

The day is coming when the reign of peace shall begin, for "He is the Prince of Peace." Already we see the onward sweep of the great kingdom toward its consummation. "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in." He seeks entrance at the human heart.

"Behold! I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with Me." How is it that the Lord Jesus comes? Through conscience, that voice ever calling in accents clearer and stronger, if we will but choose the right. Through nature, all the beauty and harmony of the Divine creation. Through the Word of God, those pages radiant with the power of inspiration. Through the Church, with all her sacred associations and blessed privileges, the lives of saints, apostles, martyrs, the power and sweetness of the Holy Spirit. These are all the voices of Him who would have us become righteous in word, thought, and deed.

"So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

In every period of life—childhood, youth, manhood and old age—we may learn of Him. The time is coming when His will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven. Then will the prophet's vision of the complete Jerusalem be fulfilled—"Thou shalt call thy walls salvation, and thy gates praise."

THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST.

BY REV. E. E. CURRY [CHRISTIAN],
MINERVA, O.

All authority is given unto me in heaven and on earth.—Matt. xxviii. 18.

THE kingdom of Christ existed at first only in the *purpose* of God, then in *promise*, then in *prophecy*, in the *preaching* of John the Baptist, and in the *preparatory* work of Christ. The foundation of the kingdom was laid in His

sufferings and death. The apostle, writing to the Philippians, says that for His incarnation, humiliation, and crucifixion, Jesus was exalted and received all dominion. Before His death we never find Jesus doing anything in His own name. Everything is done in the Father's name. But now He says, "All authority is given unto Me in heaven and on earth." With His ascension and exaltation His reign began. His dominion was at once recognized in heaven. God said, "Let all the angels worship Him." But on earth it was necessary for His kingdom to be preached. Hence He told His disciples to go and preach the glad tidings to the whole creation. From His throne He would direct them. They should receive power from on high, and He would be with them to the end.

1. Since all authority is given unto Him, Jesus is the sovereign of the universe.

He is not only the Head of the Church, but He is the Head over all things to the Church. He not only sits upon the throne of judgment, dispensing justice and mercy, but He upholds all things by the word of His power. He is the head of nature and providence, as well as of grace. When He took His seat at God's right hand He received the reins of government. The laws of nature, like a vast and complicated machine, are under His control. History for the past nineteen hundred years has been the unfolding of His plan. The Christian is under His care. How blessed is the fact that Christ, whom we love and who loves us, is Lord of all!

2. Since all authority, etc., His word is final on all matters of revelation.

"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spoke unto the fathers in times past by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son." Last of all, He sent His Son. Christ speaks in the New Testament. The New Testament completes the Old. All the questions raised by the latter are answered by the former. On the great questions of life and death and