

[FOR OUR MISSION.]

"Truth in a Nut Shell."

By HAROLD F. SYILES, Evangelist.

6.—HOW YOU ARE NOT SAVED.

THERE are many now, like the Jews of old, who came asking "What shall we do that we might work the works of God?" (John 6: 28).

Jesus said unto them, "this is the work of God that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent," (John 6: 29); and so the Spirit of God is telling you that *you are not saved by your doing.*

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us" (Titus 3: 5.)

"Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose," (2 Tim. 1: 9)

"By grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2: 8, 9)

"But to him that worketh not but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness" (Rom. 4: 5)

In each of these verses we learn that we *are not saved by our works.* But some one says, does not God say, "*work out your own salvation?*" Yes, but whom is God addressing? The Christians—for these words are found in Philippians 2: 12, and this epistle is addressed to Christians as we find in the first chapter, and first verse—Working *out*, is not working *for*.—There must be something worked *in us*, before we can work it *out*. Note the 13th verse of the same chapter and you have it—"For it is God which worketh in you." He wants the Christian to *work out* what he *works in*. "Your own" implies possession. But again you say, God says, "faith without works is dead." Yes, and so it is, but let us get works in the right place. *Before God* we are *saved by faith*, as the Scripture we have read proves—but *before the world* (which is looking for proof, and fruit of our faith) we give evidence that we are saved, *by our works.*

A Christian once said it took him forty years to learn three things, 1st, that he *could do nothing* to save himself, 2nd, that God did not *require* him to do anything, 3rd, that Christ *did all the work.* May God help you to learn these three lessons, for *then* you will cease talking about "doing the best I can," and "my good works." All your "doing" before you accept Christ, is an abomination in His sight. Hear what He says:

"Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11: 6.)

"Whatsoever is not of faith is of sin" (Rom. 14: 23.)

If you are ever saved it will be because you came in all your helplessness, and trusted in the finished work of Jesus.

"I do not frustrate (set aside) the grace of God, for if righteousness (salvation) comes by the law (my works) then Christ has died in vain" (Gal. 2: 21.)

Cheering.

AT the last monthly meeting of the Toronto Mission Union, among other cheering evidences of God's blessing upon the work, was the announcement of the receipt of several donations from friends. The following letter, which accompanied one of these gifts, speaks for itself, and we trust will speak to others, coming as it does from a Christian lady *not* resident in Toronto:—

"I should like to see a report of the Mission, which seems to be extending, and I trust also deepening in interest in the hearts of those for whose benefit it was instituted. The workers have the promise that "My word shall not return void," and from the precious word they can draw cheer and animation.

"Please find enclosed cheque for one hundred dollars. I would like it to be applied \$50 to the Bible Woman's Fund and the balance as may be thought most to the interests of the Mission.

"The benefit which such work as this Mission must be to the city of Toronto, lays its citizens under obligation to liberally support it."

Yours &c.

H. L.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

THE Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle has more than 70,000 members enrolled on its list.

THE Mohammedans have ninety-nine names for God, but among them all they have not "Our Father."

THE Salvation Army will this year have a conspicuous place in the London May meetings. Its anniversary will occupy a week, commencing May 28.

MORRIS K. JESSUP, Esq., of New York, has offered to build a church in New York for the masses, at a cost of \$100,000, if Dr. Duryea will be the pastor.

THE SAMARITANS.—The once powerful community of the Samaritans in Palestine has shrunk to 151 souls, who live all together in Nablus, the ancient Shechem. The community consist of 53 men, 46 women, 36 boys, and 16 girls. The Samaritans being so exclusive as to intermarry only with members of their own sect, the scarcity of young women will have the effect of still further reducing their numbers in the immediate future. The members of this interesting community still bring offerings on Mount Gerizim, and are ruled by a high priest, the present holder of that office being named Jacob, son of Aaron, the priest.—*Jewish Chronicle.*