, even though the one who gave it became a castaway himself.

Cardinal Wolsey is represented as urging his disciple, Cromwell, to fling away ambition, to escape the dangers of intrigue, and to walk in the straight path, "A sure and safe way, though thy master missed it." His own bitter experience and his poignant grief only made more unmistakable the fact that he had taken a dangerous road, and one that wise people would better avoid. His own wreck pointed out the fatal nature of the course which he had taken.

A business man advised many of his young friends against making unwise investments. It was good advice. Many profited by it, being put on their guard by his words. Their eyes were opened and they were careful. This very man however, in the course of time, made a very great mistake. He was deceived in reference to a business opening. He invested heavily, became involved, and lost all that he possessed. His counsel was excellent, but he himself failed to profit by it, and he suffered a sweeping loss. The principle was all right, but many persons fail to live in accordance with it.

A lecturer warned his hearers most eloquently against the insidious effects of opium and strong drink. Becoming worn and suffering from sleeplessness

on account of his trying efforts on the platform, he came to be in the habit of using both of them. Slowly the habit grew upon him. Unconsciously he became enslaved. In a few years he died a wreck. His warning was just right, and his influence saved many a young man from going in the way of death. But he himself became, almost unconsciously, a victim of the evil from which he had warned others.

A teacher counseled her pupils to be very careful as to taking cold, especially by sitting down to cool off when overheated. She was to be commended for this because it was counsel greatly needed by many persons, and she was the means of making many of them careful, but she herself, heedlessly, took a heavy cold in this very way and lost her life by an attack of pneumonia. It is a good thing to give good counsel, but a grave error when one fails to live up to his own knowledge.

A minister urged his people to believe the Gospel and to let it, in its simple truth, be the power of God in their hearts and lives. He was the means of turning many to see Jesus Christ as their Saviour. But he did not live up to his preaching. He trusted too much to his own wisdom. He turned away from the simplicity of the Gospel. He became entangled in the sophistries of worldly philosophies. He became a rationalist instead of a believer. He failed to lay hold on Jesus Christ himself. There was truth enough in any one of a score of sermons he preached to have saved him if he had allowed the Holy Spirit to seal it in his own soul; but he turned away from the truth, was wise above what was written; and went on in the ways of unbelief. It was sad, but it was following in the footsteps of the builder who fell to his death. These are plain facts which we must not permit ourselves to forget or ignore.—*Herald and Presbyterian.*

### BETRAYING CHRIST BY SILENCE.

There are many ways of betraying Christ. Judas betrayed Him with a kiss. A kiss is a token of tender affection. What extreme wickedness to use this token of love as a means of betraying a friend! The best Friend has often been betrayed in this way. Many have put forth the hand against Christ while extolling Him with the lips. Peter denied Christ with an oath. Many use the most violent expressions to set forth their hatred of our Lord or their want of interest in His kingdom. We may not go so far. We may not speak one word against Him, nor put forth the hand to tear down His cause. Yet we may be disloyal to Him.

Some men are careful not to show the slightest sign of disloyalty to Jesus Christ and His cause, while at the same time they are doing much to undermine His work among men, perhaps unconsciously and unintentionally. Silence is a token. Silence may speak louder than words under certain circumstances. When ten lepers were cleansed by our Lord one of them returned to give glory to God. He was so filled with gratitude that he was not able to contain his feelings. With a loud voice he gave thanks. But the nine were silent, and Jesus was grieved. So deeply grieved was He that He made mention of it in tones of sadness, and the omis-

sion has been recorded as an everlasting condemnation of disloyal silence.

In this world, where so many speak against Christ and lift up the hand against His kingdom, shall we be altogether silent? Listen to what they say. They tell men that Jesus is a myth, that He has no more power than a man, that He has no more power to forgive sins and cleanse the heart than other men, that salvation is not found in Him, and some go so far as to say that He is a deceiver who ought to be denounced and silenced. And shall we allow these things to go unchallenged? "Shall we whose souls are lighted with wisdom from on high" have nothing to say in this contest? Has He pardoned thy sin? Has He conquered thine enemy? Has He set thee free? Has He cleansed thy heart? Has He given thee strength and comfort, peace and hope? Then how canst thou be silent? Silence is disloyalty. Neutrality is wickedness.

