

RESURRECTION POWER.

Some Bible Hints.

To be buried with Christ (Rom. 6: 4) is to pass with Him out of the atmosphere and power of worldliness and into the atmosphere and power of heaven.

There is no entrance into Christ's life but the portal of Christ's death (Rom. 6: 8).

No one can know "the power of His resurrection" (Phil. 3: 10) until he has known Him; and the more one knows Him, the more precious will be Easter and Sunday.

Have you ever tried by imagination, sympathy, and love to enter into "the fellowship of His sufferings" (Phil. 3: 10)? It is the climax of Christian experience.

Suggestive Thoughts.

Those that have known the resurrection from the death of sin need no other assurance of immortality.

"The power of His resurrection" must be made by us a power in other lives before we can fully receive it in our own.

The measure of a Christian is the degree in which he does not shrink from physical death, but does fear spiritual death.

Every strong man wants power; and no power that man can gain is equal to what one obtains from Christ's resurrection.

A Few Illustrations.

Children are often afraid of the dark, but they all love the dark when they are holding father by the hand.

An artist obtains the essence of his power from his father and mother by birth. So we obtain through our new birth in Christ the power of His resurrection, the power of immortal life.

There is a high, impenetrable wall around the next life, but Easter is a door left ajar.

Just as our rising from the death of sleep is a daily experience, so we renew every day the joy and the power of Christ's resurrection.

To Think About.

Have I any hope or joy that is not rested upon Christ?

How much thought each day do I give to my eternal destiny?

Could I enter peacefully and readily upon the better world today?

A Cluster of Quotations.

If the resurrection of Christ took place, then all the other miracles became possible.—Francis L. Patton.

No husbandman would sow a grain of corn if he did not hope it would spring up and bring forth the ear. How much more are we helped on by hope in the way to eternal life!—Luther.

Our only hope is to enter into the victory of the risen Christ.—F. B. Meyer.

Whenever you have a trial, it means that God is trying to show you how to become a better Christian.

A COMFORTING THOUGHT.

It is one of the blessed considerations in our sorrow that we are in God's hands. This is a solace when the darkness is round about us and we are laid low by the chastening of the Almighty. In every pain we can hear the soft refrain, "The Lord loveth." In every affliction we can hear his soothing whisper: "Nevertheless afterward"; not now, but bye and bye we shall know. We are in his hands, and we shall be "as one whom his mother comforteth." One of our great poets has said: "Oh, God, who shall pluck the sheep thou holdest from thy hand?" And a greater than he has said: "My sheep shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." With this assurance the believer may know that even in his deepest grief, whatever is right.

WHILST WE LIVE.

How is it that we like the coats and the garments even better when the sea-stress is dead than we did when she was actually making them? That is a tender mystery in life. It is a fact everywhere. The little child's little toy becomes infinitely precious when the tiny player can no more handle it. And the two little shoes are the most precious property in the house when the little feet that wore them are in God's acre. Let us love one another whilst we live. Not a word do I say against the sentiment which enlarges the actions of the dead, but I would speak for a kind word on behalf of those who are sitting next you, and making your own house glad by their deft fingers and their loving hearts.—Dr. Parker.

THE COURAGE OF FAITH.

As Luther drew near the door that was about to admit him into the presence of his judges at Worms, he met a valiant knight who had won many victories in conflict. The old general, seeing Luther pass, tapped him on the shoulder, and shaking his head, blanched in many battles, said kindly: "Poor monk, poor monk! thou art now going to make a nobler stand than I or any other captain has ever made in the bloodiest battles. But if thy cause is just, and thou art sure of it, go forward in God's name, and fear nothing. God will not forsake thee."—D'Aubigne.

FOR DAILY READING.

M., Apr. 17. The resurrection strengthens. John 20: 24-29.
T., Apr. 18. It emboldens confession. Acts 4: 10-20.
W., Apr. 19.—It transforms life. Acts 26: 4-18.
T., Apr. 20. Has power for healing. Acts 3: 12-16.
F., Apr. 21. Power for keeping. 1 Pet. 1: 1-5.
S., Apr. 22. It encourages. 2 Tim. 8: 13.
Sun., Apr. 23. Topic—"The power of His resurrection." Rom. 6: 3-13; Phil. 3: 10. (Easter meeting.)

LOOK UNTO JESUS.

The earliest step toward a saved life is the "look unto Jesus." Once the notion prevailed that the seeker after God must pass days and weeks under a cloud of remorse and conviction before he was prepared for an approach to the Saviour, but now we know that it is Jesus himself who can best prepare the soul for such approach. It is the goodness of God that leads to repentance. It is especially the sight of that goodness as displayed in a crucified Redeemer that imparts true views of sin and inspires right feeling toward it. And when true repentance has thus been found, the soul must still look to Jesus for forgiveness. God "hath laid on him the iniquity of us all," and given him authority on earth to forgive sins, nor is there "any other name whereby we must be saved." Spiritual life also is received only through him. He not only quickens the soul in conversion, but, as the Psalmist sings, he restores it from dejection and wandering, and he supplies sustaining grace through all life's pilgrimage. Those who climb dizzy heights find safety in looking up and not down, and in like manner the Christian, amid the perils that surround him, needs ever to "look unto Jesus." We look to him also as our helper, our teacher, our Lord and Master, our strength in trial, our solace and comfort in sorrow, our divine model in whose steps we are to follow, and last but not least, as our final judge and rewarder.

ONLY A CHILD.

I'm only a little child,
But mamma said one day
The smallest hands some work can do,
And the youngest heart can pray.

I'm only a little child,
But Jesus died for me;
Lord, give me every day new grace
To work for love of thee. —Selected.

MEETING A SERMON HALF WAY.

Two persons pushing in the same direction will accomplish more than one person. That is evident enough, but a great deal more would be accomplished if we all acted on it. Said a minister: "I never make any effort to listen to a preacher who cannot interest me in spite of myself." There would be a dark outlook ahead for that young man as a preacher if his congregation followed his rule. It is well for him, as it is for every preacher, to determine to interest his audience in spite of themselves. But it is just as much a duty for him, when he is part of the audience, to determine to be interested whether the preacher is interesting or not. There will be double the result from any sermon if listener and speaker can push together. Even a Phillips Brooks or a Paul of Tarsus can do more with the congregation that is actively with him, than with the congregation that waits to be interested. Are you a drag upon your preacher, or an inspiration?—Sunday School Times.