

"I SHALL BE SATISFIED"

By Mrs. F. A. Dunlop

If we were asked to describe the spirit of the world today we would doubtless find it necessary to use many words and phrases but the word "satisfy" would probably occur very seldom even in our most detailed description.

We look in vain today for the nation that is satisfied. While science and invention have made it possible for the different countries to convert their natural resources and products into that which will bring them profit and pleasure we find them not only casting envious eyes at the possessions of other lands but making extensive preparations whereby they may at the cost of war and bloodshed, conquer and capture that which they consider will bring them much profit and pleasure. But will they then be satisfied?

We turn to the individual. Do we find a large percentage of those we meet manifesting a spirit of satisfaction? No, there always seems to be that elusive something that they consider is necessary for their satisfaction that they are unable to obtain. If those among the poorer classes have almost convinced us that the really satisfied individual must be found among the rich, we are quickly disillusioned as we watch this class and weigh the unmistakable evidence of dissatisfaction so prevalent among them.

We may not consider looking for satisfaction among those who have never been able to accomplish anything of note, circumstances have been against them, they have never been able to materialize their dreams of success, but what about those who have? If fortune has smiled on them and they have climbed the ladder of fame do they find as much compensation in the attainment of their goal as they expected to? As they seriously consider life's values are they satisfied, would they choose that same path again? As we remember the Master's words, "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of things which he possesseth," we remind ourselves that we must never expect to find genuine satisfaction among those who are not God's children. Until we put first things first, accept Christ as our Saviour and seek God's plan for our lives we must never hope to find the satisfaction our soul craves, we find it in God's service and His alone.

We watch the child of God who is nearing the end of a life lived for His Master, the strain of the years may have left his body weak and broken, but we see portrayed on his face the evidence of peace, of years of soul satisfaction. And yet, the passing years have brought sorrows and disappointments that have hindered somewhat that soul enjoying the fullness of that satisfaction that he will realize when he awakens with Christ's likeness.

If we would meditate more often on the complete satisfaction we shall then enjoy, it might encourage us to make greater efforts to push the work of God. If this applies to our Christian activities as a whole the work of missions certainly would be included. "Now we know in part, but then we shall know even as we are known." We shall be satisfied then that the work of missions was more than a whimsical idea or project that some of our church leaders instigated. If we have never before realized the importance of this work, we shall in that great day as converted heathens endeavour to portray to us their state of awful darkness, fear and misery that was all changed into blessed light and peace and happiness when they accepted the Christ the missionaries came to tell them of.

While we may find it difficult here to fully

overcome our race prejudice, we shall see no partiality shown in the welcoming of that great multitude which no man can number of all nations, and kindreds and people and tongues, as they gather around the throne of God to sing His praises. Will the witnessing of this scene not be sufficient reward for all who have helped to carry out the last command of Jesus, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

If, while living in this world that sets high values on the things of time, we have found it difficult to grasp the lesson Jesus taught on the worth of the soul we shall understand it better in the light of eternity, and we shall see those redeemed from heathen darkness, not as a group, but as individual souls, each priceless in the sight of God. If missionary work has never appealed to us in this life we shall see then the great importance of it.

We may have sacrificed much in order to support and carry on other departments of our church work, but in that day how will the earnings from those other enterprises compare with that of missions?

Our income may have been so meagre that our contribution to missions seemed small and unimportant in comparison with what others gave, and yet, when the Books are opened we shall find the smallest gift has not been overlooked "They have done what they could."

If the stretch of land and water that separates us from those we are commanded to work and pray for makes it impossible for us to see with our natural eye the advantages and benefits our money is bringing to those in need, and if we find it difficult to have faith and zeal and passion for those whom we do not know, we shall in that day rejoice if we have continued to give and pray in spite of all the difficulties that present themselves.

No, we do not expect to be disappointed in the dividends we receive for our investments in missionary work, but, shall we be satisfied with the amount we have invested? What we do we must do here and now, regrets will not change things in eternity.

In our consideration of this vastly important work let us make sure we carry the concern for missions that will ensure our giving and praying to the extent that not only WE shall be satisfied, but HE shall be satisfied.

"HIS LOVE"

Inspired by Bro. Dunlop's Message
Sunday, March 7th, 1937

Oh Precious Savior, crucified for me,
What Infinite love, constrained it thus to be,
That "Thou," should stoop from Heaven's high
estate,

To bridge the gulf, that sin of mine should make.
And through compassion fathomless and deep
Should reach my heart, the lost and wandering
sheep.

What words of mine, could 'ere thy praise extol,
Thou blessed Christ, enshrined within my soul.

Oh wondrous passion, poured from the great
heart

That broke on Calvary, blessing to impart;
Such matchless love demands my life my all,
My heart responds dear Savior to its call,
I have no gift to lay at thy dear feet,
But humbled, kiss the nail prints, as I weep.
Implant thine image, on this soul of mine,
I have no will dear Master, none but thine.

M. McBRIEN,
Amherst, N. S.

THE SHINING PATH

The path of the just is as a shining light . . . the way of the wicked is as darkness. These words are found in Prov. 4:18, 19 and the contrast, as can be easily observed, is very great and striking, a shining light and darkness.

In Romans 13:12 we notice the same contrast where Paul exhorts the people to put off the works of darkness and don the armour of light or in other words, leave the path of sin, sadness and darkness and enter the higher, nobler path of light where joy and peace are to be found.

Paul speaks of the armour. In the path of shining light we must fortify ourselves against attacks at the by-roads, etc., and in Eph. 6, the proper armour to be worn is fully described for us.

We must first have our loins girt about with truth, and have the breastplate of righteousness in its correct position. Our feet are to be shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace and above all our shield of faith must be ready at all times to ward off the onslaughts of our enemy. Our head is to be protected with the helmet of salvation and in our hand the sword of the spirit which is the Word of God. Then if we are watchful and prayerful God will help us to stay in the blessed path of light and we shall be just and upright in His sight.

I read some time ago of a village in which were two roads—the high road up on the hill and the low road in the valley. On moonlight nights the high road was so bright, as it stretched along the top of the hill, that those on the lower road could see every person above them very distinctly. Some walked along the middle of the road with head erect and with perfect confidence that they would not fall. Others stumbled and even fell as they went along in an indifferent way, not being careful to keep in the well beaten path in the middle of the road.

How like the Christian journey The wicked, as they travel the way of darkness, are sure to look up sometimes—and often much more than we may think—up to that shining path of the just. If they see there those who are unprepared, with only half or part of the armour on, if they see them stumbling along in an indifferent way will they feel like joining them?

Oh, let us as children of the True and Living God, heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ and travellers in this path of shining light prepare ourselves to be at our best for God, always obeying His command "to be holy as He is holy." Only then shall we be fully prepared. God has promised to be with us at all times and with Him we shall not fall. Then those who sit in darkness shall see the light and come.

GLADYS KIERSTEAD

A PREACHER DESCRIBED

Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones of Detroit, the new president of the Federal Council of Churches, gave his picture of an ideal minister. "He should get religion like a Methodist; experience it like a Baptist; be sure of it like a Disciple; stick to it like a Lutheran; pay for it like a Presbyterian; conciliate it like a Congregationalist; glorify it like a Jew; propagate it like a Roman Catholic; work for it like a Salvation Army lass; enjoy it like a colored man."

So says an exchange. What is so good for the minister should also be good for the layman.

—Wesleyan Methodist.