

WHAT MEAN THESE CONSTANT CALLS FOR MONEY.

1. They mean that you have been delivered from the bondage of poverty in which so many dwell. If people are continually coming to you for money it shows that you are probably in comfortable circumstances, a fact for which you should thank God daily.

2. They mean that the world regards you as a person of generous impulses. These frequent appeals are really a compliment to you, for there are people of larger means than yourself who are seldom asked to give, and for obvious reasons.

3. These appeals may be an answer to your prayers. You have often prayed, "Thy Kingdom come." In answer to your prayer God has enlarged His work and multiplied the workers. He has called thousands of young men and women into His service, and they must be trained. He has opened the doors of heathendom in every direction, and they are crying, "Come over and help us."

All these things call for money, but they are a direct answer to your prayers.

Are you sorry that you prayed? What are you going to do about it? Will you stop praying, or will you help answer your own prayers?

4. If God has entrusted you with more wealth than some, what does it mean but that He intends you shall have a large share in the extension of His Kingdom, great joy in helping the needy, and a special opportunity to become like His Son? for a double portion of your Master's spirit. Here is the answer: God has not only provided you with the means to give, but He is continually supplying you with opportunities to deny yourself, that thus you may become more and more like your Master. Who can doubt for a moment that this is God's purpose in entrusting us with money, that it may afford us special opportunities to grow in grace?

A gentleman once asked another how much he wanted him to give to a certain cause. The other wrote to a friend and inquired if it would be presumptuous if he should ask for \$25,000.

"Presumptuous? No indeed; it is only asking him to accept a twenty-five thousand dollar blessing. I am seldom able to take more than a dollar's worth of blessing at a time."

5. These appeals may mean that you are to be called to lay down your stewardship sooner than you suppose, and God wants you to be laying up treasure in heaven. He does not wish to deprive you of your money, and so suggests that you convert it into the currency of Heaven, into Christian manhood and womanhood, and thus be able to enjoy it forever.

6. If we do not use God's property as He desires, He may take away our stewardship, and give it to another, who will make better use of it. "Take therefore the talent from him, and give to him that hath ten talents."

7. The cost of not giving. A lawyer once asked the question, "How can one get rid of so many appeals?"

"That's easy enough," was the reply. "Just stop giving altogether, and in a little while the public will find it out and will let you alone as they do many others."

"Yes," said the lawyer, "I suppose that is so, but what would be the effect upon me, if I should stop giving?"

"Why your soul would probably grow small just in proportion as your bank account grew large." What will it cost me not to give.

8. Redeeming lost time. The Christian who does not see the winning of souls before him as a definite aim in life, is making a great mistake. Possibly you have made this mistake. If so, you can redeem the past in a measure by helping maintain those who will devote their lives to soul-saving work, and who shall say that the souls won to Christ by their efforts may not be stars in your crown of rejoicing?—In "The Presbyterian of the South."

"BE YE ALSO READY."

By Annie Johnson Flint.

What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? . . . Be ye also ready.—Matthew 24:3, 44.

"What are the signs of thy coming, And when shall the end-time be?" Anxious, they questioned the Master, Curious, even as we.

Are these the signs of his coming That loom over sea and land, That darken the earth and the heavens? Is the day so near at hand?

We know not; he hath not told us This secret of the Lord, But all we need he hath left us To read in his sacred Word.

And pulsing through the silence Like the far, faint throb of a drum; "Watch ye, be ye also ready, For ye know not when I come."

Sweet as a silver trumpet Through tumult and clamor clear: "Watch, be ye also ready, For the time is drawing near." —Sunday School Times.

INASMUCH.

Because the Master is not here, with his own hand today To feed the hungry multitudes who throng life's busy way, He gives the task to you and me, he bids us hear their cry; He says that if we turn from them, we also pass him by. Our eyes are blind; we only see an outcast at our door; Yet said he not himself that they who feed and clothe the poor. Give unto him?—Then day by day for such a royal Guest, Shall we not bring with willing hands our choicest and our best?

—Edith Hickman Divall.

A man must not choose his neighbor; he must take his neighbor that God sends him. In him, whoever he be, lies hidden or revealed a beautiful brother. The neighbor is just the man who is next to you at the moment. This love of your neighbor is the only door out of the dungeon of self. —Geo. Macdonald.

WHY PRESSURE?

A. C. Zepp.

To give increased power. More power to the locomotive means more pressure of steam in the boiler. See that long train of empties! The engineer can make fifty miles per hour with them. But load them and the speed will greatly be decreased. It will take much longer to reach the destination because the value is so much greater. Empty trains can make rapid progress because they are light. Loaded ones bring pressure somewhere.

More power to the Christian means more pressure, too. Sometimes when there is apparent much emotion in our meetings little burden is being carried. Weigh the crowd down with the agonies of travail and the progress is not apparently so rapid nor the meeting so free as under the other circumstances, but the load is so much more valuable. Jesus was under fearful, agonizing pressure in the garden before going to the cross because He was loaded down with responsibility of the redemption of millions. While the soul cannot stand constantly great pressure, thank God for the special seasons of pressure that always precede power.

Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage once said: "I believe there are literally thousands of men in hell whose eternal damnation is due to the improper dress of women." He also said: "I have told my wife that when our little girls are twelve years old, papa will continue to buy their clothing providing they will dress to their necks, but I don't want a lot of men pasturing on the neglected and unfenced territory of my family."

ON SUNDAY DINNERS.

Sunday is made the hardest day in the week for many people because others persist in making it a day for extra eating.

Numberless people in every city, town and village are kept from any opportunity of going to church because "the family" insist on having a "big meal." Mothers, sisters, and servants are slaves to other folks' stomachs.

When will these gorging families wake up to the duty of simpler living? When will they stop making others wait on them and sacrificing precious principles, solely to make Sunday the banquet day?

More religion is lost on Sunday than this world dreams of! It is lost because of selfishness. People who would rather eat than work, or than permit others to have a day of rest, are selfish robbers.

Let us make all the household duties as simple as possible on the Lord's Day and thus open the door of the church to tired mothers and servants who deserve it.—Sel.

"Men do not excel today, because after their conversion, they do not go apart, like Moses and Paul, into Horeb and Arabia for a season. Young Christians must go into Arabia. Book-learning will never make preachers. You must get away alone with God and His Holy Word, and let God speak to you until you can see God."—H. W. Webb-Peploe.