

Blessed is the man whom Thou choosest.

Psalm lxx. 4.

## TOO BUSY TO WORK FOR CHRIST.



Remember a young man from Connecticut who enlisted in the army in the early part of the war. He was a watchmaker by trade, and of a thrifty turn of mind. He packed a neat but

ample kit of tools in his knapsack, proposing at odd times to turn an honest penny by mending such watches as might come to him for repairs from his regiment. He soon found plenty of business. In a little while the watches of his comrades came in for repairs, to be cleaned and regulated. His tent soon presented the appearance of a thrifty and busy watchmaker's shop. Things went on in this way for some time, the officers excusing him first from daily guard duty, because he was useful in the especial line of private service which was engaging him. One day a larger number of men was wanted for duty, and a double detail was ordered, and he was drawn for duty. When the sergeant called at his tent and ordered him to duty, he looked up with surprise and some show of indignation, and said:

"It is impossible for me to go on duty to-day. I have so many watches to repair."

Now, the truth was, that in attending to his own private business, and in his eagerness to turn as many honest pennies as possible, he had entirely overlooked the fact that he was a soldier, and had no right to private business,

certainly no right to refuse duty when called upon because he had watch repairing on hand.

So it is with many of the soldiers of the cross. They have enlisted in the army of the Lord, and have quickly found their way into camp among the army of occupation.

Being of a thrifty turn of mind, they have turned their attention to their own business. At first they have been excused from duty on the score of pressing private business. This has presently become a settled and fixed habit with them; so much so that, in time of special need, when workers are called for, they say:

"I must be excused. I have 'watches to mend.'"

In a word, they have forgotten that they belong to the Lord for service. They are ready to receive their "rations" regularly on Sundays, and confidently look for the final reward of the righteous; but, in the meantime, they are wholly given up to private business, and solemnly declare that it is not a lack of interest in the prosperity of the Church or in the salvation of souls; but really they have no time to attend to such matters.—*Independent*.

YOUNG MEN, listen to what Joseph Cook, of Boston, says as to what is euphemistically called "fast life":—"If I call the roll of the dissipated men I knew in my quadrennial, I find seven out of ten of them approaching early graves. I do not know one man who had the reputation of a dissipated person in my college course that now has a position of any honour in a profession. I do not know one who had the promise of such a position who in his college life was among the wild persons in my class."

## GOSPEL AND SONG SERVICE

Every Sunday Evening, at 8 o'clock.

ALL WELCOME.

The Lord knoweth them that are His.

2 Tim. ii. 9.