

## My Work for God.

"I cannot give to God;  
No gold have I,  
Gladly to cast into  
His treasury,  
often wish for wealth, that I might make  
An offering of it all for His dear sake.

"I cannot speak for God—  
I am not wise;  
My simple, halting tongue  
So vainly tries  
To stammer out at times the gospel tale  
None care to listen; all my efforts fail.

"I cannot work for God,  
I am too weak;  
Some little plot of ground  
In vain I seek  
Which I could tend for him. Too hard the soil;  
Weeds spring, plants droop therein, for all  
my toil.

"What can I do for God?  
I long so much  
To give him each best sense—  
Sight, hearing touch,  
Mystrength, my health, my energy each day  
But, lo He seems to turn His face away!

"I want to work for God;  
He sees me stand  
Lone in life's market place  
With empty hand,  
Suppose that Time's great clock should  
strike eleven,  
Hath he forgotten me up in His heaven?"

O foolish one and blind!  
Canst thou not see  
This waiting is the work  
God sends to thee?  
Stoop, kneel, take up this task; his wish  
fulfil.  
Thou wouldst give God thy work; He  
craves thy will.

—Anon.

## What We Find in Jesus.

BY THEODORE L. CUYLER, D. D.

"I have found him whom my soul loveth." This beautiful passage from the Canticles may be applied, and often has been applied, to the tender relation which exists between Jesus Christ and the true believer. Some passages in the Bible that seem to be contradictory are only the opposite sides of the same great truth. Practical Christianity is the doing everything for Christ; from another point of view it is Christ doing everything for us. Christ tells us that he came into this world to seek and to find the lost; he is the compassionate Shepherd who brings home the wandering sheep, rejoicing. In several other places the sinner is described as seeking the Saviour; and Andrew said to Simon Peter: "We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ."

When a penitent sinner finds Jesus, he discovers in him what he never saw before. He obtains from Jesus what he never had before; and he becomes, through Jesus, what he never was before. Let us recount some of the blessings which we who call ourselves Christians have obtained by finding Christ. Columbus took home to Spain specimens of the rare fruits and of the precious stones and metals which he had gathered in the newly-discovered islands of America. Let us look at something infinitely more precious which we obtain when we find Jesus.

1. The first thing that we name is the blessed boon of pardon. This merciful Saviour "receiveth sinners," and bestows on them forgiveness of their sins. Even amid the last agonies on the cross he prayed for his fiendish persecutors—"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." The great reason and the all-sufficient reason why you and I could be forgiven is, that Jesus Christ by his atonement bore our sins in his own body on the tree. He was of all my sins "the double cure; he cleansed me from their guilt and power." Paul, the converted persecutor, voiced the exultant hope of a myriad of forgiven sinners when he cried out: "There is, therefore, now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus."

2. The second precious treasure we find in our accepted Saviour is peace. "My peace I give unto you," is his wondrously gracious declaration. He calls it "mine," because it is in many respects like his own; he calls it "mine" because he died in order to secure it for us. We were before at enmity with a holy, sin-hating God; but now we "have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." We don't dread God any longer, for we are reconciled to him; our fears are quelled, our enmities are over; we submit to God cheerfully, and let him have his way. A delightful quiet of soul has succeeded to all the fears, anxieties and conflicts that made our hearts like Galilee's lake under the lashings of the tempest. The dark clouds of God's righteousness no longer overhang us; the thunderings of a violated law no longer fright us. The storm is over, and Jesus has said to the angry waves, "Peace—be still," and there is a great calm. A clear sky is above us, and the everlasting moun-

Sour tempers sweetened by the use of K. D. C.

tain of God's holy will reflects itself as on a tranquil sea of pure glass. We are at peace with God, at peace with ourselves, and ought to be at peace with our fellow-men. Blessed is the true believer! His powers and affections work in happy harmony, and the old jarring discords between a stubborn will and a condemning conscience are hushed. He is no longer afraid of God, or afraid of himself, or afraid of dying, or afraid of the judgment day, or of hell; for he is sheltered under the love that casts out all fear. The only fear that a healthy Christian ought to have is lest he should not find out his whole duty and do it at whatever cost. This is a wholesome fear; but as to all those wretched doubts and dreads, and worries and conflicts that distressed him, the loving Saviour kisses them away as a mother kisses away the tears of her frightened child, and he says, in cheery tones, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me; my peace I give unto you; not as this world giveth do I give it unto you."

