

"CONDITIONS OF PRAYER" OR
"HINDERED PRAYER"
(Continued from Page 1)

him say to his wife, not in a sarcastic way, but more to show up an error and impress the truth, "Mistress," for thus he often addressed her, "what things have you seen me leave undone and what things have I done today and there is no health in me, as you always say in your prayers? This was done I am sure only to try to convince his wife the utter folly of a continual repetition of words admitting the sin of omission and commission, and thus having no spiritual health, yet keeping up with church activities. How many do likewise?

One of the things which will cause "hindered prayer" is an unforgiving spirit on the part of a professing Christian. I am sure a possessing Christian has always on hand a forgiving spirit, but often do we see church members and often brothers and sisters of one family that will not speak to each other, and yet go through the form of prayer and everything that is connected with the church. Jesus says in St. Mark's Gospel 11-26, "But if ye do not forgive neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses," also St. Luke 6-37, "Forgive and ye shall be forgiven." Do we not ask our Father for our forgiveness when we pray the Lord's Prayer when we ask Him to forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, when we do not forgive?

To me one of the most outstanding features in the life of Paul just after his wonderful experience of conversion on his way to Damascus is the fact that he was singled out to a certain disciple at Damascus named Avanius by the Lord in a vision sending him to the street which is called Straight and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus for "behold he prayeth."

Just why was a man like Paul singled out in such a manner you may ask. Had he not prayed before? I would certainly say he who was brought up in such a strict manner said many prayers but never before was he possessed with such effectual intercession that the Lord heard and answered by sending a disciple to his side, assuring him he would not be mistaken in the man for "behold he prayeth."

I have long since been convinced that no one can really pray until they become acquainted with, first the one to whom they should address their prayers, viz. "The Father." After this manner therefore pray ye, our Father who art in Heaven, etc. But thou when thou prayest enter into thy closet and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy FATHER which is in secret, and thy FATHER which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly," St. Matthews 6:6. Second, "In the name of Jesus. Whatsoever ye ask the Father in my name He will give it you", St. John 16:23. "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ," Ephesians 5-20. Third, In the Holy Spirit. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit," Ephesians 6-18.

We often hear some addressing their prayers to Jesus and I would not dare to say that some of these prayers were not answered, for God hears and answers according to our heart condition not our head, but we are told to pray in the spirit and with the understanding. Also 1 Cor. 14-15, "I am not unmindful of the fact that a prayer, God be merciful to me a sinner, will be heard and answered if it comes from the lips of a broken, contrite, repentant heart.

Now to those who read this I know nothing of your prayer life. If I have crossed your path I

hope it will be only to encourage unhindered prayer. For myself it's useless for me to attempt to pray, unless I like Paul am living on STRAIGHT Street and can be singled out as one.

"For BEHOLD HE PRAYETH."
Vancouver, B. C.

REASONS FOR FAMILY ALTAR

It will sweeten home life and enrich home relationship as nothing else can do.

It will solve all misunderstanding, and relieve all friction that may enter the home.

It will hold our boys and girls to the Christian ideal and determine their lasting welfare.

It will send us forth to our work for the day, in school, home, office, store, and factory, true to do our best and determined in what we do to glorify God.

It will give strength to meet bravely any disappointments and adversities as they come.

It will make us conscious through the day of the attending presence of a divine Friend and Helper.

It will hallow our friendship with our guests in the home.

It will reinforce the influence and work of the church, the church school, and agencies helping to establish the Christian ideal throughout the world.

It will encourage other homes to make a place for Christ and the church.

It will honor our Father above and express our gratitude for His mercy and blessing.—Selected.

CONSIDER CHRIST

He is God's Son—John 3:16.

He is the Lamb of God—John 1:29.

He is our Saviour—Matt. 1:21.

He is our Shepherd—John 10:11.

He is our Guide—Jer. 3:4.

He is our Passover—I. Cor. 5:7.

He is our Sacrifice—I. Cor. 5:7.

He is our Advocate—I. John 2:1.

He is our Life—Col. 3:4.

He is our Head—Col. 1:18.

He is our Wisdom—I. Cor. 1:30.

He is our Righteousness—I. Cor. 1:30.

He is our Sanctification—I. Cor. 1:30.

He is our Redemption—I. Cor. 1:30.

He is our Foundation—Matt. 16:18.

He is the Image of God.—Heb. 1:3.

He is our Pattern—Matt. 11:29.

He is All in All—Col. 3:11.—Sel.

THE RIGHT KIND OF FODDER

An old farmer, who was attending a church convention, chuckled to himself as he read the subjects on the programme. "See here, parson," he said to his pastor, "you've had papers and discussions all day on how to get people to attend church. I've never heard a single address, at a farmer's convention, on how to get cattle to come to the rack. We put all our time on the best kinds of feed. I sort of have a notion that if you put more time on discussing what to put in the rack, you wouldn't have to spend all that time discussing how to get your folk to attend church."—Sel.

"Up, and be marching to the place of duty, and there tell what great things God has shown to your soul! We, too, must bear our witness concerning Jesus." — Charles H. Spurgeon.

CRITICISING THE PREACHER

No man has harder people to serve than the minister of the gospel. His critics are many, and the criticisms varied. A Texas paper comments as follows: "The preacher has a great time. If his hair is grey, he is old. If he is a young man, he hasn't had experience. If he has ten children, he has too many; if he has none, he isn't a good example. If his wife sings in the choir, she is presuming; if she doesn't she isn't interested in her husband's work. If a preacher reads from notes, he is a bore; if he speaks extemporaneously, he isn't deep enough. If he stays at home in his study he doesn't mix with enough people; if he is seen around the streets he ought to be at home getting up a good sermon. If he calls on some poor family, he is playing to the grandstand; if he calls at the home of the wealthy, he is an aristocrat. Whatever he does, someone could have told him to do better."—Sel.

LIGHT

"Ye are the light of the world" (Matt. 5:14). Away out in the prairie regions where meetings are held at night in the log schoolhouses, the announcement of the meeting is given out in this way: "The meeting will be held by early candle light." The first man who comes brings a tallow dip with him. It is perhaps all he has, but he brings it and sets it on his desk. It does not light the building much; but it is better than none at all. The next man brings his candle; and the next family brings their candles. By the time the house is full there is plenty of light.—D. L. Moody.

"He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by their names." And, wonder of wonders, at the same moment, "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds." Our Lord Jesus is just as much at home in binding up wounds as He is in guiding stars; these two works are equally pleasing to Him; nay the latter is the choicer work of the two. So then, if you are waiting for Him, He will surely come to you, for His business lies in your way. He has work to do in you.—Spurgeon.

THE INDESTRUCTIBLE BIBLE

God's word can no more be destroyed than God can be destroyed. And the Bible is God's Word. One of the greatest tragedies of today, both in the world and in the professing Christian church, is the fact that so few people are availing themselves of the inexhaustible riches and power of the Bible. Years ago D. L. Moody said, "I can secure a hundred men who can teach Greek and Latin well where I can find only one who can teach the Bible well. Take the Bible; study it; * * * feed on the Word; then go out to work. * * * The Bible is assailed as never before. Infidels cast it overboard, but it will always swim to the shore." In this connection the late Dr. Griffith Thomas used to quote the reassuring word Paul spoke to the Philippian jailer who was about to commit suicide, "supposing that the prisoners had been fled" when the prison doors were opened by a great earthquake. Dr. Thomas would say, "After the attacks of critics upon the Bible, the books of the Bible may well be imagined as saying to any troubled believer, 'Do thyself no harm; for we are all here.'"—Sunday School Times.

The person who doesn't want to see is the blindest person.