

EDITORIAL

WHY TEMPTATIONS?

The above question comes to our mind very often. All serious thinking Christian young men and women come face to face with this problem. It forces itself upon them. Life is beset with spiritual problems, and possibly the greatest problem is the one that surrounds the temptations that come to us from time to time. If we could overcome our temptations we could see clearer the reason for them. There are some things that we are not permitted to see until we have passed through them. Somewhat like seeing the sun after the clouds have disappeared, we didn't know it existed until the clouds moved away. So many people live in the clouds of temptation, that the sun never seems to break through them, and they live in spiritual defeat. This needs not be, for provision has been made whereby the child of God can know victory over temptation.

What is Temptation?

Temptation is an enticement to evil. In other words when we are tempted it is always to allure us to do evil, in thought, word or deed. It is to go beyond the bounds that we know God has set for us. Eve tasted of the fruit of the tree that God had unmistakably made plain for her to leave alone. She went beyond the bounds of God and so sinned. God has a right to set a line or law for us beyond which He asks us not to go, and tells us plainly that if we cross the line or break the law we have sinned. Let it be said that God never tempts us. He sets the limit to which we can go. Satan tempts us to walk over the limit and so yield to temptation.

How are we Tempted?

There are three channels through which we can be tempted, and Satan usually makes use of them all. The lust of the Flesh, the Lust of the eyes and the Pride of life. These three things are natural to man.

i. The Lust of the Flesh. Man desires to enjoy himself. Life is best lived by a person who enjoys living. It is good to have enough to eat, to have material possessions, to enjoy the temporal blessings of life. Yet the desire to eat can take possession of a man until he becomes a glutton, and he simply lives to eat. He would rather eat than sleep. He lives from one meal to another. Meditates on what he will have for supper before he is through dinner. Gluttony has been classed among the seven deadly sins; let us see to it that our desire to eat does not lead us into sin. So with material things of life. Big homes, big cars, big chairs, big churches, can all become an obsession with us until we wake up and realize we have been living to gratify the lusts of the flesh. We have fallen into temptation and gone beyond the bounds set by God.

ii. The Lust of the Eyes. Wanting all that we see. If only I could have that, if only I could get this. The desire to obtain things simply to have them because they look good. Men become grasping and mercenary when they begin to want all they see. God help us to see what we need and to close our eyes to the rest. Might I say that Satan dangles some things before our eyes and gets us to desire

YOUNG PEOPLE'S RALLY

Our fall Rally of District No. 4 was held at Bethany Bible College, Yarmouth, October 30-November 2.

At the business meeting Saturday afternoon the following officers were elected: Pres., Melvin Perry; Vice Pres., Burton Landers; Sec. Treas., Betty Lewis; Adv. Committee, Clara Smith, Florence Landers.

Our speaker, Lic. L. K. Mullen, brought inspiring messages on the subjects: Doctrine of Sin, Regeneration, Sanctification, Growing in Grace, and Israel's defeat.

Almost every society was represented and the services were well attended.

Viola Smith

MYSELF

"I have to live with myself, and so
I want to be fit for myself to know;
I want to be able as the days go by
Always to look myself straight in the eye.
I don't want to stand with the setting sun
And hate myself for the things I have done.
I don't want to keep on the closet shelf
A lot of secrets about myself.
And fool myself as I come and go
Into thinking nobody will know
The kind of person I really am.
I don't want to cover myself with sham;
I want to go out with my head erect;
I want to deserve the world's respect,
And in the struggle for fame and pelf
I want to be able to like myself.
For I never can hide myself from me.
I see what others can never see,
So, no matter what happens, I want to be
Self-respecting and conscience free."

—Speakers Library

ABOUT THE CONTEST

The closing date in the Books For-Bethany Contest is November 29th. All books and money collected in the contest should reach Yarmouth not later than December 5th. Parcels and letters may be addressed to the Library, Bethany Bible College. Make sure that the society's name sending a contribution is indicated.

As soon as possible the announcement of the winning society and a report on the contest will appear in "The Highway."

those things because we are not wise enough to shut our eyes at the appropriate time. We look and look and look until we desire to have, and when we have, we have fallen into his snare.

iii. The Pride of Life. To do things until we have a passion to do things. We want to be doing all the time. To rise above another and in so doing to step upon him. To pull ourselves up by pulling others down. To be wanting all the time. Satan said to Eve, "Ye shall be as Gods." In other words instead of there being one God there shall be three! Yield to temptation and become as big as God! What a proclamation! What a perversion of truth!

(Continued)

CRUCIFIXION OF SELF

By Clyde W. Rather

It requires no little courage, coupled with the grace of God, to go to Calvary. There are many Christians who will follow Jesus so long as it is "Hosanna to the son of David," who will fail to follow Him to Calvary. Most persons love the sweets of grace, and thus many follow the Lord for the loaves and fishes. But when it comes to following Him for His own sake, even unto judgment, where our earthliness is revealed, then too often we follow "afar off." Many will serve for reward, who refuse to serve for the sake of righteousness.

Saints are like soldiers—many there be who enlist, but too few who dare to face death. Long ago Satan said to Job, "All that a man hath will he give for his life"—so a Christian's last surrender is his own earthly life. He loves the earthly, the dust; and to die to all that is not divine is a price that few will pay.

Many talk blandly of crucifixion, even claim to be crucified, who scarcely know the first step away from self. To let self perish, to draw from our veins the last drop of earthliness is a price that few will pay for the true life of God.

Wholehearted devotion to God is a rare quality, found only in the fewest of the few who seek it. An idol somewhere, a desire, a wish, a preference, a hope not of God, but of man, is and always will be the line of separation. To literally cease, that God may be the beginning and the end, means blood, and thorns, and nails in the hands. But more than this, it means Calvary and the tomb.

If we never reach the point where we literally hate our own life, we shall never know how much there is in us that is not divine. Yet, to hide away so that every act, every purpose, every hope, centers in God and points to Him and away from self—what a rare spiritual attainment! Be dead indeed to self, and let God live in you to His praise!

THE CALL TO BE A PREACHER

Extracts from J. H. Jowett's book, "The Preacher, His Life and Work."

The call of the Eternal must ring through the rooms of his soul as clearly as the sound of the morning-bells rings through the valleys of Switzerland, calling the peasants to early prayer and praise.

The manner of one man's Call may be very different to the manner of another man's Call, but in the essential matter they are one and the same. I would affirm my own convictions that in all genuine callings to the ministry there is a sense of divine initiative, a solemn communication of the divine will, a mysterious feeling of commission, which leaves a man no alternative, but which sets him in the road of this vocation bearing the message of a servant and instrument of the Eternal God.

We are to be friends of the bridegroom, winning men, not to ourselves, but to Him, match-making for the Lord, abundantly satisfied when we have brought the bride and the Bridegroom together.