

THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers." 1 Tim. 4:12.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4:12
Editor: REV. W. H. MULLEN, Westchester, N. S.

PATRIOTISM AND RELIGION

"Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesars, and unto God the things that are God's." Lk. 20:25,

ATTENTION Y. P. SECRETARIES

Plans are under way for our denominational Y. P. Rally which will be held this spring (probably early in May) at Marysville, N. B. The time will soon be here, and it is none too early to begin preparations.

This item is directed particularly to our Y. P. secretaries who would greatly help the entertaining church if each secretary would find out as early as possible the number going from his society, and send in that information to Miss Nellie Clark, Marysville, N. B.

More detailed announcements will come later, but we trust that there will be a quick response to the suggestion above.

THE NOBLEST WAY

A pleasant story is related by Dr. Stuart Nye Hutchinson concerning a friend of his who spent a long time in Korea as a missionary. Years ago a Korean was converted and became one of the finest Christians in the province. The story, as told in "The Voice Within Us" (Fleming H. Revell Company)—runs as follows:

"One day the missionary said to the Korean, 'Was it something you heard in my preaching that led you to be a Christian?' 'No,' replied the man, 'it was your dog.'

"What do you mean?" said Mr. Bruen.

"Why, I saw your dog return thanks to God before he ate.' And then the missionary understood.

"He had a hunting dog named Mark, and he had taught him to lie down with his head between his paws and remain perfectly quiet when he heard his master say 'charge.' This native Korean had seen the missionary and his family bow their heads and give thanks before they ate their food, and then he looked down and saw the dog on the floor with his head between his paws. He said to himself, 'If that dog returns thanks to God, then surely I ought to, and the best way I can do it is by becoming a Christian.' And he did."

Very rightly does Dr. Hutchinson emphasize the point that the gift of ourselves to God is the noblest way in which we can express our thanks for all that God does for us.—Family Herald and Weekly Star.

REDEEMING THE TIME

R. E. Neighbour

The days are passing swiftly by,
Let us redeem them Lord, for Thee;
Not waste a moment as they fly,
Until Thy face we see.

May we spend well each hour, each day,
In turning loss to perfect gain;
May this be ours: to point the way,
And bring to others Heaven's ray,
Some sunshine 'mid the rain.

May we like sunbeams from the blue,
Seek out each heaving, aching breast;
May we like sunbursts, e'er break through
The clouds, to give to hearts anew,
The promise of sweet rest.

—Christian Life

AN AIRMAN TESTIFIES

Last week I was flying in my Spitfire, when a sudden snowstorm covered my base and surrounded me. I tried to land, but it was impossible as I couldn't see the ground even from a low altitude.

For twenty minutes I had to fly through the storm, unable to see beyond my own wing tips. I had to concentrate on my flying instruments, because when I looked away from them I lost all my sense of balance and direction. To keep my aircraft from turning, spinning, or diving towards the ground, I had to watch my gyro "horizon," my altimeter, compass, and several other instruments. Finally, I climbed up through several thousand feet of cloud into a clear sunny sky with the blustering storm far below me.

I handle my storms and troubles in service life, in the same way. Without a dependable guide I would be helpless. When it seems as though I would crash, all I need to do is look towards God. I use Him as my compass to keep me steering the correct course. He is my stabilizing gyro that keeps its balance, no matter how rough its surroundings are; and so my relation to Him is such that I find myself away from the storm, and happy in the sunlight of His blessing.

Actually, my instruments perhaps saved my physical life last week, and so my comparison is very applicable to me. God has saved my life from sin; and I know that if I continue to keep my eyes on Him, and my faith in Him as I did my instruments, He will guide me the right way to safety at His great aerodrome above.

P/O Mullen, V. W.,
R. C. A. F. Overseas

YOUTH

Bestow thy youth that thou mayest have comfort to remember it when it has forsaken thee and not sigh and grieve at the account thereof. Whilst thou art young, thou wilt think it will never have an end; but behold the longest day hath his evenings, and that thou shalt enjoy it but once that it never turns again; use it, therefore, as the springtime, which soon departeth, and wherein thou oughtest to plant and sow all provisions for a long and happy life.—Sir Walter Raleigh.

If you are trusting in Christ your sins are not only forgiven but God says that they are blotted out, covered, and not charged against you. (Psalm 32)—John Henry Jowett.

HOW TO BE GOOD

"God does not expect you to live His life without first giving you His nature." These were the words that startled a godless and mocking young soldier in Egypt.

"Why," he replied, "that explains it. Again and again I have been told to be good; again and again I have tried, but I can't. But all is different if God does not expect me to live His life without first giving me His nature."

Then he knelt and prayed, surrendered himself to the Great Commander, and God gave him a new heart. "Ye must be born again."—Sel.

MINUTE BIOGRAPHIES OF GREAT CHRISTIANS

John Wickliffe

From the so-called Middle Ages to the time of Martin Luther, few men did more to diffuse light and truth amidst the superstitious darkness of Europe than John Wickliffe. This celebrated reformer was born in 1324, in the little village of Hipswell, Yorkshire County, England.

From Obscurity

Nothing is known of young John's background, not even the names of his parents, but records reveal that he possessed a remarkable intellect, and when only sixteen was admitted to Queen's College, Oxford.

The "Gospel Doctor"

While at the college, Wickliffe revealed his great love for the Scriptures. His classical learning and his profound native ability served him well in opening up and expounding the inspired Book which was then almost unknown by the masses of people. He wrote short commentaries and expositions on God's Word, and by his diligent endeavors to inform the people of the truth, he soon acquired the title of the Gospel Doctor.

Contention with the Pope

By 1361 Wickliffe had advanced to become Master of Baliol College, Oxford, and in 1372 gained his Doctor of Divinity degree. Already he had used his great abilities in seeking to confute the claims of popery in his native England, even at the risk of his position at Baliol, and maybe his life. He obeyed one summons to answer charges before the Pope, but the next time he was ordered to appear, he sent back a letter explaining that Christ had instructed him otherwise, and that he was to obey God rather than man.

A Blow to Rome

The strongholds of Romanism were already tottering from Wickliffe's unceasing attacks, but he administered the greatest blow of all when he, in conjunction with several other scholars, translated the Scriptures into English. The most widely used version up until that time was the Vulgate, a Latin version by Jerome; but as is evident, this version was open only to the educated, and even that was suppressed by the corrupt clergy.

Retirement and Death

After constant persecution by his enemies, Wickliffe was forced to resign his college Mastership, but he continued to preach the Word, and up until the last, his pen was active in making the Bible plain to the common people. Many historians regard his work and influence as an essential preliminary to the great reformation which was to follow. His life came to an end on Dec. 31, 1384; but even in death, his enemies were not content to let him rest in peace, and dug up his bones and burned them.

W. H. M.

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