



News and Notes for Young People

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— Editorial —

LIGHT IN DARKNESS

One of the wonders of the ancient world is the famous Light House of Alexandria. This light house was situated on the island of Paros, which formed a natural protection for the harbour of Alexandria. It was erected by Ptolmey I in the third century B.C. It consisted of thirty-six stories and towered to a height of 445 feet.

This magnificent figure speaks of the enormous wealth and commerce of Alexandria shortly after it was founded by Alexander the Great. This great light reminded mariners of the perils of the sea. It served as a guide to a safe harbour.

However great this light might have been, its light and significance was limited. I want to draw your attention to a greater light. Jesus came as a "light to lighten the Gentiles". Jesus is the greater light. This light knows no bounds. It penetrates the darkness of abyss and sin. Its rays radiate across the horizons of every soul. This light illuminates the dark recesses of human thought, and reveals to men the righteousness of God. This greater light was eclipsed in the darkness of Calvary's Cross. But, it broke forth from behind a dense cloud to throw light upon all who would come unto God by Jesus.

Jesus came to bring light to the world. Yet, He said to his disciples, "Ye are the light of the world". What did He mean? Jesus knew that revealing light is always reflected light. Just as the rays of the sun shine upon any object and reflects upon many surrounding objects, so the light of Jesus shining in the lives of His followers is reflected far and near.

Reflecting light is the responsibility of every Christian. In bearing this responsibility, let us keep our lives clean. The light keeper must always keep the lenses of the light house clean, so that the light can be seen at a great distance. Is it not true that, the purer our lives become the greater will be the circumference of our influence? We often sing, "Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning . . ." This is a good prayer to sing. But, the lamp may be filled with oil and fail to be of much use as a lamp if the chimney is not clean.

Each child of God must be filled with the oil of the Spirit of God and seek to keep the life clean. By doing this, each one will become a light in darkness.

THE BETTER WAY

If you nurse a little grievance,
It will grow, and grow, and grow,
Till at last it's ten times larger
Than your first small bit of woe.

But if you will keep on smiling,
At your work and at your play,
And do something kind for others,
It will vanish right away.

Winifred C. Marshall

"Opportunity with ability makes responsibility"

The King's Highway

— Question Box —

QUESTION: In St. John's Gospel chapter three, verse thirteen it states that "no man hath ascended up to heaven." Would you please explain this scripture for me?

ANSWER: This verse should be considered with the preceding verses. Jesus is explaining the new birth to Nicodemus, who could not receive the witness of Christ when He spoke of earthly things. Christ said, "How shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things"? Then, "No man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven."

The truth revealed here is not so much that no man has ascended up to heaven as it is, One came down from heaven to reveal God to man. The thought here is that no man has ascended into heaven and returned. It does not mean that no one has gone to heaven. The Bible teaches clearly that many have gone to heaven.

This truth is spoken because many believed that a person must see a thing before he could explain it thoroughly. Jesus came down from heaven to reveal truth to man.

W. E. G.

HIS GREATEST PURCHASE

When John Wanamaker was 11 years old, he purchased a Bible. In later years he said of this purchase: "I have of course made large purchases of property in my time, involving millions of dollars, but it was as a boy in the country at the age of 11 years that I made my greatest purchase. In the little mission Sunday School I bought a small red leather Bible for \$2.75 which I paid for in small installments. Looking back over my life, I see that that little red Book was the foundation on which my life has been built, and the thing which has made possible all that has counted in my life. I know now that it was the greatest investment and the most important and far reaching purchase I ever made."—Wesleyan Methodist.

A POINT TO PONDER

A Christian sailor was once asked why he could be so calm when the ship was about to sink in the storm. The sailor replied, "Though I sink I shall only drop into the hollow of my Father's hand; for He holds all these waters there."

DENOMINATIONAL-WIDE BIBLE QUIZ

ON

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

BEGINNING

JANUARY 1, 1960

Watch for more particulars in the
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M. E. S.