

A CALL TO HEROISM

"Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life."—Acts 5:20.

EDITORIAL

IT WORKS TODAY

Nearly 2,000 years ago the Apostle Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation." Paul was not enunciating the credo of a dead and formal religion: he was testifying to a power that would work salvation in the soul of a believer and keep him, even though it be in Caesar's household at Rome. He did not believe in salvation by works, but he did advertise a salvation that worked!

And it works **today!** Just recently we returned from the Quarterly Meeting at Saint John. A wonderful spirit pervaded the whole session, and God's people were blessed; but the dominant impression that the Y. P. Editor carried away was the memory of the cheerful countenances and ringing testimonies of a dozen young men and women. When we remember that the evil one is offering high bids for our young people today, particularly in the cities where the temptations are more intense, it thrills our soul to behold a group of clean, upright, and healthy young men and women declaring their allegiance to Jesus Christ.

Mere church programs and social organizations cannot provide the moral backbone essential to the stability of our youth. But through the power of an inner experience wrought in the soul by the Holy Spirit, moral stamina is provided that will stand the test of a wicked environment and preserve the life unspotted from the world.

Observation of our young people in action also stimulates the encouraging thought that salvation is productive of the highest joy in life. Any suggestion to the contrary would be quickly denied, or quietly dismissed as absurd. The "power of God unto salvation" satisfies completely the hearts of young men and women in 1945. Yes, it works today!

SEVEN UNANSWERABLE REASONS WHY I SHOULD STUDY THE BIBLE

1. Because it is the living Word of the living God (Heb. 4:12).
2. Because it points me to the One who alone can give life (John 5:24).
3. Because I cannot be educated, in the best sense, without a knowledge of the Bible (Psalm 119:99).
4. Because it will give me a knowledge of the history and destiny of mankind (Heb. 9:27).
5. Because I ought to know how to point others to the only Saviour (Dan. 12:3).
6. Because it will help me to be of more service in my home church (2 Tim. 2:15).
7. Because it reveals the way to attain to true greatness of character (Acts 17:11)—Selected.

A RULE FOR CONDUCT

Anything that dims my vision of Christ or takes away my taste for Bible study or cramps my prayer life or makes Christian work difficult is wrong for me and I must, as a Christian, turn away from it. This simple rule may help you find a path for your feet along life's road.—J. Wilbur Chapman.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4:12
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A BENEVOLENT BUSINESS

From even a shoe-shine stand there comes an illustration of service for the Kingdom of God. In Cleveland, Ohio, lived Jim Lucas, a Negro, the proprietor of a shoe-shine stand. He had received a good education and was once offered an important post by Booker T. Washington. But for twenty-six years Joe Lucas remained at his stand, without a single vacation. There he always kept ten young Negroes at work, all of whom were in high school, college or night school. The business could have been conducted with a smaller force and with a larger profit to the proprietor. But he estimated that the stand could earn enough to keep ten boys in school. Hence his policy. So for twenty-six years this inconspicuous man kept ten boys of his own race in school. He conducted his shoe-shine business for no other purpose.—Sel.

MINUTE BIOGRAPHIES OF GREAT CHRISTIANS

General William Booth

When the Liverpool Conference of the Methodist New Connection convened in 1861, a short period of intense drama characterized the discussion and appointment of Rev. William Booth to circuit work for the ensuing year. "Never!" cried William Booth. Up in the gallery where his wife was sitting came the echo, "Never!" That one word was final. William Booth left the assembly a free man—free from the restraints which had hindered the expression of his soul passion. Relief to the needy! Salvation to the poor!

A Light in the Darkness

The dry, stereotyped character of a mediocre ministry was a burden to Booth's hyperactive personality. He felt that he had been "hooked into the ordinary rut and put on to sermon-making and preaching," whereas, his burning and unquenchable zeal carried him out to the street corners, down to the slums, and into the workhouses. London abounded with dark corners of poverty, ignorance, and vice, and Booth yearned to throw a shaft of spiritual light into those disease-ridden nooks, killing the germs of an oppressive environment and restoring proper conditions for Christian souls to grow.

"Onward, Christian Soldiers"

This new prophet conceived the idea of a regiment of Christian soldiers marching into the strongholds of sin and taking "prisoners" for the Lord Jesus Christ. By 1876 his plan had been consummated, and the Salvation Army came into being with himself as General. He clad his soldiers in semi-military uniforms emblazoned with the symbols of Blood and Fire.

Soon through the streets of London, a thousand feet marching to the tempo of martial music startled "respectable" religionists into sharp awareness that a band of Christian soldiers were literally on the march to a spiritual war. High churchmen frowned at the sudden innovation, and society complained of the noise, but the General replied: "My work is to make war on the hosts that keep the underworld submerged, and you cannot have war without noise. We'll go on singing and marching with drums beating

PERFECTION OF PATIENCE

"Let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."—James 1:4.

and cornets playing all the time." The Salvation Army marched on.

On the Front Lines

The early history of the Salvation Army is one with the history of its founder. General Booth was not only the religious genius that pioneered the doctrines of "soap, soup, and salvation," but for upwards of forty years remained at the front line of battle leading his army into nearly every country in the world. Today the Army is a potent spiritual force in the social fabric of civilization.

Booth loved humanity, and utilized any righteous means to better the condition of his fellowmen. His methods were wholesome and above board, but he was not without his critics. On one occasion he was accused of accepting "tainted" money. "What if it was?" he said. "Give us the money, I say; we will wash it clean with the tears of the fatherless and lay it on the altar of humanity."

A General is Promoted

Booth's life extended from April 10, 1829, to August 20, 1912. He lived and died in his beloved England, but he was a citizen of the world. Souls from Argentina to Alaska, Spain to Siberia, New Zealand to Northern Ireland will rise up in judgment to call him Blessed. Wherever the Army drum went it became an altar for penitent souls and the symbol of a new life.

After eighty-three years of intense living, and nearly four decades of rugged spiritual warfare, General Booth received his summons from his Commander-in-Chief for a promotion to the skies. Vachel Lindsay in his poem, "General William Booth Enters Heaven," pictures the old Christian soldier marching to the gates of the New Jerusalem accompanied by an Army band playing "Are You Washed in the Blood of the Lamb?"

We do not doubt that there was a special heavenly ceremony for the veteran warrior's home-coming.

W. H. M.

WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

A man who goes to church and attends prayer meetings, makes a profession of religion, keeps the commandments, and especially the traditions? No. I can give a much shorter and a much truer definition of a Christian than that. A Christian is a Christ-man. Not simply Christ's man, but a Christ-man. A Christian is one in whom Christ reproduces Himself by the Holy Ghost so that he relives the life of Jesus.—Samuel W. Chadwick.

STICK TO IT

The harder the thing is to do

The greater the joy when it's done,

The farther the goal is from you

The sweeter the thrill when it's won.

The deeper the problem, the more

Is the joy when you've puzzled it out:

The seas that run farthest from shore

Are only for ships that are stout.

Men weary of lessons they've learned

And tire of the tasks they can do,

Life it seems is forever concerned

With blazing a path to the new.

So stand to the worry and care,

Everlastingly keep going on,

The greater the burden you bear,

The greater the joy when it's done.

—Publisher Unknown