

## WHY THE BIBLE IS SOUGHT

Because it is the most universal in its appeal, it knows no class nor race; it is humanity's book.

It is read by white and negro, Oriental and Occidental, the proletariat and aristocrat, college professor and hod carrier, ruddy-cheeked boy in the Sunday school and wasted age on its dying bed.

It treats of the most interesting subjects; how to live and how to die.

It contains the only programme of civilization. Its principles constitute the only practical basis of commerce.

Only by its teachings can we come to the parliament of man, the federation of the world.

It is the community power house of the spiritual world.

It portrays for mankind the majestic, alluring Jesus, rightly called "Wonderful."

Myriad Magdalenes have wept away their shame at His feet; myriad soldiers have lisped His name with their last breath upon the shotted field.

It utters the soul of man. To its commands he responds with an instinctive "Amen." To its wisdom of holiness his heart turns as a flower to the sun. Its appeal to conscience lays upon him a compelling hand.

It restrains more crime than all the police. It solves more problems than all the philosophies. It wins more wars than all the armies. It promotes progress more than all the reformers.

It is the terror of the oppressor, the liberator of the slave, the solace of the disillusioned, the morning star to them that overcome and the cup of comfort to them that fall by the way.

And in that final hour that comes to all men, when the spirit shudders forth into the unknown, this Book alone brings the word like a bell in the fog, of Him who says: "I am the resurrection and the life."—Sel.

## HE WANTED TO KNOW

A Presbyterian minister was at one time pastor of a church in a town where the richest and most prominent man never attended church and openly oppressed the minister. One day the minister, seeing this man in his carriage before a store, felt a desire to "go near and join" himself to his chariot and ask the liberty of speaking to him of the Saviour. Fearing a scene if he obeyed, he passed on. Six weeks later he met the man in his carriage again and felt the same desire to speak to him. He consulted one of the deacons of his church, who advised him to keep away from the man, as he would surely be driven away and insulted. But the minister could not rest. He felt that God was calling him to speak to that man. The next day he went to call, and with fear and trembling approached the stately mansion. To his surprise the man himself met him at the door. He expected an insult. Instead, two trembling hands were extended in welcome and the man exclaimed: "I have been looking for a visit from you for six weeks. I want to know all you can tell me about the Lord Jesus Christ, whom I have neglected so long."

He called in his wife and daughter, and the three soon afterward "believed" and the minister "went on his way rejoicing."—Selected.

## CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship, Christian stewardship, has too small a place in the thought of Christian people of today. It is not a question of any one class, whether they be rich or poor, ignorant or learned; but all classes need to be interested in Christian stewardship. We all need to be taught that what God has given to us is not to be used solely for ourselves—we are stewards of the Lord, and we are to give His bounties out to the needy without regard to personal favors. We give of what He has given us to such as are in need and in our reach, because God gave us more than we need to consume upon ourselves. He gave us more than we need because there are many others who are in need as much as we are, and maybe more so. We need to think more about the needs of others, rather than to think so much about the luxuries for ourselves. If you will study this line of thought till you get your heart and mind saturated with the idea of Christian stewardship, then you will find yourself doing much good with what God has given, not merely for yourself, but to all the needy ones as you have opportunity. And certainly an opportunity is by no means a thing to be despised, but used, and used gladly, according to your opportunity and ability. That done, then you have cause to rejoice in having done your part for your fellow-man. Let us not waste these opportunities, for when we waste them, we are just throwing "diamonds of the first water" away. Let us daily pray for grace to rise equal to every call to serve, and to distribute to all we may pass in life the good things and the helpful things which God has given to us.—Christian Sun.

Earthly treasure is laid up only as heavenly treasure is laid down. And the inversion is true also, for heavenly treasure can be acquired only as the earthly is renounced. At the heart of all human life is obligatory sacrifice. Its issues are forever determined as individual choice is made of alternative renunciation.—J. Stuart Holden.

"We are to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints," but to spend our time antagonizing minor things not essential is to divert our attention from the great evils that need most of our attention. It is a waste of time to be always controverting the views of others unless we attack errors that hinder vital godliness. If people do not think as we do, let us allow them to enjoy their views if they are not subversive of sound Christian experience.

No, the guilty and unclean in heart do not enjoy being "dug up." Nevertheless, to give some individuals a successful impetus toward redemption, they will not only have to be "dug up" but "dug-to-pieces"—so that they may no longer feel that they can hide their sin and corruption.—J. A. Harris.

## HOW TO KILL A PREACHER.

Few people, if brought to court, would plead guilty to the charge of killing their preacher. Some one has written the following rules, guaranteeing that if carefully followed they will kill any preacher on earth. Read them and see if you are killing your preacher:

1. Stay away from church, especially on bad days, when you think the crowd will be small.
2. Stay away from the Wednesday night services because you know there will be only a handful present.
3. When the service is over leave the church in a hurry without speaking to the preacher a word of encouragement.
4. When you get sick don't let him know it, and then abuse him for not coming to see you.
5. Never invite him or his family out to dine in your home. They never enjoy a social hour.
6. Pay just as little as you can on his salary and then grumble about that. That makes him feel good.
7. Never give him anything except what you promised. This might make him think you appreciated him.
8. Always have some fool excuse when he wants you to do a little work. That's what you pay him for.
9. Never offer to take him out in your auto or lend him your horse and buggy. This would be too kind.
10. Never call at his home, but raise old Billy Cain because he doesn't visit you once or twice a month.
11. Never offer to help him in any way, for he might think you were butting in.
12. Act as cold and indifferent toward him as you can and he will think you dignified.

If the twelve doses fail to kill him, they will undoubtedly break him from preaching and force him to leave town.—A. R. Sanders, Alton, Mo.

## I'M NOT ASHAMED TO OWN MY LORD.

(Isaac Watts)

I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,  
Or to defend his cause;  
Maintain the honor of His word,  
The glory of His cross.

Jesus, my God! I know His name;  
His name is all my trust;  
Nor will He put my soul to shame,  
Nor let my hope be lost.

## THIRTEEN THINGS TO REMEMBER.

- First, the value of time.
- Second, the success of perseverance.
- Third, the pleasure of working.
- Fourth, the dignity of simplicity.
- Fifth, the worth of a character.
- Sixth, the power of a smile.
- Seventh, the cause of example.
- Eighth, the obligation of duty.
- Ninth, the wisdom of economy.
- Tenth, the value of patience.
- Eleventh, the improvement of talent.
- Twelfth, the joy of originating.
- Thirteenth, get your brain out of a rut.