

him the second dollar or not, but we do remember how that small sized minister became much smaller in our estimation, and has served for a standard of diminutiveness to us ever since. Some have the disgusting habit of either asking or suggesting gifts from the people they meet or visit, until people instinctively say within themselves, or to others, "here comes brother so and so; I wonder what he will see that he will want this time?"

This type of persons go into stores to get some trifling article and say to the clerk that waits on them, "You give ten per cent off to clergymen, don't you?" And if the proprietor is present, they look about and say of some article, "That would be a fine thing for a preacher; I wish I was able to buy it!" The proprietor looks bored and says: "Well, if you need it I suppose you better take it."

And the good man who preaches—"Thou shalt no covet"—says, "The Lord loveth the cheerful giver; may He bless you for your generosity to His servants." And the man who was made poorer by his call, says to the next person who comes into his store, "I am thoroughly disgusted with begging preachers." It is one thing to pray with people and another to prey on them.

Brethren, we receive small salaries—in fact many of us much less than day laborers; but, brethren — brethren — don't let us stoop to things that will make us objects of contempt. Do let every professed servant of Christ "walk worthy of the vocation wherein we are called."

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH IT?

What will you do with that carnal mind?—"Not carnal?" Better take your bearings. The captain of the ill-fated steamship "Atlantic," a few years ago, was so sure he was in no danger that he went into his cabin to sleep at ten o'clock at night. Howbeit, he had not taken his bearings. In less than an hour he had run on the rocks of Newfoundland, and his noble ship sank to rise no more.

What will you do with that carnal mind?—"Restrain it?" Yes, when you have restrained a lightning bolt. "Tame it?" Know this, "that every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind," but the carnal mind "can no man tame."

What will you do with it? "Bring it into subjection?" "It is not subject to the law of God neither indeed can be." Here we reach bed-rock again. Millions have tried the experiment of subjection, but the subjection was always on the wrong side. It will bother you to your grave, and eventually sink you into Hell.

What will you do with it? There is but one thing that can be done, and that is to have it destroyed.—*Selected.*

According to the recent report of the British and Foreign Bible Society, that great institution had the pleasure the past year of witnessing the rise of the issue of the Scriptures under its benign work to the number of ten million, for the first time in its history. What a tribute to the most ardently hated and opposed and the most marvelously loved book in the universe. This wonderful book is not dead, and will never die while God lives. Thank God for this matchless gift to the sons of men!

"Be worthy of praise; then you won't care whether you get it or not."

ADVERTISING FOR THE DEVIL.

There are many well-meaning people in the world who do a good deal of gratuitous advertising for Satan. They seem to doubt whether anything is settled until they settle it; and so they go to work disputing with unseen opponents, and confuting in the pulpit theories which, to most of their hearers, are as unknown and unintelligible as Sanscrit.

A minister expressed great surprise at seeing an objectionable book on the table of a friend, but was informed that his curiosity was excited by the minister's denouncing the book the previous Sunday, and at once he went and bought it.

We shall do well to remember that our harvest depends upon the amount of wheat which we sow, and not upon the number of tares that we pull up. We may work ourselves to death in trying to undo what Satan has done, and we shall find him at last too agile for us to overtake him. We shall do better to work for God with all the energy of devout and devoted hearts, and trusting Him to bless his own word, and bring to nought the devices of evil men and devils.

An earnest writer has well said: "Teachers have better work than to advertise the devil's nostrums. The best way, as a rule, to preach down error, is to preach up truth. Fill the mind and saturate the soul with the truth of God's Word, and there shall be no room for error. Seldom attack error directly; but if you do throw down the gauntlet to the devil, be sure you give him a deadly lunge. Error is a plant of such prolific growth, that the more you try to pull it up by its roots, the more you will cause them to sprout. Sow 'the good seed of the kingdom' in every spot of the ground, and you will choke out and keep out error by the presence of truth. We have paid too much respect to Satan. We owe him nothing but contempt and disobedience. Let us stop abusing the devil and the Pope, and begin in good earnest to teach God's Word. If that word abide in us richly, if we teach it fully, we shall have little occasion to mourn over the power of error."

"Never before has God more signally honored His own word. Never before was the Bible more bitterly opposed; never before was it so tenderly loved and widely read as now. Never before was prayer more questioned; never before was prayer more graciously answered. Truth is mighty; as God lives it will prevail. Let us believe it, teach it, and live it. Let us fill the minds of the children with the truths of God's Word; and by his blessing, new trophies to redeeming grace shall be won in every class."

—H. L. Hastings, in *The Common People*.

THE RIGHT PLACE.

There are many people who are looking for places. One is anxious to get a good place; another to get an easy place; but the great object of Christians should be to find the right place, the place where the Lord would have them to be.

Our heavenly Father can plan our business much better than we; and if we will listen to His call, and obey His voice, and follow day by day in the path which He appoints, we shall find the right place, the best place, the place in which the Lord would have us be; and when we are certainly sure that we have found this place, whether our lot be wealth or poverty, prosperity or adversity, all will be well, for He who leads and guides us will protect and provide for us.—*Common People*.

A CRUCIAL MOMENT.

In every great battle there are decisive moments when to falter or fail of duty is disaster. There may be times in a battle when things are not so strained, when the course of every soldier is not so critical; but when the battery is to be stormed, the walls taken, or the bayonet charge made, the act of every soldier is imperative. A heedless or careless one or a sluggard is almost inconceivable. Every soldier is intense, every eye is fixed, every muscle is set, and every nerve is strained. It will soon be over; the victory will be won or there will be utter defeat. This is where the church lacks *esprit de corps* or training or both. There is no time in the battle, or in the whole campaign for the rescue of lost souls, so vital as when the sermon or exhortation has reached the climax of invitation, and men and women are invited to make the final decision—to say the eternal YES to God—and in order that it may be more emphatic and that they may be instructed if need be, and special united prayer offered for them, they are invited to "come out from among them," and at the altar of God seal the everlasting covenant of Loyalty to Jesus Christ. Frequently this is the time of the churches' lack. Instead of all-comprehensive intensity, one mighty effort of faith, there is littleness, the beginning of preparation to go home, or some such act which is an expression of a lack of expectancy, if not to the absence of anxiety in reference to the results of the battle. It is the repetition of the statement of our Lord, "Ye seek Me, because ye did eat of the loaves and were filled." Some who profess to be His disciples seem to act as if, now that the sermon is over and we have got whatever satisfaction or gratification out of hearing the man that we are to get, we are at liberty to decamp, or do anything which seems at hand without regard to the demoralization and defeat which we cause.

A little weariness, a little pressure for time, a little anything, or nothing, seems sufficient at this moment with many to cause them to allow the enemy to make use of them to bring disaster to the cause they profess to love. When men are especially in the valley of decision and all the possibilities of destiny are being decided and fixed, to have the Gospel hindered and its ends defeated, by the carelessness or lack of courage or endurance on the part of those professing Godliness is peculiarly sad.

Let us have prayer and light, and humiliation, with repentance and faith, and new anointing for these crucial times of the battle.—*Nazarene Messenger*.

Walk in the company of vain thoughts all the day, and thou wilt hardly shut the door upon them when thou goest into thy closet. Thou hast taught them to be bold; and now they will plead acquaintance with thee, and crowd in after thee, like little children, who, if you play with them, will cry after you when you would be rid of their company.—*William Gurney*.

"John 3:16, is worth more than all the accumulated books of the East."—J. N. Fradenburg.

"Daniel preferred a night with the lions to a prayerless bedchamber."—W. H. Fenton.

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