3. When we find Jesus we also find an omnipotent and an ever-present Friend. Human friendships are too often but brittle reeds; the friendship of Jesus is an immovable rock. I can trust him. He is able to keep my feet from falling and my soul from death. I can trust his guidance, for he knows just where I ought to tread. His bright presence can illuminate the darkest tunnel of trial through which I am ever called to pass. I can trust his promises, for he has never broken them; and I can trust his grace, for it is all-sufficient. Above all I can trust his love, even when his prancing-knife is cutting my vine the most sharply or when he is burning out my dross and slag in the furnace of affliction. As a child walking over a slippery and dangerous path cries out, "Father, I am falling!" and has but a moment to catch his father's hand, so every believer sees hours when only the hand of Jesus comes between him and the abyss of destruction. Perish every friendship sooner than Christ's!

"Yes, for me, for me he careth,  
With a brother's tender care;  
Yes, with me, with me he sheweth  
Every burden, every care."

My only hope of final salvation lies in this glorious fact, that having loved his own who are in this world, he loveth us until the end. During a pretty long life I have enjoyed many sweet friendships and heard many inspiring words from human lips; but I can say, with my beloved old teacher, Dr. Charles Hodge, that "there is more power to cheer, to elevate, to strengthen and to sanctify in the one word Jesus than in all the utterance of man since the world began."

4. There are many other things which we find in Christ that I have no space to speak of. He is our Teacher, he is our Shepherd, he is our Protector, he is our Comforter. Best of all, he is infinitely lovable. "I have found him whom my soul loveth." Can you say that, my reader? To say that honestly is to profess Christianity; to feel that in the depths of your soul is to possess Christianity. Here is the test question, "Lovest thou me?" If no love for Christ, then no true religious life. Little love means little life; much love means much life; perfect love is perfect life. The one unfailing test of character is—"for me to live is Christ;" less than this means disease, and utter lack of this means spiritual death.

Have you found Jesus? Then bear in mind that what is found may be lost. You may drive him from you. If you sink into sloth he may turn from you with the sad reproach, "Could ye not watch with me one hour?" You may lose him by admitting selfish lusts into your heart; for he is a lover who will not allow any rivals.

I found him whom my soul loveth; I held him and would not let him go." Hold him fast, brother, and he will bring thee safe through and land thee in glory.

Here, as in one matchless bouquet, are these six fragrant flowers; Jesus our sin-bearer, Jesus our peace-giver, Jesus our unfailing, omnipotent Friend, Jesus our Comforter, Jesus the Saviour of our souls, Jesus our all and in all for evermore. If you have these, then yours is the beauty of holiness.

## The Conversion of Children.

BY REV. THOMAS SPURGEON.

"Take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones."—Gen. xlv. 19.

We have become so accustomed to regard Egypt as the land of bondage and slavery, that it is not easy to associate it with anything else. But though the Israelites suffered many hardships at the hands of the succeed-

ing Pharaoh, yet we must not forget that Egypt was at first to Israel a sanctuary. It was here they were sustained when there was no bread in Canaan, so it became a type of heaven, and Joseph represents Jesus as the dispenser of heavenly bread. Joseph's father and brethren, with their wives and families, were to leave their famestricken land, and go down into Egypt, but special care was to be taken of the younger portion of their families, and so wagons were to be used for their safe conveyance. Think of this.

CAREFUL PROVISION FOR THE CHILDREN, and let us do all in our power to make the way as easy as it may be for the children to be saved. Just a word about the old country. It was a fertile land, one that flowed with milk and honey, but just now it was blighted with famine. In Canaan there had been no wise provision during the years of plenty, and so it came to pass that even the children cried for bread. They of all the people would be the last to suffer the pang of hunger, for what father with a father's heart would not give his children bread if he had to go without himself? But it had come to this, that even the children must be put on short commons. Have a special interest then in the children, and a love all, take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones, for Jesus loves to hear their hosannas. Despite not their questionings, for these are like the tendrils of the tender vine, as they climb upward to the knowledge of truth. The world in which they dwell is cold and indifferent to their wants. What can the world do for children? It can only offer stones for bread and shadows for meat.

