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EDITORIAL

TAKING JESUS SERIOUSLY

Ye have not, because ye ask not.—James 4-2. When we read the many precious promises which our Lord has made unto those who asks things of Him, we often wonder why we do not see more results from our praying. When I think of the unlimited promises that Jesus has made to us I am often ashamed that we do not receive more answers to our prayers.

It is true that the promises are conditional. But the conditions which he lays down are within the reach of all, or are possible for all to meet, who are interested.

In fact they are very simple. There seems to be only two things required of us, namely, obedience and faith.

Let us note a few of the promises which Jesus has made unto us. If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain: Remove hence into yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Mat. 17-20. Note the words: Nothing shall be impossible. Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven. Mat. 18-19. Note the extent of this promise: Anything that they shall ask. Again: All things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Mat. 21-22. Jesus said unto him. If Thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. Mark 9-23. Again: For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them and ye shall have them. Mark 11-23:24. Read again in the epistle of John: Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. I. John 3-21, 22. Again, hear John. And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us. And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him. I. John 5-14, 15. Notice what positive terms the in-

spired apostle uses in expressing his confidence and faith in the goodness and power of God. There is no uncertainty in His tone. He says, We know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him. Surely all these sweeping promises ought to stir our hearts, and cause us to ask ourselves, why are we not accomplishing more for Jesus in the salvation of souls? I fear that we do not take the promises of God seriously. And that is because we do not think seriously enough on those round about us, who are in sin, lost, and in troubles of various kinds. We seem to become so accustomed to the world's woes and sorrows that they no longer stir our hearts, or cause us any burden of soul. Hence our prayers are formal, cold and passionless, and without faith which is the chief factor in getting things from God. I fear that our prayers are not much like those of our Lord, of whom it is said: In the days of His flesh, offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears, and was heard. Heb. 5-7. Jesus became the great intercessor, who stood between a justly offended God, and a lost world, and made atonement for us, at the sacrifice of His own life. He began the work of redemption by sacrifice and suffering, and it seems that it must be carried on in the same spirit. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart. Oh, God thou wilt not despise." Psa. 51-17. Hence we receive not because we ask not in the spirit of intercession and faith. Some one has said: "The gospel of a Broken Heart demands the ministry of a Bleeding Heart."

"Pressed out of measure,
And pressed to all length,
Pressed so intensely,
It seems beyond strength.
Pressed in the body,
And pressed in the soul,
Pressed in the mind
Till the dark surges roll.

Pressure by foes,
Pressure by friends,
Pressure on pressure
Till life nearly ends.
Pressed into knowing
No helper but God.
Pressed into loving
The staff and the rod.

Pressed into liberty
Where nothing clings,
Pressed into faith
For impossible things.
Pressed into living
A life in the Lord.
Pressed into living
A Christ life outpoured."

SOCIAL SECURITY?

While the unpublicized aspects of the double-budget-lump-sum appropriation may be a revelation to many who do not follow closely the operations of federal government, there are other practices which baffle one seeking accurate information regarding the cost of his government.

One example is shown in the budget of 1938, which discloses that \$230,000,000 of social security taxes has been used for regular expenses, thus reducing the deficit by use of a tax collected and paid for the specific purpose of providing old-aget security.—Senator Harry F. Byrd, in Atlantic Monthly.

FROM BOSTON TO MIAMI

Dear Editor of the Highway:

On Saturday, Jan. 6th, in company with Brothers Nelson McCollem and Arthur Gwynn, two sanctified boys, in an 8 cylinder Pontiac, we left Boston at 8 a. m. for Florida. The first day we made Baltimore; remained there over Sunday and worshipped in First Nazarene Church, Rev. Kimber Moulton, pastor.

He has a substantial church and a good membership. The house was well filled Sunday morning. It was a communion service. I have seldom seen such a tender melting time. I had the privilege of preaching in the evening. God gave us great liberty with some victory at the altar.

Sunday night it began to snow. We left Baltimore Monday morning, the 8th, with four inches of snow, which had increased to 8 inches when we reached Washington, 41 miles. The Capital looked gloomy in the early morning enveloped in its wintry shroud. We pressed on, not having time to stop and straighten things out there.

Nearly all day we drove on, slippery wheeling, the depth of snow increasing, to Richmond, Va. We reached Fayettville, North Carolina, by night. Next day the roads were splendid, and 55-70 was the pace, landing us at St. Augustine, Florida, by night. Next day we dallied along to Daytona Beach, then across from East Coast to the West Coast through DeLand, Orlando, Lakeland, Tampa to St. Petersburg, Florida. The same night we got into the Nazarene prayer meeting, where we found a good spirit and some people from the North. On Thursday in company with Brother and Sister Conley, of Newton, Mass., we drove up to Clearwater, through wonderful orange groves and a delightful country. On Friday, the 12th, we struck out for Miami at the southern extremity of Florida, 350 miles from St. Petersburg. We got there in time to attend a holiness mission, when they spotted me as a preacher, and I gave a message. We have been here six days. What are our impressions of the Southland? I must say if you want wonderful scenery, don't come south. In the Carolinas, and Georgia, the land is level but rough. The fields are small. You see more shacks than comfortable homes. These are all set on posts and many look uninhabitable. We passed through some good cities, but not much like our northern cities, with their beautiful suburbs and great industrial plants. In Saraunak, Georgia, we visited the church dedicated to the memory of John and Charles Wesley and George Whitefield, who labored there in 1738 and later. In Florida we passed through orange groves. but there is much waste barren land. The weather has been unusually cold. It was the greatest storm in years on the Atlantic coast. Although heavily clad and with a woolen blanket around my legs and a heater in the car, I did not begin to feel real warm till we got well into Florida, and here the weather has been very changeable, running from 45 degrees up to 85 degrees. In the ride from St. Petersburg to Miami, 350 miles, we passed through only three small towns; all the rest of the way, for the most part, is barren land and everglades, excellent homes for crocodiles, alligators and snakes. We visited an alligator and a snake farm on the way. It was very interesting to see how the keeper could