

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4:12

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EDITORIAL

THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH

The apostle John, in the second chapter of his first epistle, declares "I have written unto you young men, because ye are strong." This assertion contains a suggestion which, if grasped by the young people of the church of Christ of this present day, and its challenge accepted, might hasten the dawning of a new and more glorious day for the church and the world.

The message of God's Word is needed more in the world today than perhaps at any previous time in history. That is, the truth of the Bible in its fulness presented to bewildered and despairing men as a way, yea the only way out of the tangled situation that threatens to enmesh our civilization. None will deny that we are facing perilous times. An atmosphere of distrust, selfish ambition, and fatalism weighs heavily on the world of today, and presses a forboding apprehension into the spirit of men everywhere. Confronted with a doom which none are desirous of, and yet all feel is inevitable, we await with dread the stroke that will smite the foundations of all the God-created institutions that have been born of the light of the Gospel, and result in a destruction more universal and appalling than our imaginations are capable of conceiving.

In such an hour as this, such a momentous time in the history of mankind, there is a pressing and urgent need, I repeat again, of the revival of aggressive Christianity which will provide a power to lift us out of this awful chaos.

The hope of the world is in Christ. The institution to which the world should be able to turn in this, her time of need, and find a living solution to her problems, is the church of Christ.

If there is any group within the church to whom the need of the world presents a particular challenge, it is the young people. John had a special message for youth, because they were especially qualified to receive it. God calls to Christian youth with urgent appeal in this day, because, as youth, they possess advantages that qualify them to receive the message with profit. God needs people of vision, of zeal, of strength, to stand in the gap for Him in behalf of present-day civilization. He needs individuals who dare to believe his standards of living can be practical in this world of today, and who are willing to declare and live those standards as they believe the Word teaches them. The church is weakened today by the infectious teaching that the principles of Christ are too idealistic for this world of every-day living. They speak of what the world ought to be, what they would like it to be, but have no faith to believe it can be transformed by the predominating influence of the spirit of Jesus flowing out from consecrated lives. Young people, possessed with a natural spirit of daring and adventure, will respond to the call of Christ to prove that His way of living is not only a practical way, but the only way that will lead us to permanent peace and security.

If we realize this wondrous truth through the Spirit, and yield the fire of our zeal to the establishment of such a spirit among men, God will, through consecrated, believing youth give us release from the bondage of world oppression, inflicted upon us because of the fearfulness and unbelief of a lukewarm

church. As young people we are peculiarly qualified for this work because we are in the strength of our years. Older saints may have dreams of better days which inspire them, but lack the strength to realize their ambitions; but the vigour of youth provides working power for the fruition of hope.

The leaders of the world place the hopes of the future of their countries in their young people, and are giving more attention to their interests and training than ever before. I am sure that God builds great hope on the Christian youth of our churches, and if we will respond to His appeal, believe His Word, and yield ourselves unreservedly and courageously to His service, the cheering rays of the dawning of a glorious day for the church and the world may soon light the horizon that is now so dark and ominous.

CO-OPERATION

Select a magnet of steel,
Of any given length;
Then double it, and joy you'll feel
Quadrupling its strength.
Not two-times-two—not four, but eight,
Whenever we co-operate.

Our mighty God can take just one,
And make a thousand flee;
But give Him two and then He'll run
Ten thousand to the sea.
Things increase at a ten-fold rate
Whenever we co-operate.

Sure, I can take a hook and line
And catch a single fish;
But if you'll help me hold the seine,
We'll take in all you wish.
A bigger catch and better weight
Whenever we co-operate.

Since this great truth is written large
On products of the mine,
Exhibited in the battle charge,
Rewards the fisher's time,
This plain enough, without debate,
God wants us to co-operate.

—Exchange.

BIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Who was the mother of Moses?
2. What four books of the Bible were originally called the Books of the Kings?
3. Which of the disciples lived the longest?
4. What great general of the Old Testament had a name which means the same as "Jesus"?
5. Who was called the weeping prophet?
6. Who wrote "The just shall live by faith," and in what book is it found?
7. How many epistles of John in the New Testament?
8. Who are the major prophets?
9. What were the dimensions of Noah's ark?
10. Name the two sons of Moses.
11. What is the significance of the phrase, "From Dan to Beersheba?"
12. What prophet foretold the massacre of the Bethlehem children?

(Answers will be given in next issue.)

GLEANINGS

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."—Matt. 5:16.

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"Anything which makes religion its second object, makes religion no object. God will put up with a great many things in the human heart, but there is one thing He will not put up with in it—a second place. He who offers God a second place, offers Him no place."—John Ruskin.

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"If we do not get back to visions, peeps into heaven, consciousness of the higher glory and the larger life, we shall lose our religion; our altar will become a bare stone, unblessed by visitant from heaven."—Joseph Parker.

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"I do not believe that there is such a thing in the history of God's kingdom as a right prayer offered in a right spirit that is forever unanswered."—Theodore L. Cuyler.

"Heroes are forged on anvils hot with pain,
And splendid courage comes but with the test.
Some natures ripen and some natures bloom
Only on blood-wet soil, some souls prove great
Only in moments dark with death or doom."

THE LIVING WORD

We get life into us by the Word, we keep life in us by the Word: "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word." We are kept from sin by the Word: "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." And we conquer sin also by the Word: "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony." We keep ourselves separate from the world by the Word: "Ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life." And we repulse Satan by the Word: "It is written." We are judged by the Word, condemned by the Word, commended by the Word. "The word that I have spoken, the same shall judge (you) in the last day."—Charles A. Fox.

DOES YOUR CONSCIENCE SPEAK CONCERNING

- Your use of the Sabbath?
- The songs you sing?
- Your recreations?
- Your use of the radio?
- Your attire?
- Your habits?
- Your conversation?
- Your interest in the spread of the Gospel?
- Your tithe?

—Exchange

A real estate man, being solicited by his pastor for a contribution for enlargement of the church building, said: "I question the value of churches. What good do they do, anyway?" "My friend," replied the parson, "I want you seriously to consider the question I am going to ask you! What was real estate worth in Sodom?"—Selected.