

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

—ECCLES. 12:1

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

Voice of the Reformed Baptist Y. P. A.

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ALPHA AND OMEGA

"Oh, I know that from A to Z," says some young person in describing his knowledge of something. People in other lands have had similar expressions. The Greeks had the saying, "Alhpa to Omega," using the first and last letters of their alphabet.

Christ in revealing himself to John said, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending." He might have said, "I am the beginning and the ending and all in between." Jesus' statement becomes more meaningful to us when we remember that every idea we express, every word we utter must be formed from the 26 letters of the alphabet. On first thought it might seem that our medium of expression is very limited; but upon investigation we discover that the possible combinations are almost infinite. There is no scarcity of words in Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, yet all the words there are only different arrangements of a very few letters.

When Christ, therefore, declared, "I am Alpha and Omega," He was saying that in His relation to us He could be **everything**. Whatever our particular combination of circumstances, His grace could fit that combination. Though every person on earth were different—and we are different in our basic personality—and temperament—Jesus could still satisfy each individual soul. Infinite grace accommodated to finite need! Finite souls with a touch of the Infinite! Little wonder that we sing, "All in all, Jesus is my all in all."

Again, when we like children playing with little wooden blocks on the floor, have the letters of our lives all in a jumble, how easily does Christ arrange the letters for us so as to make meaning and beauty. The same letters which in wrong combination have revealed only chaos and frustration now show order and direction. A situation which spelled sorrow is changed to joy. Doubt becomes trust. Bitterness becomes charity.

Lives which fully glorify God must have their basic alphabets or characters arranged to the proper combinations of truth, beauty and goodness. Only Jesus, the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, can reveal that combination. May we, in Christ, each find the best possible order and sequence of the component parts of our being.

HEAVENLY PROSPECT

Think of—

Stepping on shore and finding it heaven.  
Taking hold of a hand and finding it God's hand.

Breathing a new air and finding it celestial air.

Feeling invigorated and finding it immortality.

Passing from storm and tempest to an unknown calm.

Waking up and finding it home!—Selected.

WHILE IN THIS WORLD

The great world is the sphere in which religion is to live, move, and have its being. Hence, Christ sent His disciples into its busy throngs as light to shine, as salt to preserve, as leaven to leaven, and in His great prayer He prayed, not for them to be taken out of the world, but for them to be kept from the evil.—G. C. Lorimer.

YOUTH IN ACTION

"The largest of any Gospel rally in the history of Canada" were the words which one outstanding paper used to describe the recent YOUTH FOR CHRIST rally in Toronto. The Toronto chapter of this youth movement was celebrating the first anniversary of its organization. Over 20,000 people crowded the Maple Leaf Gardens for the occasion. Rev. Charles B. Templeton is the Toronto director.

Christian Youth Movements in Germany which had been forced under ground during the Nazi regime are now being revived openly under Evangelical sponsorship.

The extent to which young people of this age are interested in missions is indicated by a recent announcement from one prominent Bible School: Out of a graduating class of 174 young men and women, 108 offered their lives for Christian service in foreign territory.

We are glad to read of young people with strong spiritual backbones. One such person is Bronmen Davies Clifford, 23 year old evangelist who turned down a million-dollar movie contract, the acceptance of which, he declared, would have been a violation of his Christian principles. Said Clifford: "For me, fame in heaven is more important than fame on earth."

Young people from most of the Holiness denominations in Canada will gather at Ottawa over Labor Day for a meeting of the Canadian Youth Holiness Association. This Page sends greetings, and prays that the convention may contribute largely towards a richer understanding, and a greater spiritual outlook among the participating groups.

W. H. M.

READY FOR A NEW EDITION

At the tomb of the great American, Benjamin Franklin, are written these words:

The Body of  
Benjamin Franklin  
Printer;

Like the cover of an old book  
Its contents worn out  
And stript of its lettering and gilding,  
Lies herein food for worms.  
But the work shall not be lost  
For it will appear once more  
In a new and more elegant edition  
Revised and corrected

by  
THE AUTHOR

—Selected

LIVING WATER

(John 4:14)

1. Source: "I" (Jesus).
2. Price: "Shall give him" (free).
3. Assurance: "Shall be in him."
4. Quantity: "A well of water."
5. Quality: "Springing up" (living).
6. Duration: "Into everlasting life."
7. Participators: "Whosoever."
8. Conditions: "Drinketh."
9. Results: "Shall never thirst."—in Arkansas Methodist.

THE MARRED VESSEL

Great Potter at the wheel of life,  
Moulding the clay with skillful hand,  
Thou had'st a plan for my frail life—  
Alas, I would not understand!  
Had I but yielded to Thy touch,  
My life had been a vessel fair,  
Used for Thy work, to bear the cups  
Of living water here and there.

I did not see Thy way was best,  
I chose my own and marred Thy plan;  
Now crushed and broken here it lies,  
And I with grief the fragments scan.  
O Potter seated at life's wheel,  
Take once again this life of mine,  
And shape some vessel for Thy work,  
Though humble, yet for use Divine.

By Thy rich grace my will shall be  
In Thy dear hand as plastic clay,  
Where Thou may'st show Thy wondrous thought,

In colors bright or colors gray.  
Yes, from life's ruins Thou wilt make,  
Less beautiful, but useful still,  
A vessel Thou wilt take and use,  
And with Thy living water fill.

—M. Ritchie

A NEW DAY

Across a thousand leagues of land  
The mighty sun looks free,  
And in their fringe of rock or sand  
A thousand leagues of sea.  
Lo! I, in this majestic room,  
As real as the sun,  
Inherit this day and its doom  
Eternity begun.  
A world of men the rays illumine,  
God's men, and I am one.  
But life that is not pure and bold  
Doth tarnish every morning's gold.

—W. Allingham

HOW TO HELP A REVIVAL

If you have been living too far away from the altar, get nearer.

Whenever you think of a sinner, pray for his salvation.

Make short prayers in public and long ones in private.

Make your testimony brief, full of meaning and to the point.

Get in the spirit of prayer, and stay there, no matter what it costs.

Call on God for great things, believe that He is going to give them.

Hold on to God by faith instead of feeling. Feed on the promises and expect results in every meeting.

If you are on bad terms with any of your neighbors, get right with them before you can talk very loud in the meetings.

Make a list of the worst cases you know, beginning with yourself, and go to praying for them.

Don't find fault with anybody, and keep sweet no matter what happens.—Selected.