

## A REMARKABLE ANSWER TO PRAYER

Mr. Jay Gould once left his eastern home for a trip across the continent. In the western part of Texas the train on which he was travelling was halted for a few hours at a little town to make needed repairs on the engine. Mr. Gould, to pass the time, walked up the village street, and found a sale going on, and the auctioneer calling out, "Fourteen hundred and seventy-five dollars."

Mr. Gould inquired of a man what was being sold, and was told that it was a new church building on which the contractor had a claim for his work. Mr. Gould, to help the sale, offered fifteen hundred dollars, which the auctioneer called a few times without a raise, and the church was sold to Mr. Gould at his bid.

Three gray-haired old men standing near watched the proceedings of the transfer, and, going up to Mr. Gould, not knowing who he was, asked him what he intended to do with the church he had just bought.

"What is it to you what I do with it? It is mine now, to keep or to give away," said the millionaire.

One of the men said, "This is what it is to us: we three men are trustees of the church house, and were sent here to see, and then report what disposal was made of it; and in the church, at this present moment, the entire congregation, with the presiding elder and preachers, are down on their knees before God of heaven, asking Him to divinely interfere in some way to save our church, so that it may not be lost to us. That is what it is to our people."

Jay Gould gave the people their church building.—Selected.

## BACKSLIDE INTO REGENERATION?

There are folk who think you can have holiness of heart, then somehow give up such experience and backslide into regeneration, and continue in that grace.

When the Children of Israel refused to go over into Canaan at Kadesh-Barnea, and backslid into the wilderness-life, such a state is not a type of a regenerate, but of a backslidden person.

Thus it is with folk today. If sanctification has been renounced either by life or word, though salvation may be professed, it is false unless one has begun at the bottom and obtained regeneration on the way back to the experience of holiness.

## AT HOME IN THE BIBLE

All I know of good, truth, honesty and idealism I have learned from the Bible. In school I listened each morning as a chapter was read before classes started, and it was then that I came to know and respect the Holy Book. I never have lost my regard for the Word of God, and if I had my way about it, a chapter of the Bible would be read every single morning in every schoolroom in this country. I feel at home in the pages of the Bible, for that Book speaks my language.—Henry Ford, in Words of Cheer.

Oklahoma State Board of Education has unanimously adopted a resolution urging every school teacher, principal or superintendent to read without comment a passage of Scripture before each school or class every school day. The resolution declares that "the desperate world condition has passed beyond human control."—United Presbyterian.

## WHEN LIFE IS TIED TO GOD

A buoy is fastened securely to a rock at the bottom of the sea. The waves splash around it; it floats serenely in its appointed place. The tide rises and falls; it is still there. The Atlantic rollers come racing toward it; it mounts them one by one and rides upon them as they roll past. The tempest descends, the billows rush upon the little buoy, and for a moment it is submerged. But immediately it rises to the surface and is in its place again, unmoved and unharmed. What a picture of the conquering life! What a power and a privilege for a soul to be able thus to rise lightly above every opponent, every vexation, never to sink into discontentment, never to be overwhelmed with fear and doubt, always to be on top of the fretful sea of life!—Sunday School Chronicle.

## WHAT ARE SOME IMPORTANT "DON'TS" FOR CHURCH GOERS?

- Don't visit. Worship.
- Don't hurry away. Speak and be spoken to.
- Don't stop in the end of the pew. Move over.
- Don't monopolize your hymn book. Be neighborly.
- Don't wait for introductions. Introduce yourself.
- Don't choose the back seat. Leave it for late comers.
- Don't dodge the collection plate. Pay what you are able.
- Don't criticize. Remember, and think of your own frailties.
- Don't stare blankly while others sing, read, pray. Join in.
- Don't leave without praying God's blessing upon all present.
- Don't sit while others stand or kneel. Share in the service.
- Don't dodge the preacher. Show yourself friendly.—Selected.

## LITTLE SINS

The following was told in the address of a converted Burman to a group of natives.

A little banyan seed said to a palm tree, "I am weary of being tossed about by the wind; let me stay a while among your leaves."

"Oh, yes," said the palm tree, "stay as long as you like," and by and by forgot the little seed was there. But the seed was not idle. It sent out little fibers and tiny roots, and they crept around the trunk and under the bark and into the heart of the tree itself. Then the tree cried out, "What is this?"

The banyan said, "It is only the little seed you allowed to rest among your leaves."

"Leave me now," said the palm tree. "You have grown too large and strong."

"I cannot leave you now; we have grown together. I will kill you if I tear myself away."

The palm tree bowed its head and tried to shake the banyan off, but could not, and little by little the palm tree withered, the trunk shriveled, and only the banyan could be found.

Beware of little sins!—The Pilot.

If God is able to save anyone who comes to Him "to the uttermost," He is certainly able to save from the uttermost.—H. S. Laird.

force, only changing its form, as forces do, and passing from pain into sympathy—the one poor word which includes all our best insight and our best love.—Eliot.

## PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER

The privilege of prayer to me is one of the most cherished possessions, because faith and experience alike convince me that God Himself sees and answers, and His answers I never venture to criticize. It is only my part to ask. It is entirely His to give or to withhold, as He knows is best. If it were otherwise, I would not dare to pray at all. In the quiet of home, in the heat of life and strife, in the face of death, the privilege of speech with God is inestimable. I value it more because it calls for nothing that the wayfaring man, though a fool, cannot give—that is, the simplest expression to his simplest desire. When I can neither see, nor hear, nor speak, still I can pray so that God can hear. When I finally pass through the valley of the shadow of death, I expect to pass through it in conversation with Him.—Dr. Wilfred T. Grenfell.

## FAITH

By Henrietta E. Hickey

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1).

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb. 11:6).

F—aithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it (1 Thess. 5:24).

A—sk, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened (Matt. 7:7, 8).

I—N God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me (Psalm 56:11).

T—rust in the Lord, and do good; so shall thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed (Psalm 37:3).

H—e staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform (Romans 4:20, 21).

"America has only seven per cent of the world's population and six per cent of its acreage; yet it has more than half of the world's wealth."—Alexander D. King.

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Six peasant boys who, in the outskirts of Leningrad, read the Bible together and discussed it, have been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment by the Leningrad criminal court, reports Sunday School Times.

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According to the Department of Commerce, the charitable contributions of Americans during the past year amounted to almost \$40,000,000. Jewish organizations sent sums for relief and rehabilitation amounting to \$11,100,000. Catholic contributions, mainly for missionary work in the Far East, totaled \$2,300,000. The support of Protestant missions abroad amounted to \$15,600,000. Contributions of non-sectarian organizations for Europe and China came to \$6,900,000.—Alliance Weekly.

This is the final test of a gentleman; his respect for those who can be of no possible service to him.—William Lyon Phelps.