

NOT INTERESTED IN MISSIONS.

"I am not interested in missions," was the reply of a bright, gracious lady, a member of the church, when she was solicited to do some missionary work.

"Not interested in missions"—and yet the Saviour was so much interested that He came to earth to seek and save a lost world.

"Not interested in missions!" If that had been the attitude of the early Church, what would now be the condition of the uninterested one?

"Not interested in missions," even though the Lord Jesus' last injunction was "go teach all nations"—a command accompanied by the promise, "Lo, I am with you."

"Not interested in missions," and it was a woman the risen Lord honored by being the first messenger sent to proclaim a resurrected Christ.—Ex.

ONE OF GOD'S BEST GIFTS.

The law of the Sabbath is one of God's best gifts to men.

If God had not provided it, man would have had to arrange some equivalent for it. For man and machinery alike need occasional quiet, to let the oscillation of activity die down and the excited atoms cool and be still.

The law of the Sabbath, like all of God's laws, turns out to be not an arbitrary rule imposed on life, but a necessary principle grounded in life's deepest character.—Dr. Speer.

GOING THROUGH.

This oft repeated modern phrase is full of significance. It contains something more than a sentiment. It expresses vigorous perseverance of the most rugged type.

It means no stopping or turning back. We heard a man expressing in one of our camp meetings a desire to have 'hen's foot religion.' On inquiring what he meant, he said that a hen's foot was so constructed that it was impossible for her to step backwards. We wish some people had such a foot in their religion. It takes a tremendous force of will power to be a Christian. There is so much to oppose, hinder, distract and discourage that only an iron will together with the grace of God can take us through.

It means no going around and dodging the hard places. Oftentimes it costs more to build a road around a mountain than it does to tunnel through. The boring and drilling are expensive, but not so costly as the steep grading of going around. There are people who try to have an easy time in going around difficult duty who find in the end that it costs more than to face the issue and duty and go straight through. All compromise is of the devil and the devil will get the compromisers.

Going through is a matter of individual responsibility. It is not a question of who else is going, whether a big crowd or a little crowd or no crowd at all. Like a man who buys his ticket on the rail road. He does not ask as to the crowd going. He has made up his mind to go anyway.

Let us all settle it once and forever that we are going through at any cost and the battle is half won already. Amen!—Witness.

THINKS THE HIGHWAY A GOOD HOLINESS PREACHER.

A brother in sending a liberal contribution to the Highway Supplementary Fund says: "I consider the Highway to be as good holiness preacher as we have, and it preaches to the largest number of people."

The Highway believes in a religious paper being distinctively religious.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN RUSSIA.

A remarkable feature of the Russian revolution is the proclamation of religious freedom. The provisional government has repealed all laws limiting the rights of Russian citizens as to creeds and religions.

This puts an end to religious persecution, which has been common in Russia, and will mean much not only to the Jews, but to Protestantism as well.

When the war ends, Russia's 175,000,000 of population, largely benighted, but deeply religious at heart and lacking only instruction, will offer one of the greatest and most inviting mission fields in the world.

It is not too early for the great missionary agencies of America and Great Britain to begin planning for the evangelization of Russia as soon as the way shall be open.—The Missionary Voice.

A DAY OF PRAYER.

The King has appointed Sunday, Jan. 6th, 1918, as "a special day of prayer and thanksgiving" in all the churches throughout the Empire. In the letter setting aside this special day he says: "The world-wide struggle for the triumph of right and liberty is entering upon its last and most difficult phase. The enemy is striving by desperate assault and subtle intrigue to perpetuate the wrongs already committed and to stem the tide of a free civilization. We have yet to complete the great task to which, more than three years ago, we dedicated ourselves. At such a time I would call upon you to devote a special day to prayer, that we may have the clear-sightedness necessary to victory in our cause." We are sure this appointment will meet with favor everywhere throughout the Empire. The vicissitudes of the long-continued and nerve-racking struggle have led men to realize as never before the weakness of our humanity, and the need of divine help in this great struggle for freedom. And now, when the nations are war-weary and well-nigh exhausted, it is well to remember that we need great wisdom and clear-sightedness, that we may not throw away the results of our hard-won victory. We need divine inspiration and divine guidance, and we need also a clear view of some of the things which stand in the way of our victory. The enemy which is more to be feared than Germany is still strong in our national life. While we pray for victory over the German menace, let us pray just as fervently for delivery from the soul-destroying, nation-blasting liquor traffic.—Christian Guardian.

Men willingly give for things which gives them sinful pleasure, or conspicuity, who are unwilling to give for things which lift them to a nobler life.

THE POWER OF THE PULPIT.

There has been a great deal said in the newspapers and magazines about the decline of the pulpit. We have been told that the day for the pulpit is gone, and the problem of getting a Sunday evening congregation in the cities and a full house in the mornings, everywhere, is cited in proof.

But you have never heard any prince of God, who occupies a pulpit, talking it.

There are several things that lead me to believe the pulpit is a place of power. First, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are unapproached in searching the conscience, comforting the heart and revealing the will of God to men.

In the second place, Jesus Christ is a living power for regenerating and recovering wasted humanity. There is only one message of hope for the woman who has lost her crown, and that is Christ's word to her. There is only one power in the world today that can lift a man, and that power is the power of Christ.

Third, while the great medium of education today is the printed page, the most thrilling medium for the transmission of truth is a living person, stirred with a great passion for mankind. This is the opportunity of the pulpit for the man who is called of God to occupy it—to unfold the message of the Old and New Testaments under the power of Christ, out of a heart quivering with interest in men.—The Triumphant Ministry.

MOMENT BY MOMENT.

Dying with Jesus, this death reckoned mine;

Living with Jesus, a new life divine;
Looking to Jesus till glory doth shine,
Moment by moment, O Lord I am Thine.

Never a trial that he is not there,
Never a burden that he doth not bear,
Never a sorrow that he doth not share;
Moment by moment I'm under His care.

Never a heartache, and never a groan,
Never a teardrop and never a moan;
Never a danger, but there on the throne,
Moment by moment He thinks of His own.

Never a weakness that He doth not feel,
Never a sickness that he cannot heal;
Moment by moment, in woe or in weal,
Jesus, my Saviour, abides with me still.

Moment by moment I'm kept in His love;
Moment by moment I've life from above,
Looking to Jesus till glory doth shine;
Moment by moment, O Lord I am Thine.

—Selected.

When will people learn that feeling is not salvation but the result of salvation? Until this truth is learned our altars will continue to be crowded with those who seek to feel good rather than to be good.—Sel.

"If you want to be discouraged, look within; if you want to be distracted, look about; but if you want to be satisfied, look up." Some people live on doubts, because they have nothing else to do. Just be occupied with the Master and his work, and you will have assurance.—D. L. Moody.