

The Christian Life.

THE EVERLASTING MEMORIAL.

Up and away, like the dew of the morning,
Soaring from earth to its home in the sun,
So let me steal away, gently and lovingly,
Only remembered by what I have done.
My name and my place and my tomb all forgotten,
The brief race of time well and patiently run,
So let me pass away, peacefully, silently,
Only remembered by what I have done.
Not myself, but the truth that in life I have spoken;
Not myself, but the seed that in life I have sown,
Shall pass on to the ages, all about me forgotten,
Save the truth I have spoken and the things I have done.
So let my living be, so be my dying;
So let my name lie, emblazoned, unknown;
Unpraised and unmissed, I shall still be remembered,
Yes, but only remembered by what I have done.

—Horatius Bonar, D.D.

CHOOSING OUR OWN WAY.

God is able to set each one in the place where He wants him to be. He knows best what field each one should occupy. He knows our capabilities, our tastes, our needs, and the needs of those whom we are to serve. He will choose our place for us if we will let Him. Nevertheless there are many men and women who are in the wrong place. There are men on the farm who should be in the Senate, and men in the store who should be in the pulpit, and men in the pulpit who were never called or fitted for the place. There are men wrestling with the problems of finance who should be holding up the banner of the cross in missionary fields, men floundering in the slough of political discussion and corruption who should be pushing on the car of salvation among the lost. There are men conducting gambling houses and drinking saloons who should be engaged in a better business. We see many misplaced men. Why is it so?

If God is the giver of all talents and the disposer of all forces, why are not all men in the right place? The answer is easy. Most men choose their own place instead of leaving their case in the hands of God and letting Him assign each one to duty wherever it may please Him. The Christian should receive his assignment from God, as he receives his daily bread from Him. The Christian is a soldier, fighting the good fight of faith under the orders and the eye of a divine Commander. It is not for a soldier to determine his assignment. His commanding officer is supposed to know best what post he shall occupy. It is his to discharge the duties of the post to which he has been assigned by the commander. The late editor of *The Sunday School Times* once told of a Christian of large experience and commanding influence who when a young man believed it to be his duty to go to South Africa as a missionary. He held himself in readiness to enter that field so soon as the way

should open. But the Lord unmistakably turned him aside from the missionary field and put him into the stove business. For more than twenty years he had been engaged in the manufacture and sale of stoves, ranges, and grates, confidently believing that he was as truly and acceptably serving the Lord as if he had gone abroad as a missionary.

Why not? It is not the will of God that all should be missionaries or ministers of the Gospel. If He calls men into the ministry by a clear and distinct voice, may He not also assign others to the field in which He would have them serve by some clear and specific direction? There are scores of good men who believe this, and endeavor to follow the voice of the Lord in their secular pursuits. They let Him choose for them and are glad to do so. They are not fanatics nor dreamers. They do not use their religion to advertise their business. They are plain, practical, successful, systematic business men. But they recognize God in their business. They believe that He has placed them where they are. They are confident that if He should come at any time He would find them doing what He has called them to do. They are where He has placed them and there they will remain till He shall unmistakably call them to another field.

There are many advantages in this way of living. Why should we fret and worry over our calling? Why may we not be confident that, whether the place we all is agreeable or not, it is the place He has assigned us? Who is so wise to choose our lot and to appoint our way? If we choose for ourselves without taking counsel of the Lord how shall we ever know that we are in the right place? Worldly success is no proof. Many men are making money rapidly who are not in the place where God wants them to be. The fact that our lot is pleasant and agreeable to our feelings is no certain proof. Many a man is pleased with his work who is not doing the work the Lord would have him do. Who can hope to hear the Master say, "Well done, good and faithful servant," if he has chosen his own field of labor without taking counsel of the Lord?

DR. MORGAN ON THE MINISTRY.

The following thoughts from one of Dr. Morgan's addresses are worthy of careful consideration, and may be helpful to both the ministry and laity:

"The minister serves the church under the command of the Lord Jesus Christ.

"The minister has no right to lord it over the church, nor has the church any right to lord it over the minister.

"The true minister will not dictate terms to the membership, neither will he permit the church to dictate terms to him or restrain him in preaching the word.

"The church that would have a live, successful preacher, must rally to his support, and to a man encourage him in every part of his work—especially in proclaiming the truth of God as it is in Christ Jesus. Too many are laying the blame for the lack of prosperity in the church on the preacher, when the real blame rests upon themselves.

"A man cannot choose to be a minister of the gospel as he can choose to be a lawyer. He can only enter the ministry loyally, when he has received a

special gift to that end from the Head of the church.

"Alas for the preacher who is always seeing his name in the newspapers. He is in great peril. He has need to pray very much, and especially so, because the newspapers so seldom tell the truth.