Who would not defend a friend if his reputation or his interests were assailed? Could you stand still and hear your best friend defamed and injured? Could you hold your peace while evil-minded men were trying to tarnish his reputation and destroy his influence and hinder his prosperity? The spirit of friendship, the spirit of loyalty, the spirit of justice would compel you to open your mouth in his defense. How much more are you bound to speak for Jesus? He died for you. Without Him you are forever undone. The world hates Him. You are His witness. It may be difficult to speak for Him. You may feel unworthy. But shall we not undertake some difficult thing for such a Friend? Let the task be never so hard and the cross never so heavy, it may not be avoided without great guilt and shame. Let no one betray Christ by silence.

### THREE THINGS.

Three things to admire: Courage, gentleness, affection.

Three things to fight for: Honor, country, home.

Three things to think about: Life, death, eternity.

Three things to delight in: Frankness, freedom, beauty.

Three things to govern: Temper, tongue, conduct.

Three things to hate: Cruelty, arrogance, ingratitude.

Three things to wish for: Health, friends, cheerfulness.

Three things to avoid: Drinking, smoking, gambling.

### WHAT NOT TO DO.

There ought to be a little manual of "don'ts" for Christian workers. Here are one or two to begin with:

Don't talk a lingo which your brother does not understand.

Don't let your attitude savor of professionalism.

Don't proceed on the supposition that he is wholly bad, or that he needs a scolding so much as a warm hand.

Don't pare down the Gospel in order to make it acceptable.

Don't forget that your daily living commends or discounts the Gospel in the eyes of those around you.

A Nagging Cough drives sleep and comfort away. You can conquer it with Allen's Lung Balsam, which relieves hard breathing, pain in the chest and irritation of the throat. Give it freely to the children.

### GENTLENESS.

The strength of God is very gentle. He does not make a great noise in lifting the tides or in speeding the stars in their courses. The sunshine is one of his greatest treasures of power. He turns the hearts of stalwart sinners by the touch of infant fingers or by the memory of a pious mother's spiritual beauty and fidelity. By loving invitations, tender encouragement, and manifold ministries of patience and sympathy he encourages the penitence and the faith of sinful and human hearts. His children should seek more of his gentleness. We are too easily tempted to bluster and violence. We forget that gentleness is greatness as well as goodness. If we would do brave deeds, let us seek to be filled with divine gentleness.

### COMPLETE SURRENDER.

The Rev. John McNeill, the popular missionary, recently said in an address:

"A French officer, whose ship had been taken by Nelson, was brought on board Nelson's vessel; and he walked up to the great admiral and gave him his hand.

"No," said Nelson, "your sword first please."

"That is the Gospel. Many people would take Christ's hand and say He is a noble character. Give up your rebellious will first; admit your guilt, then Christ will take your hand and never let go."

*A Benefaction to All.*—The soldier, the sailor, the fisherman, the miner, the farmer, the mechanic, and all who live lives of toil and spend their existence in the dull routine of tedious tasks and who are exposed to injuries and ailments that those who toil not do not know, will find in Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil an excellent friend and benefactor in every time of need.

How often it is that we find men whose lives are utterly inconsistent, who attempt to talk religion, and always make a failure of it!

*A Recognized Regulator.*—To bring the digestive organs into symmetrical working is the aim of physicians when they find a patient suffering from stomach irregularities, and for this purpose they can prescribe nothing better than Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, which will be found a pleasant medicine of surprising virtue in bringing the refractory organs into subjection and restoring them to normal action, in which condition only can they perform their duties properly.

Do not go around groaning about religion, when you ought to be singing it or talking it in cheerful tones of voice.

Free and easy expectoration immediately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all affections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is a specific for, and wherever used it has given unbounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant, adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

Maintain dignity without the appearance of pride; manner is something with everybody, and everything with some.