

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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THE NEW YEAR

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"This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you."—Ex. 12:2.

These words of Moses seem appropriate at this season of the year. As we stand on the threshold of a new year we realize that now is "the beginning of months." We know not what lies ahead. Let us be assured, however, that Christ has trod the way before us, and is able to lead us gently on.

Let us begin the new year with thankful meditation. Another year of our "few years" is gone. God has been good to us. "Through poverty, through wealth, through sickness, through health; at home, abroad, on the land, on the sea; in honor, in dishonor, in perplexity, in joy, in trial, in triumph, in prayer, in temptation—"hitherto hath the Lord helped!" He has led us on and upward by paths we did not know.

Let us begin the new year with self-inspection. The season reminds us of the past—the irrevocable past. Looking within we see opportunities unimproved and talents left unemployed. It behooves us then to examine ourselves in the light of eternity. Have we been careful in the keeping of our spiritual garments clean and unspotted from the world? Have we continually exercised ourselves in the ministry of prayer and intercession? Have we taken time to acquaint ourselves with the precious promises? Have we sought to pass on the blessing that the Saviour has passed on to us? Souls are lost because of indifference. The maintenance of Christ's abiding in us depends upon our continual abiding in Him.

Let us begin the new year with a new determination. The new year holds in store for us a thousand opportunities. Let us look to God in faith for grace with which to meet the responsibilities these opportunities shall afford. Let our resolution be: "God's man in God's place, doing God's work, in God's way, in God's time, and through God's grace." With this in mind let us press on and upward, remembering that,

"He who hath helped thee hitherto,
Will keep thee all thy journey through."

THE ABUNDANT LIFE

Reverend Paul S. Rees

Why did Jesus Christ come—come to Mary's cradling arms, come to Bethlehem's rock-hewn grotto, come to Jerusalem's pools and palaces, come to Galilee's lovely waters, come to Calvary's uplifted cross, come as God manifest in the flesh? Why? Let Him answer. "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

Does man long for larger physical life? Does he cling to it when the last fluttering pulsebeats are shaking his weakened frame? Let him know that he cannot have the fullness of it without Christ. The clean, Christly way leads to longest and fullest retention of the vigor of true manhood or womanhood—the flash of brain, the keenness of eye, the strength of stride.

Are we eager for intellectual life? It is not

an unworthy quest. If "God has little use for our brains," He has much less use for our ignorance. Let us know, however, that thought never blossoms in its purest, strongest forms where its roots have not been fertilized with the inspiration of Christ and irrigated with generous inflows of the "Water of Life." It is true that those hands of His were too busy writing dust-pardons for the women of scarlet or mixing clay for the blinded eyes, to write volumes which should take their places in the libraries of the learned. Yet this Galilean Who forgave the guilty and healed the infirm, and fed the hungry, has moved the pens of the loftiest thinkers, kindled the genius of the noblest poets, awakened the unscored harmonies of the finest composers. Let Him capture our minds and they will yield their golden best.

Do we crave spiritual life? Very well. A personal, living Christ releasing Himself within our quickened beings, living in us, flowing through us—that is the glory and power of our holy faith. It is the end of the Incarnation. It is the objective of the Cross. Did He not pour Himself livingly and mightily into Saul of Tarsus, and Peter, and Huss, and Savonarola, and Luther, and Wesley, and Finney, and Moody? Through them He flowed and out of them He issued in powerful spiritual movements; crushing wrong, through them, with resistless impacts of right; gathering to Himself, through them, holy fellowships that now girdle the globe; shaping, through them, the immortal destinies of uncounted millions.

This in the past. What shall we say for the present? He wants new personalities to touch, this life-giving Christ—new Careys to call, new Livingstones to quicken, new Brainards to possess, new Booths to energize, new Asburys to endure. If He can have us, our life shall be full and blessed indeed, life for ourselves and unmeasured stores in reserve for others. "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Nor is it the life of golden poppies closing with the sunset chill, not the life of feathered songsters dropping dead from their high-built nests, not the seasonal life of springtime, greening into summer, fading into fall; not this, but the life that is progressive, broadening, deepening, unfolding, eternal.

BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Our readers will recall that some months ago we had a series of book reviews in our Y. P. Page, in which we endeavoured to make suggestion of books especially adapted to the needs of young people, giving a brief summary concerning the book itself. A gratifying response was received in regard to this feature and several have requested that we extend this series somewhat. Accordingly, we shall gladly comply with the wishes of our readers and make further suggestion of books for your Society or personal library and endeavour by a brief note to convey some idea of the nature and substance of each book we present.

May we ask for the co-operation of our readers in this feature? You may have some book in your library, either at the church or

at home, that has been especially helpful to you and would also be of help to others. If so, would you write a letter to your editor stating the name of the book and its author and state why it was particularly helpful to you? We would appreciate it greatly.

Now just to get started again, and to be sure you haven't forgotten the books we suggested for your reading previous to this series, I'm going to give you at least a partial list of those recommended already. All the books listed below are of the highest quality, and are sure to bring great benefit to those who read them. In succeeding issues we will make further suggestion. I trust this plan may assist you in obtaining good reading material.

The Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan.

Imitation of Christ by Thomas A. Kempis.

In His Steps by Charles Sheldon.

Youth and the Christ Way by John A. Huffman.

With Christ in the School of Prayer by Andrew Murray.

The Way of Holiness by S. L. Brengle.

Streams in the Desert by Mrs. Chas. Cowman.

National Guard Series by various authors.

(Retain the above list until you have been able to obtain these books, adding to it as the series continues).

STILL UPWARD

"Still upward be thine onward course:

For this I pray today.

Still upward as the years go by,

And seasons pass away.

"Still upward in this coming year,

Thy path is all untried;

Still upward may'st thou journey on,

Close by thy Saviour's side.

"Still upward e'en though sorrow come,

And trials crush thine heart;

Still upward may they draw thy soul,

With Christ to walk apart.

"Still upward till the day shall break,

And shadows all have flown;

Still upward till in heaven you wake,

And stand before the throne."

"Beloved, when you are doubtful as to your course, submit your judgment absolutely to the Spirit of God, and ask Him to shut against you every door but the right one."—F. B. Meyer.

MORE BIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Who was commanded to hide his girdle in a rock?
2. Where is a lantern mentioned, and on what occasion used?
3. What is a phylactery, and where are they mentioned?
4. Who wrote the Epistle to the Hebrews?
5. What is the Golden Rule, and where is it found?
6. What is the first mention of pen and ink?
7. What did the "pulse" eaten by Daniel