

DO NOT FORGET ABOUT FORGIVENESS

By Rev. H. C. Morrison, D.D

The teachings of Christ are very clear and positive with reference to forgiveness. It is the only way out of a difficult situation where human prejudices, likes and dislikes are involved. The forgiveness we expect and must receive from God, or go into ruin and darkness, depends upon our spirit of forgiveness toward our fellow-beings. If we would be forgiven, we must forgive.

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There are some difficult and hard problems involved in the matter of forgiveness. To forgive and love our enemies is not natural to depraved human nature. To such nature the very reverse rises in the heart at once. The spirit of depraved nature is the spirit of revenge and the spirit of revenge in the heart shuts out the spirit of God's mercy and cuts off the soul from communion with its maker.

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The simple truth is, the unregenerated heart cannot live up to the standards which our Lord Jesus Christ sets up in his teachings. It is not expected to. Regeneration is absolutely necessary in order to the living of the Christian life. The Christ principle and spirit must enter into us if we would live in harmony with the teachings of Christ. These high teachings of our Lord were given to us not to be practiced in the old life of sin, but to be practiced in the new life of salvation. To obey him in the spirit of love and joy we must know him; we must be born again; we must be brought into communion and fellowship with him. We must partake of his spirit that we may be able to live the life marked out in his teachings.

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God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son to save those who blasphemed his name, who violated his commandments, who commit all manner of sin against him. What wonderful compassion! Now if the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost being given unto us, we too, can love our enemies. We can give our money, our time, our children, our service, and our lives for our Christ, and the lost humanity he died to redeem. If we would live the Christian life we must have the Christ spirit. We cannot hope to live the high life if we have not been born into that life. It is impossible for an unborn babe to live the active intelligent life of the well developed and progressive child. Just so, it is impossible for the soul which has not been born of the Spirit, to live and practice the high and holy teachings of Jesus.

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If the reader should find him or herself cumbered with the Spirit of prejudice, hatred, or malice against a fellow-being, let that reader at once seek the Lord, get the new life, be filled with the Spirit, come into blessed communion with the Holy Ghost; then the thing which before was impossible, will become easy and natural, and the Christ love will flow out of the soul. Then for-

giveness will be the life and delight of the redeemed child of God. O, that we might have an artesian well which needs no priming nor pumping up, within our very souls, out from which flows the spirit of unselfish love and genuine forgiveness.—Pentecostal Herald.

WRONG SIDE OUT.

Jack was cross; nothing pleased him. His mother gave the choicest morsels for his breakfast, and the nicest toys; but he did nothing but fret and complain. At last his mother said, "Jack, I want you to go right up to your room, and put all your clothes wrong side out."

Jack stared in amazement.

"I mean it, Jack," she repeated.

Jack had to mind. He had to turn his stockings wrong side out, and put on his coat and pants and his collar wrong side out. When his mother came up to him, there he stood before the glass—a forlorn and funny looking boy, all linings and seams and ravelings, wondering what his mother meant. Then his mother, turning him around, "This is what you have been doing all day, making the worst of everything. You have been turning everything wrong side out. Do you really like your things this way so much, Jack?"

"No, mamma," answered Jack, very shame-facedly. "Can't I turn them right?"

"Yes; you may if you try to speak what is pleasant and do what is pleasant. You must do with your manners as you prefer to do with your clothes—wear them right side out."—Selected.

BIBLE ALPHABET RIDDLE.

- A was a traitor hung by the hair;
- B was a folly built high in the air;
- C was a mountain o'erlooking the sea;
- D was a nurse, buried under a tree;
- E was a first born bad from his youth;
- F was a ruler who trembled at truth;
- G was a messenger sent with good words;
- H was a mother, who loaned to the Lord;
- I was a name received of the Lord;
- J was a shepherd in Arabian land;
- K was a place near the desert of sand;
- L was a pauper begging his bread;
- M was an idol, an object of dread;
- N was an architect ages ago;
- O was a rampart to keep out the foe;
- P was an isle, whence a saint looked above;
- Q was a Christian sainted in love;
- R was obscure, yet a mother of kings;
- S was a Danite, who did wonderful things;
- T was a city that had strong hold;
- U was a country productive of gold;
- V was a queen whom a king set aside;
- Z was a place where a man wished to hide.

A man may not be able to satisfy himself, but we know Christ can satisfy a hungry soul. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."

"Men are sinners, or else there is no need of the Gospel. If they are sinners, then justification by faith is the only way by which they can be put right with God."

SOME FACTS ABOUT CHRIST.

It is a fact, unquestioned, that Jesus Christ came to our world nineteen centuries ago, and lived among men; Christianity is today the living proof of that fact.

It is a fact that when He went away His influence did not cease, but grew, until today that influence is the mightiest power in the world.

It is a fact that He has wrought changes in the world such as no other ever did. Alexander, Caesar, Napoleon, changed in part the world's map; Gallileo, Newton, Franklin, changed in measure, the world's ideas; Christ has changed the world's soul, character, nature, life.

It is a fact that all the changes Christ has ever wrought in the world have been beneficent, no change by Him has been for the worse, but, in countless multitude, for the better.

It is a fact that the Gospels, the Records of His life on earth, tell that He declared Himself to be God, and showed the declaration true by a life of more than human goodness, words of more than human wisdom, deeds of more than human power.

It is a fact that however some may try to explain the miracles of Scripture, none can deny the far more numerous modern miracles, bad lives made good, sinners saved from sin, savage and cruel peoples made peaceful and humane, miracles beyond any human power, and all, with one accord, ascribing to Christ the wondrous change.

It is a fact that, in all lands and ages, where His name has been known, He is admitted to be wholly good and true, without fault or flaw of any kind, different from—better and wiser than—any other that ever lived.

It is a fact that, if wholly wise and good and true as all His words and works proclaim Him, He must be God, for He has declared Himself to be God. He is God or He is not good.—Presbyterian Record.

THE POWER OF A GOOD LIFE.

An atheist who spent a few days with the saintly Fenelon, said: "If I stay here much longer I shall become a Christian in spite of myself."

Fenelon had used no word of controversy or solicitation. It was but the quiet, convincing argument of a holy life, a consistent walk and conversation.

"I tried to be a skeptic when I was a young man," said Cecil, "but my mother's life was too much for me."

"My brethren," said an old African preacher, "a good example is the tallest kind of preaching." And he was right.

"There is an energy of moral suasion in a good man's life," says Dr. Chalmers, "passing the highest efforts of the orator's genius. The seen beauty of holiness speaks more eloquently of God and duty than the tongues of men and angels."

Give me the man who sings at his work; he will do more, he will do it better, he will persevere longer.—Thomas Carlyle.