

A Worker's Prayer.

Give us, Lord, increase of grace;
We who serve in lowly places
Need Thy touch ere we can bless;
Make us great through gentleness.

Let us comfort the weak-hearted,
Homeward bring the wanderer parted;
Give us, therefore, winning speech,
Even stubborn hearts to reach.

Make us able to recover
Those whose sins have clouded over
Life's fair prospects with grim shame,
Let us whisper Jesus' name.

May we make their lives less dreary
To the hopeless and the weary,
Bearing sunshine from Thy face
Into many a darkened place.

Lord, instruct our hearts, preparing
For Thy labours we are sharing,
Lord, we are not strong nor wise,
How shall we help men to rise?

Save us from self-trust, self seeking,
Ere we speak to us be speaking;
Make us meet to serve, and take
Our poor service for love's sake.

Marianne Farmingham

For Every Church.

BY PROF. J. A. H. WE, D. D.

There could be no greater blessing come to our land than that of a season of universal success by the churches in the conversion of men. No greater blessing than this could come to the churches themselves. The treasury of the Lord would be full and missionary debts disappear were Zion to put on her beautiful garments and everywhere display her divine power.

What the churches expect to do and set about doing they will do. Let them all expect successfully to preach Christ. To labor and look for conversions is their reasonable duty. Small or great, weak or strong, near or remote, every church in our land may, if it will, witness the loving power of the Saviour of men. Certainly not one company of foreign and regenerate souls dares believe it to be impossible for them to tell with convincing and converting power the truths of the Gospel of Christ. It is entirely feasible for every such company to declare and bear convincing testimony to the salvation of our Lord.

Perhaps, however, the church will first need a spiritual cleansing. Some churches without this can do nothing. All not now full of the Spirit, alive unto God, in warm and near relations to Christ, all not humble, prayerful, believing, and wisely active must, of course, come into their proper condition before the Lord can use them for the conversion of men. "Without me ye can do nothing." To bear fruit the branches must be "pruned." The Lord calls to every drowsy church, "Awake, Zion! awake!"

Given in the church the state of wakefulness, consecration, intelligent and earnest labor always demanded for reaching the hearts of men, that conversions will follow admits of no doubt. It is much to say, but it is none the less true. For evangelistic experience assures us that the church does not labor in vain. Divine encouragements are multiplied upon this point. That the church make converts is certainly the divine will. To secure the prevalence of the divine will all spiritual forces are striving with men. Glorious predictions, easily recited, call the church to do this work with all confidence. Sinful men have always repented to the persuasive interest of the church in their salvation. The promises of Christ also declare that the seed thus sown shall bear fruit, some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred fold.

Prayerful, earnest, persistent, consistent efforts to save men cannot fail. Special or improved methods may have to be used. In the experiences of our day Providence may be seen in directing and making successful a wide variety of ways of reaching men. The best approved is that of the pastor and his people putting on the whole armor of God, and all the time bringing to pass victories over sin. The young people's societies, taught and led by the officers of the church, may be a powerful means of winning the young to Christ. Neighboring pastors may be called in to give special help and attraction to special occasions. Evangelists are a prominent feature in this work, and are generally greatly blessed of the Lord. By these men, earnest, holy, discreet, skilled in all evangelical methods, many a strong church has been made stronger and many a weak church strong. It is well to call for their services, but only as their wisdom and soundness in the faith are first assured.

By some of these measures earnestly employed, every church may begin to reap the Lord's harvest. It is time, however, to be about it. The night cometh when no man can work. It is day now, when all can work.—*Star*.

Take K. D. C. for sour stomach and sick headache.

The Love of Money vs. Feeling Responsibility for Money.

The true Christian who appreciates the value of money will use all diligence in acquiring it. Money is power, a steadily and rapidly growing power as civilization advances. It will exchange to-day for a variety of helpful appliances in all the activities of life, such as Columbus or even Washington never dreamed of. By it the affectionate husband and father can express his love in the home in a thousand ways; by it the enterprising manufacturer and merchant can increase his ability to benefit humanity; by it the student pursues his investigations into mysterious facts and laws of nature; the physician tests new remedies and probes into the causes of dread disease; the explorer penetrates undiscovered regions; the Bible is sent into spiritual deserts; the missionary into the slums at home and the jungles and wastes abroad. It is power to spread comfort and light and blessing to all men.

