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## Like Jesus

By Edwin R. Anderson\*

Dr. A. J. Gordon, that saintly Boston preacher, was quite fond of relating the story of the greatest compliment which he ever received. It is a satisfying and searching bit of telling!

He was standing on one of the streets of Boston one bright afternoon, gazing through the window of one of the shops, intent upon the articles set out for display. How long he stood there he did not know, but he became conscious of an insistent tug upon his trouser leg. Turning, he looked down upon a bright little girl, gazing upon him with a look almost to the point of adoration.

His heart went out to her, and he stooped down. "Yes, my dear? And what can I do for you?"

She just stood there looking at him, for the long, long moment, until he almost became embarrassed. Then she spoke at last, to ask a question. But what a question! Dr. Gordon used to repeat it with a soft smile and remark, "That was the greatest compliment which I ever received." For the little girl, gazing deep into his soft, warm eyes, wished to know,

"Mister, are you Jesus?"

Now then, that is something, after all! To be "mistaken" for the Lord Jesus Christ, because of the resemblance in some way or another. Surely there could be no higher compliment paid to any Christian. And more than that, it is but the mark of our business here on earth to manifest and magnify the Lord Jesus Christ; as we sing (and alas! so easily at times!), "Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me."

For myself, I have long been troubled over that story, convicted of my own failure and lack in the light of the clear, underlying teaching. Over and over, I found myself asking the question, "How does a Christian get to look like the Lord Jesus Christ? How is one to so live and move as to make Him known, clearly and distinctly?" For after all, this is our main Christian business on earth; how are we to attend to it?

I made it a matter of special prayer. I studied the Word for light. And then one evening the Lord answered it, revealed the heart of it, and from a totally unexpected source—which is the way the Lord often works it, to best "drive home" a precious point.

I had been invited to attend a golden wedding anniversary party of some dear friends. It was a gala evening, and a host of friends were gathered to "wish them well." I remembered so well standing off to one side with a friend, gaz-

ing at the charming, graceful couple who had traveled the road together in such sweet fashion, as they sat there together at the head of the room. Then my friend made what we would usually call a "chance" remark, but which for me came as a direct message of answer from the Lord!

"Look at them sitting there together," he said in a soft voice. "Why, they have been living so long together that they have gotten to look like each other!"

A "chance" remark—and yet, that was the answer, the secret. Loving each other, so fully, so deeply, sharing with each other to fullest measure, living for each other, for all and through all—little wonder that through the years they had grown to resemble each other!

And that is the way we may best magnify and manifest the Lord Jesus Christ, make Him known, and come to share in the "great compliment." To walk in sweet communion and intimate fellowship with himself, to seek nothing apart from His will, to desire nothing apart from His praise, to search for nothing apart from His Word, to aspire to nothing apart from His pleasure, to have everything for life and living moved and melted and molded according to the precious pattern of "Jesus only"—that is the "secret." Only it is not a "secret," for the Holy Spirit is ever trying to sink those truths into the deep places of our hearts. Isn't that so very true?

After all, beloved, "For to me to live is Christ" (Phil. 1:21), so that fully and deeply "I may know him" (Phil. 3:10), with everything tuned to "Not I, but Christ" (Gal. 2:20).

-Herald of Holiness.

## MY BIBLE

I have a small Bible that I have kept for I never want to forget it and what it stands for. For a period of about one year as a young man I read it constantly, while alone waiting for a street car under a flickering street lamp or on a downtown sidewalk, during my lunch hour at work, or whenever I had a few minutes spare time. My reading resulted in an insatiable desire for more and an accumulative progression of soul satisfaction.

I have kept this Bible for the dates that are in it; dates that show where the reading of it had led me. One date tells when I surrendered completely to God's leadership, two others mark God's call to the ministry and my surrender to that call. Others tell of the day my wife and I joined our lives together and began our family altar. I remember this Bible for the light that it gave and the joy that it shed abroad in my life.—Selected.

## "Watch!"

By Bishop J. C. Ryle

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."—Matthew 24:42.

WATCH against the leaven of false doctrine. Remember that Satan can transform himself into an angel of light. Remember that bad money is never marked bad, or else it would never pass. Be very jealous for the whole truth as it is in Jesus. Do not put up with a grain of error merely for the sake of a pound of truth. Do not tolerate a little false doctrine one bit more than you would tolerate a little sin. Watch and pray!

WATCH against slothfulness about Bible study and private prayer. There is nothing so spiritual but we may at last do it formally. Most backslidings began in the closet. When a tree is snapped in two by a high wind, we generally find there had been hidden decay. Watch and Pray!

WATCH against bitterness and uncharitableness toward others. A little love is more valuable than many gifts. Be eagle-eyed in seeing the good that is in your brethren. Let your memory be a strong box for their graces, but a sieve for their faults. Watch and Pray!

WATCH against pride and self-conceit. Peter said at first, "Though all deny Thee, yet will not I." Presently he fell. Pride is the high-road to fall. Watch and Pray!

WATCH against the sins of Galatia, Ephesus and Laodicea. Believers may run well for a season and lose their first love and then become lukewarm. Watch and Pray!

WATCH not least against the sin of Jehu. A man may have great zeal to all appearance, and yet have very bad motives. It is quite another thing to love the truth. Watch and Pray!

Let us watch for the world's sake. We are the books they chiefly read. They mark our ways far more than we think. Let us aim to be living epistles of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us watch for our own sakes. As our walk is, so will be our peace. Above all, let us watch for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. Let us live as though His glory was concerned in our behaviour. Let us live as though every slip and fall was a reflection on the honor of our Lord. Let us live as though every allowed sin was one more thorn in His head—one more nail in His feet.

O, let us exercise godly jealousy over thoughts, words, and actions, over motives, manners and walk! Never, never let us fear being too strict. Never, never let us think we

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