

A CALL TO SERVICE.

O'er the ocean's foaming billows,
O'er its ever restless tide,
Many souls are waiting, longing
Precious souls for whom He died.

Care you not that these are dying
For the living Bread of life?
Can you longer, thus contented,
Dwell at ease amid the strife.

Which is raging in the fury?
Satan doth no languor know,
He is fighting, crushing, killing
Those to whom you will not go.

At your hand He will require them,
In the last great reck'ning day,
O! make haste! His will is blessed
Winning souls alone will pay.

Are there not the loyal soldiers,
Waiting for their Leader's call,
Who will hasten to the battle,
Who will not refuse their all.

To the one who died to save them,
Died for black as well as white,
He is waiting for your answer,
Come and lead them to the light.

O! the joy of glad heart service!
O! the bliss of triumph won!
What can earth's allurements offer,
Or compare with His "Well done."
—Selected by Mrs. Edith Snyder.

REVIVAL NEEDED

For some time it has seemed to us that modern revivals for the most part do not meet the needs of the case. In other words we are not satisfied. While we thank God for every revival and effort to win souls to Jesus and every one thus brought in the real results and often much less than apparent on the surface. There is a very noticeable lack of conviction on the part of seekers which will not be satisfied with anything less than a divine revelation to their own soul, even at cost of continued seeking. There is also a lack of the solemn responsibilities and obligations of a Christian life. For every unsatisfactory condition there is a cause. We venture to suggest what appears to us as some of the outstanding causes of the manifest lack.

LACK OF PREACHING THE WORD.

Now God has never said that organization, sensational story telling, death bed scenes, slang language of the day, music or anything else other than the preaching of the Word of God will produce a revival. It is His word that divideth asunder, that breaketh up man's hearts as with a hammer, that sticks as a barbed arrow. Music and organization may be used to advantage to bring the people together, and yet these are mere make shifts not to be compared to the manifest power and presence of God. It is written, "My Word shall not return unto me void." "They that sow in tears (the seed of the Word) shall reap in joy." In other days no one thought of a ten-day revival. The pastor, or evangelist did not expect results till a week or two of expounding the Word. The people had time to think seriously,

to count the cost and understand the obligations of a Christian as laid down in the Word of God. The Word, being ingrafted was able to save their souls. Having been convinced by the operation of the Spirit from the words of Holy Writ that they were hell deserving sinners conviction deepened till it became the chief business of their lives to seek reconciliation with an offended God. Let there be more expounding of the Word of God. It has not lost its power by any means. A revival not founded on an understanding of the Word of God is always short lived. It often goes on the same train as the evangelist. Sensational preaching, bringing people to a quick decision without foundation of the written Word of God in the heart can never bring a lasting revival.

LACK OF PREVAILING PRAYER.

Contentment with things as they now are will never bring about soul travail for something better! So long as we are content with numbers flocking to the altar to be warmed up, and with no deeper conviction than to pray only when the tide is high and no real heart separation from the world, just so long there will be nothing better. But this writer is not content with present day revivals. We are censuring nobody. We are praising God there is some stir rather than no stir or effort, but somehow it seems too much on the surface; too much wrought by man in a measure, with little manifestation of the mighty power of God. Real revivals are not over in a week, neither do they come in a week. Long preparation beforehand may result in a sudden outpouring, but the travail of soul was first preceded by hours, weeks, months and often years of wrestlings with God. The Welsh revival was preceded by three years of earnest prayer! The revivals in India were preceded by many months of heart searching and earnest prayer. The widow troubled the unjust judge long. The man continued asking for bread till the man within arose from his bed and gave. In the plan of God humiliation and longing prayers with groanings which cannot be uttered prompted by the Holy Ghost must invariably precede revivals of godliness and piety. Those who have experienced, or witnessed child labor have a perfect type of travail of soul necessary for a revival. A heart which feels God must get underneath and undertake beyond every other means, else every effort will fail—which depends on the great God alone. Without purity of purpose, utterly unselfish, this travail of soul will not come. Dear Lord, search our hearts and remove every hindering cause to a revival.

CONFESSION

The writer is frank to acknowledge while he praises God for every soul which has been saved in his own and other meetings, he has seen no wide-spread, deep revival in recent years in America which shook whole neighborhoods. We have done the best we could as have others, but we are not satisfied. The converts often lack purpose of heart and devotion. Instead of religion being the chief thing in life too often it seems to be the secondary thing. The thought often seems to be,

"How may I do as little as possible and escape hell," rather than "how can I do more and still more for my Lord." There seems to be a lack of conviction and principle on the part of many. A spirit of compromise, rather than guarding against every compromise. We fear not for those who have stood the test of years so much, but we do fear for the rising generation. We must have something deeper and more far reaching to our mind, than we are now having. God has not changed, nor ever shall. It is not impossible with Him to bring about a deep and lasting revival. We are not the only one dissatisfied with modern revivals, but here and there we meet those of like mind, and blessed be God, like faith also that God will yet be enquired of for this. May we all pray as did the missionaries in India preceding the great awakening there. "Lord send us a mighty revival and begin in me."—Herald of Light.

GRIEVE NOT.

It is possible to grieve the Holy Spirit. If it were not, no warning against it would have been given us. In this possibility we have revealed to us the infinite grace and tenderness of the Divine nature; it can be grieved. Questions of absolute right or wrong do not apply here, for wilful wrong doing not only grieves Him, but forfeits His presence. Grieving the Spirit pertains rather to questions of "better or worse," "more or less;" matters of neglect, carelessness, or imprudence. It is a serious thought that we who cannot pluck out His stars or alter the currents of His oceans can, nevertheless, wound the heart of God.

YOUR BESETTING SIN.

Heb. 12:1.

1. The sin you do not want to be re-proved for.
2. The sin you are most ready to defend.
3. The sin your thoughts run most upon.
4. The sin that leads you captive the easiest.
5. The sin you find the most excuse for.
6. The sin that often beclouds your spiritual sky.
7. The sin that causes remorse of conscience the most frequently.
8. The sin that makes you doubt your presence acceptable with God.
9. The sin you are most unwilling to acknowledge you possess.
10. The sin you are most unwilling to give up.
11. The sin you are all the time trying to persuade yourself is an infirmity.—Exchange.

FOUND OUT.

A missionary in China once read to a large audience the first chapter of Romans. When he had finished, a Chinaman came and said he thought it was very unfair and wrong for this "foreign devil" to come and find out all their secret sins, then write them down in a book and read them out in that public way.—Christian Worker.