To be sure it has its limitations, many and hard. It cannot purchase happiness. The millionaire may build a mansion which is palatial, but his money cannot light it with joy and render it really restful. Money cannot secure true friendships. The misfortune of the rich man is that he cannot know whether many who smile upon him are not seeking his rather than him. He has many followers, but are they sycophants for his purse or genuine Davids or Jonathans?

Money buys no love, nor peace, nor brains, nor character, nor favor of God; no corner lot in heaven, no mansion there; not even real satisfaction for a day on earth. How poor and worthless it seems when we press against its limitations!

But its possibilities in the hands of a good man are equally amazing. He can endow colleges and thus furnish vast opportunities for education to aspiring young men; he can build great free libraries which enrich a whole city intellectually; he can found hospitals to do the Christlike work of healing with the best equipment of modern civilization; he can erect churches, scatter Bibles, tracts and Christian literature, and set the work of missionary enterprise gloriously forward. O the wonders of what consecrated money now does!

How stupendous the folly of selfish and miserly love of money! It is like the farmer who would love the grains of his wheat or corn so much he never could consent to have them buried out of his sight in the ground in planting. Let young Christians feel the now amazingly accumulated responsibility for the use of money. Let them look to God with pocket-book in hand and ask what He would have them do with it.—*Phil. Standard*.

Witnessing for Christ.

If Christianity ever conquers this world it must be through the agency of Christ's followers. Jesus told his disciples that they were to be his witnesses in Jerusalem in all Judea, in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth. Saul of Tarsus, when converted, received a message that he was to be a witness unto all men of what he had experienced. Peter taught the brethren to be ready meekly to give to every inquirer a reason for the inward hope. No professor of religion has a right to conceal his identity. He must let his light shine. He must confess with his lips what he believes with his heart. In the great day of account Christ will be ashamed of those who are ashamed of him here. We must hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering. We are co-witnesses with the Holy Ghost (read John xv, 26, 27), and wherever the Spirit of God is testifying to the truth, experienced Christians must be ready to confirm that testimony. Nothing else is so powerful in persuading sinners to turn to God. Nothing else is so effectual in increasing faith. (Phil. vi) Nothing else so surely calls down from heaven God's saving grace. (Acts iv. 33) The saints have always overcome "by the word of their testimony." Let that word ring forth in the class-meeting, general service, out in the world, everywhere. At all times, by life, deed, spirit, song, speech, and bearing, own the truth that Jesus has saved you, and that you commend his salvation to all around you.—*Michigan Christian Advocate*.

Getting Power.

Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman tells how he had in his parish a young Irishman; all would declare him to be enterprising, and he was; but God marvelously used him. This was the secret, in the evangelist's words:

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

"With a heart burdened for the men of the city, I called together a few of the men of the church, and laying before them the plan I had in mind, told them first of all that they could do nothing without the 'infilling of the Holy Ghost.'"

When this had been explained, I noticed this man leave the room. He did not return while the meeting was in session. When I sought him, I found him in one of the lower rooms of the church literally on his face before God. He was in prayer.

I shall never forget his petition: "O God, I plead with thee for this blessing." Then, as if God were showing him 'what was in the way,' he said: "My Father, I will give up every known sin, only I plead with thee for power; and then, as if his own individual sins were passing before him, he said again and again: 'I will give them up; I will give them up.' Then, without any emotion, he rose from his knees, turned his face heavenward, and simply said, 'And now I claim the blessing.'"

For the first time he became sensible of my presence, and, with a shining countenance, he reached out his hands to clasp mine. You could feel the presence of the Spirit as he said: "I have received him; I have received him." And I believe he had; for in the next few months he led more than sixty men into the kingdom of God. His whole life had been transformed. He is just now being set apart to preach the gospel.

The Celestial Telephone.

A missionary was toiling amid many discouragements, in a far-off heathen land. Oh, how homesick he was! He felt that he was laboring in vain, and spending his strength for naught. But suddenly, as he mused, his heart beat with new vigor; the sky seemed to brighten and the tropical air to become balmy. "What does this mean?" he cried. "Oh, I know, somebody is praying for me. Messages coming from my Christian friends at home, through the mercy seat, and they say, 'Fear not, fear not, for God is with you.' Yes, God answers their prayers by sending an angel to strengthen me. I will go forward even if it be to martyrdom."

