

answered her prayer of faith in his own good time and way.

I cannot now name any one day or place when I was converted. I attended revival meetings in our country church when I was a little boy, and was deeply affected by the solemn services. But it was my beloved mother's steady, constant influence that led me gradually along, and I grew into a religious life under her potent training, and by the power of the Holy Spirit working through her. If all mothers were like her, the "church in the house" would be the best feeder of the church in the public sanctuary.

For several good reasons I did not make a profession of faith until I left boarding-school and entered into college at Princeton. From my eleventh year I was always from home, and under my good old tutor, Rev. Mr. Mandeville, or at boarding-school in Mendham, N.J., preparing for college. I entered college at sixteen, and graduated at the age of nineteen. The religious impressions begun at home continued and deepened until I united with the church of Jesus Christ.

As an effectual instruction in righteousness, my faithful mother's letters to me when a school-boy were more than any sermons I heard during all those years. I feel now that the happy half-century that I have spent in the joyous ministry of the gospel (for I began to preach in 1845) is the direct outcome of that beloved mother's prayers, teaching, example, and constant influence. This is the chief reason why I have been willing to tell this short, simple story of when I was a boy.

SEND FOR THE MASTER.

BY REV. THEODORE L. CUYLER.

WHEN our Lord was on earth He was often sent for by those who needed His offices of compassion. The centurion of Capernaum beseeches him to come and heal his servant, and the sisters of Bethany send unto Him saying, "He whom Thou lovest is sick." To these and kindred appeals His infinite heart of love made ready response. Why should we not make the same appeals to Him now to come to us in the hours of our deepest spiritual necessity? No prayer could be more directly in the line of the divine promises; if offered aright, no prayer more likely to be answered.

Here is a church which desires a revival, and the first thought with many is to send for some popular preacher or evangelist. Why not send for the Master Himself, who has power to forgive sins, convert souls, and quicken the spiritually dead? It is not the prerogative of any invited preacher, however eloquent, gifted, or experienced, to bring Christ with him. First of all, let that company of believers who believe in prayer, put up the fervent petition, "Come, Lord Jesus?"

There is nothing impossible in this, and nothing presumptuous. Our Saviour most distinctly promised His presence with His flock. One of His last and most precious assurances was, "Lo, I am with you!" Jesus Christ was as truly in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost as He was on the day of His crucifixion. His unseen presence filled that upper room when the sound was like the sound of a mighty wind, and the light was like a tongue of flame. Jesus spoke through Peter's lips when the wonderful discourse pricked through three thousand hearts; He wrought through Peter's hands when the cripple leaped up and began to walk at the beautiful gate. Jesus had a personal encounter with the fiery persecutor, Saul, on the highway to Damascus; and that the converted Paul could say afterwards

was that he "had seen the Lord in the way, and that He had spoken to him." That same Saviour still has the same converting power. Send for the Master!

Who doubts that the Son of God hovered around the flaming stakes of the martyrs and walks to-day beside every faithful missionary of the cross? Jesus Christ was as veritably with Luther in the imperial Diet and with Bunyan in his Bedford jail and with grand old Livingstone in the wilds of Africa as He was with the disciples in the night storm on Galilee. He still works through His witnesses and His ambassadors. Every genuine conversion testifies to a present Christ. There is not a faithful pastor, or Sunday-school teacher, or any consecrated worker for such who cannot ask and claim and—if he seeks in the right spirit—cannot secure Christ's presence. Still He is knocking at our doors and asking us to open to Him. Is it not passing strange that His people consult together about inviting some human aid when the omnipotent Lord of all is waiting to be invited in?

There is a singular mist of uncertainty over the mind of many Christians when they are exhorted to realize and to actualize their Master as a living presence. Because they see no form of flesh and blood, they think of Jesus as a vague, shadowy personage or as a radiant King away off on a heavenly throne. That Christ should come into their hearts as He came into the heart of Paul seems like a devout illusion. Why put any such insulting limit on His omnipresence, and why give the lie to His promise, "Lo, I am with you"? The most thorough cure for unbelief is a close grip on Christ. The prayer He loveth most to hear and to answer is that deepest and holiest of prayers, "Come, Lord Jesus!" There is a lamentable dearth of revivals this season, and a widespread barrenness of spiritual results. No little machinery is set in motion which ends in empty clatter. Discouragement sits like a nightmare on some hearts. But when did a church ever put away its idols and penitently lay hold of its duties and beseech Christ to come to them and were mocked with a refusal?

The great want in pulpit and pew and every where else is *Christ!* With Him everything; without Him nothing. The gift that includes all gifts, the blessing that enwraps all blessings, is a *present Saviour* working in us as a Refiner, as a Chastener, as a converting Power, as a Quickener of the dead to life. A personal Jesus preached awakens sinners; a personal Jesus accepted means salvation; a personal Jesus obeyed is sanctification; a personal Jesus possessed is the fullness of joy and power. If any are honestly longing for a genuine revival of spiritual life and power, let them pray and work for the coming of Christ among them; and whatsoever He saith to them, *do it!* Set the heart-house in order, and send for the Master!—*Evangelist.*

EXCHANGING BURDENS.

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will rest you." That is the way to lay your burden down. "Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly of heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." That is the way to take His burden up. You will find that His burden is always light. Yours is a very heavy one. Happy day if you have exchanged burdens and laid down your loads at His blessed feet to take up His own instead. God wants to rest His workers, and He is too kind to put His burden on hearts that are already bowed down with their own weight of cares.—*Christian Alliance.*