

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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EDITORIAL

FEEDING THE SOUL

These are days when we find ourselves very busy; but no day should be so occupied as to make it necessary to omit our Bible reading and prayers. One great man said this: "He who is too busy to pray, is busier than God wants him to be." To leave God out of the picture on the excuse that "there is not enough time" is very poor economy. Ordinarily, it might seem that an hour out of the crowded day would be too many precious minutes to devote to the development of one's soul; yet, on the other hand, judging from Christ's own evaluation, it appears to be a distorted sense of value that would allocate twenty-three hours to eating, sleeping, and working, but only one hour for the soul that is worth more than the whole world.

If man were only flesh and blood, he would have no more responsibility than the animals, but man is more than physical. Our learned chemists can analyze the human body, estimate the proportionate amounts of all its constituents, and with some degree of success, reproduce the body itself. But thus far can they go and no farther. They cannot impart that vitalizing personality which is the centre of a man's whole being. This part of man is spiritual, is God given; hence, it demands spiritual food, and can find satisfaction only in God. David cried: "Oh, God . . . my soul thirsteth for thee." And Augustine, the great churchman and writer of the early centuries, when giving praise to God, declared: "Thou madest us for Thyself, and our heart is restless until it finds repose in Thee." How else can the soul be fed, except by communion with God, either directly by prayer, or indirectly through His Word?

The soul must be nourished or it will become starved, warped, and insensitive to spiritual influences. How small and withered is that soul which has never felt the influx of spiritual power after partaking of the heavenly manna; never experienced the refreshing that follows a deep drought from the living water, nor feasted on Canaan's milk and honey!

A lean soul in the presence of so much spiritual food is unnecessary. Scripture holds out the invitation for people to "come and dine" and promises that those who come "shall be filled." Was it ever known that a penitent seeker was turned away unheeded, or a hungry soul unsatisfied? No, "for he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

JOHN WESLEY ON PERSONAL WORK

I look upon all the world as my parish; thus far I mean, that, in whatever part of it I am, I judge it meet, right, and my bounden duty, to declare unto all that are willing to hear, the glad tidings of salvation. This is the work which I know God has called me to do; and sure I am that His blessing attends it. Great encouragement have I, therefore, to be faithful in fulfilling the work He hath given me to do.—Wesley's Journal.

GOD CHOOSES BUSY MEN FOR HIS WORK

When God has work to be done we notice that He almost always goes to those who are already at work. Both history and the Bible attest this truth.

Moses was tending his flock at Horeb when God called him to deliver the people of Israel from bondage in Egypt.

Gideon was threshing wheat by the wine press when God called him to deliver Israel from the Midianites.

David was caring for his father's sheep when he was called to succeed Saul as king.

Elisha was ploughing with twelve yoke of oxen when he was called to succeed Elijah as prophet of God in Israel.

Nehemiah was bearing the king's cup when he was called to go to rebuild Jerusalem.

Amos was tending the flock when he was summoned to be a prophet of God.

Peter and Andrew were casting a net into the sea when Christ called them to become fishers of men.—The Missionary Review of the World.—Sel.

DID YOU KNOW THAT—

Demosthenes was the greatest orator of Greece at twenty-five, and at the same age Cicero was Rome's greatest speaker?

William Gladstone was a member of the British House of Commons at twenty-four?

Benjamin Franklin was writing for publication at fourteen?

At eight, Beethoven created astonishment by his musical ability; at thirteen Mozart was without an equal in music?

Gibbon, the great English historian, began his studies at seventeen, and at twenty-four was publishing his historical works?

Ruskin was an accomplished art critic, and had written "Modern Painters" at twenty-four?

John Wesley was a polished and forceful writer, a skilled logician, and a professor of Greek at twenty-four?

Whitefield was one of the world's greatest preachers at twenty-two?

Moody was preaching at eighteen, and during his twenties became one of the century's greatest evangelists?

THE PASSING AND THE ETERNAL

An exchange tells of an Englishman, the Earl of Dudley, who, dying a few years ago, left among his effects which were offered for sale his library. With his other books was a set of Voltaire's works. These infidel writings, ninety-two volumes, in beautiful calf binding, sold for \$2. On the other hand, the British government paid \$500,000 for the Codex Sinaiticus, the manuscript of the Bible that was obtained from Russia a few years ago.

Greater than the contrast between the prices of the books as cited above is the contrast in the effects produced by following these contrasting philosophies. All that is best in our "Christian" lands is attributable to God's book. What is worst among us has come from rejection, or more often the neglect, of that Word. The atrocities and the

brutishness, the disregard for human life and welfare which prevail in Russia today are natural products of the national rejection of God's Word.

After less than two hundred years no one wants the works of Voltaire, which attack the Book of God. The Word is still the world's best seller. Many hammers have been broken upon this anvil. Truth is eternal.—Selected.

GLEANINGS

It is good for us to think that no grace or blessing is truly ours till we are aware that God has blessed someone else with it through us.—Phillips Brooks.

It is from the dark clouds in our sky that the showers of blessing come.—D. J. Burrell.

What God wants is men great enough to be small enough to be used.—H. Webb-Peploe.

The Christian on his knees sees more than the philosopher on tiptoe.—Toplady.

Doubtful amusements are like doubtful eggs—so likely to be bad that it is safest to let them alone.—J. R. Miller.

Holy thoughts in the heart have also a transfiguring influence on the life.—J. R. Miller.

There is more chance for a cripple on the right road than for a racer on the wrong.—Young.

A negro preacher once said, "Bredren, whateber de good God tell me to do in dis blessed Book, dat I'm gwine to do. If I see in it dat I must jump troo a stone wall, I'm gwine to jump at it. Going troo it belongs to God; jumping at it belongs to me."—McLaren.

ABLE

"I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is ABLE"—

"To do exceeding abundantly above all I can ask or think"—

"ABLE to make all grace abound unto me."

"ABLE to succor them that are tempted."

"ABLE to save to the uttermost."

"ABLE to keep you from falling."

"ABLE to keep that which I have committed unto Him."

"ABLE to comprehend with all saints."

"Believe ye that I am ABLE to do this?"

Yea, Lord, I believe. "Then according to your faith be it unto you"—

FOR NO MAN

"Shall be ABLE to pluck them (my sheep) out of my Father's hand"

AND NOTHING

Shall be ABLE to separate us from the LOVE OF GOD which is in CHRIST JESUS our LORD.

William Jay once said:—"Yes, He is ABLE to save to the uttermost ends of the earth, to the uttermost limits of time, to the uttermost period of life, to the uttermost length of depravity, to the uttermost depths of misery, and to the uttermost measure of perfection."

CAN YOU ANSWER THESE?

1. What is the Bible definition of "pure religion?"
2. What was the "faithful saying" of Paul?
3. What was the "more excellent way?"