A wife was sitting pensive and sad at home. Her husband had gone out to his store, with a cloud upon his brow. She knew that the times were hard, and that there were many failures. There was a telephone in the house, and she said, "I will send a message to cheer him." Then she thought in a moment. "What can I say? I may only interrupt him and distract his attention. I cannot help him, but God can." So she went into her closet and prayed. That night the merchant came home with an unclouded brow. The crisis had passed. His credit was safe. He said that he seemed to have been favored with special providence that day; and the wife did not say, "I was praying for you all day." That secret was too sacred even for her ears. But she thanked God in her heart and determined to have more faith henceforth in Him who heareth prayer.—*Our Young Folks*.

What Sort of Men are Needed.

What we want to-day is not organizers but preachers, and every hindrance ought to be removed that a man who can preach may have an opportunity of fulfilling his high calling. Be sure of this fact—for history is our evidence—that neither the press, nor books, nor endless machinery, nor elaborate services, can be compared as a dynamic with the living voice declaring the gospel of Christ. Knox preached his way to St. Giles, whose armies fled before him, and from St. Giles' pulpit he ruled Scotland like a king. Preaching—intelligent, spiritual, believing preaching—will alone beat back unbelief and superstition in our day. May I record my conviction that after a period of apologetic there is to be a change, and the time has come for the confident and positive proclamation of Christ and his Cross, writes Rev. John Watson (Ian MacLaren), the author of "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush." For years the Church has been on her defence, meeting her attacks from science, from philosophy, from history. We tender thanks to God for our apologists. Nobly have they done their work. They have held the ground like the squares of infantry at Waterloo; it is now time for the cavalry to charge and complete the victory. We have defended Christ long enough, we shall now declare him. The world accepts the church as a well-managed institution; let her hear the church as the standing witness to the hopes of the soul to the Person of Jesus, to the life everlasting.—*Can. Pres.*

What is Narrowness?

It is difficult to be intense without narrowness, and to be broad without looseness. But it must be attained if possible, for intensity of conviction and breadth of mind are both excellences, while narrowness of view and looseness of grip on truth are both faults. One must hold the faith so firmly that he shall be ready and competent to contend earnestly for it, but he must hold it so intelligently that he shall not over-emphasize points of little importance or waste his strength in fighting windmills. He must be able to state clearly his beliefs and the reasonable grounds for them, yet at the same time must fully recognize that other men under different conditions may be equally acceptable to God although holding with equal firmness very different views.—*Herald*.

What Your Saviour Wants.

Is there nothing that Christ, as your Friend, your Lord, your Saviour, wants you to do that you are leaving undone today? Do you doubt one instant that with His high and deep love for your soul, He wants you to pray? And do you pray?

Do you doubt one instant that it is His will that you should honor and help and bless all these men about you who are His brethren? And are you doing anything like that?

Do you doubt one instant that His will is that you should make life serious and lofty? Do you doubt one instant that He wants you to be pure in deed and word and thought? And are you pure? Do you doubt one instant that His command is for you openly to own Him, and declare that you are His servant before all the world? And have you done it?

These are the questions which make the whole matter clear. No, not in quiet lanes, nor in bright temple courts as once He spoke, and not from blazing heavens, as men sometimes seem to expect—not so does Christ speak to us.

And yet He speaks! I know what He—there in all His glory, He here in my heart—wants me to do to-day, and I know that I am not mistaken in my knowledge. It is no guess of mine. It is His voice that tells me.—*Phillips Brooks*.

How Souls are Won.

A large part of our work of winning souls is personal—that is, it is a work between man and man. God has ordained that, usually, when an unsaved person is to be led to the Saviour, it shall be done through some human agent. As Andrew found Peter, as Phillip found Nathaniel, as Jesus found the woman at Jacob's well, so are we to seek afterwards, and patiently, lovingly win them to their Redeemer. In point of fact, nearly every regenerate person can trace his religious life to the agency of some individual. Some times it is a mother's prayers, sometimes a father's counsel, sometimes the holy living of one of God's children. But even more frequently our religious experience can be traced to a word directly spoken by some one in whose Christian character we had confidence.

