

Work.



WORK for Christ, just because it consists mainly in following Him, is simple work, and humble work. If you are not willing for that, you are not fit for the Master's service. Christ will lead us in the way which He wishes us to go. It is quite possible that He will lead you sometimes to do work that may seem to you to be useless, and I think that is one of the greatest trials of patience and faith. Sometimes we may spend the whole day in doing a thing that really does not seem to be worth the while, and yet we feel and know that it is God's will, we should do just that on that day. It does not seem to be spiritual work at all. Now, when a mother gets her little girl to make clothes for her doll, does the mother care much how the doll is dressed? No, but she does care about teaching her little girl sewing, and neatness, and patience, and perseverance. When the child is older she forgets all about those doll's clothes, but she knows how to sew. Thus does God often give things to do that we really think are of little purpose; forgetting that God is busy, not with those things, but with us. For instance, although God cares for all His creature, and as the Psalmist says "openeth his hand" to them all, yet I do not think He was so especially concerned for Jethro's sheep as to keep such a man as Moses for forty years watching over them. A plain man, not learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, might have done it quite as well. But the object God had in view was not the tending of those sheep *it was the making of Moses*. . . . Be willing to do anything or be anywhere. If you want to accomplish something for God, do not try to be "somebody."

—PASTEUR THEODORE MONOD

The Love of Christ.

IT is Christ's love to us, and not our love to Him, that constrains us, and is the motive to piety and effort and to renewed consecration. This love is self moved, entirely gratuitous, and disinterested. It is unchangeable; it is eternal, an everlasting love. It is infinite, passing knowledge. None loves like Him. He loves with an everlasting love. He loved His people, for whom He gave himself a ransom, from eternity and He will love them to eternity. It is written of Him, that having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end, and He will love them ever more. He pardons their sins, bears with their imperfections, sustains them in life, supports them in death, and then receives them to the mansions which He has gone to prepare for them. What ever His people enjoy in this world, and all they hope for in the next, they owe to the love of their Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

What is it to be a Christian?

REV. DR. SHERWOOD.



IN general, *to be like Christ; to be conformed to His will and character, and consecrated to His service.* The object of Christ's mission was to reproduce in all His people His own moral image and life; and this is the practical effect of the Gospel. It is impossible to be carnal, sinful, a

lover of the world, devoted to pleasure—and be a Christian. Creed, profession, outward observance, does not make one a Christian. There must be an actual moral likeness, fellowship and oneness of being. To be more definite:

1. To be a Christian is *to renounce sin and all fellowship with it.* It was sin that Christ came to fight and put down. Sin and its author, the devil, are the sworn enemies of the person of Jesus and the cross of redemption. They are deadly antagonistic, always, everywhere. To continue in sin and in the service of the devil, is to hate Christ and fight against him. There is and can be no compromise here. A man must break with sin and array himself against Satan, or he has no part or lot in Christ.

2. To be a Christian is *to receive Christ into the heart:* (a) His Word to enlighten and guide, (b) His Spirit to sanctify, (c) His very life as the vital animating, moulding principle of "the new man."

3. To be a Christian is *to fellowship the Cross* in its humiliation, suffering, travail of soul in behalf of sinners, etc.

4. To be a Christian is to be of one mind, heart and spirit with Christ in the work of human redemption.

5. To be a Christian is openly to profess His name and identify one's self with the Church, which he came to redeem unto Himself, and lay mind and heart and possessions and gifts on the altar of Christian love.

The test is a simple one, but it is radical and all comprehensive.

If we cannot abide the test we are not *Christians*, whatever else we may be.

It behooves every man to try himself and his professions by this standard.

He does Worry Me So!

"HE does worry me so!" said an old man on his dying bed, and whom Satan had been tempting with doubts and fears. "He does worry me so; but read me the fourteenth of John; I'm sure he cant stand that!"

He was right. "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." "If God be for us, who can be against us?" "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world."