

THE NEW YEAR

Another year is about to close and with it the opportunities for doing good which presented themselves throughout the year shall have passed beyond our reach. They are gone forever. Happy the individual,—if such there is,—who has embraced every opportunity of doing good in every way both to the bodies and the souls of men. No doubt there are those who would recall things in thought, or word, or act were this possible. Thank God, though the above is impossible. He who knoweth our frame, and who remembereth that we are dust is able to lift the burden, and, should there have been guilt entailed, remove both the sting and the stain from the heart and life.

During the year that is about to pass forever many have crossed the border land of worlds. Some have gone to be "with Christ, which is far better." Others we fear, have passed out into eternity without God and without hope. How sad! Those who remain should thank God for the privilege of living a little longer, those who belong to God to do service for Him, those who do not to get right with Him and to consecrate the future of their lives to Him. Would to God that all who are privileged to enter upon the new year would catch a new vision of the purpose of life, the privileges which life affords and the effect that the present life will have upon the present generation and the generations following.

Our responsibility to God, to our fellowman, to our church and to our families is great. He who faces the new year without the approbation of God and without an inner consciousness of the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit is inviting disappointment, failure and defeat. On the other hand he who enters upon the New Year with the divine approval, with a clear conscience, with the sacred consciousness of the approbation and indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit is safe. Oh that every reader of these lines, that every member of our beloved Zion, that every professed follower of Christ the world over would catch a vision both of their privileges and their responsibilities during the New Year into which we are about to enter.

The people of God, everywhere, should unite in prayer, and faith, and effort for a mighty, far reaching, genuine, old fashioned revival of religion. That God is as ready to send revivals as He ever was, we are fully convinced. That He will send them when He can find the human instruments, and those instruments are fully prepared and equipped we fully believe. There is a difference in finding an instrument suitable for a certain work and the full and complete preparation of that instrument to accomplish that work. The carpenter might possess a full supply of tools but unless they were free from rust, properly set, adjusted and sharpened his work would be hindered if not a complete failure. God has a hard time to get His instruments in a condition where He can use them to the best advantage. With the ordinary tool there is no wilful resistance to the preparatory process. With the human instrument, in many cases, it is otherwise. This resistance may be wilful or deliberate and incur guilt, or it may be from a lack of comprehension of the design of the Master Builder. But from whatever source the resistance springs the work of the Great Architect is hindered. We venture the following assertion. If every child of God, the world over, would place themselves with all their faculties and powers as unreservedly into the hands of God as the various instruments are in the hands of their owner we would have a revival such as the world has never seen. Lord, help us as a small branch of Thy great church this new year to place all our faculties, all our talents, all the com-

bined powers, of body, soul and spirit unreservedly into the hands of God to be used in any way, anywhere for the building of His great spiritual structure, the Church.—The Holiness Era.

OBITUARY

Death has visited us again—it has no respect of persons. It called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Congle and took as its victim their precious baby, Harold Benjamin, aged three months and eleven days. It leaves to mourn their loss a father and mother and a little sister, Alta Marguerite, aged two years; also grandfathers and grandmothers, who will all miss him. May God bless the sorrowing ones. A short service was held at the house, sermon preached in Upper Knoxford Baptist Church, the writer officiating. Interment was made near the church. The little one will be much missed but we all believe it is better off. It is through with all life's trials and has gone to be forever with the Lord. It surely was ready so "Be ye also ready."

H. S. MULLEN

Constance Mary Howe

Constance Mary Howe, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Forest Howe, died Dec. 29th at her home in Island Falls, Maine. The child of eleven months was suddenly taken by the influenza. She leaves her sorrowing parents, three brothers, and five sisters.

The funeral was held Sunday afternoon, Dec. 30th, in the Reformed Baptist Church at Belvidere, Maine. The writer had charge. The body was placed in the vault at Island Falls, Me. To the sorrowing ones we extend our prayers and sympathy.

G. A. ROGERS

GOD HEARS THEM ALL

One evening as two American soldiers in France were passing the makeshift hut of a refugee French pastor, they poked their heads inside the door and saw the little daughter of the family kneeling at her mother's knee praying: "Notre Pere qui est aux cieus, ton nom soit sanctifie. (Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.)"

Softly they tiptoed down the dusty road, and Soldier Number One said huskily: "D'ye know, Buddy, it never dawned on me before that God knew any other language than English—yet there's that little kid positive He can parlee Francais! Say, how'd you like to listen in some evening? Mighty interesting, though right strenuous for Him 'round prayer time, I wager!"

"Oh, I dunno," said Number Two, reverently, "I reckon He knows 'em all."

On some long summer evening when the fireflies flicker in the noneysuckle vine and balmy breezes cool the heavy air, what more refreshing mental zephyrs than this—to recall that in every land "as pants the hart for cooling streams," so mankind everywhere seeks God, who knows each strange language?—Young People's Leader.

The religion of Christ reaches and changes the heart as no other religion does.—Howells.

—The Holiness Era

"The thing we complain about today may be, in the great hereafter, the thing out of which immortal joy was born."—The Free Methodist.

enough to know how much they are worth to the kingdom of God. God certainly does them a great favor if by allowing affliction to come, they are saved from eternal disaster.

Again it is to prove to the world how satisfying is the grace of God bestowed upon humanity. The world is seeking for something to satisfy, so if in affliction we are joyful we have solved the riddle for them. How many times we hear it said, I told you so! Yes, that is what Satan said to God; but in all this Job sinned not with his lips or charged God foolishly.

Again it is to demonstrate there is a power above the human. There is a power that upholds and causes prayers of thanksgiving and songs of praise. That was the means of the salvation of the jailor at Phillippi, and that will mean the salvation of many others. The baptism with the Holy Ghost in the entire sanctification of the soul and walking in the light will keep a soul in that condition. Praise the Lord.