

The Bible.

I HAVE many books that I cannot sit down to read. They are indeed good and sound, but, like half-pence, there goes a great quantity to a small amount. There are silver books, and a very few golden books, but I have one book worth them all, called the Bible."

THE Bible is a rock of diamonds, a chain of pearls, the sword of the Spirit; a chart by which the Christian sails to eternity; the map by which he daily walks, the sun-dial by which he sets his life, the balance in which he weighs his actions."

THE Hebrew word *nephesh* (soul) occurs in the Old Testament SEVEN HUNDRED AND THIRY-THREE TIMES. The corresponding Greek word *psuche* (soul), occurs in the New Testament ONE HUNDRED AND FIVE TIMES. Add to these, *two other places* in the Old Testament where the word soul occurs, and where it is translated from *other Hebrew words*, and we have the word *soul* occurring in the original Scriptures EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY TIMES. The word *ruach* (spirit) occurs in the Old Testament THREE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN TIMES. The corresponding Greek word, *pneuma*, may be found in the New Testament THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX TIMES.

ONE of the most glorious facts of modern times is the rapidity with which the Word of God is being translated into every known language of men. The whole Bible is now published in the Zulu tongue, and the work of revising the Kaffir translation is advancing toward completion.

MISS MUDIE, in a recent letter to a friend, calls attention to Matt. 18 : 10, in which we have the exhortation, "Do not despise one of these little ones," then follows 7. 11 : "The Son of man is come to save that which is lost." Notice that this is in connection with the children, for the paragraph ends with : "It is not the will of your Father which is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." What a stamp this puts upon every effort in the name of Jesus to save even one little one.

How to Read the Bible.

1. As God's message to you Psalm 139 : 17.
2. With preparation of heart Ezra 7 : 10.
3. Consecutively Acts 11 : 4.
4. Topically 1 Cor. 2 : 13.
5. Daily Exodus 16 : 21.
6. Read, believe, and practice.

Doing Good.

DOING good—how few, comparatively, feel that they are to live in this world to do good!

They live as if there was nothing to be done but to secure honour, fame, and wealth. They move, breathe, live, and so pass away and are forgotten. They have done nothing worth remembering. Nothing they have done has comforted, elevated, blessed humanity; not a word or deed will be cherished in grateful remembrance by those they have left in life's journey. They have lived, died, and passed out of mind like the insects of a day. They lived for no high and noble purpose; they sought not to write their names on imperishable monuments. Alas! how strange, bewildered mistaken is man immortal man!

Do something that will make others happier, better, more useful. Kind words, generous acts, noble deeds, may be yours. Lend the helping hand, dry up the tear of sorrow, lighten the burden of the oppressed, cheer the fainting heart, and bid the care-worn, disheartened pilgrim take courage and rise to a new and better life. Write your name high on monuments of virtue that none of the storms of time can ever destroy.

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1 : 27).

Conversion.

CONVERSION is the most glorious work of God. The creation of the sun is a very glorious work : when God first rolled him flaming along the sky, he shed golden blessings on every shore. The change in spring is very wonderful : when God makes the faded grass revive, the dead trees put out green leaves, and the flowers appear on the earth. But far more glorious and wonderful is the conversion of the soul. It is the creation of a sun that is to shine for eternity : it is the spring of the soul that shall know no winter—the planting of a tree that shall bloom with eternal beauty in the Paradise of God:—*McCheyne*.

What is the Gospel ?

GOD in human form, as Jesus Christ, died for the sinner. This, then, is Christianity in a nutshell. Man the sinner, God the Saviour; man helpless, God able to save to the uttermost. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Man incapable of lifting a hand to save himself; God stooping down and lifting him up. No merit whatever in man; all God's.

REMEMBER your sins, to confess them; your temptations, to guard against them; and your obligations, thankfully to acknowledge them.