

## — Our Pastors Speak —



### BEFORE HIS JUDGMENT SEAT

by Rev. Stillman Cameron\*

"We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ" (Romans 14:10)

Whenever I think upon the vast dimensions of that company assembled before Christ's judgment seat, my mind is utterly overwhelmed with the thought. I try to imagine the present populations of the world gathered in one assembly. To it I begin to add the generations of the dead, but I am stopped short. There is not room in one small finite mind to put even the bare idea. But there is room in God's mind, and as certainly will there be room "before the judgment seat of Christ." He who knows the stars by name will recognize every single individual so closely that no one will be missed, or missing. No one will be lost in the crowd, or escape His piercing eyes.

Upon the throne of judgment Jesus shall sit for the Father "hath committed all judgment to the Son" The Lord Jesus shall sit in his glory upon that great throne, and all the holy angels shall attend Him. In His hand shall be the sceptre of the nations, and his once-pierced brow shall be adorned by many crowns. Sinners shall look upon Him whom they have pierced, and wail because of Him. The faithful shall see in Him their everlasting inheritance; they shall look upon Him, and not be afraid.

In the presence of that awful Tribunal, "the books shall be opened", and judgment shall be based upon what is written therein. We are told that God "will bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or evil." Every act of every mortal weighed out with the most infallible equity! Fasten your mind on that fact for a moment! Consider that you will give answer for every mercy, every trust, every talent. For all these, the Omniscient Judge will "reckon with you." And surely there will not be a more searching inquiry than that which will concern the use or abuse of our influence. Reflect upon this for a moment before you sing again those familiar lines, "My heavenly home is bright and fair, I feel like travelling on."

At the Judgment seat of Christ, everyone will be dealt with in the impartial spirit of justice that cannot err. There can be no bribery in that court. No cunning person can take advantage of the technicalities of the law. No appeal can be made to a higher court. No wily attorney can confuse the issue, or move for suspended judgment. For once there will be a court from which infinite justice will proceed, and decisions will be handed down in a spirit of love.

Jesus has told us plainly in His word that those who go up to that Tribunal "knowing their Master's will and yet doing it not," shall be beaten with many stripes. What a frightful thing it will be to go up to that judgment seat from pulpits and out of some communities. It will fare much better for some babbling drunkards in that day than for some cultured sinners who have trodden on a thousand gospel sermons, and gone heed-

The King's Highway

## THE PERSONAL TOUCH

A noted evangelist was once holding a series of services in a church whose minister was a man of long experience and of great influence. One night as they sat on the platform together, the minister pointed out to the evangelist a man in the congregation. Said he, "For twelve years I have tried in vain to win that man to Christ. I have preached to him so long that I sometimes find myself doing it unconsciously."

"From the pulpit?" asked the evangelist.

"From the pulpit, yes."

"How many times have you gone to him with the love of God in your heart and said, 'I want to see you become a child of God?'"

"I must confess," said the minister, "that I have never spoken to him personally and directly concerning his salvation."

"Then," said the evangelist, "perhaps he is not impregnable after all."

That night the evangelist, after the service, caught the man before he got to the door. He spoke only a few words, but they were earnest and loving. And the next evening, in the after service, the man was on his knees with tears streaming down his cheeks. It was the personal touch that did it.—The Christian Intelligencer.

## REPORT ON PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

The Twenty-Fourth General Conference of the Pilgrim Holiness church was recently held at Winona Lake. As a sister holiness church, we rejoice with them in the aggressive outlook which this growing church has. During the past quadrennium they have seen an increase in membership at home of 4.2 per cent and overseas of 20.5 per cent. Approval of a proposed merger with the Wesleyan Methodist church was given with enthusiasm. In one of the several able addresses which we heard, W. H. Neff, senior general superintendent, called upon his church to make up their minds and take a decisive stand on lively questions before churches today, such as: legalism, racism, Communism, the political pressure of Roman Catholicism, gambling, desecration of the Lord's Day, divorce, avarice for money, and faith in revival. Said Dr. Neff, "It will take more than a suburban site, a good building, a church bus, and crowded pews to build a spiritual church. We must destroy the forbidden idols, and reach up for the fire of heaven."

—Free Methodist

## Washington's Expensive Pastime

The cost of alcoholism in the Washington, D.C., area is about \$25,000,000 a year, says Frank S. Ketcham, chairman of the capital's area Council on Alcoholism. This estimate includes business expenses resulting from such causes as absenteeism, accidents, loss of efficiency, and police and court actions. "And," Mr. Ketcham warned, "alcoholism is increasing here as well as in the nation." He added that there are at least 50,000 alcoholics in the District of Columbia.

lessly by as many more of the Spirit's faithful warnings. If faithful pastors ever tremble at the judgment seat, it will be when they see what is becoming of some of the people who sat time and again in their congregations.

Judgment! It is an appalling thought and an awesome mystery, but through that mystery can be seen clearly a righteous Saviour on His throne, a heaven of glory, a hell of torment; and every human being bound for one or the other. With the light of that judgment seat shining before us, let us so live with it in full view, that we might not stand ashamed and undone before the presence of Him who sitteth upon the throne.