

which is now but dimly foreshadowed to us.

Partial, however, as our knowledge is of the unseen world, yet this much we know, that our condition there will depend entirely upon the way in which we fulfill the great duties of life, and the use we make of time. The ancients possessed but a faint and indistinct idea of what should be the great purpose of life; and of the ultimate fate of man beyond the grave they knew still less. Neither Socrates or Plato, Aristotle or Seneca, could supply depraved human nature with the power to reduce their virtuous teachings into practice. But we are not so circumstanced. The sacred page of Revelation is before us, to teach us not only what our duty is, but likewise how that duty is to be rightfully performed. How great then is our responsibility, and how essentially necessary it is that the time we spend on the earth should be profitably employed. One who knew the value of time, and hence used it well, has somewhere said, "Should we not strive to escape the mortification of that heathen King, who, though a heathen, felt the value of time and the increasing pressure of duty, and therefore confessed with great bitterness, 'I have lost a day?'" Our desire and aim in every thought, prayer and action, should be to spend our lives in the services of God, and thus to "endeavor to leave the world better than we found it."

The great question we should put to ourselves, now that time has taken from us another link in the chain of life and brought us to a New Year, is "Have we in the past year done our duty?" Even as the deeds of Belshazzar were weighed in the scales of Justice, so in like manner we must ascertain whether we are wanting or not. In this self-examination there must be no equivalent, no plea which will not bear the closest and severest scrutiny; but conscience must speak out, even if it employs the thunders of Sinai. "Be ye perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect," said Christ, and to do our duty we must walk in His footsteps; become leavened with His Spirit; fashion our minds in His image: and in all things strive to be like Him. Painters who desire to revive in their own minds the spirit of genius which glowed within the souls of Michael Angelo, Titian and Van Dyke, visit Rome or Versailles, and study the works of the old masters which are preserved with sacred care in those places. And if we sincerely desire to be pure in heart and holy in action, we must become a copy of the original, Christ, "in whom there was no guile."

Note.—The above is an excerpt from an article by F. W. Chesson in the True Wesleyan, Jan. 4, 1851, and selected from Wesleyan Methodist, 1920.

#### OBITUARY

Death visited our community on Nov. 19th and claimed Charles Norman, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson, Crystal, Maine. The baby was 2 months and 7 days old. He has been called to be with Jesus and to enjoy a better world.

The funeral was held in the United Baptist Church, Crystal, Maine, November 20th, with the writer in charge. Miss Iva Main played. Mr. F. Longstaff, Mrs. B. Currie and Miss Luna Thorne sang. Interment was made in the cemetery at Crystal, Maine.

For the sorrowing ones we offer prayer.

G. A. ROGERS

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Apohaqui, N. B.

Dear Brother Trafton:

Please find enclosed my renewal to the King's Highway. I am still trusting in the mercy and kindness of God! The last Psalm is the best, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord." Remember me in your prayers.

MRS. GEORGE SMALL

North Hollywood, Cal.

Dear Brother:

Enclosed you will find my renewal for The King's Highway, which we enjoy reading very much.

Yours saved by the Blood,

E. H. PORTER

#### HOW TO RESIST TEMPTATION

Rev. E. E. Shelhamer

"Every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed." There are at least four steps in connection with temptation—Attention, Consideration, Gratification, Humiliation.

I. Attention. Here is where the tempter succeeded with Mother Eve. He called her attention to the beautiful and luscious fruit. Having gained this first point, he quickly caught on to her natural weakness—loquacity. Had she not only kept a closed mind and a closed mouth all would have been well. It is the same with every holy soul today. Such an one cannot be tempted except along natural and legitimate lines. "When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took." It is that first look that makes it possible to think, then forget all former resolutions. Job realized this when he said, "I made a covenant with mine eyes: why then should I think . . . ?"

Notice Achan's sin! He "saw" the goodly Babylonish garment and shekels of silver, then "coveted," then "took," then "hid," then died in disgrace. No one can fall until he first looks or listens, then lingers, then longs, then lunges. It is simply impossible to be overcome on any line so long as the mind is closed to the thought of yielding and the question is UNDEBATABLE. Remember this, you are invincible so long as you do not let down the first bar and throw open the subject to debate. But if you dare to do this for a moment, the floods will pour in and sweep you off your feet.

II. Consideration. This is the second step. If Satan can get one to ponder, then wonder, the battle is likely to be lost. One man said, "If I were tempted along a certain line, I do not know what I should do." This man was defeated already. How unlike Joseph, who no doubt had it settled in his mind beforehand that, come what would, he could not sin. He was fortified and as unmovable as Gibraltar when temptation came. "How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"

III. Gratification. It is not strange how one can go stone blind in a moment in view of present profit or pleasure, rather than wait for joys and comforts more enduring? David "saw," then "inquired" (considered), then like a mad animal broke down the fence and ruthlessly trampled under foot all sense of honor and righteousness. After he had gotten through with his seeing and sending, then

God began sending strife, sedition and sorrow which never ended. Reader, beware

IV. Humiliation. If one could only stop long enough to look around and behold the many ship-wrecks, he might take warning. Some of these were once mighty in sailing the high seas and doing commerce for God. But they trifled, ventured too near the rocks, and are now out of commission—stranded on the shores of time. Others are dismantled, and, though pretending to be in service, are like floating derelicts, high and dry on the beach.

Precious reader, remember there are souls now in hell, and others on their way there, who at one time roamed on plains of spiritual light grander than you or I ever experienced. To your knees To your knees!—The Wesleyan Methodist.

Another year is dawning,  
Dear Master, let it be,  
In working, or in waiting,  
Another year with Thee.

Another year of mercies,  
Of faithfulness and grace;  
Another year of gladness  
In the shining of Thy face.

Another year of progress,  
Another year of praise,  
Another year of proving  
Thy presence all the days.

Another year of service,  
Of witness of Thy love,  
Another year of training  
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning,  
Dear Master, let it be,  
On earth, or else in heaven,  
Another year for Thee.

—Francis Ridley Havergal

#### THE MESSENGER AND PRAYER

Prayer is the messenger's mightiest weapon. The real man whose life is a message is made in the closet. The weightiest and sweetest messages are found in sacred communion with God. Every messenger who does not make prayer a mighty factor in his life and ministry, is weak as a factor in God's work, and is powerless to protect God's cause in the world. Even sermon-making will engross and harden and estrange the heart from God if prayer is neglected.

The preacher must be preeminently a man of prayer. In the school of prayer only can the heart learn to preach. No learning can make up for the failure to pray. No earnestness, no diligence, no study, no gifts will supply its lack. Talking to men for God is a great thing; but talking to God for men is greater. No man can preach acceptably who does not get his message fresh from God in the closet. God can work wonders if He can get a suitable man. The past has not exhausted the possibilities nor the demand for doing great things for God. I have no sympathy with the teachings of some of our brethren that there can be no great revival until the Lord Jesus comes. "His arm is not shortened that he cannot save: and his ear is not heavy that he cannot hear."—Exchange.

"From David learn to give thanks in everything. Every furrow in the book of Psalms is sown with the seeds of thanksgiving."—Jeremy Taylor.