

A Motto for the New Year Jesus Only.



IN our closing number we said, "Good by old year, good by," because we realized that the throbbing, beating pulse of time was surely bringing the old year 1885 to the place and point, where 1885 must cease to be and 1886 would erase from memory and pen the oft repeated 1885. Strange how soon the New year claims, yea, demands the world's attention. In cot and palace, the place of business and pleasure, the rich and poor alike must own the change. The flight of time is one of the certainties. Solomon saith, there is a time for every purpose under the heaven, Ecc. III. I. Notice in the next verse he puts two things of all importance close together. A time to be born, and a time to die. Why so close? Why not interpose a *time to live*? Is man's span so short in the eternal reckoning as to be scarce called a time? How *shippantly* we speak of a lifetime, truly brief is the longest space, but how momentous the results. From the first breath drawn, to the last pulse beat, the present now, is of vital and eternal importance. Hence the motto chosen for 1886, "JESUS ONLY." "Then if for me to live is Christ, to die is gain. "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul; or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul." Therefore whatever we plan and undertake, let us see to it that we can consistently and do habitually ask the divine blessing upon it.

Delays are always dangerous. Some neglect salvation until *too late to be saved*. Alas they thought to be saved in a rush at the last, they planned to rob and cheat God first and the devil after. Others are saved *too late*; they've lost their lives, their opportunities, their crown of reward for faithful work done; and they are too late to undo the mischief of their ungodly days. It's a mercy they're saved, but a sad pity they weren't saved years sooner. They'll not get over it to all eternity.

What greater crime, than loss of time? To-day, Jesus said, I must work. To us he saith, go work to-day. Full many a day forever is lost, by delaying it; work for to-morrow. To-day sounds short, but who ever found time on the morrow to accomplish what might be done now. It is gone, and being gone, no man can post up the closed books of time. Enter while you may. Raleigh wrote, "None can enter among the immortals until Christ shall turn the key of death. None can stay among mortals after this key for him has been turned. How important that Jesus only should be the key note for our existence, it is the best watchword for success in active Christian life. None need fear the final outcome of all honest effort. Was 1885 a failure? Do you stand on the threshold of 1886 and ask, "What am I good for?" Remember God has made no mistakes in the plan of life. There is a place for every man, his own proper place, when he ought to be. God has designed him for it, and it belongs to him, and to no one else, and every man may know and find his place if he will. It must be his sincere desire to be in his place, and he must go to God heartily praying, Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do? What wilt Thou have me to be? Let him surrender his own will to God's will, and God will guide him, and he shall make no mistake.

Consider the parable of the talents. If we use our one, two or five talents to the best of our ability, remember, it is accepted according to what a man hath, and we shall hear Jesus say, well done. What is your plan for this New Year? Can you harmonise it with the motto, None but Jesus, All for Jesus. Remember passing moments are often more eventful than they seem, and can never be unimportant. Time flies, and we need move quickly and wisely if we would redeem the time. Who does not feel in 1886

"We all can do more than we have done,
And not be a whit the worse;
It never was loving that emptied the heart,
Or giving that emptied the purse."

For God is the giver of every good and perfect gift and WHATSOEVER a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Read Gal. 6. 7. God is not mocked. If we sow *wild oats*, and repent not, the time will soon come when there will be no new years of hope or opportunity. Time fretted away, shall be no more we shall reap a harvest of regrets in the place and company of the tormented, weeping over what might have been, and opportunities lost forever. Let the motto be All for Jesus, None but Jesus. Say not, *to-morrow* I will be sure to do it, no, do it now.

MOTTO FOR 1886, JESUS ONLY. Soon the death-dew on the brow,
Soon comes the dread for ever.
What is evil do never,
What is good do now. DO GOOD NOW.

The Regions Beyond Ponderous?

Christmas and New Year's blessings should especially when we think stir our hearts to the overflow. He came bringing peace and good will to men, at great cost and price. He is coming again without sin, the victorious King to judge his enemies and reward his servants.

Now is the accepted time of salvation, the day of grace wherein we can work and fulfill his will, which is the great purpose of sparing mercy.

Do I love the gospel? Am I a living epistle known and read of all men? Do I so love and live that men take knowledge of me? What have I done in years past for Jesus? What am I planning to do for 1886? How much do I deny self to spread the saving knowledge of peace on earth, good will to men, among the nations afar off?

Take a pen, sit down, calculate and write quickly how much thou owest, then what thou has paid my Lord, subtract and then ponder the question, will a man rob God? Have we brought in all the tithes, and honored God with our substance? Do we believe that whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap, and that the liberal soul shall be made fat, whilst the sparing hand shall find and reap a scant harvest in the end of the world?

The disciples had to begin at Jerusalem, there Jesus died, making it the centre of gospel geography. To day we rejoice in the success of missions. Who can question the secret power by which such wondrous results were accomplished—namely, "The presence of a living sympathetic Christ." Contrasting the past with the present condition of the world with respect to missions, it proves that practically all the world is now open to the missionary, this plenteous harvest means increased responsibility to the laborers, and Christians everywhere. Past success should fill