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SPECIAL NOTICE

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EDITORIAL

THE APOSTLE PAUL'S CALL, AND COMMISSION

"But rise and stand upon thy feet; for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose to make thee a minister, and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of the things in the which I will appear unto thee."

"Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles unto whom I now send thee".

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctfied by faith that is in me". Acts 26:16 to 18.

The above scripture quotation is a part of cur Lord's message to Saul of Tarsus who afterwards became Paul the apostle, when he was on the road to Damascus to persecute the followers of Jesus. The light from heaven shone around Saul brighter than the noonday sun. He fell to the earth the record says, and surrendered to one whom he addresses as Lord, and recognizes as His superior. and cried, what wilt thou have me to do? In response to Saul's cry Jesus revealed himself to him, called him to his service, and gave him commission.

Notice two things involved in his call which are essential to every God called preacher, namely a minister, and a witness.

We fear that many preachers of the gospel overlook the fact that when God calls a man to be a preacher he also calls him to be a witness, to the power of God to save men from sin. This of course involves an experimental knowledge of salvation in the preacher's own heart and life. Just as it is necessary for the merchant to have a knowledge of his goods in order for him to be able to heartily recommend them to his customers, so a preacher must experience God's regenerating and sanctifying power before he can preach or witness to others with authority.

I realize also that the word witness means martyr. Jesus said to his disciples "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me", etc., which means that a preacher or minister of the gospel should be ready to suffer even unto death, as many martyrs of old have done for their testimony and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Or if we consider the term witness as one who testifies, or gives evidence in a cause before a judicial tribunal, we are again reminded of the fact that if the testimony of that per-

son is to carry weight or have any bearing on the case, being tried before the court, that the witness must have a personal, and positive knowledge of what he is testifying to. Hence, the apostle could always speak with authority on the subject of salvation when he preached to others. So he wrote to Timothy when he was suffering, and facing death. "Nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

It was this positive knowledge of the saving and keeping power of Christ that gave the saints, and martyrs of all ages boldness in the face of danger, and death. The opinions of people, their reputation, or bread and butter were things o' little moment to them as long as they knew they were doing God's will. Then note the nature of Paul's work or mission. To turn men from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in God. And Paul's epistles to the various churches which had been saved and organized under his ministry, wherein he exhorts them to go on unto perfection, or prays that they might be sanctified wholly which is God's will concerning them; and again admonishes them to follow holiness without which no man shall see the Lord; all go to show that Paul was true u his call, and commission. Or as he told King Agrippa. "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." There is just as great need today for Paul's kind of preaching and theology and faithful witnesses to the truth of holiness as when God called, and sent him out. An evangelist holding meetings in the town of Hartland some years ago; said to an unsaved man who was attending those meetings. "I am waiting to hear your testimony," the man replied, "I am waiting to hear yours." Oh! replied the evangelist, don't you hear me preach every night? Yes, said the unsaved man, but it is one thing to preach, and quite another thing to testify or be a witness for Jesus. Lord give us more witnessing preachers.

"THE CHRISTIAN WATCHWORD" (Continued from Page One)

Have faith in God. He can!

Canst thou still thy troubled heart,

And make all cares and doubt depart
From out thy soul?

Thou canst not? O burdened one,
Have faith in God. He can!

NOTE: We are glad to have this good article from sister Wiggins, who has set a good example for other preachers' wives to follow. Let us have your artcles right away, please.— Editor.

AN OBJECT IN LIFE

In the morning when thou risest unwillingly, let this thought be present: "I am rising to the work of a human being. Why then am I disatisfied, if I am going to do the things for which lexist, and for which I was brought into the world? Or have I been made for this—to lie in the bedclothes, and keep myself warm?"

But this is more pleasant. Dost thou exist, then, to take thy pleasure and not at all for action or exertion? Dost thou not see the little plants, the birds the ants, the spiders the bees, working ogether to put in order their several parts of the universe? And art thou unwilling to do the work of a human being? and dost thou not make haste to do that which is according to thy nature.—Marcus Aurelius.

DAY OF LIFE

The rising dawn has passed into the gleam of noon;

The shadows of the afternoon have slowly lengthened into dusk;

And as the wings of night are bourne upon the breeze,

We stand amazed, another day has passed away so soon!

We do not know, we cannot tell, When twilight's star will set for us, So let us turn our thoughts to Him Who lives and reigns and doeth all things well.

But this we know that when our day of life is ended here,

That sin's dark night of sorrow will be o'er; And we may safely trust the Father's hand, To lead us to that land so fair.

Where all is love and joy and peace,
And transient mists of earth have passed away;
Where sighs and tears shall have no place,
Eternal day, perpetual light, shall never from us
cease.

So why not seek the Father's house just now?
And earth's vain joys and pleasures seek no more;

Within that House is found sweet rest and peace, So let us now with heart's aglow, to this blest Savior bow.

> MATILDA WALKER HUNTER, R. R. 1, Linden, N. S.

AWAKE, O ZION (Isaiah 52:1)

O church of Christ, awake, awake,
And arm thyself with His own power,
The hosts of sin are striving hard
To win the conflict of the hour.

O church of Christ, thy foes are great, The battle calls for strength divine; Omnipotence is thy defense, Let all its power and strength be thine.

Though earthly forces may unite,
Thy plan and purpose to assail;
Thy Living Head has thus decreed,
"No power against thee shall prevail."

Then seek through prayer the promised aid,
The arm of flesh is sure to fail;
But armed with God's eternal power,
His church both must and shall prevail.

Then up, and to the battle's front,
Alert and eager for the fray;
Strong in the strength that God supplies
Stand fast, and fight, and watch and pray.

—J. E. Taylor, in the Christian Witness.

THE CAUSE OF FAILURE

A man fails if his ideas are larger than his purse; if he trusts unworthy people; if he puts pleasure before duty and has too many or too expensive amusements! if he does not do today what he can possibly put off until tomorrow; and if he risks all his eggs in one basket when he is not in a position to watch or control it.

Some men fail because they are given to dawdling, indecision, worrying, or fretting, or have over-sanguine expectations.

A man is bound to fail if he has no sense of humour, lacks cordiality, does not know how to approach men, cannot take a rebuff good-naturadly, does not carry confidence or conviction, and when he is too long-winded in his conversation so that people tire before he gets to the point.