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RELIGIOUS CONVERSATION.

There are persons who cherish longings after the performance of some notable work in the Kingdom of Christ, to whom ordinary and continual effort in the use of their conversational powers appears undignified and unnecessary. Christ has said, "let your speech be always with grace seasoned with salt." The power of communicating ideas, brings with it responsibility. Thought is not to be buried in our own breast; the tongue, the glory of our frame, is to be consecrated with all our faculties, to the service of Him on whose lips grace was poured. Out of His fulness we receive. The mere exercise of the tongue, apart from the thought, is meaningless—a service that profiteth nothing. Religious thought clothed in a becoming habiliment of words, will draw attention and sometimes secure homage. Thorny words will tear the flesh, and dagger-pointed words will wound the heart, but the words of the wise are a tree of life. To cultivate a kindliness of speech and embrace all suitable occasions to exercise such a gift, may secure in the course of a life, more results to the glory of God, than splendid and dazzling displays on great opportunities. Preaching is an ordinance of God, and, in the opinion of some, the highest style is attained when the orator can hold thousands spell-bound by his words, as an earnest man can fix the attention of his friend in the intercourse of the parlour, when some personal or all absorbing theme is discussed. Numerous, however, as the trophies of grace may be through a divine pulpit power, the day we doubt not will reveal that millions have been brought to the Saviour, through the earnest religious conversation of a beloved father or mother, pastor or christian friend. All have not the power of dazzling eloquence, but every heart touched with the live coal of grace, can send forth a heavenly influence. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A dumb christian is isolated. He sends his religion to a hermitage. True religion, however, is a power to cause the tongue of the dumb to sing. The faintest murmur of the language of Canaan, will awaken in the whispering gallery of a gracious heart, the ready echo: as the natives of two countries, without the knowledge of each other's language, on being introduced as the friends of the Saviour, are said to have expressed their feelings in the only two words with which both were familiar, the one exclaiming, hallelujah, the other responding, amen. Let brother, then, speak to brother. Let the icy formalism of mere religious phrases, used without the warmth of heart-feeling, be displaced by the confidence of Christian intercourse. The communion of saints, is a hallowed privilege secured by the Redeemer, in the constitution of the churches. Genuine Christian