An unsaved person may sit under the most faithful preaching for years and remain unmoved, while the simple question, "directly spoken, 'Are you a Christian?'" may do more to awaken his conscience than any number of sermons.—*Rev. George Whitman*.

Dishonest Church Members.

It is often said that Christians are no more honest than other people. Whatever of truth there is in that requires the substitution of the phrase, Church members, for "Christians." There is not a dishonest Christian in the world, and never was. A dishonest man is not a Christian. He may bow his head, cross himself, or weep at the name of Jesus, soar on wings of ecstasy when he hears descriptions of heaven, and recount with unctious the date, the hour, and the minute of his conversion; but if he is dishonest he is not a Christian. The fundamental maxim of Christianity is: "Provide things honest in the sight of all men." It is an awful day for any man when he says within himself: "I know that this is dishonest, but it is the custom of the trade, and I must do it or sink." He is at least the half brother of a man who commits a forgery, robs tills, or makes false entries.—*N. Y. Christian Advocate*.

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Happy Christians.

At a meeting held in Bristol a few weeks since to bid good-bye to a lady bound for China, there to work as a missionary, an address on service was delivered by Mr. George Muller. He urged the need of being happy believers if we would be successful in service.

Use K. D. C. for all stomach troubles.

vice for Christ, and said: "In order to be thus happy believers we must be lovers of Holy Scripture. After my conversion in 1825 I used to read the Bible, but it was not until about four years later that I was a lover of God's holy Word. I believe this is one chief reason that I have been kept in happy, useful service, because I have been a lover of Holy Scripture; and I love it more now than ever I did. It has been my habit to read the Scriptures through four times in a year; and it is important to read it in a prayerful spirit, to meditate upon what we read, and to apply it to our own hearts. 'Do I understand this? Do I obey this? What has this word for me?' Then we must practise what we find in the Scriptures, and the result will be a happy man, a happy woman. I have been for sixty-nine years a happy man; and I desire for my beloved brethren and sisters that they may be happy, happy, happy, ten times more happy than ever I have been in my life; for it is impossible to tell what God may give to us in this way if we are thus lovers of Holy Scripture."—*Observer*

The Human and the Divine.

The stupendous achievements of railway engines—nearly two miles to the minute for a little while; ninety miles to the hour for one; sixty-four miles an hour for nearly nine consecutive hours—now fascinate the eye of the world.

Surpassing all in strength is the electric locomotive, now drawing more tons of freight than any two steam locomotives yet built, on a steep grade in the Baltimore tunnel.

Man is getting all the credit. Let Warman, the engineer poet, teach the final source of all these achievements: "I hear the whistle sounding,
The moving air I feel;
The train goes by me bounding
O'er throbbing threads of steel."

"My mind it doth bewilder
These wondrous things to scan.
Awe, not by man, the builder,
But God, who made the man."

A good man's reputation is in the keeping of Almighty God.

It is the fault of the egotist that he both thinks too well of himself and not well enough of his fellows.

When a man sees his duty plainly defined before him, he has no option but to go forward and do it.

Prayer is the breath of the soul. The soul that is alive to God prays, as the body that is alive breathes. Cessation of breathing is evidence of physical death. Cessation of praying is evidence that the soul is dead. Is your soul dead?

Weak and Nervous

Describes the condition of thousands of people at this season. They have no appetite, cannot sleep, and complain of the prostrating effect of warmer weather. This condition may be remedied by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which creates an appetite and tones up all the organs. It gives good health by making the blood pure.

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Colic and Kidney Difficulty.—Mr. J. W. White, J. P., Lafarville, N. Y., writes: "I am subject to severe attacks of Colic and Kidney. Difficultly, and find Parmelee's Pills afford me great relief, while all other remedies failed. They are the best medicine I have ever used." In fact so great is the power of this medicine to cleanse and purify, that diseases of almost every name and nature are driven from the body.

Inflammatory Rheumatism.—Mr. S. Ackerman, commercial traveler, Belleville, writes: "Some years ago I used Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil for inflammatory rheumatism, and three bottles effected a complete cure. I was the whole of one summer unable to move without crutches, and every movement caused excruciating pains. I am now out on the road and exposed to all kinds of weather, but have never been troubled with rheumatism since. I, however, keep a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil on hand, and I always recommend it to others, as it did so much for me."

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