

## BETTER THAN BEING STRONG.

Strong men are often inefficient and helpless. Those of lesser strength are often they who get things done. A Christian minister who had been in China was telling of the remarkable way in which the Chinese coolies handle heavy trunks and other baggage. "Are they very strong?" asked an interested friend. "They are very wise," was the reply. "They have some lessons to teach us as to burden bearing." In other words, not strength, but wisdom, seems to be the secret of bearing burdens that might seem to call for great strength. It is well known that professional wrestlers and weight-lifters are not of exceptional strength; but they know how to do the thing—they have the needed "knack." They are "very wise." And God tells us how to be "very wise," and just what he "knack" is, in the matter of all the burdens we ever need to bear. The needed wisdom is to let Him bear all the burdens for us. The Christian's successful "knack" in anything that calls for great strength is, not to exert himself, but to rejoice that he can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth him (Phil. 4:13). Then he cries out in triumph: "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (II. Cor. 12:9)—Sunday School Times.

## STRONGLY CONDEMNED.

The Editor of the Sunday School Times having personally attended the world's Sunday School convention and carefully studied the coalition between pagans and christians in their great convention, comes out with a four-and-a-half column article strongly deploring inexcusable deference paid to paganism and its leaders by the representatives of christianity at the convention.

Many high and influential pagans were given leading places in the convention, and he gives instances where christians in Japan gave expressions of protest and regret.

One thing is specially noted that a great hall was built and paid for by pagan leaders for this world's Christian Sunday School Convention to be held in, but three hours before the convention was to open this building burned flat to the ground with a raging fire which consumed this great building in a most incredibly short time, the walls falling in 20 minutes after the fire started.

The article was copied in the Wesleyan Methodist in full, and other papers have strong comments of considerable length—in which considered that here was a disgraceful compromise of christian principle.

"The thoughtless multitude, what a pitiful thing it is! We see such people constantly in our churches. Every religious awakening to them is but a new fad to be followed. The mightiest manifestations of divine grace only awaken in them the interest of a new show. They glut the church during a revival, only to go away to laugh and scoff. They are not malicious; they are brainless. It is useless to denounce them; we can only cover them with pity."

## IT DEPENDS ON YOU.

Whether you are to be ranked with life's successes or numbered with its derelicts—whether you are to live a life of useful toil or simply to pass the time—whether you are to master your trade or whether you are to be merely a filler-in—whether you are to be an honor to your friends or a disgrace—whether you are to fight or fly, to be a hero or a coward—whether you are to reach heaven or hell, depends upon one man—and that is yourself.

Remember, however, that your best is only possible when you are "working together with God." You need every atom of your own will power; you need all your strength of mind and body, but you need also, and more than all, your God.—Ex.

## SUGGESTIONS.

It is blessed to go forth daily with the consciousness that God works in us, with us, and for us.

It is often a great relief to tell our troubles to an earthly friend; much more is it to pour it forth into the bosom of God.

God never appoints us a duty without giving us strength to perform it.

He who commanded Abraham to "Walk before me and be thou perfect," said also, "I am the Almighty God."

God works out His purposes by unexpected methods. He overrules human perversity and makes the wrath of man to praise Him.

Sometimes we are permitted to have our own way that we may learn how small our wisdom is, and how weak and vain our devices.

What is the chief end of man? How many know not what it is, nor the means of attaining it, and wander on and miss the mark.—The Holiness Worker.

After months of gracious success the work of God began to decline among the early Methodists. Wise John Wesley called a meeting, which resulted in what was known as the "Fetter Lane Confession." It was found that the workers had made three great mistakes.

1. They had allowed a "spirit of division to come in among them as to methods of work."

2. They had changed the "workings of the Holy Spirit to human emotionalism."

3. "They had rested in the beginnings of sanctification."

Are we in any danger of similar mistakes? Is the failure of the holiness forces in some quarters due to any or all of these mistakes? John Fletcher, the "seraphic saint of Madeley," warned the early Methodists of the danger of resting in the "beginnings of holiness," and declared that safety was found "only in the fulness of God."—Selected.

"It has been a long time since the minister was as valuable a man as he is today. Religion is the strongest pillar of our national life. The man of God should be freed from temporal cares that his whole strength may be given to ideal ends."

"We usually fear because we have cause for fear; when all is right, we shall bid farewell to terror."

## HOW ANGELS OBEY.

A teacher was explaining in her class words concerning God's angels, "ministers of his who do his pleasure," and asked: "How do the angels carry out God's will?"

Many answers followed.

One said: "They do it directly."

Another: "They do it with all their hearts."

A third: "They do it well."

And after a pause a quiet little girl added: "They do it without asking any questions."

## CHRIST A MISSIONARY.

Christ was a home missionary in the house of Lazarus.

Christ was a foreign missionary when the Greeks came to Him.

Christ was a City missionary when He taught in Samaria.

Christ was a children's missionary when He took them in His arms and blessed them.

Christ was a Sunday School missionary when He opened the scriptures and set men to studying the Word of God.

Christ was a missionary to the poor when He opened the eyes of the blind beggar.—Sel.

## READ THE BIBLE.

"Read the Bible and it brings you into the association of the best people that ever lived. You stand beside Moses, and learn his meekness; beside Job, and learn his faith; beside Daniel, and learn his courage to do right; and beside Isaiah, and learn his fiery indignation toward the evil-doer; beside Paul, and catch something of his enthusiasm; beside Christ, and you feel his love."—Spurgeon.

## KEEPING AT WORK.

You long for the day to come when you shall have put aside money enough to retire from business. You long for a life of reposeful do-nothing ease.

That, perhaps, is not a surprising longing, particularly if you are now a hard worker. But it is about the most foolish longing you can entertain.

For, though you evidently do not suspect this, it is practically a longing for a life of groans and aches and discontent, and perhaps an untimely death.

The wise among men never really retire from business. It is true they may drop out of the trade or business or profession in which they have been gainfully engaged.

But in one way or another they still keep at work, instinctively appreciating that to do otherwise is to endanger life itself.—Addington Bruce.

Movies and automobiles are largely responsible for the nation-wide crime wave which is sweeping the country, according to Wm. A. Pinkerton, head of the Pinkerton detective agency. "The showing of pictures of criminal acts promote criminality," he declared. "Such pictures should be prohibited."