

Prayer Meeting Topics.

B. Y. P. U. Topics.

Prepared by Rev. H. H. Saunders, M. A.

May 1st. Our Great High Priest.— Heb. iv: 14-16; vii: 24-26.

It is one of God's wonderful ways of revelation; that Jesus should unfold to us, by his life and service, so much of the meaning of the Old Testament. No more beautiful example is found than when he takes unto himself the name, and service of High Priest, and so fully establishes the just claim. All through the selected passage the idea of sacrifice is made plain. The Levitical High Priest entered into the holiest with blood to plead forgiveness for the people. Jesus lays down his own life as the sacrifice. How well chap. 7, verse 26 describes the value and character of His offering. Surely there should never be a doubt in any mind that it is sufficient for every sinner. A perfect, free sacrifice for an unworthy, penniless soul. Search out all the likenesses and contrasts of the old and new sacrifice.

The intercessory work of the High Priest claims most notice. Jesus ever pleads for the lost, ruined and penitent ones. Remember how he said "I have prayed for thee." Read John 17. Call to mind the utterance, "Father forgive them." Now he has entered upon the heavenly intercession at the right hand of God, I John 1, 2. He always has to plead for the guilty. What plea can avail for such? Forgiveness? yes, but only on account of full payment of cost of the transgression. "He bore our sin in his own body on the tree." He pleads this alone as our only hope. As we look through the verse again we see how intimate our High Priest became with us and our need. Weigh the words "Touched," "Tempted," "Infirmities" expressive of this fact. Gain encouragement to come boldly to the throne of Grace. How will "Such an High Priest become us?" Chap. 7: 26.

May 8th. The Cleansing Blood.—Heb. ix: 13-14; x: 1-7.

At the beginning of the study of this blessed truth, read the following passages, in connection with the lesson:—Ps. 51; Isa. 1: 18; 35: 8; Jer. 2: 22; Zach. 13: 1; I John 1: 7. All these texts describe the uncleanness of sin and the method of purifying.

In this 9th chap. the writer institutes a comparison between the blood offered under this law and the blood of Christ, as to their virtue and power. In chap. 10: 1 He concludes that they were the shadow, He the substance.

The power of the cleansing blood is manifested inasmuch as it purges away the sins of all who come by faith to our Saviour. He takes away the penalty

of our sins, and through the application of this redemption creates us children of God no longer under condemnation.

The purifying of the body is exerted moreover upon the character of the individual, chap. 9: 14, last clause. "Purge your conscience from dead workers to serve the living." How much greater the consciousness of sin and the desire to be worthy when a view of Christ's sacrifice fills the soul.

The intimacy that may exist between Saviour and the sinner exalts life and causes much care for holiness.

The blood of bulls and goats is not to be the great saving, cleansing force; much more precious is the blood of mankind, how much above all price the blood of the Son of God. May it be ours to "Rest on the promise, get under the Blood."

C. E. Topics.

Prepared by J. P. Neily.

May 1st: Little ways of Bettering the World.—Phil. ii: 12-16. Matt. v: 13-16.

This is the day of small things. All the schemes devised, all the reforms that have been inaugurated have been on a very small scale at first. Our own young peoples' work commenced in one church and in one denomination, but now is world-wide and in over forty denominations. There are many, however, who, feeling their inability to do some great work or start some great reform, fold their hands and do nothing. Christian Endeavorers are not of this class, but are always on the lookout for little things to do for their Lord and Master. What then can we do to make this old world of ours better? Jesus says, "We are lights in the world, a city set on an hill whose light cannot be hid." If this is true how careful we should be that our light is always burning brightly and shining clearly. You remember the story of the vessel that was wrecked because the lower lights marking the entrance to the harbor had gone out. We are the lower lights down here while our Master is the upper light which shines forever. Our example should always be on the side of right so others will notice the Christ life showing forth in our lives. We are the salt of the earth placed here to purify and brighten the world in which we live. Many little ways will suggest themselves to our minds as we study to find out "just what Jesus would have us do." Let us then lookout for the little things of life and these small things, when the final count is made, will win for us the sentence "Well done."

"If the world has ever been made better in great ways, they started as little ways."—C. E. Daily Companion.

May 8th: Things My Denomination Has Accomplished.—Eph. v: 23-27. Psalm lxxxvii: 1-7.

Every member of a C. E. Society should be thoroughly posted in the principles and doctrines of their own denomination. Some people get the idea somewhere that Endeavorers are not as loyal to their denomination as members of a purely denominational society. That this is not the case is proved by thousands of loyal Endeavorers the world over. Dr. Clarke in the first pledge in the first society inserted a clause that stands out as a fundamental principle of a true C. E. Society. The interdenominational feature of C. E. work intensifies the loyalty to one's own church, rather than lessens it. The central thought of every denomination is loyalty to Christ the head of the church. On other points of course minds differ, some on one thing some on another. Each one has some particular idea that he is trying to impress on the world. The work undertaken by our denominations is varied. Missions, at home and abroad, take a large share of our work and time. Our institutions of learning, where men are training and fitting themselves for life's battles, are to be found all over our land. It does not make so much difference to which denomination we belong so long as we are conscientious in our belief in the denomination to which we are members. Do not join a denomination because this one or that one advises you to, but taking God's word as your guide ask His spirit to show you what is right and then go forward in the path of duty.

"Denominations are rated in heaven not by their fine churches but by their fine souls.

"If one does not know about his own denomination, he is not likely to know much about the great church universal.

"Thoroughly to know your own denomination is to put yourself in touch with great men moved by great ideas, to great accomplishments. It is to go far toward becoming great yourself.

"Every denomination, if it is worthy of existence, stands for some great idea which it is trying to impress upon the world.

"To know well your denomination's periodicals is to live not in one church but in many.

"Great missionary enterprises are alone enough to make a denomination great."—From C. E. Daily Companion.