

## THE PREACHER AND THE NEW YEAR

by the late F. Linicome

Once more the earth has made its circle around the sun, and we stand at the gateway of another year. It might be profitable to pause and look, and, while looking, look in three directions—look backward, look inward, and look forward. The backward look we call retrospection, the inward look we call introspection; the forward look we call prospection.

I. The backward look which is retrospection, deals with memory, and has to do with the past. We all have a past—a past of mistakes, of waste, of trouble, of losses, of injury, of success, and of experience. If you would increase your happiness and prolong your life, then—master the art of forgetting. A good forgetter is as essential as a good memory—"Forgetting those things which are behind."

II. The inward look we call introspection. Self-scrutiny is not very desirable but it is helpful if done in the right way. To do it in the right way, it must be done seriously; it must be done honestly; it must be done thoroughly; it must be done prayerfully; it must be done scripturally. A hope not founded on the Bible is not worth anything.

III. The forward look we call prospection, "Reaching forth unto those things which are before."

Solomon said, "Let thine eyes look right on, and thine eyelids look straight before thee." God has given us an imagination as well as a memory. Memory deals with the past, imagination with the future. The forward look is stimulating, for the best is ahead of us. Moses had a right anticipation; "He endured as seeing him who is invisible, having respect unto the recompense of the reward."

Paul was stimulated by the forward look. In fact, Paul looked in three directions. He looked at the past and said, "I have fought a good fight." He looked at the present and said, "I have finished my course." He looked at the future and said, "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

The Christian lives mostly in the future. I like to think of what is before me, for that is the direction in which I am going. I have seen the past, realized the present, and am anticipating the future.

Let us keep looking forward and upward, and some day that look will be turned into an upward flight. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout;" and when he shouts the age will be consummated, the dead liberated and the saints translated. "The dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them."

### THE ETERNAL CHRIST - - - From Page One

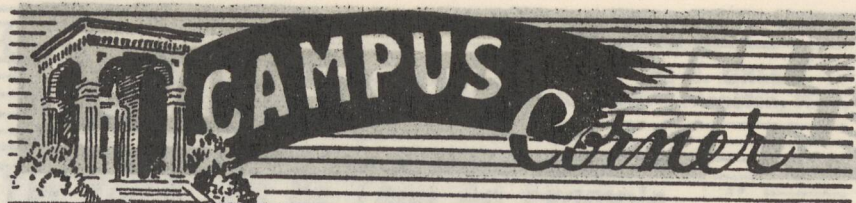
back across interminable ages, back beyond the power of mind to think or imagine, and proclaims; "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God." He was! He is! And ever shall be! "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and today and forever".

In the midst of modernists of His day Jesus said: "BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM." In the high priestly prayer He proclaimed His pre-existent glory with the Father before the world was.

"Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same."

"In Him was life." How true! Not in religiosity as manifested in catechisms and creeds; not in cultured and

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### IT'S STILL TRUE

The following excerpts are taken from the King's Highway of June 15, 1949.

Rev. F. A. Dunlop wrote: "Sunday was a blessed day here at the School. I felt the Lord especially near. While the young people were singing during the opening exercises, I found real joy and perhaps a bit of pride in looking them over. A school like this does something to young people that shows on their faces. I thought how happy the parents would be if they could have seen them. I think the sacrifices would have seemed less—at least, they would have seemed worthwhile. You can't make a mistake in sending your young people to Bethany. We want them, saved or unsaved. I say again, a school like this does something to young people..."

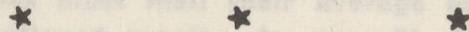
"Oh, yes, as things stand now, Bethany doesn't compare with other colleges in many, many respects. Neither will she ever do so, unless our pastors, parents and prospective preachers are willing to do some pioneering—and pioneering means the sacrificing of some things."

Rev. B. C. Cochrane wrote: "Bethany Bible College is a vital necessity as a center where young people may obtain academic and theological training in an atmosphere which stimulates loyalty to all that is fundamental to faith and virtue. There is no place for worldliness in its programme and no tolerance of modernism in its curriculum. You may send your young people to Bethany with the confidence that every effort will be made to protect them from the spirit of worldliness, and all care will be given to properly instruct them in the truth."

"The future of Bethany Bible College will be glorious if with the establishment and maintenance of biblical standards for life and faith we give it the kind of support which will allow for a continued elevation of its educational standards."

Yes, these facts are still true. And the challenge of the last paragraph is still the challenge. Will our people, through God's help, give Bethany the support that will spell success?

On February 12, let's reply in the affirmative with the biggest Bethany offering yet.



### FOR YOUR CHURCH'S TEACHING MINISTRY

Every church of our denomination should promote a sound, systematic teaching ministry. This is a vitally important phase of our work.

Our people, young and old, should be well versed in our doctrines, standards, and polity. This is essential to personal piety and church loyalty.

We have two church publications that are of great value to us, our Church Manual and Catechism. Every home should have a Manual, and every Sunday School scholar should have a Catechism. And both of these publications should be carefully and diligently studied.

Manuals are available for \$2.00 each, Catechisms at 15c a copy. A number of churches have placed orders for these books during the past six months. Some are still available. Orders may be sent to Rev. B. C. Cochrane, Fredericton, N. B. Please make money orders or cheques payable to the Alliance Treasurer, Rev. N. E. Trafton, and they will be forwarded to him. A well planned, faithfully promoted teaching ministry will make for a strong, stable type of church.