



News and Notes for Young People

Editor: Rev. L. K. Mullen, 172 Pleasant St., Yarmouth, N. S.

EDITORIAL

Man's extremity is God's opportunity." The words caught my attention and set my mind to working. It seems that for much of our time we are quite self-sufficient. We at least dress ourselves, drive our own cars, and carry along life's routine of duties. However, the time always comes, sooner or later, when our self-sufficiency disappears, and we find ourselves, in the words of Paul, "at the end of our tether" (II Cor. 1:9, Phillips Translation). Hope is displaced by despair and we say, "This is it!" One man testified to the fact that he was in this "valley" for nearly a year, and that it was not until God showed him a new path of service that he found his way out.

The truth of the matter is that when things are going along smoothly, we are prone to feel that God is unnecessary and that we can pretty well manage our own business. During these times God has difficulty to reach us with His will. Paul discovered by personal experience that his periods of extremity were God's times of opportunity.

In these times, God has opportunity to reveal Himself to man—His will and purpose for him. Many a man has found that his hour of extremity was also his hour of divine revelation and light.

God has opportunity to teach man a very necessary lesson, that "It is better to trust in God than in man." Man has the power to do much for men, but he is helpless before the deeper needs of the soul. Only God can help then!

Finally, God has opportunity to prove his willingness to share life's experiences with us. We men think we can "paddle our own canoe" some of the time, but we cannot do it all the time. This God knows and seeks to overcome by giving to us the benefit of constant light and guidance.

GOD

God be in my head,
And in my understanding;
God be in my eyes,
And in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
And in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
And in my thinking;
God be in my end,
And at my departing.

Old Sarum Primer (1558)

NOT THAT!

There is a story of Leonardo da Vinci, and of how in the first painting of the "Last Supper" he had put such pains and such a wealth of detail into two cups standing on the table that a friend, seeing them stared at them in open-mouthed amazement; whereupon the artist seized a brush and with one sweep of his hand painted them out of the picture, crying as he did it, "Not that! That isn't what I want you to see! It's the Face. Look at the Face!"

Gerald Kennedy

The King's Highway

OTHER SHEEP I HAVE . . .

"The thing which I was greatly afraid of all this time, and which I resolved to use every possible method of preventing, was a narrowness of spirit, a party zeal . . . that miserable bigotry which makes many so unready to believe that there is any work of God but among themselves. I thought it might be an help against this, frequently to read, to all who were willing to hear, the accounts I received from time to time of the work which God is carrying on in the earth, both in our own and other countries, not among us alone, but among those of various opinions and denominations. For this I allotted one evening in every month; and I find no cause to repeat my labour. It is generally a time of strong consolation to those who love God, and all mankind for His sake; as well as of breaking down the partition-walls which either the craft of the devil or the folly of men has built up; and of encouraging every child of God to say (oh when shall it once be!) 'Whosoever doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother and sister and mother.'" —John Wesley

HE REFUSED THE PARDON

About the year 1830, a man named George Wilson killed a government employee who caught him in the act of robbing the mails. He was tried and sentenced to be hanged. However, the President of the United States, Andrew Jackson, sent him a pardon. But Wilson did a strange thing. He refused the pardon and no one seemed to know what to do. So the case was carried to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Chief Justice Marshall, perhaps the greatest chief justice we have ever had, wrote the opinion. In it he said, "A pardon is a slip of paper, the value of which is determined by the acceptance of the person to be pardoned. If it is refused, it is no pardon. George Wilson must be hanged." And he was.

Charles L. Allen,
Roads to Radiant Living

LET YOUR WEIGHT DOWN!

An old man and a younger one were working on a roof. Ladders with sharp spikes on their under sides were thrown down on the roof, and the boy was told to step out on one of them. He hesitated. "Let your weight down on it, my lad," the old man said. "See how it holds. The heavier the load it carries, the more secure it is."

Bowman and Herper,
Power through Prayer

QUOTABLE QUOTES

Mightier than an army is the power of an idea whose time has come.

* * *

Providence is on the side, not of the biggest battalions, but of the strongest convictions.

* * *

God brings men into deep waters, not to drown them, but to cleanse them.