

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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CHRISTIAN CERTAINTY

By Lois Dow

"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."—II Tim. 2:19.

If ever there is a time when we should be certain about Christ and his teaching, it is in this day of warfare among our nations. Not to mention many other things the devil is scheming to bring to pass. That is why we must line ourselves up to God's word. As Paul writes to Timothy: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Tim. 2:15.

Friends, one big trick of the devil is to get God's children busy with the cares of this world. Thus, lessening the time for studying the gospel. He knows that the less time we spend on God's word the less capable we are to stand against the fiery darts of the enemy. Therefore, let us study, watch, and pray lest we enter into temptation.

In Paul's letter to Timothy we find the first way to Christian certainty is to know that the foundation of God standeth sure. To know that earthly kingdoms shall rise and fall, but, God is the same yesterday, today and forever. How it inspires faith in our hearts when we read on in the text. "The Lord knoweth them that are his. It is a privilege to learn and know about God; but, it is a blessed privilege to know that God knows and cares for poor, weak, fallen men.

After we become certain of the foundation of God standing sure, the Devil will then try to slip in with doubts and fears. One doubt he has to offer is, the one of, "doubting we are God's children." But we must not be discouraged over that. For we find he had the same line to offer to our Christ when he said, "If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." Matt. 4:6. And, as Christ had God's word to take Him through the temptation, so have we God's word to reassure us. We find in John 10:14: "I am the Good Shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine." We also find that in Moses' time the Devil was trying the same tricks. Let us turn to our Bibles and read the account of Moses. Num. 16:5, "And he spake unto Korah and unto all his company saying, even tomorrow the Lord will shew who are his, and who is holy: and will cause him to come near unto him."

No wonder the Apostle Paul exhorts us to study to shew ourselves approved unto God. Workmen which needeth not to be ashamed, rightly, dividing the word of truth. The Devil has knowledge of the Word. And he will try to turn out minds. Jesus is our example. When the Devil tempted Him with doubts, he could answer, "It is written, thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God."

So Christian friends, to insure Christian certainty, we must continually study our Bibles, keep much in prayer and have our ears turned to God's message to us.

After having been assured of God's steadfastness, and that, God knows us as His children, and we know Him as our God, and Christ as our

Saviour, "let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

JESUS AT PRAYER

By Bessie J. Follett

"Lord, teach us to pray." Luke 11:1.

If we would learn to pray let us look at Jesus, our great example, and follow Him in His prayer life. He thinks that Jesus was brought up in an atmosphere of prayer. He, who had goodly parents, no doubt heard them pray many times around the family altar. Sad indeed, that this form of worship is so neglected in the world today; yes, even in Christian homes. Blessed is the child today who is accustomed to hearing prayers in his home. I know from experience that family prayers has an influence upon the child that they cannot easily get away from in later life. Oh, that parents would erect a family altar for their children's sake!

I believe too, that as soon as possible after Jesus learnt to talk, Mary, that devoted and honored mother, taught her little son to pray. It is true that she could not teach her child the Lord's prayer, such as children learn today, yet I believe she found some simple form of childish prayer, and taught her little boy very early in life.

Then I feel that Jesus not only said prayers during childhood, but He soon formed the habit of really praying, a habit which He adhered to all through life. We read of Him, at the age of twelve: "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." Luke 2:52. He certainly could not find favour with God if He did not pray.

Notice, too, that He starts His public life by praying: "Jesus also being baptized and praying, the heaven was opened." We know His Heavenly Father's approval is still upon Him, as we read: "A voice from heaven which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased." Luke 3:21. Oh young people, you who are starting out on life's work, begin it with prayer, and make sure that the calling you have chosen is in harmony with God's will for you.

Next, as we see Him performing miracles, in the midst of His fame and popularity, this same spirit of prayer is in evidence. "But so much more went there a fame abroad of Him, and great multitudes came together to hear Him . . . And He withdrew Himself into the wilderness, and prayed." Luke 5:15 and 16. When things are running smooth and going our way, we sometimes are inclined to let up in our prayer life, but not so with Jesus. He sensed the need of getting alone with God in prayer, that He might be enabled to feed and minister to the multitudes that followed Him. If Jesus, the Divine One, needed to pray, friends, how much more should you and I pray, if we would do any work for the Lord.

We should spend much time in prayer before entering upon some special work, for before Jesus chose His disciples He spent the whole night in prayer. Luke 6:12. When called upon to make some important decision, oh that we would take time to pray, and seek God's will in the matter, there would be fewer regrets and shipwrecks in life.

Next, we see Him praying at the close of His Galilean ministry, Luke 9:18, probably for those to whom He had been ministering, and was now about to leave. He at least was meditating upon them, and the result of His work in their midst,

GLEANINGS

"Study to show thyself approved to God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."—Tim. 2:15.

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"Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time for that is the stuff life is made of."—Franklin.

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"Let the current of your being set toward God, then your life will be filled and claimed by one master—passion which unites and stills the soul."—Alex. Maclaren.

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"We cannot bring the past back again: reject it and forget it. Rather look up, look around, look forward, onward, upward. Here is the wisdom, here the mercy, here all help in life."—Martin Tupper.

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Grow old along with me!
The best is yet to be,
The last of life, for which the first was
made:
Our times are in His hand
Who said: "A whole I planned,
Youth shows but half; trust God; see
all, nor be afraid!"

—Robert Browning.

A MOMENT OF PRAYER IN THE MORNING

("To awake cheerfully and start the day with a prayer is to win half the day's battles.")
A moment of prayer in the morning, ere the
cares of the day begin,
Ere the heart's wide door is open for the world
to enter in,
Ah, then alone with Jesus, in the silence of the
morn,
In heavenly sweet communion, let your duty-day
be born.
In a quietude that blesses with a prelude of re-
pose
Let your soul be smoothed and softened, as the
dew revives the rose.

A moment in the morning, take your Bible in
your hand,
And catch a glimpse of glory from the peaceful
promised land;
It will linger still before you when you seek the
busy mart,
And like flowers of hope will blossom into
beauty in your heart.
The precious words, like jewels, will glisten all
the day
With a rare effulgent glory that will brighten all
the way.

—Andrew Murray.

as when the disciples came to Him, He asked them: "Whom say the people that I am?" You remember at the beginning of this ministry He declared that He was the Son of God, when He spoke from Isaiah 61:1, saying: "This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears." Luke 4:21. Now at the close of this ministry He is wondering what impression He has made upon them. We too, should pray for those to whom we minister, or rub shoulders with daily, and are endeavouring to influence for Jesus. Let our per-