## GET THE CHILDREN TO CHRIST.

They are in a hunger-bitten country, and it is ours to lead them to the Saviour. Thank God there is corn in Egypt. Israel has sold all, even themselves for corn, but they were now to go into a land of plenty. Jesus has bread for every hungry heart—enough and to spare; I have been greatly cheered with some very young ones, who, of late, have discovered the emptiness of the world. Some young men also, who have found all the merriment of the music hall (and thank God for the efforts some are putting forth to purify these) not to be compared with the singing of the gospel. The King wants the children; God loves to have them. I like to think that

"Around the throne of God in heaven,  
Thousands of children stand."

There are no forbidding disciples there, and if the disciples are there, the forbidding spirit has been taken from them. No Pharisees to stop the tongue singing God's praises in heaven. Notice the provision the King made for children. "Take you wagons." I like to think of

## THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL AS A WAGON.

Thank God for that holy invention—the Sunday-school, so pregnant with blessings. Take greater interest in the holy enterprise. Some of you can help to grease the wheels when the collection boxes come around. Help them all you can, I pray you. Another wagon is *home influence*. This was my only Sunday-school, and I like this wagon best said Mr. Spurgeon, for it indeed has springs to it.

What terrible influence some children are brought up in, nothing but sin all around them; some never learn the name of God but in blasphemy, and some have never heard of Jesus, nor been told of his love. Oh, let us do all in our power to bring these to a knowledge of his saving grace. There is another wagon I should like to mention, and that is *melody*. Teach the children the songs of Zion, and in after years, maybe, those very hymns will help them over the rough places of life's journey.

## PUT THE CHILDREN INTO THE WAGON OF EARNEST PRAYER.

This one never breaks down. Pray for your children; pray with them. It has been said that the devil never considers a man lost so long as he has a praying mother. God speed all the wagons, and may all our children be safely landed on the eternal shore. God grant it for his name's sake.

## The Wonders of the Bible.

It is the wonder of the Bible that you never get through it. You get through all other books, but you never get through the Bible. I have preached twenty-five volumes of sermons upon this book, and now that I have written the very last word, what is my feeling?—I ought to have some feeling about it. Why this, that I have not begun it yet! No other book could offer such infinite variety of material as is offered by the Bible.

Now, when a man is instructed in the kingdom of heaven, when a preacher or a man of great social position has a revelation communicated to

him, it is with the divine intention that it should be passed on to the next man. I must not say: "God has given me this, and I am going to keep it wholly to myself." I cannot. In all God's revelations I hear the great command: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." It was meant for the next man, the next parish, until all the world has heard the music that was lavished on me.

Now the only man who can expound His own book is the Saviour. He only knows what is in Moses and the prophets and psalms right up to His own self.

Now I want Him to talk with me in that way. His ascension is His nearness to me; He is now more on earth because He is only in heaven. It is a curious revelation, but there is nothing paradoxical in it. He went up that He might come down. What I want, therefore, is to have my own Bible, my own little personal Bible as it were, and to sit a long time alone and say to Jesus: "Now, what does this mean?" And He will tell me. We can have fine times together, great merriments and jollities, and the sound of trumpets and shawms.

## Then the Bible becomes a new book;

He expounds it to me when we are alone; no noise of the market place, no roar of the bitter north wind, but a great calm and unspeakable peace.

—Dr. Joseph Parker.

## The Preacher's Prayers.

Avoid incoherency in prayer. Simplicity is not against order; the very reverse is the case. If you study the Lord's Prayer you will see that there is a beautiful arrangement in it. It begins with the approach of the heart to God, then goes on to God's character, His kingdom, His will; man's bodily wants, his sin in their guilt and tempting power, and the cry for deliverance. It is logical, and yet it is not the logic of the reason, elaborating links and chains, but the logic of the heart, flowing on through the thought, as a stream flows on by its own natural unforced law. I have heard prayers that had neither beginning, middle, nor end, that went backwards and forwards, up and down, mixing body and soul, earth and heaven, in hopeless confusion; and then, when the tone or some customary phrase seemed to give hope, not of a conclusion, but of a cessation, something seemed to be forgotten or remembered, and the vessel which looked like getting over the bar was out at sea again. Oh, if that man only knew what grudges he is creating in hearts below him, he would pray earnestly to be guided better to a becoming close. Therefore aim at order and coherence, that you may know when you will be done, and that others may cherish the hope that you will be done.—Rev. John Ker, D. D.

