

gained single victory. When the disciples scattered in different directions from Jerusalem, it might have seemed that the church was destroyed. Saul was an open enemy to the church. He had official sanction upon his proceedings. He went to the full extent of law. He was zealous in the extreme. He had no respect for age or sex in his work. He made the subjects feel the full force of exalted fury. He interfered with their rights of conscience. He disregarded their rights of choice in religion. He declared their doctrines false, and, therefore, declared them blasphemers. He took upon himself the right to use his own method to bring these people to what he might consider justice. He concluded he had been faithful and successful when the disciples sought refuge in other lands, and their company disbanded. Satan works rashly and persistently until he makes a stir, but he cannot cut off the source of power, when he has sent men from one locality to another.

Deception is a forcible weapon which Satan engages against the welfare of mankind. In this case he operated by means of the bigoted Simon. Men involuntarily yield to the will of one whom they consider great. For want of knowledge of truth, the Samaritans were led to accept the magic arts which Simon for years urged upon them. He had held the right of way for some time. There was none to exceed or dispute him. He grew pompous in his position, until he exultantly proclaimed himself great, and willingly accepted the applause of the people when they declared him "the great power of God."

Enlightenment is the work of God. Through his faithful servants the light of truth was shed upon the darkened minds of the once despised race of the Samaritans. Truth makes error vanish as the day scatters night. Real miracles, bringing practical benefit to unclean minds and afflicted bodies, gained the attention and good will of the benighted half heathen, and made way for the preaching of Christ. The messengers did not call attention to themselves, but to the Christ of God, whose power they all might prove for their own eternal happiness. Such preaching commended itself to those who had been so deceived by human wit, and the contrast was clear, and their choice was easily made. This offered grace secured unto them all the blessings which the apostles had received, taking away entirely all lines of distinction with reference to grace, or position, making them joint heirs with Jesus Christ.

Brotherly love is a chief characteristic among the followers of Christ. Nationality, color, or achievements, have no weight with a disciple who is in possession of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

DAILY READINGS.

First Day—Persecution Foretold—Matt. x. 16-42.
Second Day—Saul the Persecutor—Acts ix. 1-22.
Third Day—The Disciples Dispersed—Acts viii. 1-17.
Fourth Day—Whither They Went—Acts xi. 19-30.
Fifth Day—Miraculous Powers Promised—Mark xvi. 14-20.
Sixth Day—The Sorcerer's Covetousness Reproved—Acts viii. 13-25.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC, Feb. 23.—"From what does Christ save men?"—Titus iii. 1-7.

CHRIST SAVES HIS PEOPLE FROM

The Power of Satan.—Acts xxvi. 18. Ps. cxxiv. 7.
The Dominion of Sin.—Rom. vi. 14.
Spiritual Death.—Eph. ii. 1.
The Horrible Pit.—Ps. xi. 2; xxxii. 5.
The Unrest of the Wicked.—Isa. lviii. 20.
The Fear of Death.—Heb. ii. 15.
The Wrath to Come.—1 Thess. i. 10.
All Evil.—Gen. xiviii. 16.
The Fear of Man.—Prov. xxix. 25.
The Love of Money.—1 Tim. vi. 10, 11.
Out of Trouble.—Ps. lxxv. 7.
Anxious Care.—Phil. iv. 6.

WHAT CHRIST IS ABLE TO DO.

Heb. vii. 25. Heb. ii. 18. 2 Tim. i. 12. Rom. iv. 21. 2 Cor. ix. 8. Eph. iii. 20. Jude 24.

CHRIST MIGHTY TO SAVE.

Our Lord Jesus Christ was able and willing to save from the beginning. From the first promise to our fallen parents to the present day, has the seed of the woman been bruising the serpent's head. He appeared able to save when he dwelt on earth in a Tabernacle of clay. Still he mingled the dignity and power of a God, with the abasement and infirmities of a mortal man, asserting

to himself the divine prerogative of forgiving sins; speaking of a glorious resurrection and eternal life as His gift, representing Himself as the head stone of the corner, on whom was fixed all the stress of man's eternal interest; and as the awful judge, before whose tribunal the greatest of the children of men should stand; and from whom all should receive that decisive sentence, which should fix them in final happiness or despair. Nay, even in his deepest humiliation on the cursed tree, a ray of divine glory broke through the dark cloud of infamy with which he was then surrounded. And amidst all the scorn and rage of insulting enemies, who were reproaching him as abandoned by God and man, He spoke from the cross as from the throne; and, as the King of heaven, takes upon him to dispose of seats in Paradise. If He were thus able to save, when He dwelt in so humble a form; how much more so is He amidst all the magnificence of His exaltation in the highest heaven; whither He has ascended, as a glorious conqueror, having led captivity captive; and received gifts for men! Can we believe that His arm has less power to save, or that His ear is heavy, and cannot hear? No! we may assure ourselves, that He is at this moment as able to exert an almighty power for the salvation of His people, as He was on that illustrious day, when He poured out the Spirit on His disciples, at the Feast of Pentecost, or when He appeared to Paul on the way to Damascus with the glories of heaven new upon Him! Still is our Redeemer able to save, and shall continue to be so. When we and all other laborers in the Master's service have passed from time into eternity. And to the very end of time, one generation shall rise, and declare His righteousness to another; and that righteousness shall be the same.

This foundation of God shall stand sure; though rocks moulder into dust, and the mountains be removed out of their place. Yes, when the sun shall fade away in its orb, and all the golden lamps of these lower heavens shall be extinguished, the Sun of Glory shall shine forth with undiminished radiance. Still His victorious energy shall continue the same; and it shall be as true of His power, as of His grace; that Jesus Christ is able and willing to save His people from their sins, and is the same Yesterday Today and Forever.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

This department is conducted by a member of the General Assembly's Committee on Young People's Societies. Correspondence is invited from all Young People's Societies, and Presbyterian and Synodical Committee. Address: "Our Young People," PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, Drawer 2465, Toronto, Ont.

"THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED."

A great cathedral was being built.

The most beautiful marble, exquisitely carved, made its walls. Its woodwork was like satin, and of delicate colors. The windows were like rich paintings, telling the wonderful stories of Christ's life.

The workmen had come from far and near; the most skilful only having been chosen.

For months hammers and chisels rang, till at last all but one window was finished. It was a south window, not large, where rich sunlight fell early and late.

"Strange it should have been forgotten," said the master workman. "The bishop comes to-morrow, and all should be finished."

A little, bent man, with a shrewd, but kindly face, limped up. Doffing his cap, he said:

"Sir, I have made a window for that space from bits of the other windows. Pray you, let it go up."

"It is the best we can do," said the master.

"Put it up for to-morrow, man, but after that it must come down."

The next day the church was crowded.

Just as the old bishop turned to preach the sermon, the sun burst out. It came through the south window, touching his white hair with a halo.

Every one turned to look. The stranger's window was a flashing jewel. Though it was made of bits, the colors were so blended that it seemed like one. The sunlight glittered and broke into a thousand rays.

The bishop knew about the forgotten window, and the strange way one had been made. He had written a stately sermon, but he put it away, and preached the thought the beautiful window gave: "The rejected stone being the head of the corner."

People who heard it, and saw the windows, never forgot. So shall we feel, little and big, when we see that some of our little efforts which many thought worthless, shall be counted by Jesus worthy of all recognition.