

Saviour Himself. Is it not sad that many should know so much, be so near to the door of the kingdom of God, and yet refuse to enter? What is it that they still need to do? Just to surrender their lives to Jesus, and acknowledge Him in all things as their Lord.

Beware of the scribes, v. 38. There are certain plants called parasites, which live on other living plants or on animals. The plant

on which the parasite lives is called the "host." Now, the parasite gets all it can and gives nothing in return. Nay, in the end it injures or kills its host. That is the spirit of the scribes. They were all for themselves. If others suffered for their gain, it was nothing to them. There is no meaner or more hateful spirit. It should be hunted out of our hearts without mercy. Left there, it is sure to destroy everything lovely and good.

A farthing, v. 42. It may not look as if a quarter of a cent can do very much. Yet it can buy a tract, and a tract converted a chief

of Burdwan, who hastened to Rangoon, a distance of two hundred and fifty miles and brought back with him a basket of tracts. He was the means of converting hundreds to the knowledge of God. So great was his influence that people flocked from all sides to hear him. In one year, fifteen hundred natives were received into the church. This

all originated from one tract, and that tract did not cost so much as a cent. I wonder who put that cent into the collection plate!

Hath cast more in, v. 43. In the New Zealand diocese of Bishop Selwyn, it was decided to give the first choice of seats of a new church to the largest donor. But when the question arose as to who had given most, and the ready answer was the presentation of the subscription list, the good bishop immediately referred to the poor widow who had only contributed two mites, but who Jesus said had given more than the rich men. Our Lord teaches us to measure gifts to His cause, not by the dollars and cents they include, but by the spirit of self-denial they reveal. Rich and poor alike should act out, in their giving, David's principle (see 2 Sam. 24: 24): "Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing."

All that she had, v. 44. This is the principle of God's giving to us. Look at the sun. How its whole light and heat come down upon us without stint or reserve. And, as in nature, so in grace. All the love and wisdom and power in the Godhead have been poured out upon us in the gift of Jesus Christ. Our giving, if it is to be Godlike, must hold nothing back.

Godlike
Giving

TEACHING HINTS

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the school.

For Teachers of the Older Scholars

By Rev. John H. McVicar, B.A., Fergus, Ont.

Unsuccessful attempts had been made to trip Jesus on practical and speculative questions. Review the Lesson for Sept. 16, Mark 12: 13-27. Some people love nothing better than a hot debate, and, irrespective of their convictions, admire whichever party seems to get the best of it. Perhaps this scribe (v. 28) was of that kind. It may have been mere intellectual curiosity that led him, after seeing how skillfully Christ had dealt with His antagonists, to seek His positive view of life. Or it may have been genuine earnestness, as in the case of the

young ruler, ch. 10: 21. Whichever it was, his question (v. 28) draws from Jesus:

1. *The Twofold Law of Love*, vs. 29-34. At Sinai, given in negative terms, each table of the law, here summarized in positive terms, calls for an exhibition of whole-souled love to God and man. Those who hate light, break the commandments, John 3: 20. Those who love light, keep them, John 3: 21. Evil-doers have reason to fear the executive of the law, Rom. 13: 3. They keep the law most perfectly, who do it out of love, 1 Tim. 1: 5. A Christian must not be lawless, Rom. 6: 1, 2. The twofold law of love to God and man is more binding on him than on anyone else. He does the things that are in the law, not because they are there, but because they are in Christ (Matt. 5: 17), and being himself