## Praying for More Faith.

I hear men praying everywhere for more faith; but when I listen to them carefully and get at the real heart of their prayer, very often it is not more faith at all they are wanting, but a change from faith to sight.

"What shall I do with this sorrow that God has sent me?"

"Take it up and bear it, and get strength and blessing out of it."

"Ah! if I only knew what blessing there was in it, if I saw how it would help me, then I could bear it."

"What shall I do with this hard, hateful duty which Christ has laid right in my way?"

"Do it, and grow by doing it."

"Ah, yes! if I could only see that it would make me grow."

In both these cases, do you not see that what you are begging for is not more faith, although you think it is, but sight? You want to see for yourself the blessing in the sorrow, the strength in the hard and hateful task. Faith says not, "I see that it is good for me, and so God must have sent it;" but, "God sent it, and so it must be good for me." Faith, walking in the dark with God, only prays him to clasp his hand more closely—does not even ask him for the lighting of the darkness, so that the man may find the way himself.—Phillips Brooks.

FAITHFUL ON CONDITIONS.—There are quite a good many professed Christians who are willing to be faithful to God on conditions, especially such ones as they may make. They will faithfully pray if they can have their prayers answered according to their wishes. If they have a sick child they pray God to restore it to health. If God do so, they will keep on praying. If He will not, then they will not. Some parents have promised God that if He would heal their ill child they would serve Him faithfully. The child died, and

K. D. C. tones and regulates  
belly.

perhaps the reason that God did not spare it was because He knew that the parents would not keep their promise. Some Christians will faithfully attend the prayer-meeting on the condition that they shall have the pre-eminence in praying, speaking and singing. Alas!

IT IS HIGH TIME TO AWAKE" (Rom. xiii. 11). We accomplish nothing while we sleep. If only men could be paid for it, there are some of us who would get rich; but it is all the other way. While we sleep weeds grow and cattle stray. Fires break out in the night, and while it is yet dark the thief gathers his harvest. Take out of the world all its that happen in the night, and the newspapers would not have such tales of woe to tell. Let us awake, then, and put on the beautiful garments which belong to the day.

## Random Readings.

Get people to think right and they will try to do right.

A heart full of grace is better than a heart full of notions.

The Christian does not limit God, but feasts upon his promises.

The sure way to miss success is to miss the opportunity.—Charles.

Idleness is the key of beggary, and the root of all evil.—Spurgeon.

Life, in all ranks and situations, is an actual and active work.

Faith without works is not worth any more than a watch in the same condition.

Life is not a diamond, but a seed with possibilities of endless growth.—J. R. Miller.

The Sabbath religion must be tested by the week-day living before we know its real value.

Soul elevation should not be a Sabbath luxury only, but a daily experience. "Rejoice always; and again I say, rejoice."

## Common Sense

Should be used in attempting to cure that very disagreeable disease, catarrh. As catarrh originates in impurities in the blood, local applications can do no permanent good. The common sense method of treatment is to purify the blood, and for this purpose there is no preparation superior to Hood's Sarsaparilla.

HOOD'S PILLS cure constipation by restoring peristaltic action to the alimentary canal.

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## A Friend

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## In Need

of a laxative to try Ayer's Pills."—Boothbay (Me.) Register.

"Between the ages of five and fifteen, I was troubled with a kind of salt-rheum, or eruption, chiefly confined to the legs, and especially to the bend of the knee above the calf. Here, running sores formed which would scab over, but would break immediately on moving the leg. My mother tried everything she could think of, but all was without avail. Although a child, I read in the papers about the beneficial effects of Ayer's Pills, and persuaded my mother to let me try them. With no great faith in the result, she procured

## Ayer's Pills

and I began to use them, and soon noticed an improvement. Encouraged by this, I kept on till I took two boxes, when the sores disappeared and have never troubled me since."—H. Chipman, Real Estate Agent, Roanoke, Va.

"I suffered for years from stomach and kidney troubles, causing very severe pains in various parts of the body. None of the remedies I tried afforded me any relief until I began taking Ayer's Pills, and was cured."—Wm. Goddard, Notary Public, Five Lakes, Mich.

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