D. L. Moody was a preacher in the true sense. However, if writing and reading essays before a congregation and posing before a glass is to be a preacher, then Moody was not a preacher, thank God. But he was a preacher, thank God. He ripped up men's hearts with the sword of the spirit, and that is true preaching. I like to hear essays read, but reading essays as sermons is not preaching.

"The man who preaches the evangel must live it. He must live with the Lord, be crucified with Him, have a soul-stirring passion for souls."

VOLTAIRE'S BOAST.

An article by Prof. James Orr, D. D., of Glasgow, on "Voltaire's Boast in the Light of Present Fact," in the *March Homiletic Review*, is of timely interest in view of the recent appearance of a new life of Voltaire. The article presents a Christian apologetic of which the clerical reader will be sure to avail himself in his pulpit utterances. Prof. Orr opens in the following fashion:

"There is a reported saying of Voltaire that it took twelve men to found Christianity, but he would show the world that one man could overthrow it. Another saying of Voltaire has reference to Newton's discovery of the law of gravitation. Sir Isaac Newton, who discovered the law, was an humble Christian man. But Voltaire was confident that Christianity would be overthrown by the new discovery and would not survive a century. The state of facts today is a singular commentary on these boasts. Voltaire's volumes—some ninety-four of them—stand on the shelf, and the dust that covers them is seldom disturbed save for some literary or historical purpose. Christianity, on the other hand, survives and extends. We speak advisedly, in full view of the developments of unbelief in our midst, when we affirm that the Church of Christ today has more members, is spreading itself more widely in the world, is circulating more Bibles, is doing more good, is cherishing more earnestly in its heart the dream of universal empire, than at any previous period of its history."

THE SAME TO-DAY AS YESTERDAY.

Joseph Parker once wrote an article on "Books that Have Pleased." In it he notes what is the experience of all men who grow, that books which once possessed a charm lose that charm with the lapse of time. What spoke aloud yesterday is but a dead echo today. Of one book this is not true. The Bible, with living music, with living message, with living voice, speaks to us all along the years, in childhood and in age, in the wisdom and maturity of the end, as well as in the lisping and groping uncertainties of the beginning of life. Other books "have pleased." The Bible today, as yesterday, the living words of the living God. Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who in that law meditates both day and night.

In life's remote tomorrows, as in its remote yesterdays, he shall be as a tree planted by rivers that never run dry. The Bible, the blessed Bible, is the same yesterday, today and forever.—*Central Christian Advocate.*

LET US WITNESS.

If there is any one thing that the world needs more than Christian teaching and preaching it is Christian witnessing. In many of the Roman Catholic churches in Europe the walls are, in portions, covered with tablets put there by persons who wish to gratefully record the help they have received from Mary. One shrine in Munich is covered with cards, some of which say, "Mary help!" and others, "Mary has helped." In the Sorbonne, in Paris, there are scores of little tablets thanking Mary or Joseph for help received in the college examinations, and for success in obtaining a degree. Protestants turn from this with a frown or smile. But is not this spirit of testimony, this readiness to show gratitude, this desire to witness—is it not what our Lord fairly expects of us? Let us not be ashamed to say what Christ has done for us! If we believe that Christ has been life to us, why not go and tell it?—*S. S. Times.*

They are a Powerful Nerveine.—Dyspepsia causes derangement of the nervous system, and nervous debility once engendered is difficult to deal with. There are many testimonials as to the efficacy of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills in treating this disorder, showing that they never fail to produce good results. By giving proper tone to the digestive organs, they restore equilibrium to the nerve centres.

When one magnifies some favorite doctrine into a term of salvation, the probabilities are that he has mistaken a single splinter for the entire cross.

Do Not Delay.—Do not let a cold or a cough fasten upon you as it will if neglected. Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil will break up a cold and cure a cough, and should be resorted to at once when the first symptoms appear. It can be disguised so that any unpleasant taste it may have will be imperceptible to the delicate. Try it and be convinced.

God, as of old, is revealed through man to man. There is no better way of revelation.

A Cure for Rheumatism.—The intrusion of uric acid into the blood vessels is a fruitful cause of rheumatic pains. This irregularity is owing to a deranged and unhealthy condition of the liver. Anyone subject to this painful affection will find a remedy in Parmelee's Vegetable Pills. Their action upon the kidneys is pronounced and most beneficial, and by restoring healthy action, they correct impurities in the blood.

Better an honest Lazarus than a successful Dives.

'Tis a Marvelous Thing.—When the cures effected by Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil are considered, the speedy and permanent relief it has brought to the suffering wherever it has been used, must be regarded as a marvelous thing that so potent a medicine should result from the six simple ingredients which enter into its composition. A trial will convince the most skeptical of its healing virtues.

He who prays much will lack little.

For delicate women and children.—"The D & L" Emulsion is especially suited. It is sweet and palatable; cream, easily digested and of the greatest value as a tonic and tissue builder.